

**THURSDAY, May 17, 7 p.m.**, Aberdeen Civic Arena: Aberdeen Central High School's Music Department presents "**Pop, Popcorn and Pops**" with more than 200 students in nine groups plus soloists. \$2 reserved seats on main floor on sale today at CHS Counselors' Office. \$1 balcony seats on sale at the door. Pop and popcorn, free.

**FRIDAY, May 18, noon to 9 p.m.** (Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.) through May and June, Oranitheater in the Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul: Continuous showings of the cliff-hanger, "**To the Limit**." "More exciting than the new Indiana Jones picture," film critic Gene Siskel.

**FRIDAY, May 18, through Sunday, May 20**, various starting times, all S.D. State Parks, recreation areas and fishing waters: Free **Visitor Appreciation Weekend** sponsored by the Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks. Entry to all parks free from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon, free camping on Friday and Saturday nights, free fishing on all state waters, many special events in most areas. For information on specific park events, call Parks & Recreation Division, Pierre, 773-3391.

**FRIDAY, May 18, 8 p.m.** (nightly through Tuesday, May 22), Mainstage, Johnson Fine Arts Center, Northern State University campus: First performance of **Aberdeen Community Theatre's** production of "**Painting Churches**" by Tina Howe. \$6 tickets in advance at Book Trader, Super City Mall; \$7 tickets at-the-door if available prior to performances.

**SATURDAY, May 19, 1 p.m.** (also Sunday, May 20), Brown County Fair Grounds, Aberdeen: **American Legion Pari-Mutuel Racing** continues with these special races, all on Sunday: Open 770 Sprint QH, Dakota Challenge TB, Dakota Challenge QH, S.D. Bred Futurity QH, Aberdeen Open Derby QH. Admission \$1.50.

**SATURDAY, May 19, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.** (also Sunday, May 20, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.), Orpheum Theatre, downtown Minneapolis: "**Magic for the '90s**" by master illusionist **David Copperfield**. Tickets, \$13.50 scaled to \$19.50, on sale at Ticketmaster locations, Dayton's and Orpheum boxoffice. Call 1-612-339-7007.

**MONDAY, May 21, 7 p.m.**, Aberdeen Civic Theatre: Aberdeen Optimist Club presents its 4th annual children's theater event, "**Silent Theater**," with mime artist **Dennis Schaller** from California and three local youths. Adults, \$4; children, \$3. Children in K-6 grades, are invited to attend free.

**WEDNESDAY, May 23, 8 p.m.**, Historic Orpheum Theatre, downtown Minneapolis: In concert, **Cowboy Junkies** with special guest **Townes Van Zandt**. All seats reserved, \$18.50. Call 1-612-989-5151.

**FRIDAY, May 25, 7:30 p.m.**, Met Center, Bloomington, Minn.: **Kiss** live in concert with special guest **Faster Pussycat** and **Slaughter**. Tickets \$18.50 at Ticketmaster centers of call 1-612-853-9333.

**FRIDAY, May 25, 8 p.m.**, Ordway Music Theatre, St. Paul, Minn.: Special return appearance by inspirational and crystal-clear voiced **Judy Collins**, who sold out the Ordway in '87 and '88. Tickets scaled from \$12 to \$24.50; call 1-612-224-4222.

**SATURDAY, May 26, 1 p.m.** (also Sunday and Monday), Brown County Fairgrounds, Aberdeen: Memorial Day Weekend is the final one for the 41st annual **American Legion Pari-Mutuel Racing**.

**FRIDAY, June 1, 8 to 11 p.m.**, Aberdeen Recreation and Cultural Center, 401 N. Washington St.: Junior High School **Lock-In Dance** with music by **Nothin' Yet**.

**SATURDAY, June 2, 7:30 p.m.**, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City: Live in concert, **Whitesnake** on its "Slip of the Tongue Tour" with special guest **Bad English**. Tickets, \$16 advance, \$17 day of show. Charge by phone, call 394-4111.

**SATURDAY, June 2, 8 p.m.**, Civic Center, Jamestown, N.D.: Live in concert, "the most successful performer in Las Vegas history," **Wayne Newton**.

**FRIDAY, June 1, 8 p.m.** (also Saturday, June 2, same time), Ordway Music Theatre, St. Paul, Minn.: Returning after three sold-out performances in 1986, **Hal Holbrook** in "**Mark Twain Tonight!**" Prices scaled from \$16 to \$27.50; call 1-612-224-4222.

**MONDAY, June 4, 8:30 p.m.**, Met Center, Bloomington, Minn.: In person, in concert, **Cher** with special guest comedian **Dom Irrera**. Tickets, \$24; to order by phone, call 612-989-5151.

**SATURDAY, June 9, 7:30 p.m.**, Old Towne Theatre, Worthing, S.D.: In person, **Bryan Bowers** — singer, songwriter, storyteller, master of the autoharp. Tickets, \$7 in advance (call 372-4653), \$8 at the door.

**TUESDAY, June 12 (through June 17)**, Ordway Music Theatre, St. Paul: **Mitzi Gaynor** stars in the New York City Lincoln Center production of Cole Porter's "**Anything Goes**." Good seats limited, order now; call 612-224-4222.

**TUESDAY, June 19, 7:30 p.m.**, Met Center, Bloomington, Minn.: In concert, **Rush** with special guest **Mr. Big**. Tickets, \$19.50, at Ticketmaster centers or call 1-612-853-9333.

**SUNDAY, July 15, 7:30 p.m.**, Met Center, Bloomington, Minn.: **B-52's** in concert with special guests **Seduction** and **Young MC**. \$19.50 tickets at Ticketmaster centers or call 1-612-853-9333.

**THURSDAY, July 19, 8 p.m.**, Met Center, Bloomington, Minn.: In concert, **Milli Vanilli**. All seats, \$19.50 reserved. Tickets, subject to service charge, at Met Center boxoffice and Ticketmaster outlets. No phone orders.

**MONDAY, Aug. 6, through Sunday, Aug. 12, Sturgis, S.D.: 50th Anniversary Black Hills Motor Classic**, expecting up to 250,000 motorcyclists for racing, hill climbing, visiting and full-throttle partying. Motel rooms within 100-mile radius in all directions are booked. Rooms in private homes, \$100 a night; yard space, \$20 a head per night. Call Sturgis Chamber of Commerce, 347-2556.

**NOTE:** Items for Entertainment Calendar should be submitted in writing at least a week before desired publication date. Please include a name and phone number in case there are questions. Send to: Entertainment Calendar, c/o Out & About, Aberdeen American News, PO Box 4430, Aberdeen, SD 57402-4430.

# Ask her no questions

## Interview with Howe is monologue

By **TINA HOWE**  
"Painting Churches"

"I'd rather discuss my work than my private life.

"If you ask 'When were you born?' I have to say how old I am.

"I was born in New York City, in Woman's Hospital. I'm very childish about my age. I want to live forever. It's not a vanity thing. Mortality embarrasses me.

"Both my parents were, like Gardner and Fanny Church, from Boston families. My play is about a vanishing breed. My mother was a painter. My father was Quincy Howe, the radio and TV newsman. When I heard about Kennedy's assassination, it was by my father's voice on radio.

"Every time I stepped out of the house, the Metropolitan Museum was the first thing I saw. From the time I could walk, it was a refuge. I remember my brother and I toddling in to see the armor and the van Goghs, and all the Roman dead people in the tubs.

"I attended elitist girls' schools in New York. They were the worst. Then my father accepted a position at the University of Illinois. I went to a wildly experimental high school in Urbana. It was chaos. We voted on everything. Then I went to two colleges.

"I studied the piano very seriously for eight years, but I got so terrified when I had to perform that my hands shook so much I had to stop. I didn't have any talent either. But if I could be anything in the world, I would be a musician, an organist. I'd play Bach chorales all the time.

"I graduated from Sarah Lawrence, and it was there I really got interested in theatre. I wrote a one-act play during my senior year that was performed. It was a terrible play and everybody loved it. It was about the end of the world, one of those with talking pigeons. It was really awful. But when it was over everyone started screaming 'Author, author!' and it went to my head.

"After graduation in 1959, I spent a year in Paris in a period I characterize as the heyday of the theater of the absurd. There I wrote my first full-length play, but the most profound thing that happened to me that year was seeing 'The Bald Soprano' by Ionesco. That exploded me all over the place. Ionesco, Beckett and Pirandello are still my heroes.

"I live on New York's Upper West Side with my husband and two children, Dara and Eben. Our drooling, bald babies; now they're big and hairy and expensive.

"I am very tall, I'm underweight, I'm a Scorpio, I'm a compulsive shopper. Woolworth's and Alexander's. I was an ugly duckling growing up. I was always about six feet tall from the time I was about three years old. I was always the high point in every school photograph. The awful thing about being tall is that you can never hide. And sometimes you really want to.

"I don't live in the past at all. I don't live in the future either. I'm totally now. I also don't analyze things. I'm very stupid that way. I'm like some lower form of life that never asks questions.

"My kids, my husband, my work, that's about it. I don't have any message that I'm trying to get across. I've never thought of myself as being a woman, I've only thought of myself as a writer. I think that's because in our family we didn't define our roles in terms of sex, but in terms of talent.

"I don't read. I used to, but I don't have time anymore. When I'm not writing plays I take care of the children. I write about five or six hours a day, and if I'm not doing that, I'm playing with my children or my husband.

"I have a profoundly rich and boring life. I don't go to parties. I don't know anybody famous. You have to be like an athlete to write, you really can't go out. I sort of live from day to day, and I can't imagine 20 years from now."



ACT photo by Jim Walker

Rory King and Doris Graeber are Gardner and Fanny Church in Aberdeen Community Theatre's production of Tina Howe's "Painting Churches." Playwright Howe says, "When people ask me how much do the Churches resemble my family, I always say, 'All of it is true, but none of it happened.'"