

A disappointment

A lot of hard work went into the Theater in the Rye's "The Lone Star." Unfortunately the one-man show doesn't reap full rewards. Page E2.

A touch of class

John Kenneth Galbraith discusses the future of America's economy and other matters tonight on a special KLRN program. Page E3.

Austin American-Statesman

amusements

Friday, December 2, 1977 · E1

Big names kick off city Christmas season

Special to The American Statesman

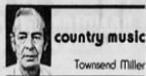
Take a look at some of the names, both visitors and residents — names like Doc Watson, Townes Van Zandt, David Bromberg, Eddie Rabbitt, Ray Wiley Hubbard, Jerry Jeff Walker, the Lost Gonzo Band, the Cooder Brown Band, the Austin All-Stars, and Tom Taylor's interpretation of "Woody Guthrie" — and it stacks up as an exciting week on the live country music scene in Austin.

In addition, special music-oriented events include an autograph party to introduce a new edition of "Burton's Book of the Blues," a show of Kerry Aw's musical art, and a meeting of the Central Texas Bluegrass Association.

The week gets under way with the concert by versatile guitar-singer-humorist David Bromberg at the Paramount Friday night. Opening from Bromberg will be vocalists Natalie Zoe and Friends, including father old Pat. If you haven't heard Natalie's much-improved singing lately, you're in for a pleasant surprise.

Also Friday patrons of Bergstrom's NCO Club will be in for a dancing and listening treat with the great music of the Cooder Brown Band.

Friday and Saturday Jerry Jeff Walker and his new band are co-billed interestingly with his former group, the Lost Gonzo Band, at the Austin Opry House. Townes Van Zandt revisits Austin from Nashville, along with his old Houston



country music
Townsend Miller

sidekicks the Hemma Ridge Mountain Boys (Mickey White and Rex Bell) at Home Inn; and trumpet Ray Wiley Hubbard and his fine band will be offering "City Against the Wall, Red Neck Mother" and other tunes at the Alamo Roadhouse.

Tom Taylor's superb one-man musical narrative "Woody Guthrie" closes out at Center Stage before heading for New York City. Performances are at 8 p.m. Friday and Sunday and a 8 and 10 p.m. Saturday.

Eddie Rabbitt, co-billed Saturday at the Silver Dollar with "The O'Neal Brothers, is one of the nation's fastest-rising country music stars. He has just been named New Entertainer of the Year by Country Music magazine, but Eddie paid his dues for years as a struggling Nashville songwriter before Roy Drusky, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones and Ronnie Milsap discovered his talents. Recently his popularity has exploded as a singer.

Currently, they're telling the story about how Eddie agreed recently to a request by a young lady at the foot of the stage to autograph her checks.

see TOWNSEND, E4



Staff Photo by Jim Dougherty

Bob Cummings still going strong at Country Dinner Playhouse

Bob Cummings one laid-back star

By PATRICK TAGGART

American-born star

"Had it, I think you're going to like this picture!"

It's been almost 20 years since Bob Cummings smiled into the living rooms of millions of Americans and repeated that line, and there are a few more creases in the face of this durable actor.

But the eyes still glitter brilliant blue, and some of his off-the-cuff, original one-liners are better than anything he said on television.

CUMMINGS IS MAKING his second appearance in as many years in Country Dinner Playhouse's "Dad's Dilemma." Two years ago he appeared in "Marriage Go-Round."

When he was last in town, Cummings was accompanied by his beautiful, 20-ish Chinese wife and extolled the merits of a proper diet.

Diet and vitamins are still very much on his mind and at a lunch last week, during which he picked up a copy of a salad, he handed a reporter a pro-Laetrile booklet.

"At home we try not to eat anything white," he said, "or anything which contains the standard additives BHT and BHA, things that contain cancer-causing additives."

THE RESULT, he said, is that you end up staying away from "hundreds and hundreds of things," and it's all because, he said, the government doesn't care that some of the things put in food to protect us are actually harmful.

He spoke of the contradictory position of the government putting a warning label on cigarettes, and then supporting tobacco farmers with parties.

"That's hypocrisy, isn't it?" he asked. "What's the word for it?"

Dichotomy, someone volunteered.

"Oh, dichotomy," he said, his eyes opening wide. "I had a dichotomy once, I had to take blackberry juice to cure it!"

MENTION LAETRILE and you'll get what sounds like a lecture in bio-organic chemistry.

"You must do a lot of studying," someone observed.

"No," he replied, "I'm just scared."

But enough chemistry. What about "Dad's Dilemma?"

CUMMINGS SAID it was offered to him four years ago. He told his agent he didn't want to do it because he didn't know how to play it.

He finally took the role and has been doing it for two years in highly successful engagements.

"I feel like I've got a bull by the tail," he said. "What should I do? The play is doing very well, but I'd like to do something else, too. Getting into a new show is a very big gamble."

The show has been thumped by critics, but the actor said it's been

see BOB, E4

The Country Dinner Playhouse
2 SPECIAL NIGHTS
SUNDAY DEC. 4 & SUNDAY DEC. 11
THE FABULOUS
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
Conducted by
Jimmy Henderson
Reservations 530-5921

NOW ON STAGE!
BOB CUMMINGS
Star of Stage, Screen & Television in a Rousing New Comedy
Dad's Dilemma
RESERVATIONS 530-5921
12172 Burnet Rd. • North of IH35
The Country Dinner Playhouse

Friday's Finest! Seafood Buffet
Quality Inn South has a great selection of fastly home-style seafood to celebrate the beginning of your weekend. You'll find delicious boiled shrimp, fried catfish and clams, and baked cod fillets. Add to that fresh shrimp, water-melon, spiced seafood creole, rice, french fries, hush puppies, fresh seasoned vegetables and an assortment of desserts and so much more! And it's all-you-can-eat for only \$3.99. Children 1/2 price. Open 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Quality Inn South
A Lively Change of Place
9135 of Oltorf 442-0560

BELIEVE IT!
GRAND CHAMPION PRIME RIB™ IS THE FINEST ANYWHERE!
We invite you to enjoy a new taste experience. Grand Champion Prime Rib™ prepared as never before. Juicy, Tender and Delicious. Choose your choice of potato, crisp golden toast and a trip to our All-You-Can-Eat Salad Bar. It's our best—you better believe it!
3.99
"We want you to come back!"
BONANZA
916 E. Ben White
5209 Cameron Rd.
8013 Research

TACO BELL
534 E. OLTORF 1503 W. 35th St.
The 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ONLY
You get one of these beautiful glasses and your favorite soft drink
59¢
ONLY AT **TACO BELL** ONLY AT
1503 West 35th Street
534 E. Oltorf
Completes Series of the 12 Days of Christmas available

The Old Pecan St. Cafe & BAR
SHOPPING DOWNTOWN?
Stop in for Irish Coffee or Homemade Eggnog. Open All Afternoon.
314 E 6TH 3 BLOCKS EAST OF CONGRESS.

STEAK & DEEP SEA FINGER LOBSTER \$3.99
Now lobster is within your reach.
Once you taste these little lobsters, you'll find them just as tender and succulent as a big one. They share the sizzler with a broiled-to-order steak. Plus a baked potato or french fries and Sizzler toast. So hurry to the Sizzler. Where the price of lobster hasn't gotten out of hand.
OPEN: 11:30-9:30 Sun.-Mon.
501 S. Congress at Riverside Dr.

YUENMAN DYNASTY
Restaurant and Cocktail
ELEGANT CHINESE DINING
STEAK LOBSTER HAM LAMB PRAWN RABBIT & KING CRAB LEG
Six different sauces one is your favorite
OPEN FOR LUNCH NOVEMBER 29
Lunch - 11:30 to 2 Sat. & Sun. 12 to 10
Dinner - 6 to 10 CLOSED MONDAY
2900 W. ANDERSON RESERVATIONS
NEXT TO HANDY ANDY 454-6677