Teaching college marks new step for dancer

by Joyce Eisenmenger

Dancer, singer, choreographer, teacher and professionalSummarizes the many talents of 24 year-old Chris Monahan, a new dance instructor with the Creighton Fine Arts Department.

Chris has performed with the Broadway cast of "No, No, Nanette" in New York, with the June Taylor Dancers in Lake Tahoe, Nev., and with the Casa Manana Summer Musicals in Ft. Worth, Tex.

A native of Illinois and daughter of an often-transferred army officer, Monahan has traveled and performed almost all over the United States.

"I rather enjoyed it," she said. "The audiences are different in every town."

Began at five

Chris said she began dancing at the age of five, receiving the impetus from her mother, who was involved in dance. She received training in ballet, jazz tap dancing and acrobatics, preferring jazz-tap dancing. "I guess I feel it more than ballet," she said.

At the age of 17, Chris said she began assistant teaching. This is the first year she has taught in a university setting.

Prior to teaching at Creigh- ton, Monahan said she worked mostly in private dance studios where there isn't as much "push" because the students aren't graded.

She said the advantage to teaching in a university is that "teaching opens up a whole field of choreography" because more is accomplished when students are required to come to the classes.

Down-to-earth

In the professional circles, Monahan said she was worked with such stars such as Sammy Davis Jr., Tiny Tim, Danny Kaye, Milton Berle and Phyllis Diller. "Most of the celebrities are very nice," she commented, "just down-to-earth people."

Besides teaching four days a week and being involved in outside activities, Chris said her main interests center around her husband John, a law student at Creighton, and their 4 month-old son, Shaun.

In regards to her future plans Monahan said, "I will always have to be involved in dance. This is my outlet. Like some people have painting, dance is my expression."

Acting troupe

to present play

Weusi-upendo, a Black acting troupe, will present a one-act play and poetry readings on the problems of black citizenship Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Eppley Little Theatre.

The Rev. Joseph Brown, S.J., adjunct instructor of speech, is directing the production sponsored by the Speech Department. Admission is $1.

Jaytalkers to compete

in Kansas tournament

The Jaytalkers will be participating in a debate and speech tournament at Community Collete at Garden City, Kansas on Sept. 26-28.

The Rev. Marion Sitzmann, O.S.B., director of forensics, will accompany the team.