Don't ignore fine arts when seeking good time

The following column contains the opinions of the author.

By Mike Larsen
Editor

The general reaction to this fall's first Creightonian, at least what people have told me directly, has been good.

And, as I said an issue ago, I certainly won't get angry if someone wants to pass along a word of praise. But there were some things wrong with my editing debut, and I'm only too well aware of them, even if many of the readers aren't.

There were a few minor flaws that I won't bother discussing here. But there was one glaring error — glaring in my eyes anyway — that I want to touch on.

'Mice and men'

I suppose this should be filed in the "best-laid plans of mice and men" category:

As those of you who read the first issue may have noticed, there was an article in the Entertainment section on the cast being chosen for "The Taming of the Shrew," which will be staged at the Performing Arts Center next month.

Nothing unusual about that, you say? Well, the story was a whopping three paragraphs long. And that's ridiculously small.

It didn't start out that way in the original planning. Initially, I had hoped to have a lengthy feature on what the fine and performing arts department has on tap for the semester.

No problem

I even knew who I was going to have write the story, until I found out the Friday before Labor Day Weekend that she would be unable to be on the staff because of another commitment.

My other entertainment writer, Beth Harig, was working on an article on the "Suscipe" sculpture, so I couldn't see dropping a major story assignment on her at such late notice. But there was still no problem, I said. I could write the story myself.

Yeah, right. The next thing I knew, it was the next Wednesday night and, between trying to put together the first issue and keeping something resembling up with my classwork, no story had been written. The information on the cast being chosen was quickly tossed together and thrown into the paper so it wouldn't look like we were blowing things off completely.

So the feature I had imagined never came to exist. And that's nobody's fault but mine.

Ignored enough

Which is too bad, because the fine and performing arts department tends to get ignored enough around this campus.

Until last spring, I was as guilty as anyone when it came to ignoring the department's offerings. Then, a Saturday evening with nothing to do led to a trek over to the Performing Arts Center northwest of campus to watch "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

And all of a sudden I felt really stupid. Here these opportunities for a good evening of entertainment on campus had been available to me for almost three years, and I hadn't had the sense to take advantage of them.

There's a year left to rectify that situation, and I intend to. Fortunately, the fine and performing arts department has a way to help me do it cheaply.

More special

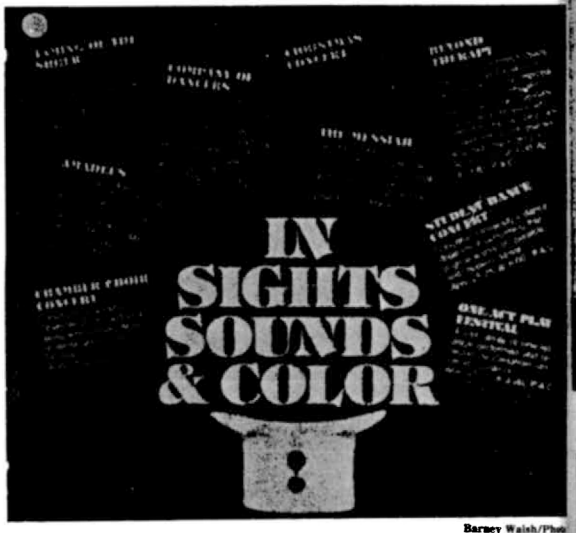
Maybe you've seen the purple flyers around campus advertising their 1985-86 schedule. For only $25, you can get a season pass good for nine events, including plays like "The Taming of the Shrew," "Amadeus" and "Beyond Therapy," the One-Act Plays and Creighton's Company of Dancers.

I'm going to buy my season pass, and I hope those of you who enjoy an occasional evening of entertainment more special than just going to the latest James Bond flick will consider buying one, too.

And I assure you the department will receive the coverage it deserves the rest of my semester at the helm. Cathy Collins, who started the year as a general assignments reporter, has been shifted to join Beth in the entertainment department.

This week, Cathy provides an article on "The Taming of the Shrew," the kind of writing I had visualized for the first issue. Current plans call for her to follow t with an indepth look at the Compa Dancers.

Hopefully, as they say, that will tak of that. And, if not before, I'll see you play in October.



Barney Walsh/Photo

The fine and performing arts department offers "A Season Full of Magic."