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The final show of the 1971-'72 Red Mask season will be

"Mary, Mary"

an all-time comedy favorite by Jean Kerr tentatively set for May 12, 13, 14 and 18, 19, 20

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....

RED MASK PLAYERS

PRESENT

 PLAZA SUITE

 February 18, 19, 20 and 24, 25, 26
 8:15 p.m.

NEIL SIMON'S

Comedy

Matinee February 20 2 p.m.

Presented through special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, Inc.

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Director: Harold Judy

Harold is a veteran of eleven Red Mask plays. He most recently appeared in "Any Wednesday". His role in "Advise and Consent" won him the coveted "Katy" award. An immediate past president of Red Mask and current member of the board of directors, Harold directed "Arsenic and Old Lace" in 1970.

Stage Manager: Ron McDaniel

Ron has 10 Danville Light Opera shows to his credit including the role of Corneilus Hackl in "Hello, Dolly". He directed "On a Clear Day You Can See Forever". His last Red Bask show was "Advise and Consent".

Producer: Barbara Eckhardt

Mrs. Echhardt came to Danville six years ago from Elmwood Park, Illinois. She has been active in Red Mask for four years. Although this is the first time she has produced a play, Mrs. Eckhardt has worked backstage in makeup and properties and in the box office. She is currently Red Mask's treasurer.

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First Comedy

The first noteworthy American comedy to be produced by professional actors was "The Contrast" by Royall Tyler, presented in 1787. Although the play is modeled in form and style on the comedies of English playwright Richard B. Sheridan, Tyler's theme is superiority of Americans to foreigners. In the character Jonathan, the play presents the first important native type — the rural Yankee.



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The last scene shows us the same suite with a mother and father fighting among themselves over the best way to get their daughter out of the bathroom and down to the ballroom where she is to be married.

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Cast of Characters

Karen Nash — Joy Beebe Sam Nash — Jim Beebe Jean McCormack — Teal Snapp Bellhop — Paul Scarce Waiter - Jack Wilkinson

ACT I

Waiter - Paul Scarce Jesse Kiplinger - Dan Smith Muriel Tate — Wilma Timm

ACT II

ACT III

Norma Hubley --- Jean Acton Roy Hubley — Jim Williams Borden Eisler — Paul Scarce Mimsey Hubley - Sara Jo Ward

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On Stage Jonight . . .

Joy Beebe (Karen Nash)—An opera singer in college, Joy has appeared in summer stock at Boulder Hill Playhouse in Aurora and most recently as Yente, the matchmaker in the Danville Light Opera production "Fiddler on the Roof". She is elementary vocal music coordinator for Danville Schools.

Jim Beebe (Sam Nash)—Director for Danville Light Opera's productions of "Hello, Dolly" and "Fiddler on the Roof", Jim has also directed high school, community theater and summer stock productions. He previously appeared on the Red Mask stage in "Come Blow Your Horn".

Teal Snapp (Jean McCormack)—A housewife and student at the University of Illinois, Teal previously appeared in Red Mask's production of "Cactus Flower". She was stage manager for "Sunday in New York".

Paul Scarce (Bellhop—Waiter—Borden Eisler)—Although a newcomer to Red Mask, Paul appeared most recently in the DHS Dramatic Club production of "Thunder on Sycamore Street". He is a liberal arts student at DJC preparing to major in theater arts.

Jack Wilson (waiter)—A veteran of seven Red Mask productions, Jack last appeared in "Love in E Flat". Jack won the Katy award for his role in "Come Blow Your Horn".

Dan Smith (Jesse Kiplinger)—Dan has appeared in many Red Mask productions plus shows at the Marion Community Theater and the Rockford Civic Theater. His last role at Red Mask was as Stanley in "A Streetcar Named Desire".

Wilma Timm (Muriel Tate)—A housewife and mother of three daughters, Wilma is making her first appearance on the Red Mask Stage. She is a member and past president of Danville Junior Woman's Club and has participated in the Follies since 1957.

Jean Acton (Norma Hubley)—Jean has been associated with Red Mask for 25 years, is a past president and past board member. She won two Katy Awards for roles in "Sabrina Fair" and "Witness for the Prosecution" and a merit award for "Black Chiffon".

Jim Williams (Roy Hubley)—A native of Paris, Ill., Jim is associate pastor at St. James United Methodist Church. He was a speech major at Eastern Illinois University where he had classroom work in dramatics. This is his debut on the Red Mask stage.

Sara Jo Ward (Mimsey Hubley)—Sara Jo has been active in Danville High dramatics and has had major roles in the two recent Danville Light Opera productions—"Hello, Dolly" and "Fiddler on the Roof".

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Backstage Jonight . . .

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WASHING

MAIN AT LOGAN

DANVILLE, ILL.



Nine Red Mask officers and members attended the January 7 production of "Come Back Little Sheba" by the Champaign Urbana Community Theater. After the show, the local members visited with Lillian Sweet, president of the C-U group; Bruce Heck, director of "Come Back . . ."; and Jim Heins, Noreen Manella and Hannelore Bradley, cast members. Invitation was extended for a return visit by the C-U theater group.

The Red Mask Players has joined the American Community Theater Association, a national organization with more than 2,000 community theaters such as our own as members. Red Mask hopes to gain from an exchange of ideas with other ACTA members at regional and national conferences and through publications and other services offered by the association.

Mr. and Mrs. John Knapp (he designed the set and she directed "Sunday in New York") are the proud parents of a son, the couple's first child. The baby boy was born January 31, at St. Elizabeth Hospital. Congratulations.

Eight Red Mask members recently completed a 10-week workshop in play direction at Danville Junior College taught by Mrs. Yuki Llewellyn of Champaign. They are Liz Miller, Betty Sue Kreidler, Barbara Vinson, Jack Wilkinson, Bill Snapp, Ron McDaniel, Dale Ferrell and Jim Gill.

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From the Director:

From the Director:

Nearly a year ago the Red Mask board of directors picked tonight's comedy for this season. It's popularity was obvious when more than twice the number needed tried out for the plays. It was decided to use separate casts for each of the acts to give more people an opportunity to participate.

Now I've had the pleasure of working with several stage newcomers, some Red Mask veterans and two Danville Light Opera leaders.

The low temperatures of January and February couldn't chill the warmth generated by the cast and drew as they developed the author's words into a charming presentation. We hope you enjoy the performance as much as we have enjoyed being a part of developing it for you.

Harold Judy

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THE COMMERCIAL-NEWS

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The RED MASK Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of presentations to be offered for the 1972-'73 season

Come Back Little Sheba

Good Bye Charlie Everybody Loves Opal

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Danville Light Opera

The hit musical "Mame" will be presented April 27, 28 and 29, at the Masonic Temple by Danville Light Opera. Based on the Broadway comedy "Auntie Mame", the show contains such memorable music as "My Best Girl", "Need A Little Christmas", "Open A New Window" and the title song, "Mame".

