

# Broadway series

'Annie,' 'Evita' and 'Deathtrap' coming to A&M

by Susan Dittman

Battalion Staff

If taking a trip to the Big Apple to see a Broadway play or musical is way out of your budget, you're in luck.

MSC Town Hall is bringing three of New York's finest theatrical attractions right here to Aggieland.

The Broadway series will include "Deathtrap" on Nov. 21, "Annie" on Dec. 6, 7, and 8 and "Evita" on Feb. 15 and 16. MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society will sponsor "Evita" on Feb. 14. All of the performances will be in Rudder Auditorium.

"Deathtrap," a comedy chiller written by Ira Levin, opened on Broadway in 1978 and has since been made into a movie, starring Michael Caine and Christopher Reeve.

In the performance at Texas A&M, veteran actor Leslie Nielson, of "The Poseidon Adventure" and "Airplane" fame, will star as Sidney Bruhl, the glib, middle-age playwright who hasn't written a hit play in 18 years.

When Bruhl reads a script written by a young and brilliant playwright, he becomes envious and tells his wife he will do anything to get the script under his own name.

Playwright/author Levin plays games with the audience all through "Deathtrap" by leading them to believe that they already know the entire show by the end of the first act.

But in the second act, the twists and reversals of the plot leave the audience guessing.

Levin once said: "It was not until I was halfway through the first act that Act II came to me. It wasn't difficult. It was as much a surprise to me as it has been to the audiences ever since."

The Broadway musical

"Annie," winner of seven Tony awards, is a rags-to-riches tale of a young orphan who searches for her parents with the help of a soft-hearted billionaire.

Based on Harold Gray's comic strip, "Little Orphan Annie," which first appeared in the New York News in 1924, the show is set in New York City during the Depression.

Ten-year-old Kathleen Sisk will star in the role of Annie in the touring company's performance at Texas A&M.

Now into its sixth year on Broadway, "Annie" has become the eighth longest running musical with over 2,213 performances. It is also the only Broadway musical to have four productions playing simultaneously in the United States.

The life story of Eva Peron, wife of a former Argentinian President Juan Carlos, forms the basis for the Broadway musical, "Evita."

Unlike most musicals which have as much speaking as they do singing, "Evita" is almost done entirely in song.

Winner of the 1980 Tony Award for "Best Musical," the show chronicles Eva Peron's life from her career as a hairdresser to her political leadership of Argentina.

Season tickets for the Broadway series are on sale in the MSC Box Office. Prices are \$41, \$35, and \$30.

Ticket prices for each individual show are:

**Deathtrap** — \$10.50, \$9.50 and \$8.50

**Annie** — \$18.50, \$16.50 and \$14.50

**Evita** — \$22, \$18 and \$14

For more information call 845-1234.



Kathleen Sisk as "Annie" and Roxanne as her dog, "Sandy."

## Religion and song on Sunday



Steve and Annie Chapman

Steve and Annie Chapman will be in College Station Sunday to spread their religious message through song.

The two singers are former members of Dogwood, a Christian group which enjoyed a successful ministry. The religious content of the group's songs was the main reason for their success. The Chapmans were involved in writing almost all of that music.

The two broke away from Dogwood to spend more time with their family. Steve's wanted a singing job that would also allow him to spend more time with his family.

The two have made an album which includes songs about marriage, children, single people, financial hard times and worship.

The Chapmans will be singing Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at College Station Junior High School auditorium. There is no charge to attend the concert.

## 1 O'Clock Lab Band to play Thursday night

by Rebeca Zimmermann

Battalion Staff

One of the best college jazz bands in the nation, the North Texas State 1 O'Clock Lab Band, will perform at Texas A&M Thursday at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

The group has played at Texas A&M for the past several years. Thursday the band will perform selections that were composed by well-known jazz musicians and by students in the band.

The band also will play "Au Privave" by Dizzy Gillespie, "Birds in Flight" by Mario Cruz and "Hello and Goodbye" by Bob Brookmeyer.

The 1 O'Clock Lab is the top band among NTSU's nine jazz bands. In 1975, it became the first collegiate big band to be nominated for a Grammy award by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Five trumpet players, five trombonists, five saxophonists, a piano player, a bass player, a drummer, a guitarist and a percussionist make up the band. Band members come to NTSU from as far away as Winnipeg, Canada, and as near as Fort Worth.

The director of the band, K. Neil Slater, has been at North Texas since 1981. He also is director of the jazz program at NTSU, which has received wide acclaim for its excellence.

Tickets are available at the MSC Box Office for \$5.