

N. RICHARD NASH'S

the
RAINFALLER



Presented by

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

APRIL 4, 5, 6, 1991

ANKENY HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

7:30 P.M.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The Rainmaker

At the time of a paralyzing drought in the West, we discover a girl whose father and two brothers are worried as much about her becoming an old maid as they are about their dying cattle. For the truth is, she is indeed a plain girl. The brothers try every possible scheme to marry her off, but without success. Nor is there any sign of relief from the dry heat. When suddenly from out of nowhere appears a picaresque character with a mellifluous tongue and the most grandiose notions a man could imagine. He is a rainmaker, and he promises to bring rain, for \$100. While the family begins banging on bass drums to rattle the sky, he turns his magic on the girl and persuades her that she has a beauty of her own. She believes it, just as her father believes the fellow can actually bring rain.

Cast

(In order of appearance)

H.C. Curry..... Don Bell
Noah..... Rob Luther
Jim..... Joshua Burke
Lizzie..... Charice Palmer
File..... Paul Ruby
Sheriff..... Dick Wilson
Starbuck..... Greg Leavengood

Synopsis of Scenes

The play takes place in a western state on a summer day in a time of drought.

ACT ONE

Day

(10 - minute intermission)

ACT TWO

That Evening

(5 - minute intermission)

ACT THREE

Later that same night

Production Staff

Director..... Dick Russell
Producer..... Grace Leverenz
Co-producer..... Nancy Law
Stage Managers..... Chuck and Bette Honeck
Set..... Bill Shay and Orville Ballard
Paint Crew..... Kathy Weatherwax,
Kara Weatherwax, Lisa Carpenter, Jason Rose
Props..... Karen Rose
Lights and sound effects..... Cary Shapiro, Jerry Reid
Mike Mosman
Publicity..... Jo Reid, Joyce Lundstrom, Duane Spicer
Tickets..... Jo Reid
Program..... Kaylene Ruby
Makeup..... Beverly Heldt

Special Thanks to

Ankeny WalMart Store
Ron Sampson
Ankeny Press Citizen
Ankeny Today
Ankeny High School
Kevin Koester and Bonita Lemon
Orville Ballard

All the people who provided props and/or supported the production in any way

Cast Notes

Don Bell (H.C.)

Don is president of Drama Workshop in Des Moines and has been associated with community theatre in Central Iowa for 30 years. Don, who lives in Des Moines, worked for 17 years as Co-ordinator of Adult Education for DMACC. He is a professional public speaker and does seminars on motivation and management. Don directed "Harvey" for ACT, has directed "The Ragpicker," "The Madwoman of Chaillet," "The Good Doctor," and "Hot L Baltimore" at the Drama Workshop, and "Never Too Late" at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre. His favorite role was as Loosleaf in "Happy Birthday Wanda June."

Rob Luther (Noah)

Rob is a speech and drama teacher at Brody Middle School. He received a bachelor's degree in drama from Missouri Southern and studied for two years in New York. He acted in shows that included "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," (Brick) "Barefoot in the Park," (Paul Brater) and "Brighton Beach Memories," (Stanley Jerome). He has been involved in the musicals "Grease," "Oklahoma," "A Funny thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," and "Anything Goes." In this area he was in "Woman in Mind" at the Des Moines Community Playhouse. Rob moved to Des Moines recently and says he is single but definitely looking!

Joshua Burke (Jim)

Joshua has been very involved in Ankeny High School theater, holding leads in productions of "Mousetrap" and "Makin' It." During the Donna Reed Festival at the Riz Theater in Dennison, Ia., he was in "More Than Meets the Eye." He is "Hoppy" every Saturday night at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre. Joshua is also involved in the Iowa State Fair Singers and Jazz Band. He has just won state contests in dramatic acting and radio news. A junior at Ankeny High School, he plans to attend Luther College in Decorah, possibly majoring in music/drama.

Charice Palmer (Lizzie)

Charice has been involved in area theatre at the Des Moines Playhouse as Thelma in "A Trip to Bountiful" and as Elma in "Bus Stop." In ACT's production of "How the Other Half Loves" she played played Fiona Foster. Previous theatrical experience in Dickenson, N.D., includes roles in "The Ghost of Christmas Past," "A Christmas Carol," and "The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch."

Charice is new to the Des Moines area, having lived here less than two years, but she says she LOOOVES Iowa. Charice works in Des Moines for the American Cancer Society.

Paul Ruby (File)

Paul has been involved in ACT musicals as Curly in "Oklahoma," Nathan Detroit in "Guys and Dolls," and Jigger in "Carousel." Paul taught at Southeast Polk Junior High for ten years and now is in sales. He spends his spare time singing with his family's various musical groups or in his basement (in a far corner) playing his mandolin and sometimes his harmonica (with his nose).

Dick Wilson (Sheriff)

Dick is a member of the Des Moinesaires Barbershop Chorus and the Methodist Church Wesley Singers. He has lived in Ankeny since 1975 with his wife and two children. He is self-employed and sells and installs replacement windows. He has been involved in ACT productions of "40 Carats," "Carousel," "Guys and Dolls," "The Odd Couple," "Inherit the Wind," and "Oklahoma."

Greg Leavengood (Starbuck)

Greg is heavily involved in area theater. For ACT he directed "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," and he had leads in "Guys and Dolls" and "Carousel." At the Des Moines Community Playhouse his leads have included Frank Butler in "Annie Get Your Gun" and the King in "The King and I." He was Harold Hill in "The Music Man" during VEISHA at C.Y. Stephens in Ames. He has been in various dramas at the Des Moines Community Playhouse, Drama Workshop, Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, Drake University and Ames Community Theatre. Greg says he is single and has more money than he can possibly spend.

Dick Russell (Director)

Dick has directed "Inherit the Wind," "Move Over Mrs. Markham" and "40 Carats" for ACT. He has also appeared in ACT productions of "The Odd couple," "Ten Little Indians" and "Barefoot in the Park." Dick has acted extensively at the Des Moines Community Playhouse and the Drama Workshop, and both acted and directed at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre.

Director's Notes

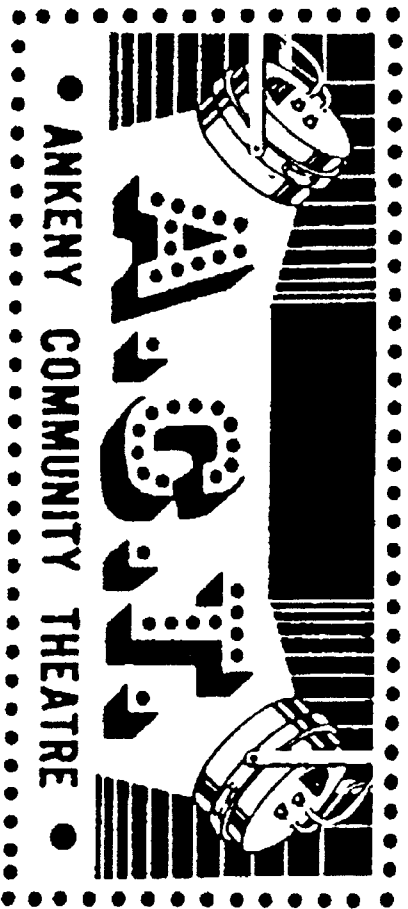
"The Rainmaker" is a play about Love, Hope, and Dreams waiting to be fulfilled... but the most important of these is Love!!

I fell in 'love' with this show when I was cast as File many years ago. Later, I played both Jimmy and H.C. Curry. Each time I felt the love and warmth that this production brought to both the cast and the audience.

The reason is simple. This a play about people we all know.. people overcoming their circumstances and winning victories, along with their defeats. The 'ups' and 'downs' of life reflected in "The Rainmaker" are a part of all of our lives.

So long as audiences gather together to participate in live theatre, this show will warm our hearts and cheer our spirits. For after all, it's a reflection of ourselves.

Dick Russell



The Ankeny Community Theatre is a nonprofit organization created to promote the development of theatre for the Ankeny community and surrounding area. We strongly urge you to not only patronize and support community theatre but also to participate. There are many ways you can become a part of this organization. Audition announcements for all productions are posted in the Press Citizen and the Datebook. If you would like to act, direct, produce, or be involved with one of our production crews, we welcome your involvement. Ankeny offers a tremendous opportunity for talented people. We would like to tap your talent by encouraging you to participate.

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	Orville and Bonnie Ballard