

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE presents

L I ' L A B N E R



An Original Musical Comedy by:
NORMAN PANAMA and MELVIN FRANK
Based on characters created by AL CAPP
Directions and Choreography by Michael Kidd
Lyrics and Music by Johnny Mercer and Gene dePaul

Evening shows 7:30 p.m. Matinee 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 22 and 23 Sunday March 3
March 1 and 2
March 7, 8, and 9 2002

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560 Lexington Avenue
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Ankeny Community Theatre
1932 SW Third Street
Ankeny, Iowa 50021

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

You have heard the adage "be careful what you ask for-- you might get it". After several years of hinting and suggesting that Li'l Abner be selected for ACT, it has become my duty to make it a reality. Li'l Abner is an hilarious musical comedy with political satire, and it is a huge challenge, but it is an all around crowd pleaser.

I want to thank my delightful cast, Jim our music director, my producer (Grace) and my honey-do husband for all the help they have given in dotting the i's and crossing the t's.

Now that I have done my "druthers", please enjoy
Li'l Abner.

Joi

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE

Board of Directors 2002

President	Lynn Arterburn
President elect	Kevin Sprague
Treasurer	Julie Quass
Historian	Kaylene Ruby

Monte Engh, Theresa Fleener, Wayne Pierson,
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DOGPATCH DENIZENS

(In order of appearance)

Lonesome Polecat Jerry Reid
Hairless Joe Kevin Sprague
Romeo Scragg Larry Johnson
Clem Scragg Harold Mosier
Marryin' Sam Paul Ruby
Earthquake McGoon David Klingefus
Moonbeam McSwine Lisa Wagner
Daisy Mae Kathryn Bisbey
Mammy Yokum Kaylene Ruby
Pappy Yokum Monte Engh
Lil' Abner Pete Panada

<u>Wives</u>	<u>Husbands</u>
Jean Ginger	Jerry Wickersham
Bonita Lemon	Floyd Temeyer
Grace Leverenz	Steve Stachan
Susan Furland	Don Klinker

Cronies
Clark Ott Jerry Wickersham
Jerry Reid Kevin Fisher

Mayor Daniel D. Dawgmeat Ray Peters
Scarlett Jessica Carlson
Father (Rufe) Clark Ott

Dancers
Jennifer Bohn Jenna Lanning
Jenna Lathrop Jessie Smith

Senator Jack S. Phogbound Kevin Sprague
 Dr. Finsdale Troy DeStigter
 Available Jones Steve Strachan
 Stupefyn' Jones Tammy Panada
 Government Men Harold Mosier
 Ben Kautza
 President Kevin Sprague
 General Bullmoose Clark Ott
 Appassionata Von Climax Mara Trousdale

Secretaries

Lisa Wagner Carol Weineke
 Tammy Panada Jessica Carlson

Evil Eye Fleagle Kevin Sprague
 Dr. Smithborn Jerry Wickersham
 Dr. Krogmeyer Jerry Reid
 Dr. Schleifitz Kevin Fisher
 Cedric Softwicke Kevin Sprague
 Creighton Kevin Sprague
 Butler Jerry Wickersham
 Colonel Harold Mosier
 Policemen Floyd Temeyer/Steve Strachan
 Speedy McRabbit Jerry Wickersham

Hunks

Kevin Fisher, Rory Hansen, Paul Ratajesak, Larry Johnson

Scragg Wedding Guests:
 Families and Friends of the Cast

Note: Because Li'l Abner has a large cast, the biographical sketches are presented on the insert in your program.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

- Scene 1. Dogpatch, U.S.A.
- Scene 2. The Yokum Cabin
- Scene 3. The Fishing Hole
- Scene 4. Cornpone Square
- Scene 5. Dogpatch Road
- Scene 6. Cornpone Square
- Scene 7. Washington, D.C. Sequence
 - a. The President's Office
 - b. Government Laboratory
- Scene 8. General Bullmoose's Office
- Scene 9. Dogpatch Road
- Scene 10. Cornpone Square
- Scene 11. Dogpatch Road
- Scene 12. Cornpone Square, Sadie Hawkins Day

ACT TWO

- Scene 1. Government Testing Laboratory
Washington, D.C.
- Scene 2. The Yokum Cabin
- Scene 3. General Bullmoose's Office
- Scene 4. Corridor in Bullmoose Mansion
- Scene 5. Ballroom in Bullmoose Mansion
- Scene 6. Corridor in Bullmoose Mansion
- Scene 7. Government Testing Laboratory
- Scene 8. Cornpone Square

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

1. Overture
2. A Typical Day (Dogpatchers)
3. If I Had My Druthers (Abner and Cronies)
4. Reprise: If I Had My Druthers (Daisy)
5. Jubilation T. Cornpone
(Marryin' Sam and Dogpatchers)
6. Encore: Jubilation T. Cornpone
7. Namely You (Abner and Daisy)
8. Unnecessary Town
(Abner, Daisy and Dogpatchers)
9. What's Good for General Bullmoose
(Secretaries - A cappella)
10. The Country's in the Very Best of Hands
(Abner, Sam and Dogpatchers)
11. Sadie Hawkins Day Race

ACT TWO

1. Oh Happy Day (Dr.'s Finsdale, Smithborn,
Krogmeyer and Schleifitz)
2. I'm Past My Prime (Daisy and Sam)
3. Love in a Home (Abner and Daisy)
4. Progress is the Root of All Evil (Bullmoose)
5. Reprise: Progress is the Root of All Evil
6. Put 'em Back the Way They Wuz
(Dogpatch wives)
7. The Matrimonial Stomp (Sam and Dogpatchers)
8. Put 'em Back the Way They Wuz (Dogpatchers)
9. Cornpone Finale (Sam and Full Company)

ABOUT AL CAPP

In 1909, Al Capp, famous American cartoonist, was born Alfred Gerald CAPlin; hence the Al Capp in later years. He was from New Haven, Connecticut, and attended art schools in the East. He joined the Associated Press in 1932 and worked briefly with "Ham" Fisher, the creator of Joe Palooka.

In 1934 Mr. Capp created Li'l Abner and his Hillbilly family of Mammy and Pappy Yokum of Dogpatch, U.S.A. Daisy Mae was Li'l Abner's faithful, but unappreciated, girl friend until 1952 when Li'l Abner finally married her. Capp's invention of Sadie Hawkins Day was copied after the annual Leap Year's "girl chases boy" race.

Capp often used Li'l Abner to satarize famous persons and social customs of the country. General Bullmoose satirizes post-Depression business tycoons, and Senator Jack S. Phogbound satirizes a typical politician. Herbert Hoover was called a "radical" for having two chickens in every pot.

Some other Capp creations are Fearless Fosdick, The Shmoo and the comic strips "Abby and Slat's" and "Long Sam". He also wrote newspaper columns, but he will always be remembered for Li'l Abner. Al Capp died in 1979.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Kevin Sprague and Harvey Olsthoorn for designing and hanging the new stage curtains.

Bob and Gretchen Brown for sewing the new curtains.

Stacey Jo Fugere and Connie Jo Wilson for providing Li'l Abner with dancers.

Paul Ruby and Basics and Beyond Alternative High School for the Presidential seal and the Jubilation T. Cornpone statue. Students involved were Lacie Smith, Alaina Callison, April Bonnett, Jacob Gulling and Chris Maahs. Their teacher is Sherrie Wilson.

Kaylene Ruby and Grand View for arranging the recorded voices used in Li'l Abner.

The families of the cast and crew for their patience and encouragement during the two months of auditions and rehearsals.

CONTRIBUTORS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF
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Greg and Brenda Krause	Kevin Sprague
Earl and Janet Leonard	Daisy Stermole
Jack and Grace Leverenz	

THANKS



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DOGPATCH CITIZENS

Pete Panada (Li'l Abner) can be called a "musical Van Gogh", since he is a painter by day and musician by night. Pete plays guitar and sings with a band. His only stage performance as an actor was last Spring when he played the romantic lead in "You Can't Take It With You" for ACT. Pete's family consists of his wife Tammy, who likes to do it "her way" and his daughter Cheyenne who also gets "her way". Pete has made the ultimate sacrifice for "Li'l Abner" because he shaved his facial hair just for the show. Pretty Li'l Abner, right?

Kathryn Bisbey (Daisy Mae) is doing Daisy Mae for the second time in her life, the first being when she was in high school. Using her music and dance degree from UNI, Kathryn has given Ankeny and ACT many memorable musical and dramatic performances. [See the ACT programs on the South wall.] She most recently played several roles in "Annie" at the Playhouse. Kathryn works at the former KVI as a "policy holder specialist". She also loves to spend time with husband Jim--and their cat.

Kaylene Ruby (Mammy Yokum) is once again playing a crazy old lady! Her other "crazy" performance was an aunt in "Arsenic and Old Lace". She is also married to a crazy not-so-old man, (Marryin' Sam). Acting comes easy for some people and Kaylene is one of them. After 19 years with ACT, she's done it all! Kaylene is Division Chair of Humanities at Grand View College. Her pet peeve is a man and his remote controls.

Monte Engh (Pappy Yokum) should be a professional comedian. Give him a good line and he's got a funny answer. Monte is a loyal member of ACT and has given countless hours to its betterment. He works for Kum and Go as a repair and maintenance coordinator, and has a wife and three almost grown children. Monte is also involved in many church activities.

Paul Ruby (Marryin' Sam) is a star from outerspace and related to Alf and Mork. He hitched a ride to earth on NASA's first space ship, and he never went back. Somewhere along the line Paul easily learned to sing, talk, memorize and 'shine'. Shining came easy for Paul, who was born to glow on stage. In real life, Paul is a teacher at Basics and Beyond Alternative High School, where some of his students helped create Jubilation T. Cornpone. Paul and Kaylene enjoy their "children", Cheyenne, Jacob and Madison.

Dave Klinkefus (Earthy Dear) is providing ACT with the perfect body and voice for Earthquake McGoon. He puts up a good race for Daisy's hand in marriage since his physique provides the capability to push his competition aside. Dave's only experience on stage was very brief when he was a youngster, but he has participated in many vocal music groups. He presently sings in his church choir and the Ankeny Community Chorus. Dave's two kids are participating in the finale of Li'l Abner. Dave works for MidAmerican Energy in the computer field.





Kevin Sprague (Skitzo) has earned his alias by playing multiple roles in "Li'l Abner". It will be a challenge for the audience to identify Kevin in his many disguises. Kevin is also known as the "Phantom of the Opera" (theater) since he practically lives at ACT. He has played roles in many shows, produced, directed and been technical director in many others. Kevin works at the ISU Veterinary Hospital as an anesthesia technician. He lives with Sierra (his golden retriever) in Polk City.

Clark Ott (General Bullmoose) has an alias of "Mr. Super Guy" in some circles. (He must be a rounder.) After a long layoff, Clark is reviving his singing and acting career, and ACT is happy to have him join the fun in "Li'l Abner". He is a natural and a keeper. Clark's professional work title is longer than this paragraph, but he works for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to support his family of wife Janet and three children. His pet peeve is people who lick their ears!?!?

Jerry Reid (Lonesome Polecat and Stage Manager!) is commonly known as Mr. Honey-Do (for obvious reasons) and a pillar with ACT. He is a past president of ACT, on the Board several times and been involved with lots of shows either backstage or doing cameo or small roles on stage. When not making smoke or sound effects, Jerry has tried to walk softly and pray for more lines (NOT). He works for the Iowa Utilities Board.

Jerry Wickersham (Dogpatcher, doctor and husband) gets the blue ribbon for perfect attendance and almost perfect attention. He's a newcomer to ACT and claims minimal previous experience, except for singing and backstage work at the Playhouse. Jerry is a newlywed (over a year now to Danni) and enjoys his pets. He works for the Iowa Insurance Division.

Troy DeStigter (Dr. Finsdale) has become a staple for ACT. Wherever Troy is needed, Troy will handle the part. He started as Howie in "Our Town" in 1994 and has been successful with each additional show. Troy works at American Republic as an interoffice mail coordinator. He's a bachelor, no kids, no pets. Just keeps busy.

Lisa Wagner (Moonbeam McSwine) is a newlywed, but not new at supporting ACT. Her mom and dad (the Arterburns) have used Lisa and her many talents on and behind stage; however, they have not been successful getting Matt (husband and son-in-law) on stage. Lisa loves working at KPWB.TV and hates cleaning wet hair out of the shower.



Ray Peters (Mayor Dawgmeat) is reviving his career with ACT. He was in "40 Carats", "Wizard of Oz", "Annie Get Your Gun" and others, but has been on sabbatical. Ray works for Frontier Leasing as a marketing manager, enjoys his family that includes six grandkids, and is active in his church. As the Mayor of Dogpatch, superior-acting people tend to irritate Ray.

Harold Mosier (Clem Scragg, Colonel and Dogpatcher) is known as Daddy Mo, but doesn't disclose why. He is playing several roles in "Li'l Abner" and keeps busy changing hats. Harold has directed several plays himself, including "Arms and the Man" for ACT, two shows at Grand View, and a murder mystery dinner theater for the Elks. Harold has one wife, one grandmother, one sister and a three-legged dog. He's a keyboard player (computer nerd) for the Iowa National Guard.

Jeanne Ginger (a singing wife) sounds like a stage name, and it fits Jeanne since she's been on the ACT stage for seventeen productions--so far. And she has also provided many unusual and interesting props. Besides acting, Jeanne has been in ACT II, performs as a tap dancer and has been employed by the Ankeny school district for 23 years. She is a proud grandmother of 23 and great-grandmother of ten, including Cheyenne. (There's that name again.) Jeanne is forever pleasant to all, unless you are consistently late!

Bonita Lemon (singing wife) has an interesting history with ACT. She was a lady of the night in "Guys and Gals" and will always be remembered by her portrayal of the Head Nun in "Sister Act". Music has been a big part of Bonita's life, not only at ACT, but in her church. Husband John, three kids and three grandchildren round out her busy life.

Susan Furland (singing wife) drives to rehearsals from Runnells, never misses and always on time. She claims no experience at acting, but she makes up for it with singing ability. Susie has sung in many vocal groups. She was formerly a social worker, but now is a secretary for an elementary school in the Southeast Polk district. Her husband supports her "Li'l Abner" work, and her two kids have been taught to accept responsibility (a pet peeve of Susie's).

Grace Leverenz (singing wife and producer) has been around a long time and tries to be in the background. Husband Jack thinks a lot of their household can be identified on ACT premises, but he always supports her activities with ACT. They recently celebrated their 50th anniversary and are looking forward to a Caribbean cruise in March.

Tammy Panada (Stupefying Jones) is a stay-at-home mom (for Cheyenne) and works at doing everything "her way". She's never been on stage before, but Pete talked her into participating in "Li'l Abner". She is a willing worker and looks great! The Golden Girl is her alias!



Mara Trousdale (Appassionata Von Climax) is a fairly new person to the Ankeny area, and she is an educator, active in the Ankeny Community Chorus and enjoys life with her daughter. She claims her only theatrical experience was in college and her church, but she does a good job being "a Delilah" in "Li'l Abner". Mara has brought new life to ACT.

Carol Weineke (Secretary and singer) is a teacher by trade and suffers from late night rehearsals. (Sez she needs her beauty sleep.) She is also involved with vocal church music. Carol has a son and two grandchildren who call her "Dramma". She and Floyd are S.O.'s.

Jessica Carlson (Scarlett and secretary) is an Ankeny high school student that has an interest in theater. It's always nice to have young people brighten the stage. Jess has a cute smile at all times.

Floyd Temeyer (Husband and policeman) has enjoyed being back on the stage, even though he was coaxed to help us. His only theatrical experience was in high school. He has stepped up to the challenge! He is dad to three kids, works as a systems administrator, sings in his church choir, and enjoys his significant other.

Steven Strachan (Available Jones, policeman and husband) agreed to help with "Li'l Abner", came to two rehearsals and left for Chile (as in South America). However he is back doing his commitment. He is a research scientist and hates not being able to see the back of his head after a haircut. His experience on stage has been in high school plays. Steve has a wife Tammy and two kids--Jon and and Katie.

Ben Kautza (Dogpatcher and stagehand) could be described as a young deer caught in a set of headlights. He came to provide backstage and lighting assistance but, eventually and happily, accepted some minor roles. Ben is a student and has helped with light and sound at Northview and the high school. Heidi and Annie could be movies, but they are his sisters and children of Tim and Lisa Kautza.

Jim Loos, Musical Director of "Li'l Abner" (alias Chin Luu, whatever that means). We are happy and fortunate to have Jim as our music director. He is the Music Program Chair and Choral Director at Ankeny's DMAAC. He also teaches at the Ankeny Academy of Music. Jim has efficiently taught the cast and accompanied with great skill. Dena, his page turner and significant other, has kept Jim on track. His pet peeve is the inefficient music rack on the Kawai keyboard. Jim's family includes Dena and her two kids, his four 'physically' grown kids, Maine Coon, the cat that adopted Jim and his family.





Larry Johnson (Romeo Scragg) has previous ACT experiences and has also performed at the Playhouse. In some circles he is known as Dr. J (?) and amazingly enough he is a bachelor. Larry works at Principal where they often mistake him for Ricky Martin.

Kevin Fisher (Dogpatcher and Hunk) was recruited for "Li'l Abner and was promptly given several roles. He is a newcomer to ACT, has a great tenor voice, has performed at the Des Moines Playhouse and has played Stuart Little in "Stuart Little". Kevin thanks the Hee Haw show for inspiring his Li'l Abner characters. He is attending Grand View College and teaches Tae Kwon Do.

Don Klinker (Husband and stagehand) is also a recruit for Li'l Abner. Don has been in several ACT shows, including "Bad Seed" and "Forty Carats". He is a man-about-town and can be spotted driving a red convertible with the top down on these warm days. Don and his wife Jan have three married children and 10 grandchildren, all between 4 and ten years.

Dena Thompson (Prompter and page-turner) works at American Republic Insurance, is a DMACC student working on her A.A., and is a certified Toastmaster with Talk of the Town Toastmasters. Dena has been a major assistant to our music director, but expect a blank stare if you call her "page turner".

Jennifer Bohn, Jenna Lanning, Jessie Smith, Jenna Lathrop (featured dancers) came to us courtesy of Stacey Jo Fugere and Connie Jo Wilson. The girls have added much class to our Dogpatch show, and we thank them very much. They all attend Ankeny High School.

Jo Reid (Director and choreographer) is a happy, petite, energetic stay-at-home grandmother who never seems to run out of energy. She and husband Jerry have two cats, three married kids and five grandchildren, three of whom she "sits for" during the day. Currently, her evenings are spent at the theater directing the "WAIT!" crowd. So far she has never cried "uncle" when rehearsals are rough. Her lifelong ambition is to write a best-seller "great American novel" (when she has time). Jo and Jerry are very family-oriented, and they always have time for church and ACT activities.

