

Disney TV airs final 'Prairie Home' shows

BURBANK, Calif. — The Disney Channel has finalized an agreement with Minnesota Public Radio to air the final 17 episodes of Garrison Keillor's popular radio program, "A Prairie Home Companion," including the grand finale on June 13, said John Cooke, Disney Channel president.

Keillor, who translated his weekly Lake Wobegon Days monologues into a best-seller book last

year, announced on his Valentine's Day radio broadcast that he would terminate his show, and plans to move to his wife's native Denmark.

"A Prairie Home Companion With Garrison Keillor" will make its debut on The Disney Channel tonight from 9-10:30 with a program which will be taped earlier that evening at St. Paul's World Theater. The program draws capacity audiences and millions of radio lis-

teners each week on the American Public Radio Network.

The Disney Channel will broadcast 17 performances in all — including three taped in February to be used as substitute programs in the event of illness, technical problems or vacation, or to run in the weeks following the June 13 finale.

According to Christelle Langer, spokeswoman for Minnesota Public Radio, ticket requests for the

last "A Prairie Home Companion" programs have been pouring into MPR at the rate of about 3,000 per day. "The response from Garrison's audience to his announcement that this will be the final season has been overwhelming. We have received over 26,000 phone calls from loyal listeners across the country who are anxious to see the show performed on stage and who are especially interested in the final show on June 13."



GARRISON KEILLOR