

PEOPLE



Staff Photo by Regene Radniecki

Garrison Keillor performed during his "American Radio Company of the Air" show that was broadcast from St. Paul's World Theater on Saturday for the first time. The show usually originates from New York City.

Keillor comes home for show

There was only a passing allusion to Lake Wobegon, but mentions aplenty of Minnesota when Garrison Keillor broadcast his "American Radio Company of the Air" from the World Theater in St. Paul Saturday night.

"It's so lovely to come back to this old theater," said Keillor, who folded his "Prairie Home Companion" and left Minnesota in the summer of 1987. "It's like no time has elapsed. It's like we're back where we were, wherever that was."

His monologue dealt with what it is like being a Minnesotan in New York City. He talked about the "exclusive" Loon Club where he and other Gopher State expatriates gather to eat macaroni and cheese, tell Knute and Ole jokes, and imitate the call of the loon, which Keillor did. He also sang a lovely rendition of the Minnesota state song.

There was a decided Midwestern theme to the show, which usually originates from a theater in Brooklyn, a borough of New York

City.

Keillor's comedy players, the Broadway Local Radio Theatre Company, performed a mock documentary called "Meet the Midwest," and guest Bob Elliott, of "Bob and Ray" fame, encouraged vacationers to skip Disney World and take the guided dance tour of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Keillor's musical guests were opera star Eileen Farrell, the *a cappella* R&B group True Image, and pianist Butch Thompson, who was a "Prairie Home Companion" mainstay.

The Minnesota Public Radio Show went out to about 250 public radio stations nationwide. — Noel Holston

Nuptials for Nadia?

Nadia Comaneci, the Olympic Gold Medal gymnast, said in Tokyo that she is planning to marry Mihai Vasilescu, the "best friend" she left behind in Romania.

Vasilescu, a Romanian computer operator, will arrive in the United States in a few months, said Comaneci. "He is tall, and he is quite handsome," she said.

Quote of the day

Former President Ronald Reagan, struggling to recall details of his administration in videotaped testimony in the trial of his former national security adviser, John M. Poindexter:

"There were so many meetings and so many different places."

at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. The singer entered the hospital last week for additional treatment of a previously diagnosed tumor in her right hand. A hospital spokesman said Vaughan will be released in a few days. She is best known for emotional renditions of "The Lord's Prayer" and "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child." She rose to fame as an associate of the pioneer bop musicians.

Celebrity collectors

Jack Nicholson, Madonna, Steve Martin, Bill Cosby — it's not the A-list for a hot Hollywood party, but four of America's top 100 collectors, according to the March issue of Arts & Antiques magazine.

"There are plenty of very rich people buying art who'll never

said the "Material Girl" singer.

Nicholson likes American and European art and antiquities; his collection includes everything from Monet and Picasso to Mexican primitives and Etruscan bronzes.

Cosby specializes in American furniture, paintings and folk art.

Martin, a collector of modern American art, recently bought an Edward Hopper lighthouse painting, Arts & Antiques reported.

He wants to play

Robert LeRoy Ele, who is serving a sentence of up to 30 years in Utah State Prison, has filed suit against Ed McMahon and Publishers Clearinghouse because he says they won't let him enter their sweepstakes.