

Showcase

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Garrison Keillor hosts the popular 'Prairie Home Companion' show.

Public radio starts fund drive

Seven hours of WERN programming Saturday will be devoted to Garrison Keillor and "A Prairie Home Companion," Minnesota Public Radio's popular Peabody Award-winning two-hour variety show.

Keillor and the "Prairie Home Companion" gang will appear at 7:30 tonight at the Madison Civic Center as part of WHA Radio's 65th anniversary observance, and this show, too, will be part of the marathon programming, beginning at 9:30 p.m. The regular broadcast show, ending at 7, will be followed by an in-depth inter-

view of Keillor by Studs Terkel.

Joining him in the Madison show, which sold out in one day, will be the Butch Thompson Trio playing New Orleans style jazz, ragtime and old-time favorites; Peter Ostroushko, recently with the New Prairie Ramblers, with his fiddle and mandolin, and Stoney Lonesome's bluegrass band from Minnesota.

The show is sponsored by the Wisconsin Public Radio Association, which is launching a six-day membership drive today. The association, a

support arm of WHA and WERN, hopes to add 4,000 members.

To commemorate WHA Radio's birthday, a special feature of the fund drive will be an on-air "birthday party" Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Monday afternoons — from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on WERN and 2-3 p.m. on WHA and the state public radio network. The fund drive will be based in Buck Studio in Vilas Hall and will involve more than 150 volunteers. Those interested in volunteering to help with the drive should call 263-2244.