

'Prairie Home' Tickets Selling Like Hot Cakes

By TOM ROGERS

One-quarter of the tickets for Nashville's live radio performance of "A Prairie Home Companion" already are sold—only two days after they went on sale, according to a spokesperson for WPLN Radio, which airs the nationally popular show here.

"Twenty-five percent of the tickets were sold out by Monday," spokesperson Brenda Loftis said yesterday. "And they just went on sale Saturday."

"A Prairie Home Companion," with host Garrison Keillor, will present two shows here this month at the 2,400-seat Andrew Jackson Hall at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center.

On Saturday, July 27, audience members are asked to be in their seats by 4:45 p.m.; the show will be beamed live from 5-7 p.m. to the 260 radio stations that carry "A Prairie

Home Companion."

The first show, Friday, July 26, at 8 p.m., will not be broadcast.

Tickets are \$17.50 and \$15 for July 27, and \$15 and \$12.50 for July 26. Tickets are available through TicketMaster (phone: area code 615-741-2787), through TicketMaster's 23 outlets or by mail from: TicketMaster, P.O. Box 3406, Nashville, Tenn. 37219.

Keillor will be joined by regular APHC performers Butch Thompson and Peter Ostroushko, plus special guest Emmylou Harris.

In a recent interview, Keillor said he also hopes to add Nashville-area gospel musicians to the lineup for the show here.

The performance of "A Prairie Home Companion" here is part of a road tour that is taking the show to Louisville, Ky., July 20.

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Keillor, a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*, especially is known for his monologs about the mythical town of Lake Wobegon, Minn., "the little town that time forgot and the dec-

ades cannot improve." The monologs are a regular part of "APHC," which is broadcast live each week from St. Paul, Minn.

The last time the show toured was in 1983, when it visited Middlebury, Vt., New York City and Boston.