

'Prairie Home' visits Jackson for broadcast

Tickets to variety show sold out

From Staff Reports

Garrison Keillor is bringing his live radio broadcast of humorous skits, fictitious sponsors, his signature monologue and the News from Lake Wobegon to Jackson's Thalia Mara Hall.

Tickets for *A Prairie Home Companion's* live broadcast from Jackson are sold out, but the live national broadcast can be heard, as it is each Saturday, on Public Radio in Mississippi from 5 to 7 p.m.

Sound effects will be provided by homemade props and by the vocal gymnastics of Tom Keith, who has been with the show for most of its 20-year history.

In July 1974, the first program was performed in front of an audience of about a dozen people. Since then, *A Prairie Home Companion* has grown by leaps and bounds. It now has almost two million listeners, and can be heard on more than 325 public radio stations.

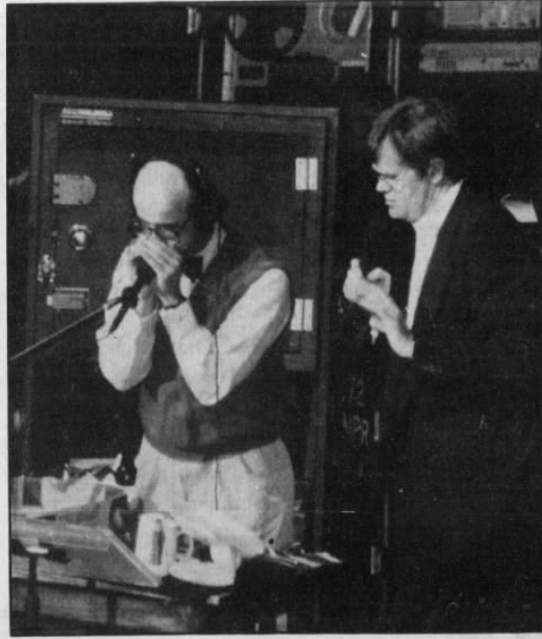
Guests performers for the live broadcast include gospel singer Fontella Bass and Lexington,

BROADCAST

A Prairie Home Companion, which has almost 2 million listeners, can be heard on more than 325 public radio stations. In Mississippi, it can be heard on 91.3 FM. Garrison Keillor's program will be broadcast live from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday from Thalia Mara Hall in Jackson.

Miss., bluesman Lonnie Pitchford. Starting out in gospel, Bass brings a background of soul and jazz into her music. In the early to mid-1960's, Bass recorded hits such as *Don't Mess Up a Good Thing* and *You Miss Me Don't Jump* followed by the gold record *Rescue Me*.

Delta bluesman Pitchford is proficient on a one-string didley bow as well as a standard six-string guitar. A part-time carpenter and full-time bluesman, Pitchford also constructs standard six-string guitars and recently built his own studio from scratch where he recorded his solo debut disk, *All Around Man*.



PRM photo

ON STAGE: Sound effects for *A Prairie Home Companion* are provided by Tom Keith, left, who had been with Garrison Keillor's, right, show for most of its 20-year history.