

## N.D. journal benefit highlights writers

■ Authors will be reading selected material in Grand Forks to help publication

Two of the Midwest's greatest writers will be appearing, at last, at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks on Nov. 2. Garrison Keillor, author of "A Prairie Wobegon Days" and host of "A Prairie Home Companion," and Roland Flint, North Dakota native, poet, 1958 UND grad, and author of "Stubborn," will be reading selected material at a benefit to raise money for the North Dakota Quarterly.

Keillor and Flint take the stage at the Chester Fritz Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$7.50 for seniors and students. A special \$50 per person ticket is available for a post-show reception on stage with Keillor and Flint. Call 701-777-4080 or 800-375-4068 for tickets.

The show, which was originally scheduled for April 20, was postponed because of the flood. The upcoming appearance will be the first stop on Keillor's national book tour



Writers **Garrison Keillor**, right, and **Roland Flint** are appearing in a performance to benefit North Dakota Quarterly.

promoting his new tale, "Wobegon Boy."

First published by UND in 1910, the North Dakota Quarterly is one of the oldest continuing publications of its kind in the United States. A journal in the arts, humanities and social sciences, it publishes articles, essays, fiction, poetry and reviews, some of which have received national awards.

Keillor and Flint agreed to perform for

the Quarterly when Flint was in Grand Forks to receive an honorary doctorate from the university in the spring of 1996. At the time, the journal was facing closure due to budget cuts.

Both authors have published pieces in the Quarterly and both have performed together in major cities across the country to critical and popular acclaim.

Keillor was born in 1942 in Anoka, Minn. His career in radio began when he was a freshman at the University of Minnesota. In 1969, Keillor began writing for The New Yorker magazine. It was while he was writing an article about the Grand Ole Opry in 1974 that he was inspired to create a live variety show for radio. Thus, "A Prairie Home Companion" was born on July 6, 1974, in a St. Paul college theater in front of an audience of 12 people.

After a long run in Minnesota, Keillor moved his operation to New York. That was 1989 and he also changed the name to "The American Radio Company."

He returned to Minnesota four years later and the show became "A Prairie Home Companion" once again. The show is heard by 2 million listeners on more than 350 public radio stations.

Keillor received a Grammy Award in 1987 for his recording of "Lake Wobegon Days," two ACE Awards for television and a George Foster Peabody Award for "A Prairie Home Companion."

Flint is a Park River native. After graduating from UND, Flint headed to Marquette University where he spent two years before moving to Minnesota.

He was a teaching assistant and English instructor at the University of Minnesota for eight years when he and Keillor met.

Flint then moved to Georgetown University and spent many years as a professor of English, teaching literature and writing.

Flint's poems have appeared in The Atlantic Monthly, The Chicago Tribune, The Denver Quarterly, The Georgia Review, The Minnesota Review, Poetry Northwest, Prairie Schooner, Salmagundi, Tendril, Tri-Quarterly, The Washington Post and many other publications.

Flint has done poetry readings at the Library of Congress, the Folger Shakespeare Theater, The Manhattan Theater Club, in Bermuda, Bulgaria, Indonesia, Italy, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. Even ABC TV's "Nightline."