



Tim Keller/Special to The Chronicle-News

Noah has some things to discuss with God in The Shuler Theater's production of the musical comedy "Two by Two," continuing through July 21. Actor Rick Trice plays Noah.

# Sparks fly, waters rise in 'Two by Two' at Shuler

By Tim Keller  
Special to The Chronicle-News

RATON — Raton's 4th of July fireworks got off to an early start at the Shuler Theater Thursday when Noah received a wake-up call from God in the form of lightning and thunder. It got Noah's attention.

The Kaleidoscope Players' production of the musical comedy "Two by Two" stars Rick Trice in a moving performance as Noah, who is told by God to build a huge boat and fill it with a male and female of every species on Earth, two by two.

Directed by Gail Dixon-Willden in her 100th production as director, the cast of eight does a good job of giving the audience cause for smiles and food for thought.

The play opened at the Shuler Theater Thursday and Friday, with additional performances coming July 13, 14, 20 and 21.

Trice's performance as Noah is the heart and soul of this production, and it's a play built on such stuff. The sentiment builds in Act 2 as Noah's relationship with his wife is developed; Adrienne Coleman is touching in her intimate scenes with Trice.

The rest of the cast consists of Noah's three sons — played by David Ode, Perry Self, and Drey Solano in descending order of age — and the three women they marry, played by Rebecca Clark, Desiree Martinez,

and Drey Solano's real-life wife, Jillian Solano.

It gets far more complicated than that sounds, and the complications are the source of much of the play's humor.

Noah's relationships and interactions with everyone boarding his boat provide a more thought-provoking and meaningful humor. Trice commandingly holds the center in a performance that should rank alongside his career best.

Drey Solano's Japeth presents some of the play's meatier moral complexities, and his squabbles with Noah provide much of the conflict. Japeth questions not only Noah but also God, whom he finds violent and vengeful. Japeth is young, intelligent and single. That last condition is a problem: no one will go on the ark to escape God's big flood unless they're mated.

"What could Japeth offer a decent girl?" Noah asks his wife.

"A nice boat ride," she replies.

There's plenty of humor in both the spoken dialog and the songs, with lyrics by Martin Charnin set to music by Broadway giant Richard Rodgers, one of only two people (the other is Marvin Hamlisch) to receive an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony and Pulitzer Prize. Rodgers wrote the music for "South Pacific," "The King and I," "Carousel" and "The Sound of Music," among dozens of other classic musicals.

The pedigree is apparent on stage, especially when the actors break into ensemble singing. Each singer sounds fine alone or in duet, but when the cast entwines its many voices in beautifully layered harmonies, then one thinks of Rodgers. Right after that, one should think of Bill Cray, the production's musical director, who conducts from the wings as a middleman between the cast and pianist Carol Simmons.

"Two by Two" debuted on Broadway in 1970 with Danny Kaye in the lead role of Noah; its successful Broadway run lasted 10 months. Adapted by Peter Stone from Clifford Odets's thoughtful play, The Flowering Peach, "Two by Two" nonetheless was apparently an obscure discovery for the Shuler Theater. Impresario Bill Fegan told the opening night audience, "Welcome to a play you've never heard of and neither had we." It's well worth discovering.

"Two by Two" continues at the Shuler Theater July 13 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., with matinee performances July 14 and 21 at 2:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 seniors, and \$5 children. Additional information is available at the Shuler Theater, (575) 445-4746.

# D-backs strike early in 11-1 rout of Rockies

By John Marshall  
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Coming off a long road trip backloaded with long games, the Arizona Diamondbacks needed a few quality starts from their pitchers to give the bullpen a break.

Tyler Skaggs got the Diamondbacks off to a good start in the series opener against Colorado and Wade Miley followed it up with another strong performance — with his arm and his bat.

Miley pitched eight effective innings and had a three-run double in the second inning, helping Arizona jump on Colorado early in an 11-1 rout of the Rockies on Saturday night.

"He was really efficient with his pitches, his pitch count," Diamondbacks manager Kirk Gibson said. "It was just what we needed to give the bullpen a rest."

The Diamondbacks returned to the desert on Friday after a 10-game road trip that ended with a long series against the Mets that included rain delays and two games that each lasted at least 15 innings.

Arizona beat Colorado 5-0 in the opener behind Skaggs' eight innings and jumped on Drew Pomeranz (0-2) for five runs in the first three innings in the second game.

Miley got it started with his third career double in the second inning and Paul Goldschmidt, named to the NL All-Star team earlier in the day, hit his 21st homer in the third.

The Diamondbacks poured it on after that, adding a three-run homer by Miguel Montero and a two-run shot by Martin Prado. Cody Ross tied a team record and set a career high with five of Arizona's 12 hits and scored three runs.

That gave Miley (5-7) the leeway to work around the edges of the plate, giving

the Rockies few good pitches while sending the NL West-leading Diamondbacks to their fourth straight win.

"The bullpen got used a lot in New York with all those (extra-inning) games and I was just trying to extend it, just go as long as you can to give them a break," Miley said. "It was good."

The Rockies had four baserunners in the series opener and were only marginally better against Miley.

All-Star Carlos Gonzalez hit his NL-leading 24th homer and had four hits after missing Friday's game with a sore back, but the rest of the Rockies went 2 for 26, including 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position.

"I don't know what the numbers are but it seemed like he went strike one with just about every batter," Rockies manager Walt Weiss said. "It is a lot easier to pitch that way. When you are 0-1 there are a lot more options that way and that is what he did."

Miley pitched 5 2-3 scoreless innings his last outing, but didn't get the decision in a game that went 13 innings.

Staked with a big early lead against the Rockies, the left-hander was effective with runners on, helped by a pair of double plays in the first four innings.

Miley stretched his scoreless streak to a career-high 13 2-3 innings — 16 overall by Arizona pitchers — before Gonzalez led off the seventh with a long homer to center.

The left-hander pleaded with Gibson to stay in for a chance at his first career complete game, but was lifted for a pinch hitter in the eighth inning.

Miley allowed a run on five hits and struck out five to win for the first time in five starts.

"It was going good," Miley said. "I was locating



Associated Press

Arizona Diamondbacks Paul Goldschmidt (44), right, celebrates with Miguel Montero (26) in the third inning after hitting a two run homerun during a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies on Saturday in Phoenix.

the fastball early to get ahead and kind of expand the plate a little bit. I was able to get some guys to make some awkward swings and put in play, and we made plays."

Pomeranz, who made 22 starts for Colorado last season, spent most of this year at Triple-A Colorado Springs before being called up to pitch against San Francisco on Sunday. He allowed four runs on seven hits — two of those homers — in 4 1-3 innings of a 5-2 loss.

The left-hander labored from the start, needing 10 pitches to get leadoff hitter A.J. Pollock and going over 40 the first two innings. He

walked two to load the bases in the second inning and Miley followed with his fourth hit of the season, a three-run double slapped into the corner in left.

Pomeranz opened the third inning with a walk, then left a letter-high fastball up to Goldschmidt, who hit it into the second deck in left for a two-run homer that put Arizona up 5-0 and increased his NL-leading RBI total to 73.

Pomeranz worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the fourth inning after walking Goldschmidt, but was lifted after that. He allowed five runs on five hits and walked five.

"It is frustrating, but I

have to put my team in a better spot to win the game," said Pomeranz, who has lost seven of his past eight decisions, dating to last season. "You can't do that being down 5-0 after three innings."

Arizona didn't let up after that, either.

Prado hit his eighth homer in the seventh inning and Montero sneaked his sixth just over the wall in right in the eighth to make it 11-1.

# Warriors reach deal with Iguodala, sources report

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Golden State Warriors have landed a coveted free agent — just not the one everybody was talking about.

The Warriors reached an agreement with swingman Andre Iguodala on a \$48 million, four-year deal Friday, two people with knowledge of the situation said.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because NBA rules prevent confirmation of moves until July 10. One person said the Warriors cleared more than \$24 million in salary cap space by sending Richard Jefferson, Andris Biedrins and Brandon Rush to the Utah Jazz along with a package of draft picks.

Yahoo Sports, which first reported the deal, said the Warriors were only taking back Kevin Murphy and his non-guaranteed \$788,000 deal for next season. Utah also will receive multiple draft picks from Golden State, including its 2014 and 2017 first-round picks.

While the Warriors had hoped to sign Dwight Howard, the seven-time All-Star center informed the team he would not sign with them.

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