

Rhythm & Reviews

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1998

A 'Ray of Light'

Madonna's newest CD, 'Ray of Light', is reviewed

Wise Wizard

Sam Neill stars as the magical Merlin in a new NBC mini-series

Emerald

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Thumbs



NEW FILM:

'TWILIGHT'

The full title of "Twilight" should be "In the Twilight of Their Careers." A stellar cast of Gene Hackman, Paul Newman, Susan Sarandon and James Garner is wasted on a boring, terribly narrated mish-mash of a picture. The film opens with totally gratuitous nude shots and elevates to little more than old guys with guns.

JAMES CAMERON

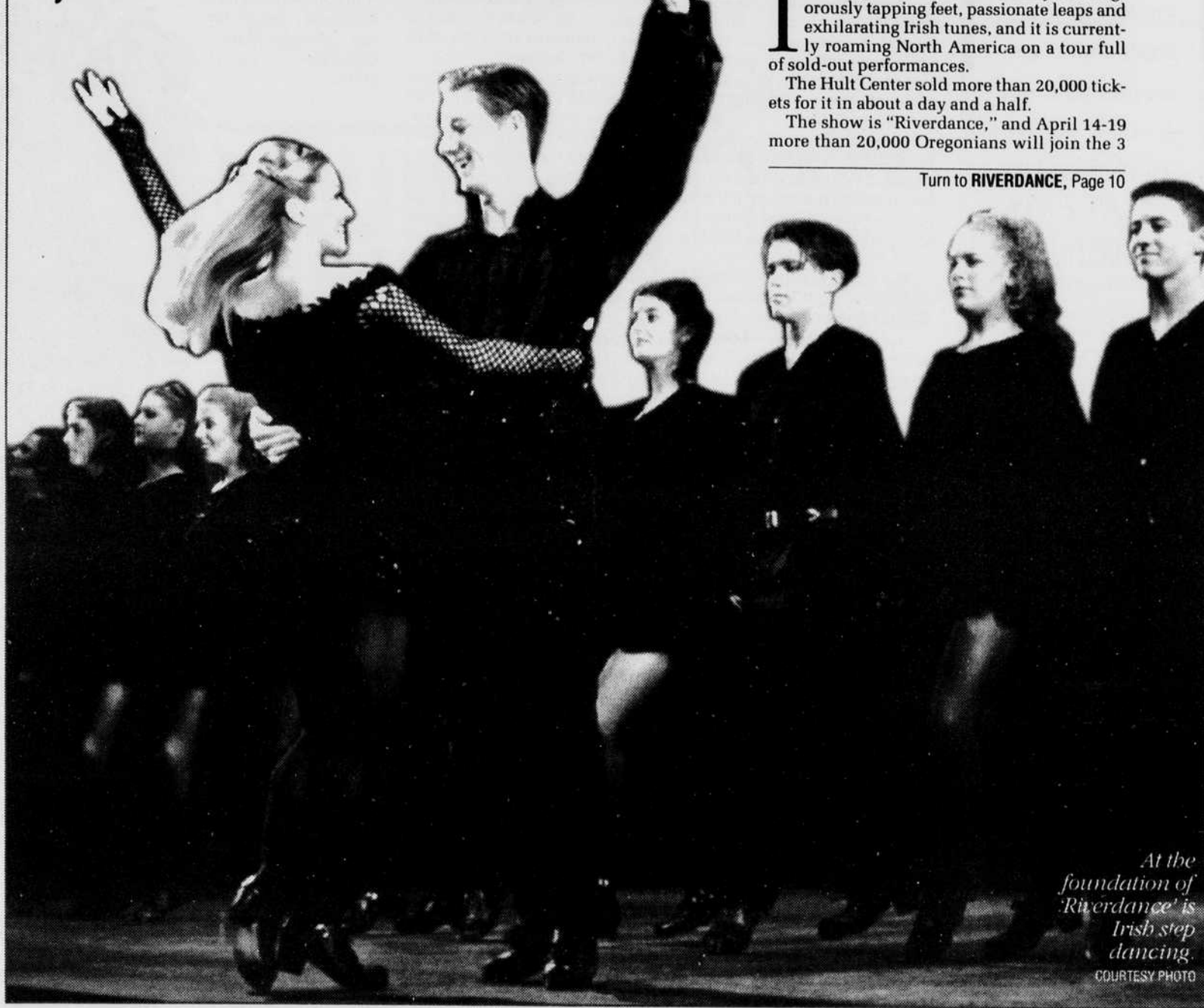
The self-proclaimed "King of the World" recently screamed "I told you so!" to an L.A. Times film critic who gave "Titanic" a poor review. Hey, James, it's still a sub-par screenplay.



HBO'S 'FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON'

If you don't get cable, get someone to tape this for you. HBO and Tom Hanks have teamed up to bring a classy, riveting account of the Apollo space missions to television. Installments of the mini-series air every Sunday this month, providing quality, family-oriented entertainment. What really makes the series work is how fresh and new the show looks, shedding the stigma of "old history stuff" parents force-feed their kids.

Lords of the Hult



'Riverdance' is one of the fastest-selling shows in Hult Center history

By Nicole Krueger

Managing Editor

It has captured the world's fancy with vigorously tapping feet, passionate leaps and exhilarating Irish tunes, and it is currently roaming North America on a tour full of sold-out performances.

The Hult Center sold more than 20,000 tickets for it in about a day and a half.

The show is "Riverdance," and April 14-19 more than 20,000 Oregonians will join the 3

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At the foundation of 'Riverdance' is Irish step dancing.

COURTESY PHOTO

Treadwell's emotional play 'Machinal' opens tonight

'Machinal' examines one woman's loneliness and unhappiness, emotions that drive her to murder

By Nicole Krueger

Managing Editor

When Ruth Snyder was tried and electrocuted for murdering her husband in 1928, journalist Sophie Treadwell was there to hear her say she did it "to be free," said doctoral candidate Robin Aronson.

Seventy years later, Aronson is directing the product inspired by Snyder's execution. "Machinal," a feminist, anti-industrial play by Treadwell, opens tonight at Robinson Theatre.

"Machinal" is about a woman — "an ordinary woman, any woman," according to Treadwell — who murders her husband. It explores the bonds that societal institutions place upon her and the loneliness and unhappiness she experiences as a result — emotions that drive her to commit murder.

"It's about a young woman yearning for a better life, but she's unable to go for what she wants," Aronson said. "What keeps her back isn't just a personal thing; she's being held back by social expectations and economic necessity."

The play illustrates how capitalism often forces people to forego happiness to ensure economic survival, she said. "There's a lot of pressure to make it in this world, and that requires plugging into the system. If you're outside the system, you don't survive."

Throughout the play, the woman encounters several institutions, including business, home, marriage, maternity, law and church, by which she is restricted from pursuing happiness. Aronson hopes the play will call students' attention to the

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COURTESY PHOTO

Alexander Paulowski and Ursula Aller rehearse a scene from 'Machinal.'