

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

New York: Today, mostly cloudy, cool. High 47. Tonight, clouds, a bit cooler. Low 33. Tomorrow, clouds and a little sunshine. High 41. Yesterday, high 42, low 33. Details, page B15.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES METRO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1995

CITY

Chronicle

- Shakespearean actor bleeds for his art ■ King Hussein to get Wiesenthal center's peace award
- Nancy Reagan reaches out on Alzheimer's.

Once again, the show must go on, and never mind that a leading actor is bleeding all over the floor.

CHRISTOPHER DUVA, one of three actors who spoof the works of Shakespeare in "The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)," which opened Sunday at the Westside Theater, gave himself a deep gash above the nose at the final preview on Saturday. He continued acting even as he bled.

The accident happened during a 45-second version of "Hamlet" in which Mr. Duva, playing Ophelia, splashed water from a metal beer stein onto his face. "I went a little too far," he said yesterday. "I cut myself on the bridge of the nose, and unfortunately for the audience, bled profusely through the rest of the play. Fortunately for me, I couldn't see my own wound."

The curtain fell, and it was off to the emergency room at Roosevelt Hospital and then to the office of Dr. Jonathan Sherwyn, a plastic surgeon, who gave Mr. Duva 16 stitches and ordered him to bed.

Mr. Duva persuaded him to relent

when he said the show was to open the next night. "But I didn't tell him how physical it is," he said. "I run around a lot, climb a pole and die at least nine or 10 times."

He managed to weave his wound right into his lines on opening night. "I play the dumb guy of the group, a California slacker doing Shakespeare, so I said I had had a really bad skateboard accident," he said. "It fooled most people."

For the first time in its 18-year history, the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles will present a major award to the leader of a Muslim country: **KING HUSSEIN** of Jordan, who will receive its Museum of Tolerance Peace Award.

"We met with King Hussein and Queen Noor at the palace today," Rabbi **MARVIN HIER**, the dean and founder of the center, said from Amman yesterday. "We discussed the Middle East and announced that he will receive the award."

No date has been set for the ceremony, at which Rabbi Hier said the

King would deliver a major policy address.

Referring to King Hussein's remarks at the signing of a treaty with Israel on Oct. 26, Rabbi Hier said yesterday, "Your words brought hope and comfort, for we recognize they were not the words of one who merely seeks the cold peace that comes from the absence of war, but rather the words of one who looks beyond to the peace found among friends."

NANCY REAGAN has videotaped public service announcements for the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institute of Aging, her office announced yesterday. Her husband, former President Reagan, disclosed in November that he had Alzheimer's, the progressive, irreversible neurological disorder that affects four million Americans.

"When she was diagnosed with breast cancer years ago, her public disclosure led many individuals to undergo testing," **CATHY BUSCH**, a spokeswoman for the Reagans, said in a statement yesterday. "As a result, they were treated early and were able to resume healthy lives. Mrs. Reagan felt it was important to reach out again, this time to the many victims and families who have been touched by Alzheimer's — and to reassure them that they are not alone."

NADINE BROZAN