Lily Tomlin to perform

October 12, 1976

Satirist and actress Lily Tomlin will bring five-year-old Edith Ann, tasteful Mrs. Earbore and advice-laden Ernestine, the telephone operator, to the University of California, San Diego Gymnasium at 8 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 17.

Tomlin, who claims she was "possibly the best white cheerleader Detroit has ever had" while attending a high school for gifted children, first caught public attention through her characterizations and monologues on the "Laugh-In" television series.

She attended Wayne State University for two years as a pre-medical student but quit in favor of honing her performing talents. She studied mime in New York City with Paul Curtis, then returned to Detroit and worked for several years in coffeehouses and cabarets. She moved back to New York in 1965, determined to succeed.

Tomlin worked in offices and as a Howard Johnson's waitress and tested her comedy routines for free in coffeehouses at night. After gaining some experience as an actress in television commercials and finally working for a salary at the Cafe Au Go Go and other New York cabarets, she moved to Hollywood in 1969 to appear on the ABC-TV series, "The Music Scene." When that show flopped, she was grabbed by executive producer George Schlatter to appear as a regular on "Laugh-In."

Since the cancellation of "Laugh-In," she has appeared on the college and fair circuit, performed on her own television specials, and acted in the film "Nashville" for which she received considerable critical acclaim.

San Francisco Chronicle columnist John L. Wasserman has called her "a genius, the most creative and innovative comic mind working today."

Tickets for her UC San Diego appearance are $4 for UCSD students and $5 for general admission and may be purchased at the UCSD box office (452-4559.)

(October 12, 1976) Barbara Ann Firger