

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'See How They Run' to GWU's latest production

by Shannon Spencer
staff writer

If you missed the play "See How They Run," you have missed two hours of pure laughs. The time I spent watching the play proved to be well worth my time.

"See How They Run" is a comedy about miscommunication. Mrs. Penelope Toop, played by Cheryl Chinn, had her debut on the Gardner-Webb stage. This was her first-ever appearance other than church plays. Chinn did an outstanding job.

The storyline centers around The Reverend Lionel Toop's (played by Matthew Tashjian) leaving for the evening. Mrs. Toop decides to go with and old male friend to an out-of-town bar. Her friend, Corporal Clive Winton, is in the army and can't be seen in uniform out of his jurisdiction. So Mrs. Toop suggests for him to wear one of her husband's vicar suits so that he doesn't get into trouble.

When Mrs. Toop and Corporal Winton return that evening, Mrs. Toop's uncle, the Bishop of Lax, has arrived a day early to stay with the family. Mrs. Toop does not want to tell her uncle that she had been out at a bar with a male friend, so instead she lies -- leading her uncle to

believe that her Corporal friend is also a vicar.

On the same night, an escaped convict (played by Neil Velez), escapes and is loose in the area. The convict needs a disguise, so he steals one of Reverend Toop's vicar suits.

Another vicar, Arthur Humphrey, has also arrived in town for the church service on Sunday -- meaning there were four people running around in vicar suits!

The convict needs money and is trying not to get recaptured, so he points a gun at Mrs. Toop. About this time, Sergeant Towers (played by Jeremy Kerr) is looking for the convict.

Mrs. Toop, at first, is forced to say that the convict is her husband because he has a gun pointed at her. But all the men are unclear about who the others really are.

Among this confusion, an old Christian woman, Miss Skillon (played by Corie Lewis) gets intoxicated for the first time in her life. There was also humor to be found in the maid, (played by Brittany Lewis), who was a little lonely and a little air-headed.

Mr. Keith Cassidy directed the play. He chose "See How They Run" because it is a "hard show to do." Cassidy said this play is a farce -- a comedy that is fast-paced, needs to be well timed and is based on miscommunication.

The play also has historical value. "See How They Run" was the first play ever produced in Dover Theater 15 years ago.

Other productions coming up this year are "A Day in Hollywood/ A Night in Ukraine" and "The Elephant Man."



KAREN BROWER/staff

Corporal Winton (Scott Elliott) leaps over Miss Skillon (Corie Lewis) during a scene in "See How They Run," GWU's latest theater production.

Cleveland County Fair attracts community and students



KAREN BROWER/staff

Campus minister Tracy Jessup, his son Christian and wife Theresa (above) enjoy food, rides, and family togetherness at the Cleveland County Fair. The fair offered an old-fashioned country flavor with carnival rides; treats like roasted corn, candy apples and funnel cakes; games and shows.

Livestock events included goat races (right), pig races, livestock pageants, and a petting zoo for children. Each year the fair continues to draw crowds from all over North Carolina.



KAREN BROWER/staff