

PlayMakers opens with comedy

By ELIZABETH ELLEN
Assistant Arts Editor

The scene is 18th-century England, where real men wear wigs and real comedy is not funny. Enter Oliver Goldsmith, a playwright with an unusual play, *She Stoops to Conquer*, which is peopled by characters resembling the Three Stooges in tricorne hats. It is actually funny. What a radical concept!

"*She Stoops to Conquer* was a very controversial play in its time," said Douglas Johnson, guest director of the production by PlayMakers Repertory Company. The play opens tonight in the Paul Green Theatre. "It is not moralistic. Some people find it too farcical and too funny. Others find it a breath of fresh air."

The plot involves two young men who mistake a country estate for an inn. The resulting *faux pas* lead to a string of absurd situations reminiscent of Shakespeare's comedies. "The play is full of earthy people and silly behavior," Johnson said.

She Stoops to Conquer is Johnson's fourth directing project at PRC. A familiar guest in Chapel Hill, he has directed *The Importance of Being Earnest* and last season's *Ring Round the Moon*, as well as his own creation, *Dracula: A Musical Nightmare*. He has also taken the stage as Henry Higgins in PRC's production of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*.

She Stoops is the sort of play Johnson loves to direct. "My specialty is theatrical comedy," he said. "It is not very realistic. It doesn't pretend to treat life as it is."

"It is hard to find a place to do a play like this (*She Stoops*)," he said. "It is expensive to produce."

Johnson has directed productions across the country in places such as Berkeley, Calif., and Springfield, Mass. He said the actors in PRC are mostly students who have already earned professional status through membership in Actors' Equity. They sometimes take acting more seriously than their

professional counterparts, who spend much of their time looking for work. "Actors here train and work at the same time," he said.

Even though *She Stoops* was written 200 years ago, Johnson said he felt that the play would appeal to modern audiences. "A lot of people think of old plays as potentially dull and hard to understand because of old language," he said. "We are trying to make the play easy to follow. It is visually oriented, and the language is not so self-conscious that it is difficult to penetrate."

Johnson admits, "*She Stoops* is not liked by 100 percent of the people 100 percent of the time." But he does call it, "one of the most accessible of the old plays."

She Stoops to Conquer will be performed by PlayMakers Repertory Company through Oct. 13 in the Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.

Campus Calendar

The Carolina Student Fund/DTH Campus Calendar will appear daily. Announcements to be run in the expanded version on Mondays and Thursdays must be placed in the box outside the Daily Tar Heel office, Room 104 of the Student Union, by 1 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Wednesday, respectively. The deadlines for the limited editions will be noon one day before the announcement is to run. Only announcements from University recognized and campus organizations will be printed.

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Anglican Student Fellowship will conduct a study of the books of the Apocrypha in the Student Commons of the Chapel of the Cross.

12:30 p.m. UNC Women's Studies Program presents a lunchtime colloquium with Dr. Rachel Rosenfeld on "Mobility in Academia: Men's and Women's Experiences" until 1:30 p.m., in

the IRSS Conference Room, 04 Manning. Bring along your lunch.

1:00 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Services will hold a resume workshop in 306 Hanes.

3:00 p.m. Student Government will hold a Chapel Hill voter registration drive in the Union until 9 p.m.

3:30 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Services will hold an Orientation/Resume workshop for Business majors in T-1 Carroll Hall.

4:45 p.m. Association of International Students meeting in 208 Union. Everyone welcome.

5:15 p.m. Final meeting for potential Rhodes Scholarship candidates, 307 Bynum. Bring transcripts, lists, and personal statements.

6:30 p.m. Campus Christian Fellowship will hold a Bible Study at the Campus House at 204 Gienbur-nie Street. Call 942-8952.

Society of Physics Students will host a dinner at Martinis for Dr. George Weatherhill of the Carnegie Institute. Meet in the SPS Room after 6:00 p.m. Call 967-5347 to sign up.

7:00 p.m. WXYC News will hold a mandatory meeting and audition sign-up in 208 Union.

8:00 p.m. UNC Readers Theatre presents selections from J.D. Salinger's "One Hand Clapping" in 203 Bingham. Free admission.

10:00 p.m. Anglican Student Fellowship invites all students to celebrate Eucharist at the Chapel of the Cross.

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AXA

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The Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, one of the largest and strongest fraternities in the world, is currently re-establishing its chapter on campus. This is a very special opportunity for men to build their own fraternity.

All interested men can meet with International Fraternity Representatives Larry Young and Todd Wallace in Room 213 of the Carolina Union for further information. They will be meeting with prospective members from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm every day through Friday, September 27th.

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