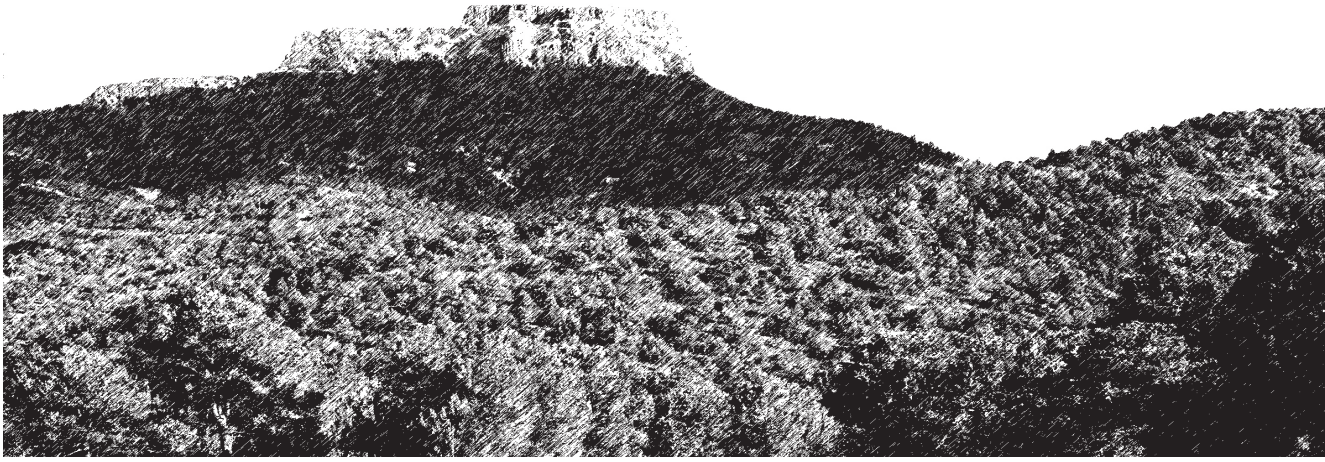


OVER THE PASS



"I'd like to go back to Ireland, where my people are from. I'd just like to see them. They're not there anymore, but every time I'd round a corner I'd see someone who looked like them."

— Sara Kowalski, community volunteer (Raton)



"I'd go to Jamaica. I like Bob Marley and they have good food, waterfalls, and a tropical climate."

— Susan Sharknas, filing clerk, Phil Long Ford, Raton (Trinidad)

TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

"If you could have an all-expense-paid vacation this summer, where would you go?"

By **Tim Keller**
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News



"I'd like to go to Australia because I've never been there and they have interesting wildlife and plants, yet it's a culture that's somewhat similar to the U.S. And it's on the other side of the world."

— George Radnovich, landscape architect, Los Ranchos, NM (Raton)



"I'd like to go back to England. I was there over 20 years ago. I'd like to see how things have changed in London. I like the history, from Roman times to now."

— Dean Sneed, co-owner & guide, Haunted Corazon Ghost Tours (Trinidad)



"I'd probably come here! I love Trinidad and Westcliffe, probably my favorite places so far. I love the mountains and scenery. It's another world from where I live in Texas."

— Lacey Ramsey, graphic designer, Temple, TX (Trinidad)



"Paris! I went there last summer for the first time and it was amazing. I loved just walking around. Any time of day you can find sidewalk cafes and get coffee or lunch. Boat rides on the Seine. What's not to like?"

— Phyllis Taylor, owner, Sites Southwest, Albuquerque (Raton)

SCRT's Music Man —WOWS!

... Continued from Page 1

visual power of storytelling is appropriate costuming. Costumes for The Music Man are stunning; top of the line. They are authentic, brightly colored and plentiful. Many of the actors have several different costume changes throughout the play, creating ongoing delight for the audience's visual pleasure.

Well done! Kudos to Costume Coordinator Elizabeth Dapo.

A compliment must also go to those who created and manipulated the stage sets between scenes. Scenic design is by Katie Dawson and the Technical Director is Michael Empson, Charge Artists are Alanna Glover and Doug Holdread. They also function as part of the carpenters/run crew along with Steve Ortega, Jonathan Segers and Nathan Segers.

When stage manager Hayley Fortune calls the cues Lighting Designer Fred Vaugeois established between scenes, the crew quickly and silently rearranges props (responsibility of Gayly Killion) in place for the next scene. The brief dark scene changes are completed silently and quickly, and the actors are ready and in place when the lights go up again. Smooth! Professional!

These are the actors who make The Music Man a smash hit: Trinidad history teacher Jeffrey Schultz is a misspeaking curmudgeonly mayor Shinn who, with his wife Eulalie (Trinidad born and raised Liz Dapo,) an off key would-be singer and dancer, create an excellent broad comedy team. Backing up Eulalie is a less-than-agile group of dancers, who also double as the Pick-a-Little gossipy ladies, (Cassandra Giovine, along with Trinidad's Natalie Galasso, Cece Bak and Addi Segers.)

The younger love-struck couple, Tommy (the boy from the wrong side of the tracks) and Zaneeta (Mayor Shinn's older daughter) are played with youthful warmth and tenderness by Chris Kenning and Jaelyn Rahmlow, returning to the SCRT from last season's production of Oklahoma! Both have beautiful voices and performed outstandingly in the dance numbers as well. Marcellus Washburn, a "retired" con man who went straight is portrayed by Sam Lyle.

Another Trinidad SCRT regular is Jean Schuman, who on stage becomes Marian's matchmaking Irish mother with a believable Irish brogue and warm maternal concern for her daughter's future. SCRT Resident Company actor James Hopkins is the villain of sorts, the guy who threatens to expose Harold Hill.

Marian's brother Winthrop, an emotionally damaged little boy who lisp and wants a shiny cornet is double cast with two boys from SCRT's Youth Company, Brody Doherty and Trevor Vialpando. Trevor was onstage opening night, turning in a fine performance and singing a solo song with all the confidence of a much older child. Other youth members performing are double cast Sofia Sinda (opening night) and Bethany Pierce, as Amaryllis, (Marian's piano student who likes Winthrop) Savannah Lee is Gracie, Mayor Shinn's younger daughter.

Praise is also owed to the entire ensemble cast, boys and girls of River City, emerging here on stage from the SCRT Youth programs.

But the highest praise must be reserved for the two stars, Sarah Hinrichsen as Marian the librarian, and Drew Frady as con man Harold Hill.

Sarah is the daughter of Director Greg Hinrichsen. She is a senior at Oklahoma City University majoring in Theatre. Sarah wanted to see what her father was doing for three weeks in Trinidad every summer, so she came to visit him a year ago in Trinidad and fell in love with the town and SCRT.

Her portrayal of Marian, the librarian, is sensitive and artful. Coupled with her gorgeous soprano voice, lovely face and expressive body, Sarah imbues her character Mar-



ian with sensitivity appropriate to a young woman experiencing love for the first time, along with determination necessary to do whatever she must to protect and preserve that love. Surely a brilliant future awaits this young lady. Drew Frady thought he was being hired



Photos by Cynthia Berressee Ploski / The Chronicle-News

The Southern Colorado Repertory Theatre's summer production of The Music Man featured dancers Arielle Brown and Ingrid Hofmeister, above. Barbershop quartet Michael Empson, David Rivera, Justin Mohay and Derek Dubay gave an outstanding effort during the performance.

as one of the barbershop quartet members, but was issued a contract to play Harold Hill instead. It was a happy choice made by Fred and Harriet Vaugeois, because Drew performs the large and difficult role flawlessly, even the tongue twisting song "(Ya Got Trouble)" convincing the citizens of River City that he is going to remedy the trouble by forming a boy's band (with intention to pocket the cash for instruments and uniforms.)



Drew's stage presence and powerful singing voice comes from the gift of talent with which he was born, productions as Forever Plaid, Forbidden Broadway, Showboat and Guys and Dolls. Drew's performance is

always in character and completely professional, honed and sharpened by experience and complete devotion to his craft of acting.

The Music Man is exciting theatre from beginning to end, and appropriate viewing by people of all ages.

Theatre, like all art forms, must continue to improve through dedication and experience. Looking back to the beginnings of SCRT it is very easy to be aware of the trajectory of positive growth over many years.

Audience reaction confirms it—this is the best one ever. The neat thing is you still have time to see it because it will be repeated in true repertory fashion with the other two offerings, A Flea in Her Ear and Proof, over the course of the summer. There will be Saturday as well as Sunday matinees at 2:30, p.m. and evening performances at 7:30 p.m..

You can see The Music Man on Friday evening, Saturday matinee, Saturday evening and Sunday matinee this coming week through Sunday, June 28.

Additionally, it will be presented July 12 (2:30 p.m.) and 24 (7:30 p.m.); and also August 1 (2:30 p.m.), 9 (2:30 p.m.), 14 (7:30 p.m.) and 22 (2 shows.) The last performances of The Music Man will be on Saturday September 5 at 2:30 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m.

This is too good a show to miss. Once it's gone it will be gone forever. That's the nature of live theater, and that serves to make the enjoyment of it even more precious.

The next SCRT production will be the classic French comedy farce "A Flea in Her Ear." It will open on Sunday, July 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Call the box office at 719-846-4765 for reservations and information.