

Tradition!

Fiddler on the Roof is summer fare for the entire family.

LCC presents its Lane Summer Musical Theatre production of *Fiddler On the Roof*, the classic stage musical based on the stories of Sholom Aleichem.

Set in 1905 on the eve of the Russian revolution in the small Jewish village of Anatevka, the story centers on Tevye, the milkman, and his attempts to preserve his family's traditions. Without tradition, Tevye explains, he and the villagers would find their

exquisite attention to detail.

Leading the talented cast is Al Villaneuva, whose performance as the conflicted papa Tevye is first rate. Although his solos were a bit difficult to hear at times, Villaneuva's vocal dexterity is notably strong in other pieces. Peg Major is delightful as Tevye's nonsensical wife Golde. Major and Villaneuva perform superbly together in the stirring duet "Do You Love Me?"

Megan Morrisson puts in a fine perform-

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lives "as shaky as a fiddler on the roof." But when his eldest daughter, Tzeitel, begs him to let her marry a poor tailor rather than the middle-aged butcher that the village "matchmaker" has chosen for her, Tevye must choose between his own daughter's happiness and the paradigms that have shaped the foundation of their lives. In turn, what is good for one daughter expands to his other daughters, who also desire to marry for love.

Meanwhile, the winds of revolution are swirling at the doorstep and Tevye must not only come to terms with the changing dynamic of his own family, but also that of outside forces, which threaten to disrupt much more than simple tradition.

Employing a surrealistic and aesthetically appealing set that utilizes minimal props to direct the focus primarily on the characters, music, and the story itself, the production features a complete orchestra, under the accomplished baton of Ron Bertucci; energized choreographed dance numbers; and fantastic costumes designed with

ance as Tzeitel, the oldest daughter who marries the awkward and stammering tailor Motel, played with comedic flair by Curtis N. Buell. Juliet Strong's background in vocal performance is apparent in her role as Tevye's second daughter Hodel. Her lucid, melodic voice resonates opposite John Eaton's (Perchik) in the duet "Now I have Everything." Jackie Stollar is aptly cast as the bookish Chava, who disobeys her father by marrying outside her religion to young Fyedka, played by Chris Carwithen. Marti Stevens Byers is hilarious as the kvetching Matchmaker Yente, which in Yiddish means "a busybody; a gossip," and Kim Donahey's "aerial" dream sequence performance as the butcher's deceased wife Fruma Sarah is a showstopper.

Indeed, everyone involved in this fine production merits praise. A heartwarming story and a cornucopia of familiar songs guaranteed to stick in your head long after the curtain falls make *Fiddler On the Roof* splendid summer fare for the entire family. **CW**

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GET READY

THE FOUR TOPS

I CAN'T HELP MYSELF
SAME OLD SONG
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