



Richard Buckley, Maribeth Graham

Otterbein Starts Off With 'Charley's Aunt'

When Charley's aunt comes to visit, mayhem ensues.

The woman in question is the title character in *Charley's Aunt*, a classic farce by Brandon Thomas. The comedy, which was first performed in London in 1892, will be presented at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at Otterbein College.

Charley's Aunt will be staged in the Campus Center Arena Theater on the Westerville campus. The comedy is the first show of the 1981 summer season.

It is the story of Jack and Charley, two undergraduates at Oxford University, who persuade a fellow student to pose as a visiting aunt so that the duo may invite girls to their rooms.

As Jack and Charley prepare to propose to the girls, the bogus aunt is ardently pursued by Jack's father and another man. Then, Charley's real aunt shows up for a visit, and she

assumes another identity as the play's plot becomes more twisted.

Otterbein graduate Carter Lewis is directing *Charley's Aunt*. He has directed several productions at Otterbein and also has served as managing director of the summer theater program in previous years.

Jack and Charley will be played by Evan Uchtman and Ron Haefka. Richard Buckley will play Lord Fancourt Babberley, the phony aunt.

Susan Diol and Kelly Maurer will appear as the girls. Other cast members include Tod Wilson, Jeanine Howe, Maribeth Graham, Bruce Marvin and Brent Erdy.

The design team for *Charley's Aunt* will be David Hammond, Kathleen Lewicki and Larry Sherwood. They will be assisted by Carl Wolfe and Ed Christman.

Tickets may be obtained at the Campus Center box office.

'Charley's Aunt' opens Tuesday

"Charley's Aunt" by Brandon Thomas, will be presented Tuesday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. by the Otterbein Summer Theater in the Otterbein Campus Center Arena Theatre.

First performed in London in 1892, "Charley's Aunt" is the hilarious story of two Oxford undergraduates who persuade a fellow student to masquerade as a visiting aunt in order that they might properly invite their girlfriends to their rooms.

As the students, Jack and Charley, prepare to propose to the young ladies, Charley's "aunt" is ardently pursued by Jack's father and one of the girls' uncle. When the real aunt arrives from Brazil, the plot becomes more convoluted as she assumes another identity. After a few more twists and

turns, the characters are finally paired off to everyone's satisfaction.

Directing this production will be Carter Lewis, a '73 Otterbein graduate. Lewis, a well-known local director and playwright, has served in previous seasons as managing director of the Otterbein Summer Theatre. This past winter season, he directed the Otterbein College Theatre production of Shakespeare's "As You Like It."

Among Lewis's other directing credits are "All Over Town" at Otterbein, "The Boys in the Band" at Players Theater of Columbus, and "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Country Dinner Playhouse.

Set designer and technical supervisor for "Charley's Aunt" will be David Hammond, assisted by Carl Wolle.

Larry Sherwood will serve as properties master. Kathleen Lewicki will design the costumes, assisted by Ed Christman.

The two instigators of the masquerade, Jack and Charley, will be played by Evan Uchtman and Ron Haefka, respectively.

Lord Fancourt Babberly who dresses up as the aunt will be played by Richard Buckley.

The two young ladies, Kitty and Amy, will be portrayed by Susan Diol and Kelly Maurer, respectively. The long-suffering valet Brassett will be Tod Wilson.

Other cast members include Jeanine Howe as Donna Lucia Alvadorez, Maribeth Graham as Ela Delahay, Bruce Marvin as Stephan Spettique, and Brent Erdy as Col. Sir Francis Chesnay.

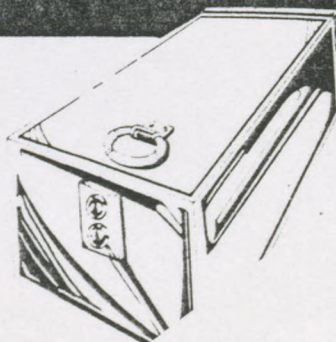
Tickets for "Charley's Aunt" are available in the Otterbein Campus Center box office 12:30 to 9 p.m. weekdays.

The next production of the Otterbein Summer Theatre will be "Rodgers and Hart: A Musical Celebration" July 1 through 11.



Jeanine Howe, standing, plays Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez and Richard Buckley will be Lord Fancourt Babberley in "Charley's Aunt" opening Tuesday in the Otterbein Campus Center Arena Theatre.

Vacation Time Is Prime Time For Thieves!



'Charley's Aunt' opens OST

Comedy, mystery, stirring drama and outrageous farce will be among the summer theatre offerings designed for the entire family when the Otterbein Summer Theatre opens its 15th season June 23.

"The season promises to be an outstanding one," says Fred J. Thayer, managing director of the summer theatre and principal designer for Otterbein College Theatre. "The return of two professional guest directors, a professional guest actor, plus the great line-up of shows will create an exciting summer."

A revival of Brandon Thomas' hilarious farce "Charley's Aunt" will open the season June 23 through June 27. The play centers on the zany escapades of Charley and Jack, two Oxford College students.

The students disguise a fellow student as Charley's Aunt so that they can invite girlfriends to their rooms. This stunt creates an uproarious turmoil.

Carter Lewis, well-known local director, playwright and Otterbein graduate, will return to direct "Charley's Aunt." Lewis, who served as managing director of Otterbein Summer Theatre for the past two seasons, has directed numerous productions at Otterbein and at other area theatres.

Lewis' directing credits include "As You Like It" and "All Over Town" at Otterbein, "The Boys in the Band" at Players Theatre of Columbus, and "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Country Dinner Playhouse.

"Rodgers and Hart, A Musical Celebration" will be presented July 1, 2 and 3 and continue July 7-11. Fred J. Thayer will direct this production featuring over 50 songs, ranging from love songs to Broadway tunes.

Thayer has directed several recent Otterbein College Theatre productions including last season's "A Murder Is Announced," and

"Bus Stop" and "Cactus Flower" from previous summer seasons.

Dr. Lyle Barkhymer, a member of Otterbein's music faculty, will be the musical director for the show.

A new drama by Columbus playwright Ed Graczyk, "Rainbow Dancin'" will run July 14-18. This play, first produced at Columbus Players Theatre last fall, takes an intimate look at the local clientele of a Texas bar, the Texas Moon Danceland. Graczyk is the artistic director at the players theatre.

Carter Lewis will direct "Rainbow Dancin'," featuring a professional guest actor.

Neil Simon's autobiographical comedy "Chapter Two" will be the fourth show of the season, July 21-25. Fred J. Thayer will direct this touching, funny story of two people who embrace a new life while remaining faithful to the old.

An adaptation of an Agatha Christie mystery, "Murder At The Vicarage," will close the season July 28-August 1. In this production that shrewd sleuth Miss Marple will be once again sorting out the red herrings to unravel the mystery and discover the real culprit.

Don Paisley will return to Otterbein to direct "Murder At The Vicarage." Paisley recently directed two delightful shows, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Hello, Dolly!" during the regular Otterbein College Theatre season.

Otterbein's traditional summer Children's Theatre production will present "Renard The Fox" July 8-11.

Otterbein graduate David Hammond will serve as the scene designer for the season. Kathleen Lewicki will be the costume designer.

All performances will be held in the air-conditioned Otterbein Campus Center Arena Theatre. Starting times again will be 8:30 a.m.

Season ticket orders are now being accepted by the Otterbein College Theatre Office. Individual show tickets may be purchased beginning June 15 at the Campus Center box office.