



The Sanford H. Calhoun High School proudly presents its seconds production of the 2009-2010 season as it celebrates 25 years of Shakespeare, Tom Stoppard's *On the Razzle*. Performances will take place in the Calhoun High School Auditorium, 1786 State Street on January 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd, 2010. All performances will begin at 7:30 pm. On Tour advisor Sal Salerno is the director.

Cast members include the following seniors: Jake Mastrangelo (Zangler), Joe Villafane (Melchior), Jonathan Rosner (Coachman), Aly Vanderwalde (Gertrud), Nicole Mauro (Madame Knorr), Amanda McLoughlin (Philippine), Julia Schifini (Frau Fischer), and Amanda D'Archangelis (Fraulein Blumenblatt). The parts of Marie and Weinberl will be played by sophomores Spencer Lee Carrion and Brad Michalakakis, and the parts of Christopher and Sonders will be played by freshman Tommy Mackin and Ian Silverman.

*On the Razzle* is the story of Herr Zangler (Mastrangelo), the owner of an upscale grocery store in a small Austrian village, who plans to marry Madame Knorr (Mauro), the proprietor of a woman's clothing shop in Vienna. As he departs for Vienna, Zangler leaves his business to his head clerk, Weinberl (Michalakakis), and his apprentice, Christopher (Mackin), who after decide to go "on the razzle", or on an adventure, to Vienna in their boss's absence. Along the way, the two boys run into various shenanigans in the big city, making the best of everything they experience.

From start to finish, there is constant action going on, as people switch identities, enter, exit, and use puns, all creating a pretty complex comedic situation.

*On the Razzle* is Tom Stoppard's adaptation of *Einen Jux will er sich machen* by Johann Nestroy, a famous Viennese playwright during the 1840's and 1850's. The play's title translates to, He Will Have a Spree, which Stoppard has equated to going out for a "razzle", a British term that means cutting work to go out and party. This was Nestroy's most popular play, a satirical comedy about Viennese life. Since many of the references are to contemporary Vienna, most translations tended to be adaptations, *On the Razzle* being no exception. This text is not, and could not be, labeled 'a translation.' All the main characters and most of the plot came from Nestroy, but almost none of the dialogue attempts to offer a translation. Stoppard's adaptation is self-described as hiking with map and compass, but going with intuition and gut in getting to the destination. Thornton Wilder also previously adapted the play twice, once as *The Merchant of Yonkers* in 1939, and again as *The Matchmaker* in 1954, creating the iconic character of Dolly Levi. The most famous adaptation occurred when Jerry Herman took *The Matchmaker* and created the musical *Hello, Dolly!* in 1964. That show, coincidentally, is this year's On Tour Company's spring musical to be produced in the Calhoun High School auditorium in March. It is the companies' goal to give audiences the pleasure of seeing the comparisons and differences between *On the Razzle* and *Hello, Dolly!*

*On the Razzle* first opened on September 1981 at the Royal National Theatre in London, with Felicity Kendal as Christopher, Dinsdale Landen as Herr Zangler, Ciaran Maddens as Madame Knorr, Meg Wynnee Owen as Frau Fischer, and Alfred Lynch as Weinberl. Peter

Wood won the Laurence Olivier Award for best director for the production, and it was later filmed on Britain's Channel 4 and PBS in January 1986.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$8 for students and seniors. To reserve tickets, call the On Tour box office at (516) 992-1377.