

EXPOSURE



STOMP DONKEY

STAMPEDES THROUGH

MURFREESBORO

-PAGE 1

OLD

SALEM

FLAME
KIDS RUN

Hay and screams and blood, oh my!

Letter from the Editor

Mmm, fall. It's the time of year when the weather will change from balmy to chilly without a moment's notice. The leaves will begin to change from shiny green to fiery red and orange.

Orange leaves make me think of other orange things in the fall, such as pumpkins. Pumpkins lead me to jack o' lanterns, Halloween and all the fun activities that come with that joyous holiday.

Murfreesboro's Old Salem Insane Asylum opens up tonight (Sept. 28); this place is literally haunted, according to the performers and producer Terry Mayo. Check out page four for the whole story on the Asylum.

Autumn also brings "Hay Fever" to Murfreesboro and not just the physical kind. Noel Coward's comedic play, "Hay Fever" begins the 2006-2007 Center Stage series at Tucker Theatre. After reading the story on page eight, I'm inter-

ested in seeing the thespians of MTSU in this theatrical production. They have worked extremely hard to make their performances believable, right down to authentic 1920's accents.

Music hasn't been left out of this issue. We have Stomp Donkey, the Incredible Heat Machine and the upcoming week's calendar with plenty of entertainment to suit your needs.

If you have an event, whether it is a concert, film, CD

release, stage play or dodge ball tournament, let Exposure know about it. We are open to all kinds of entertainment; so send us e-mails at slflash@mtsu.edu.

We have zombies, Scottish clans and more in next week's issue. Keep coming back and Exposure will give you the goods.

Kristen



Editor-in-Chief:	Michaela Jackson
Exposure Editor:	Kristen Teffeteller
Design Manager:	Erica Hines
Art Director:	Jeremy Wyatt
Ad Design:	Andy Harper Matt Adair
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Cover Illustration by Jeremy Wyatt

Exposure

STAFF

The 'Boro's heat machine



Photo courtesy of The Incredible Heat Machine

From left: Jeremy Pinell, Rob Knugg, Keegan Pavlovic, John Turner and Ray Dunham. They will be releasing their debut disc at Mellow Mushroom on Sept. 28.

Rodney Henry

Contributing Writer

Brought to you by popular demand, The Incredible Heat Machine has been traveling around the musical scene in Murfreesboro playing their musical style of roots rock meets electronica since 2004. It has been two years, and now the band is ready to present the magic it has to offer their local following and the world. The release of their self-titled, debut album will be held at Mellow Mushroom Thursday, Sept. 28.

The Incredible Heat Machine consists of five band members, including two current recording industry students and one recording industry graduate. The five musical talents are Ray Dunham on the drums and vocals, Jeremy Pinell on guitar and vocals, Keegan Pavlovic on bass, Rob Knugg on keys, mohawks and strange noises and John Turner on guitar.

Like several other local bands,

this one was formed from many other bands.

"We met playing in other bands in the Murfreesboro music scene," Pinell said, adding that since then, they developed their own sound and formed The Incredible Heat Machine.

"I was pulled in to play with Knugg, Pavlovic and Dunham in the fall of 2004," Turner said. "We recruited Pinell shortly after he departed from the well-known Murfreesboro band, Alphabeat. The rest is history."

This should give all you hopeful bands the encouragement to keep at it and do not stop until you reach the point when you are making good music.

It took this newly-formed band almost two years to finish their debut album.

"It is so great to have this record done. To me, it is an archive of what we have done in the last two years that we've been together," Pinell said. "This album offers a plethora of musical tastes and influences including

roots rock and electronica, as well as improvisational and progressive rock."

The topical "one sound" of a band is no more. Most bands you hear today are a sound culled from a number of bands that have influenced them. For The Incredible Heat Machine, that is the case.

"We're influenced by acts like Pink Floyd, Frank Zappa, Yes, Rush and The Grateful Dead," Turner said.

Most musical artists start at an early age, as is the case for Turner.

"If I dig really deep, the obvious answer is my parents," Turner said. "They got me started on the piano when I was 6 and gave me a guitar when I was 11."

Only a few artists stay faithful to the instrument that they started on. Many artists' musical interest and talent evolve, leading them into new areas of music and giving them the ideology that the sky is the limit.

"I see the music going to Mars."

Continued on page 6

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Want to work for Scared Rabbit?

Scared Rabbit Records, the student-run record label, is holding a general interest meeting Tuesday, Oct. 3. The label's executives plan on discussing the agenda for the year, assembling the departments within the label and gathering ideas to help further the professional aspect of the label.

The label has several different departments, including promotions, distributions, production, booking and artist and repertoire. Scared Rabbit is also scouting for talented local bands in any genre.

The meeting begins at 6 p.m. on the second floor of the Bragg Mass Communication building. If you are interested and unable to attend the meeting, contact Virginia Brick at vpb2b@mtsu.edu.

Another career opportunity

Bluesboro Rhythm & Blues Co., located on the square, is recruiting "enthusiastic, driven, motivated people" for the club's street team.

Street team members will pass out flyers in a designated area, work promotional events in the club and fill out work reports once a week. But it is not all work! In addition to gaining experience in the industry, members will receive a street team card for perks such as free swag, free cover and discounted food and drinks.

Interested parties should contact Emily, promotions coordinator for Bluesboro, through e-mail at bluesborostreetteam@gmail.com

Center for the Arts news

The Murfreesboro/Rutherford County Center for the Arts has a few events coming up in October. First up, OKTOBERFEST will be held Saturday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. There will be a silent auction and celebration at the Center.

Cinema at the Center begins Friday, Oct. 6 with the film "North by Northwest." This event takes place on the first Friday of the month through April. Tickets are \$8 with student I.D.'s; show time was not posted as of press time.

As for theater, "Nonsense!" will hit the stage Oct. 12 as part of the Center Stage series. If you are interested in performing, auditions for "It's a Wonderful Life" will be held Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. and Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the Center for the Arts at 904-2787 or visit the Web site www.boroarts.org.

OLD
SALEM

INSANE
ASYLUM

Photos by Jeremy Wyatt

Art Director

(Left) Sandi Sloan strains against the bars of her cage to escape the Old Salem Insane Asylum's Madhouse.

(Right) Danielle Hamilton struggles to pick up a razor to take her own life as Terry Mayo, the Insane Asylum's coordinator, passes by.

Progression Into Madness Legends of the Old Salem Insane Asylum

Dara Tucker

Contributing Writer

If Terry Mayo looks as though he's seen a ghost, then it's no wonder. He has been in fierce pursuit of such an encounter for quite some time. Mayo is the founder and president of SPIRIT, the Society of Paranormal Investigations and Research in Tennessee.

Mayo has recently embarked on a venture to create the nation's first "truly haunted," haunted-themed house. The retired teacher is completely at home in a vast warehouse, surrounded by an eager bevy of college-aged thrill-seekers. This warehouse is slowly being transformed into an insane asylum-themed, haunted house in Murfreesboro, the only one in the area. The Old Salem Insane Asylum is an outflow of Mayo's long-standing preoccupation with the paranormal.

"I'm a ghost hunter," Mayo proclaims on the moonlit grounds of this massive project,

now three months in the making.

The setting for Mayo's brainchild is an abandoned warehouse, now overtaken in a flurry of construction.

"I examined this property back in April in search of a good location to put on a rave party," Mayo said. "That's when the idea came to me to do a haunted house."

The project, launched just in time to usher in Halloween fever, has all the makings of a classic ghost story, a convincing storyteller, throngs of willing participants and reports that the old asylum may be truly haunted.

As the sounds of construction ring out from the dimly lit hallways, one thing becomes certain — this location seems tailor-made for fright. With its busted-out windows and creaky floors, the massive warehouse holds secrets, all its own. Legends abound of murder victims who've met their demise here and otherworldly inhabitants who've made it their home.

Thomas Scott, Mayo's assistant director who also plays an orderly in the insane asylum, couldn't be more at home in his eerie surroundings.

"I'm a member of SPIRIT and I've always had a fascination with the paranormal," Scott said.

As a would-be intern approaches him to request an assignment, Scott poses a question most people are never likely to hear from a potential employer. "Are you a





Photos by Jeremy Wyatt: Art Director

(Above) Timothy Harrison preaches to two souls who have lost their minds. (Left) Lonnie McKinney grins wickedly while grabbing a meat cleaver wedged into the table.

screamer?" Scott asks.

The intern, hopeful, quickly answers, "Yes."

"Well, let me hear you," Scott said.

The job seeker then proceeds to let out a blood-curdling scream that turns surprisingly few heads. Such displays of terror are apparently par for the course in the old asylum. As the intern falls to the floor in a crumpled mass, Scott nods his head in approval. He puts the intern right to work.

Producer Mayo, the larger-than-life purveyor of spiritual phenomena, can match the enthusiasm of his younger cohorts decibel for decibel. He helms the extravagant production with an infectious gusto that has helped to make the Old Salem Insane Asylum the most highly anticipated event of the Halloween season in Murfreesboro.

A broad smile sweeps across Mayo's face as he offers to recount the various sightings

of spirits purported to inhabit the long-abandoned building.

"The construction crew I hired asked about the bald gentleman in overalls they had seen helping out around the place," Mayo says proudly. "When I told them it was a ghost, they didn't return the next day."

What better than a few disembodied spirits to give a fledgling haunted house some much needed street credibility?

If this doesn't have you chanting, "I do believe in spooks, I do believe in spooks," consider the following information. The newly refurbished haunted house may truly be home to several earthbound spirits, according to a "Ghost Team" society who've recently conducted a "paranormal activity investigation" in the building. Mayo said this investigative team has certified that no less than four spirits inhabit the old warehouse, once home to a steel factory, among other things.

One might wonder just how credible this "Ghost Team" could be. Naysayers are warned. Mayo will attest personally to the credibility of this organization. How would he know? The investigation was conducted by SPIRIT, which Mayo heads. Many of the SPIRIT members are now hard at work constructing and acting in the Old Salem Insane Asylum production.

No matter — if you're able to momentarily suspend your disbelief, you're in for quite a fright. Upon entering the asylum, you'll be

given directions to navigate your way through the various rooms where patients descend into ever-deeper levels of insanity. Winding pathways and dank bathrooms hold untold horrors for those curious enough to venture beyond their shadowy thresholds.

In one of the asylum's dark corridors, technical director Matt Lloyd can be seen coaching an actor.

"You've got to be a lot scarier than that," Lloyd warns. Indeed, the young actor seems eager to take on the challenge.

Lloyd has settled into his position, which also involves set designing and building, quite comfortably.

"I was born macabre and morbid," Lloyd said. "I adore this stuff."

When Mayo's right-hand men, Scott and Lloyd, are asked if they believe the place is truly haunted, they answer with an emphatic "yes." Actress Sandra Sloan, who plays a flesh-eating nurse, is inclined to agree.

"I've always believed in ghosts, but they don't scare me," Sloan says. "This is going to be awesome."

Whether truly haunted by spirits or not, this haunted house is clearly inhabited by an enthusiastic group of people who are ready to get down to some serious scaring. Remember, though — if you run into a bald guy in overalls, you might be in for a bigger scream than you bargained for.

The Old Salem Insane Asylum, "A Whole New Type of Therapy," begins Sept. 28, and runs from Thursday to Sunday every weekend until Oct. 31. Doors open at 7 p.m. and admission is \$10 with your student ID, \$15 without it. For more information, go to www.myspace.com/old_salem_insane_asylum, or call (615) 849-4020. The Asylum is located off Broad Street at the intersection of King's Highway and Old Salem Road in Murfreesboro.

September 28–October 4

TODAY

- Bluesboro – **Nick James and Keith Walker**; 8 p.m., \$7, 21+
- The Boro – **The Turncoats**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+
- Bunganut Pig – **Steven Bowersville Band**; 8 p.m.
- DRINK Nightclub – **Pimps & Ho's party**; 9 p.m., free cover for those who dress up, 21+
- KUC Theater – **"Nacho Libre;"** 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke – **DJ & Jazz**; 9 p.m., no cover, 21+
- Mellow Mushroom – **The Incredible Heat Machine**; 10 p.m.
- Wall Street – **Halo Stereo**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+

FRIDAY

- Bluesboro – **Nick Sharp and Burning Las Vegas**; 8 p.m., \$7, 21+
- The Boro – **The GO Show**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+
- Bunganut Pig – **Clarence Dobbins**; 8 p.m.
- Liquid Smoke – **The Lava Men**; 9 p.m., no cover, 21+
- Tucker Theatre – **"Hay Fever;"** 7:30 p.m., free w/ student I.D., \$8 gen. admission.
- Wall Street – **Ski Hi CD Release party**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+

SATURDAY

- Bluesboro – **Secret Gossip and The Compromise**; 8 p.m., \$7, 21+
- Blue Coast Burrito – **Blue Coast After-hours**; 9 p.m., \$3
- The Boro – **Cuttlefish**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+

- Bunganut Pig – **Magnolia**; 8 p.m.
- Tucker Theatre – **"Hay Fever;"** 7:30 p.m., free w/ student I.D., \$8 gen. admission.
- Wall Street – **Stomp Donkey**; 10 p.m., \$5, 18+

SUNDAY

- Bluesboro – **Rockstar Band Battle**; 8 p.m., \$7, 21+
- The Boro – **Acoustic Night**; 8 p.m., no cover, 18+
- Mellow Mushroom – **The Bellegas Duo**; 7 p.m.

MONDAY

- Bonhoeffer's – **Halo 2**; 8 p.m.
- KUC Theater – **"A Lady in the Water;"** 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke – **Monday Night Football**

TUESDAY

- KUC Theater – **"A Lady in the Water;"** 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke – **Mike Jones Quartet**; 9 p.m., no cover, 21+

WEDNESDAY

- Bluesboro – **Acoustic Nights and Moonshine Still**; 8 p.m., \$7, 21+
- KUC Theater – **"A Lady in the Water;"** 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$2
- Liquid Smoke – **Luke Pruitt**; 9 p.m., no cover, 21+
- Tucker Theatre – **"Hay Fever;"** 7:30 p.m., free w/ student I.D., \$8 gen. admission.

"Heat Machine"

continued from 3

Palovlic said.

When working on something for two years, there has to be tons of music created, and not all of it can go on one album.

"This album could have been completed sooner, but the time we have taken to craft our songs in the past year is something I feel was necessary," Turner said.

The past two years has proven to be a time of great development for all the members of The Incredible Heat Machine. With the self-titled debut album, they have lasted through the beginning stages of all great bands.

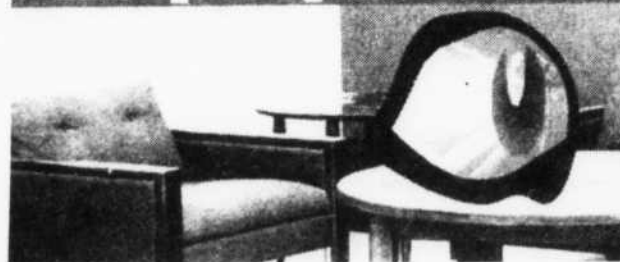
"I think our biggest achievement is the fact that we're still at it," Turner said. For most bands that consist of multiple members, the hardest part is keeping everyone on the same page. This group of musicians has done that and more with this album.

Want to Write?

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FILL OUT AN APPLICATION
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Help Exposure "See" You Perform



Feel like you're just sitting around on the couch not getting anywhere? Was anybody even at your last show, minus the obligatory girlfriend? Advertise your show in Exposure. We'll get the word out.

sflash@mtsu.edu

Stomping Through The 'Boro

**Stomp Donkey
returns to the
local scene
with new
songs and CD**



Ryan Carreon

Contributing Writer

Judging by the crowd of people gathered at Liquid Smoke Sept. 22, one could not imagine that tornado warnings were sweeping Rutherford County and the rest of Middle Tennessee. Despite the less-than-stellar weather conditions, this was a crowd many local acts would envy. As local band Stomp Donkey took the stage for the first time in nearly two months, the crowd eagerly sounded its approval with "Welcome back."

Indeed, after a short hiatus and the addition of a banjo player, the newly-revived Stomp Donkey was back in full force with their trademark blend of powerful harmonies and laid back

melodies. Their style went hand in hand with the mellow atmosphere of Liquid Smoke and its patrons.

Stomp Donkey, formerly a four-piece, now performs their tunes as a five-member act. A banjo player has joined the band, adding an extraordinary layer to Stomp Donkey's music. Leo Johnson plays the guitar and joins singer Emily Defrees on vocal duties. Adam Bradley "plays tasty rhythms and fills" on drums while the bass lines are plucked by David Monroe.

As Stomp Donkey progressed through their set, the band's onstage attitude seemed to thank audience with a nice big, "It's good to be back." The old songs were complimented by new material, indicating Stomp Donkey is definitely here to stay. Johnson spoke with Exposure about

the Stomp Donkey sound and future show dates.

Exposure: What is the history of the band?

Johnson: I worked with the singer, Emily, and the drummer Adam at Ruby Tuesdays for a while and the bass player, Dave, I've known for probably 12 to 13 years. The banjo player, Brian, I met this past year through a mutual friend.

E: How do you create your sound?

Johnson: The music that we do is stuff that I've written. I kind of brought the band together [and] just tried to get us all on the same page, especially the music that we try and come up with. I just kind of came with the songs and they kind of tailored it and we've now come to our sound.

E: Why did you choose the name

Stomp Donkey?

Johnson: Well, we were having trouble coming up with a great name and we tossed around a bunch of stuff and nothing seemed to fit anything so we just picked the name that was funny and that nobody would forget.

E: Do you have a CD out?

Johnson: We have a three-song demo that we sell at all of our shows for \$2. We're also selling some t-shirts as well for \$10 each.

Stomp Donkey will be playing the following dates: Saturday, Sept. 30 at Wall Street (\$5 cover); The Pond in Franklin Oct. 5 and 27; and The Mellow Mushroom Oct. 13.

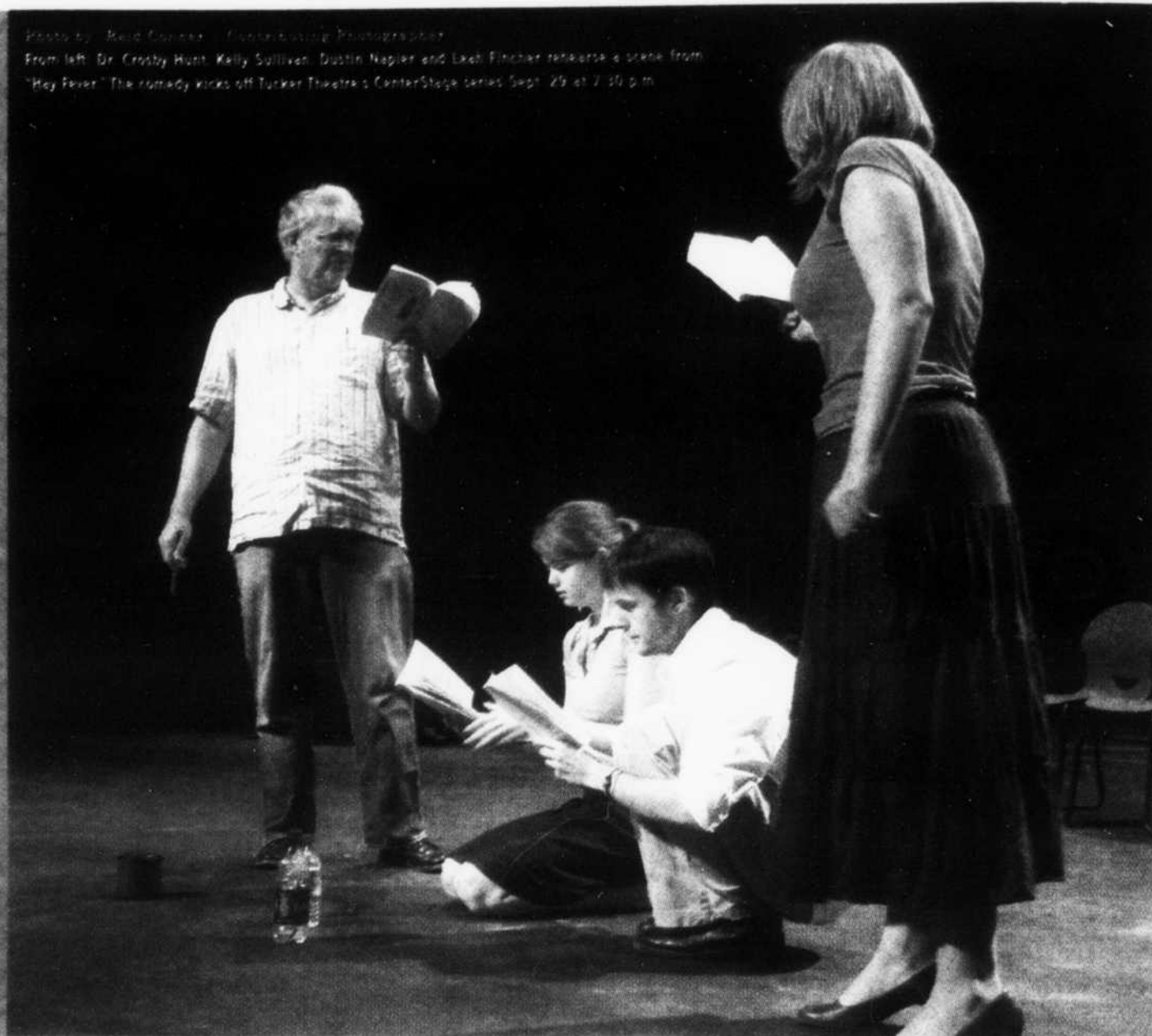
For more information, including free downloadable songs, visit <http://www.myspace.com/thisis-stompdonkey>.

Hay Fever

A squabbling family plus unsuspecting guests equal comedic chaos at Tucker Theatre

Photo by Reid Conner, Contributing Photographer

From left: Dr. Crosby Hunt, Kelly Sullivan, Dustin Napier and Leah Fincher rehearse a scene from "Hay Fever." The comedy kicks off Tucker Theatre's CenterStage series Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m.



Reid Conner
Contributing Writer

Every family has its problems, but the Bliss family's outrageous squabbles usually end with hilarious results. "Hay Fever," a comedy written by famous playwright Noel Coward, comes to the Tucker Theatre as MTSU Theatre begins its 2006-2007 CenterStage Series.

"Hay Fever" centers on the unruly Bliss family: Judith Bliss, a retired stage actress; David Bliss, a novelist; their two spoiled children, Simon and Sorel and their unmannerly maid Clara.

The play is set during a rainy weekend at the Bliss' home after each member of the family invites a guest to stay for the weekend without knowing that everybody else has also invited a guest. Soon, the Bliss home becomes crowded

and everybody is forced to deal with each other in crowded confinement over the weekend.

"The Blisses are a family whose members spend their summer days at their pleasant country home," explained Jeff Gibson, assistant professor for speech and theatre. "However, with the inclusion of [their guests], the tranquil weekend becomes a chaotic and hilarious nightmare."

Those guests that are invited for the weekend include boxer Sandy Tyrell, socialite Myra Arundel, diplomat Richard Greatham and Jackie Coryton, an overly sensitive flapper. When they are invited for the weekend, they know little about the Bliss' outlandish behavior or what would be in store for them during their stay.

"For the past few seasons, we have presented plays that have dealt with today's social issues, and had a lot of angst," director Deborah Anderson said

about selecting the play. "This year, I wanted to do something different and challenging."

"I thought 'Hay Fever' would be the perfect choice because Noel Coward's style is completely unlike anything we have done recently and from a different era," Anderson added.

Set in the 1920s, "Hay Fever" is full of comedic moments that require perfect timing from the players as well as authentic accents. The ensemble cast does a great job of capturing this, as well as the nuances of the individual characters.

Judith Bliss, the family matriarch, is a prima donna who still clings to her glory days of being a stage actress. She is very dramatic and will often recite lines from a play as if she is still in the spotlight.

Leah Fincher, who plays Judith Bliss, said she uses old Hollywood actresses such as Bette Davis, as influ-

ences to capture Judith's energy.

"She's afraid of growing old and being forgotten," Fincher said about her character's personality.

Her husband, David Bliss, is an older man that locks himself away in his room as he works on his next great novel. He only comes down to entertain the young female guests while ignoring everyone else.

Their two obnoxious kids, Simon and Sorel, are just as bad-mannered as their parents. They act very childish for their teenage years and often quarrel with each other or act rudely towards their guests.

"She's spoiled and never had to do a single thing in her life," said actress Kelly Sullivan, in reference to her character Sorel Bliss.

Together, the characters make up one of the most eccentric families ever to hit the stages. It's no wonder their guests are running for the exits.