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She Stoops to Conquer

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UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS

SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER

or

THE MISTAKES OF A NIGHT

BY OLIVER GOLDSMITH



Faculty Reading Hour

Shreiner Auditorium

September 19, 1970 8:15 P.M.

Taylor University

Oliver Goldsmith, the author of **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER**, was born in the village of Pallas in County Longford in Ireland on November 10, 1728. His father was a poor Protestant clergyman who moved his family to Lissoy where the young boy went to the village school. There the awkward smallpox-marked youth was looked on as "a stupid, heavy blackhead, little better than a fool, whom everyone made fun of."

He secured his B.A. from Trinity College, Dublin, and for a time studied medicine on the continent. He returned to England where he began writing miscellaneous articles for periodicals and eventually made the acquaintance of Dr. Johnson in 1761 who recognized his talents. His reputation was confirmed with the publication of his novel, **THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD**, in 1776 and his remarkable poem, **THE DESERTED VILLAGE** in 1770. He wrote histories of England, Greece, and Rome. His comedy, **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER**, was produced at Covent Garden Theatre in 1773 and won him everlasting fame as a dramatist. Goldsmith died of a fever in 1774 when only forty-six years of age.

Note that the eighteenth century produced only two great dramatists in England: Goldsmith and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, whose two plays **THE RIVALS** and **THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL** were produced in 1775 and 1777 respectively. Three of the finest comedies ever written were produced within the space of five years. As a reaction to Restoration comedy, the eighteenth century writer began producing a new kind of sentimental comedy whose aim, in the words of Steele, was "to attempt a comedy that might be no improper entertainment in a Christian country." This type of sentimental comedy became the vogue and Goldsmith and Sheridan reacted against it.

What makes **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER** so popular a play is the freshness and naturalness and truth of its characters and characterizations. From the very opening speeches of Mrs. Hardcastle and her husband, we are aware of a new kind of wit;-a wit that has neither the careful aloofness from life that was characteristic of the Restoration dramatists nor the moral sentiments of the usual comedy of Goldsmith's day.

SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER

Directed by Gladys M. Greathouse

Cast of Characters

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Hardcastle | Gordon Zimmerman |
| Kate Hardcastle, <i>his daughter</i> | Jessie Rousselow |
| Tony Lumpkin, <i>his stepson</i> | Allen Goetcheus |
| Diggory, <i>his servant</i> | Charles Bromley |
| Mrs. Hardcastle, <i>his second wife</i> | Gladys Greathouse |
| Constance Neville, <i>her niece</i> | Luella Hermanson |
| Sir Charles Marlow | Dwight Mikkelson |
| Young Marlow, <i>his son</i> | Dale Jackson |
| Hastings, <i>friend of young Marlow</i> | Edward Hermanson |

The action of the play transpires
in an English country house
during the latter part of the 18th century

One ten minute intermission

*Presented by Speech and Drama Department
and
Trojan Players*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director Allen Goetcheus

Costumier Jessie Rousselow

Lights Tim Bardsley
Nancy Spaulding

Costumes Barbara Dvorak

Set Pieces Sue Van Dyke*

Sound Jim Oosting*

House KATHI KIEL*
Judy De Fraites*
Portia Johnson*
Mavis Myers
Kathy Posthuma
Cindy Sandberg
Debbie Speedy

Box Office Joann Hensley
Evelyn Schar

* *Denotes Trojan Players Member*

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