

Auditions due for 'Harvey'

The Gilroy Community Theatre will hold auditions for "Harvey," first of three productions slated this year, on Tuesday, Jan. 29 and Thursday, Jan. 31, Russ Hendrickson, director announced this week.

Scheduled at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria, tryouts will be for casting six men and six women of various ages for the comedy written by Mary Chase in 1944.

The Pulitzer-prize winning play became a national institution during its long run on Broadway and when presented by touring companies around the country and abroad. Theatre goers empathized with its hero, Elwood P. Dowd, a gentle, easy going man whose

constant companion is a six-foot, one-and-a-half inch, white rabbit named Harvey.

Visible to only a select few, Harvey and Elwood open the play by walking into a tea party and shattering pretensions of Elwood's sister, Veta. She retaliates by attempting to commit Elwood to "Chumley's Rest", if only for a long enough time to marry off her daughter, Myrtle Mae.

In an attempt to "cure" her brother, she almost winds up as a patient at the institution, and so intrigues the psychiatrist with Harvey, that he goes off with the rarely seen companion for a round of the bars.

Cast named for production of 'Harvey'

Charles Gilmore and Frances Bloom, both of Gilroy, have been selected to play Elwood P. Dowd and his sister, Veta, as rehearsals get underway for the Gilroy Community Theatre production of "Harvey," slated April 11, 12 and 13 at Gavilan College Theatre.

Others named to comedy roles following two auditions were: Carmel Zimmerman of Gilroy, Myrtle; Thomas Koch of Morgan Hill, Dr. Sanderson; Bert Howard of Gilroy, Dr. Chumley; D. Dedrick of Morgan Hill, Kelly; Greg Guerin as Wilson, Beatrice Corona as Mrs. Chumley and Lucy Mazzuca as Mrs. Chauvenet, all of Gilroy; and Brad Ryder, former Gilroyan now of San Jose, as the cab driver.

Russ Hendrickson will direct the prize-winning comedy; Ed Perkins and Steve Dodge will be technical directors; Marie Perkins, costumes; Marilyn Abad, lighting; Mary Nixon, props; Sharon Sacco, pre-sale tickets; Barbara Reber, house manager; Mary Ann Bruegmann, promotions; and Joe Brown, program advertising.

"Harvey" opened on Broadway during World War II, became an American institution, and was later warmly accepted in Europe. The plot revolves around Dowd and his constant companion visible only to a chosen few, a six-foot-one-and-one-half inch white rabbit. Hilarious situations and a surprise ending are sparked by Veta's attempts to have her brother committed.

Community Theatre production



HARVEY - Cast members of the Gilroy Community Theatre's coming play, "Harvey" are busy rehearsing for the production scheduled April 11, 12 and 13 at the Gavilan College Theatre. Above is a scene from the tale of a man accompanied by a great white rabbit, left to right are: Frances Bloom, cast as Veta; Al Boom, philosophical cab driver; Walden Sampson, Judge Omar Gaffney; and Carmel Zimmerman, Veta's daughter, Myrtle Mae. At right, Charles Gilmore, who portrays Elwood Dowd, hero of "Harvey," runs through a scene during rehearsals with Frances Bloom, who plays his sister in the production. Photos by John White Jr.



present
'HARVEY'
A Comedy

Thursday, April 11, 1974,
8:00 P.M.

Friday, April 12, 1974,
8:00 P.M.

Saturday, April 13, 1974,
8:00 P.M.

Gavilan College Theatre

tickets available at Dick Bruhn's from
Theatre Angel's members, and at the
box office on the night of the performance.

Adults: \$2.50

Students: \$1.50

'Harvey' opening scheduled

Gilroy Community Theatre will open its 1974 season with three performances of "Harvey," Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 11, 12 and 13. Curtain time for each show will be 8 p.m. at Gavilan College Theatre.

The Pulitzer-prize winning comedy, written by Mary Chase, has become a national institution. It has been widely acclaimed both in this country and in Europe for its captivating and unique story line. Playgoers everywhere have invariably seized the opportunity to identify their own foibles with those of Elwood P. Dowd, the hero.

Elwood, played by Charles Gilmore Sr., spends all of his time in the company of a six-foot-one-and-a-half-inch white rabbit named Harvey, who is visible only to the chosen. How Elwood and his friend manage to keep all the other characters in various degrees of hot water will elicit the broad range of chuckles to convulsive laughter.

Others in supporting roles are Walden Sampson as Judge Gaffney, Carmel Zimmerman as Myrtle Mae, Frances Bloom as Veta, Chuck Gilmore as Dr. Sanderson, Greg Guerin as hospital orderly, Bert Howard as Dr. Chumley, Al Bloom as the cab driver, Natasha Silberstein as Mrs. Chauvenet, Kim Lynch as the nurse, and Beatrice Corona as Mrs. Chumley. Russ Hendrickson is the director.

Tickets are available at Dick Bruhn's, from members of the Theatre Angels and at the college theatre box office on each evening of the performance.



COMING ATTRACTION - Persons seeking temporary escape from multiple crises of the season may secure tickets to the Gilroy Community Theatre presentation of "Harvey" slated April 11, 12 and 13 at the Gavilan College Theatre. Appropriate for the season, "Harvey" is the tale of Elwood Dowd and his constant companion, a large white rabbit. Above Russ Hendrickson, right, director of the play, gives pointers to Greg Guerin who portrays a hospital orderly.



FIRST OF THE SEASON - Currently running at the Gavilan College Theatre is the local production of the Pulitzer-prize winning comedy "Harvey." Above during rehearsals are, left to right: Carmel Zimmerman, Myrtle Mae Simmons; Frances Bloom, who portrays her mother, Veta Louise Simmons; and

Walden Sampson, Judge Gaffney. The play opened last night, and will be presented again tonight and Saturday with curtain going up at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door. In tune with the season, the plot revolves around Elwood P. Dowd and his constant companion a huge white rabbit. - John White Jr. photo