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Office of University Communications

September 24, 2013

Award Winning Play Showing in Dover Theatre

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – The Gardner-Webb University Theatre Department will present the comedy "Rumors" Oct. 2-5 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 6 at 2:30 p.m. in the Dover Theater, located inside the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center (LYCC).

Written by Neil Simon, this farcical play begins when four couples arrive at the 10th wedding anniversary celebration of a deputy New York City mayor and his wife. However, when the four couples (dysfunctional in their own right) arrive at the deputy mayor's townhouse, they soon discover that there are no servants, the hostess is missing, and the deputy mayor has shot himself in the head. Comic complications arise when, given everyone's upper class status, they decide they need to do everything possible to conceal the evening's events from the police and the media.

"Rumors" is directed by Dr. Chris Nelson, assistant professor of theatre arts at Gardner-Webb University. "We thought this would be a good semester to do a farce and ["Rumors"] gives the audience a way to just enjoy the experience without thinking too much," said Nelson.

"It's sheer comical entertainment," Nelson continued. "We certainly want to do thought-provoking pieces here, but sometimes it is just nice to sit back and laugh."

Eight of the 10 roles in "Rumors" feature Gardner-Webb students. Hannah Rolan and Matt Strolhl will play Cookie and Ernie, Clarissa Miller and Delton Barnes will play Cassie and Glenn, Sydney Phillips and Jay Jay Ponton will play Claire and Lenny, Madison Wait will play Chris and Rachel Sedota will play Officer Pudney.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for senior adults and students of other schools, and are free for children. For more information call 704-406-4656.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University blends a liberal arts core curriculum with more than 55 specialized major and minor programs, a comprehensive academic experience grounded in a Christian environment of service, leadership, and intellectual freedom.