Wellesley Juniors show their talents

By Joel West

The Wellesley Junior Show, playing to a packed Alumni Hall last weekend, was not a play of any lasting merit — few of them, if any, are. The Young and the Redhead (or All My Red Things) is revealingly wanting in character development and plot: the show is a hack, pure and simple. The story revolves around a future U.S. President, Scarlett O'Henya (Fay Wigrizer), who is (not surprisingly) a Wellesley alumna. The show opens in the Oval Office, with the President surrounded by Secret Service agents, who spend the entire show in their own particular disguise. Leigh Pusman '81 gives a shining performance as General Electric, the floor lamp. At Wellesley, with the President surrounded by her two comic assistants, Husky (Jean Huffer) and Starky (Amy Markowitz), as a substitute for dramatic excellence, last year's double entendres are replaced by the incessant puns. But as a musical, The Young and Redhead succeeds, both in writing and execution. Starting with Bertrand's poignant "Nine-to-Five Affair", the music (written by Wigrizer and conductor Debra Weinstein, among others) scores on several numbers. "Stranded at Park Street" is first-rate, both musically and choreographically, with the chorus singing and dancing on benches under the replica of an MBTA map.

Probably the best number features "Boy by Face" Watson (John Zbeske '78) and his three gangsters as the counterparts to do with the things they have stolen for their unseen boss — predictably, the forlorn Clover. Wigrizer and Nelson give a fine performance in "Recollections", in which they contemplate their days at Wellesley through rose-colored glasses. Without this, one would be unaware of Wigrizer's fine voice, which is unimpressive otherwise. The songwriting was especially good, and most of the orchestra performed well under Weinstein's talent, but the stage work was equally competent. The defects in the show are due to the limitation inherent in the Junior Show — with only three weeks rehearsal, it is amazing that it was good as it was.

Off-Campus College Work Study Program

A limited Off-Campus Work Study program will operate for undergraduate and graduate students for the 1978-79 academic year. Off-campus public and non-profit organizations will be eligible for CWSW participation. Needy students will be able to receive 80% of their wages from CWSW with matching of 20% from the off-campus organization. Nelson Armstrong at Student Employment, 5-119, 3-4973 will begin processing fall term applications for participation on Monday, October 2 and will continue on a first come, first serve basis until funds run out.

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