



In review . . . by Debbie Pearson

Characters help make play unique

As strangely unique as it was, my exploration into the rabbit hole of "Alice in Wonderland" was better than I anticipated.

My big hangup when I first entered the Fine Arts Playroom was that I had not expected the "showcase theatre" to be located outside of the conventional

Fine Arts theatre.

When I realized that my seat was higher from the ground than the actors themselves, I felt as if I was the one on stage.

But as soon as the big watch-carrying White Rabbit, played by Rich Doherty, went racing through the audience, my tensions were eased.

Now, the White Rabbit did not look like the conventional rabbit with the cottonball tail and white fluffy rabbit suit, but he could be easily distinguished as a rabbit.

Dressed in his little white hood with ears, he was a fantastic rabbit.

The whole production was done with a minimum of costuming and scenery, but it made for better acting.

Besides the White Rabbit, the audience enthusiastically accepted the Cheshire cat, which had a most extraordinary smile.

Staging for the Cheshire cat, played by Dan Daily, was a difficult task, but it came off beautifully.

Probably the most difficult scene to portray was the one when Alice had to sink and grow.

The cast members were used as tables and doors, which adjusted themselves in relation to Alice's changing size.

Awareness of the creativity involved in the adaptation of Lewis Carroll's play progressed throughout the performance, as the audience incorporated itself into the world within the rabbit hole.

"Alice in Wonderland" will be presented Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m.