

'Blithe Spirit' comes to Dallas

By REBECCA BRIA
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As a young child, Chris Jayne was asked to play a character in an annual Thanksgiving play at Dallas Elementary School. The experience hooked him and now the 18-year-old Dallas High School senior has the lead male role in the school's upcoming spring production.

The Shavertown resident will play Charles Condomine in the British comedy "Blithe Spirit" at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15, at Dallas High School, marking his final high school performance.

"It's bittersweet because on the one hand, I'm going to get back so much time every weekday, but on the other hand, these are people that I bonded with; this is something that I love," Jayne said. "The stage has become very familiar to me. I know the stage in the auditorium like the back of my hand now."

During elementary school, Jayne had the opportunity to act in chorus and band presentations, playing key roles of Tom Sawyer and a clown. Middle school brought a lapse in his acting because he was a saxophonist in the jazz band, which consumed much of his time.

But as a freshman in high school, Jayne landed a minor role as a character's boyfriend who just said, "OK" in the play "John and Me."

"From there, I kind of said, 'This is great and I'm going to keep doing this,'" he said.

He landed the role of Captain Lombard in "And Then There Were None" and later played Hansel in the children's musical, "The Marvelous Adventures of Red Riding Hood," Clouseau in "The Pink Panther Strikes Again" and Richard III in "The Final Trial of Richard III."

In his current role as Charles Condomine, Jayne is an eccentric English author writing a book on supernatural phenomenon who invites a female fortune teller and psychic to help him understand what she does. He doesn't believe her until she brings back the ghost of his deceased wife, which moves in with Condomine and his current wife, creating con-



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Bryan Darling makes some final stage preparations for the Dallas Senior High School presentation of "Blithe Spirit."

flict. Jayne also gained acting experience through the high school Forensics Team and, during his sophomore year, was selected as a national representative of the Scranton Forensics League. He and his partner, Lauren Kelly, performed a scene from "Bedazzle."

Acting has not been a complete breeze for Jayne as he has had to work on developing emotions in his characters.

"For me, it's definitely getting the emotions there and making the character complex," Jayne said. "You have to have the peaks and the valleys in the emotion in

IF YOU GO

Dallas High School's production of the British comedy "Blithe Spirit" 8 p.m. Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15
Dallas High School auditorium

order to make the character real."

Outside of acting and the Forensics Team, Jayne is also involved with the Dallas High School Diversity and Amnesty Club. He no longer plays the saxophone, but now plays the guitar and sings in a band called "The Statue."

Jayne plans to pursue a degree in either secondary education or mathematics.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

ABS	PACK	THUS
DOH	ALOE	HARP
SWANSONG	ALGA	
NEST	INFER	
AGGIE	TICK	
DAHL	DUCKSOUP	
AGA	TOBEY BRO	
RAILROAD	LEAK	
LAMS	DOILY	
CHEAP	ARTS	
LIAM	DOVETAIL	
OKRA	AREA	NRA
YENS	GERM	TAX

Go Figure!

answers

5	+	8	x	1	13
+	-		+		
7	-	6	x	3	3
-		x		+	
5	+	4	+	2	11
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