

# Deeper meaning found in lab production

by **Stephanie Taylor**  
Staff Writer

Charles Hukill, inspired by his year spent as a Sears collection agent, has a hit on his hands with the recently released play "Occupational Hazard."

Hukill hails from Abilene and brought the show to make its world premiere on the Texas Tech Laboratory Theatre stage during the summer repertory season.

The comedy, while humorous, has a deeper meaning.

Paul Farmer, hilariously portrayed



by Omar Sadigh, is a bill collector from Sears who has a difficult time forsaking any trust and compassion to become the cold-hearted repossession man the job calls for.

Farmer's first stop is the run-down home of Teddy and Marie Presley, distant cousins of the king, Elvis Presley.

Farmer confronts Marie only to

find that she knows nothing of the account, and that her husband had opened it behind her back in order to lavish his mistress with gifts. At this point, Marie takes Farmer, along with her imitation-leather clad and Elvis impersonator husband hostage.

The conflict rages throughout the show, and all the while Farmer flashes back to experiences with various indebted customers.

Each stop finds Farmer more and more unsure of his chosen profession.

The ensemble cast is outstanding. Each performance brought with it amusement, as well as meaning.

Michael Moore, a graduate student in playwriting, heard an onslaught of well-deserved applause

each time he exited the stage.

If Tech gave Oscars, Moore would have taken home the little golden statue for his portrayal of Windy Winderson, the worm farmer whose words ultimately shaped Farmer's end decision.

Matt Chauncey, on stage in a white vinyl outfit ornamented with tassels and sequins, was almost too convincing as a deadbeat Elvis impersonator. It makes me wonder about his night job.

Oh, and don't forget about the show's deeper meaning.

The show is an entertaining interpretation of how jobs shape who we are and what we become, as well as how we shape ourselves. Farmer's experiences keep adding up, and the words of Windy Winderson stick with him until one day he just ... well, you'll have to see for yourself.

"Occupational Hazard" can be seen June 22, 24 and 30 at 8 p.m., and June 27 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for adults, or \$5 with a Tech ID.