

SEPT 1999

Fast moving Music Man scores a huge hit

RAY Jeffery's second production of *The Music Man* for the Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society – the first was in 1982 – was full of exciting dance routines, and some brilliant solo performances.

It had one feature in common with the first – Patrick Tucker in the role of the fast-talking Professor Harold Hill, the salesman to beat all salesmen who could sell a telescope to a blind man.

Mr Tucker's performance was full of detail and a tour de force of energy, romance and depth.

Playing opposite him as Miss Maron, the librarian, Kim Anderson gave her best performance yet, full of light and shade with some glorious soft high notes in her solos. Well done Kim!

Pat Day is one of those stalwarts who can always be relied on to give a reliable performance but her study of a

The Music Man

pompous mayoress of a small town community was side-splittingly funny and all the members of Young Generation, the society's junior branch, covered themselves with distinction especially Andrew Rogers as Winthrop Paroo.

The ensemble numbers were swift moving and neatly executed and another major reason for the show's success was the brilliant conducting of Andrew Denyer. As well as achieving a fine balance between orchestra and singers he tackled the highly rhythmic score with razor sharp precision.

Right from the expert handling of the train number he kept the score moving along in a smooth, polished manner.

Peter Andrews