

SWOSU Theatre Presents Lysistrata

11.07.2006

Members of the full company include (front from left): Jakob Hertzler, Weatherford; Eddie Gonzales, Woodward; Randi Wallace, Hobart; and Lori Emler, Galena OH. Second row from left—Tiffany Tuggle, Hollis; Jeremiah Littlecreek, Tecumseh; Candace Benda, Union City; and Misha Prichard. Third row from left—Julie Barnett, Sentinel; Lauren Helmke, Nashoba; Ariana Farris, Fay; Rachel Giacometti, Weatherford; and Jess Moore, Burns Flat. Back row from left—Amanda Tyson, Yukon; Cierra Musick, Weatherford; Sarah Morton, Woodward; and Desmond Madden, Weatherford. Not pictured is Aryn Holman, Yukon.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Theatre will present the Greek comedy, *Lysistrata*, on November 16-18 on the Weatherford campus.

The production will be staged at 7:30 p.m. each night in the Old Science Building Auditorium on the SWOSU campus. Because of the nature of the material, the production has been rated PG-13 and may not be suitable for all people.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for non-SWOSU students, and free for individuals with an SWOSU I.D. For more information, please call 580.774.3240.

According to director Steve Strickler, *Lysistrata* tells the story of women from opposing states that unite to end a war by refusing to sleep with their men until the men agree to stop fighting. Powerless in their society, with too many of their sons and husbands being slaughtered in battle, the women take the only tactic available to them: a sex strike.

Portraying the title role is Lauren Helmke, a senior from Noshobe. *Lysistrata* calls the Athenian and Spartan women together to try to put an end to the war. These women include Kalonike, played by Cierra Musick, a sophomore from Weatherford; Myrrhine, played by Amanda Tyson, a junior from Yukon; and Lampito, played by Candace Benda, a junior from Union City.

Others joining the league of women include Tiffany Tuggle, a sophomore from Hollis, as the leader of the women's chorus; Lori Emler, chorus, a freshman from Galena, Ohio; Ariana Farris, a senior from Fay playing in the chorus as well as multiple female roles; Rachel Giacometti, a Weatherford sophomore, playing a chorus member, First Woman, and she also designed the costumes for the production; and Sarah Morton, a freshman from Woodward, playing the Second Woman and as a female chorus member.

These women all battle with the men who are represented by Eddie Gonzales, a senior from Woodward, as Kinesias and as a chorus member; Jess Moore, a Burns Flat sophomore, as the leader of the men's chorus; Jakob Hertzler, a Weatherford concurrently enrolled student, as a chorus member and multiple male roles; Jeremiah Littlecreek, a Tecumseh freshman, as a chorus member and the Sentry; and Desmond Madden, from Weatherford, as a chorus member and as the Citizen.

The production is under the guidance of faculty members Strickler and Paul Shaffer, technical director and lighting designer. Other technical areas include Misha Prichard, Weatherford senior, Stage Manager; Julie Barnett, Sentinel junior, Graphics Designer; Helmke, Dramaturgy and Sound Design; Aryn Holman, Yukon, stage crew; Musick,

Properties Designer; Tyson, Scenic Designer; Randi Wallace, Hobart junior, Makeup Designer; and Andrew Roewe, Edmond junior, light board operator.