Shakespeare to grace Main Stage

BY SARA LAUCK
Entertainment Editor

Get ready for a comedy of the sexes. It is time to welcome William Shakespeare back to the main stage.

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts will present Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" on the Main Stage of the Lied Center from now until March 8.

Set in Italy in the early 1500s, "The Taming of the Shrew" is about the match-up between the wild, outspoken daughter of a wealthy merchant and a man looking for a wealthy wife.

For some, the success of the show has added importance. The production is the bachelor of fine arts thesis project for Arts & Sciences seniors Joe Buttry, technical director, and Lisa Vining, stage manager.

Arts & Sciences seniors Chris Clody and Abby Rassette act in the lead roles of Petruchio and Katherine.

Dr. Bill Hudson, associate professor for performing arts, directed the show. He has directed and appeared in over 30 shows since he came to Creighton in 1977.

He said that the department decided to put on "The Taming of the Shrew" because it is traditionally a popular show, a lot of fun and provides good roles for students.

Clody said, "I love it. I'm just glad I finally get to do a Shakespearean play at Creighton."

From the costumes to music to language, Hudson has strove to recreate the Italian feel of the play. "Italy has been a big part of the concept of the show," he said.

Rassette agreed. "The Mediterranean feel adds a flavor that is really neat to the show and the set," she said.

The entire production promises to be spectacular. The costumes, created by Teri Rosario, are reminiscent of the times. There is also a revolving set that adds to the atmosphere.

"The Taming of the Shrew" marks only the second time that Shakespeare has appeared on the main stage. The last time was the play "As You Like It" in 1996. However, other Shakespeare productions have been done in the studio theater in the Lied Center, like "Midsummer Night's Dream" last year.

Although it is not often that Shakespeare makes the Main Stage, Creighton co-sponsors Shakespeare in the Park every summer with the University of Nebraska-Omaha, giving theater students a chance to perform the bard's work.

Rassette enjoys the chance to appear in a Shakespeare production. "It's exciting and it's challenging at the same time," she said of working in theater. "Shakespeare takes it to a new level."

Rassette faced a challenge in portraying the fiery Kate. "I think everyone is frustrated at certain points in their life and I can relate to that," she said.

The cast of 16 Creighton students and one professor all seemed to think highly of each other and the production.

"It's just knock-out," Clody said. "Even the smallest roles are brilliantly filled."

The show is being performed tonight, Saturday night and March 6-8 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee on March 2 at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices are $8 for general admission, $6 for senior citizens and $5 for Creighton students. Faculty and staff reservations can be made by calling the reservation line at 280-1448.

Photo by Kim Armstrong

Arts & Sciences senior Abby Rassette looks on as Arts & Sciences seniors Homero Vela, Adam Stafford and Arts & Sciences freshman Graham Hunter converse during "Taming of the Shrew," scheduled to perform tonight. The 1999 movie "10 Things I Hate About You" is loosely based on "The Taming of the Shrew."