Performing Arts' 'Amadeus' tops movie version

By Beth Harig

Entertainment Editor

Did you like the movie "Amadeus"? I think you will like Creighton's production of the play even better.

As I watched the performance I was transported back to another time, 18th century Austria, to view the bitter struggle between two rival composers: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, played by Dan Deschler, and Antonio Salieri, played by Alan Klem.

The play contrasts many types of human behavior such as good, evil, forgiveness, brotherhood, jealousy, happiness and pain. And the actors are not just acting out these emotions. They feel these emotions and make the audience feel them, too.

Klem is no longer a fine and performing arts instructor at Creighton University. He is now completely consumed by Salieri's role that he becomes Salieri.

As Mozart, Deschler is light-footed, frisky, spoiled and downright fun. But at the same time it is not difficult to pity him for all his childish behavior and need for love and approval.

Although the play centers on a serious subject, it is filled with unexpected humor. An especially delightful scene between Mozart and his fiancée, Constanze, played by Margie DuBe, consists of a risqué game of cat and mouse.

Performances continue, tonight, Saturday, and March 6-8 at 8 p.m. with matinees on Sunday and March 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are $3 with a Creighton ID and $5 for the public.

For tickets call the box office at 280-2636.

Michael Leahy plays Count Orsini-Rosenberg, George Drance is Franz Joseph and Dan Deschler is Mozart in "Amadeus."