Entertainment

Lysistrata" brings battle of the sexes to the stage

Molly O'Neill, Entertainment Editor

Creighton has modernized Aristophanes' Greek comedy and moved it to the beach with fantastic results.

The classic play "Lysistrata" portrays women of Greece banding together to end a war between Athens and Sparta.

The women devise a foolproof plan ending the war. They go on a sex strike, on the men, stricken with "love" come the women begging for mercy.

Director Mary Michelle Phillips has a superb job of updating the classic comedy.

One of the most effective elements in the production is the modern rock music played throughout the play. A 'combat' scene between the men and the women is set as a dance sequence to the song "All I Want to Do is Dance."

The Greek characters use of modern clothes, like finger snapping, hand clapping, and football huddles adds to the fun of the play. This also helps the audience to better appreciate the comedy.

At one point Brian Pate, arts sophomore, leads the male chorus in a rousing rap song about misogyny.

The set is simple, almost to the point of being bare, and is textured to look like sand.

The shadowy "trees" are wispy, cloth creations that help keep the set lines soft. This subtle softness emphasizes the sensual mood of the play.

Harry C. S. Wingfield designed the costumes for the play with the tropical theme in mind. The bright colors and contrasting patterns leap out at the audience and add to the light-hearted spirit of the play.

It is the bright tropical costumes along with the warm colorful lighting that makes the set come alive.

Amy Harmon, arts junior, as Lysistrata delivers a strong performance. Her scornful attitude towards the men and their weaknesses is very convincing and entertaining.

Arts junior, Sonia Keffer gives a stunning performance as the playful temptress Kleonike. She slinks across the stage bluntly delivering her suggestive lines.

Caroline Nichols, arts senior and Rob Juergens, arts junior bravely appear in the first "explicit" scene. It is comical, sensual, endearing scene in which Juergens tries to convince his wife Nichols, to break her oath of abstinence.

Arts sophomore, Joseph Nunez also gives an entertaining performance as whining Commissioner of Public Safety. His spoiled baby attitude blends perfectly with his mockery of the women and their efforts.

The mixture of music, costumes, dialogue, and gestures make this modernized version of "Lysistrata" an absolute delight.

The play allows the audience to laugh freely and provides a wonderful, comical balance to the last Creighton production, "Buried Child."

The play runs tonight and tomorrow night at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. It will also run April 13-16.