'Fiddler' to be Spring Musical Extravaganza

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The curtain will rise March 26th on Creighton's spring extravaganza, Fiddler on the Roof. A cast of over 65 musicians, dancers, and actors has been assembled by directors Alan Klem, David Batten, Valerie Roche, and Susan Dickson-Matsunami. Performances begin Thursday, March 26 through Saturday, April 5, at the Interim Performing Arts Center.

Fiddler on the Roof, based on a series of stories by Sholem Aleichem, is a musical drama about a Jewish family's struggle against poverty and the restraints of traditional family practices and values. Set in Pre-Bolshevik Revolution Russia, it is laden with social commentaries about the economic hardships in life juxtaposed with bittersweet tales of love and courtship.

In the 1960s, a trio of virtual no-names, Stein, Bock, and Harnick, composed a musical score based on Aleichem's tales. The result was a hugely popular Broadway hit and film, as well as a great deal of notoriety gained for Stein, Bock and Harnick. Their wallets got a little fatter as well.

Hoping to get their wallets a little fatter, the Fine Arts Department at Creighton has pulled out all the stops to make Fiddler on the Roof an amazing experience that everyone will be compelled to see time and again.

The set, designed by Creighton's artiste-in-residence, Bill Van Deest, is a lavish carpentry feat nothing short of genius.

The spring musical is when the Fine Arts Department goes all out on their costuming. As a difficult period piece, Creighton's costume designer Margaret Kallman has risen to the task admirably.

It's such a bargain, that even college budgets can afford to partake in Fiddler's splendor over and over. At $5 per ticket and just $3 for Creighton students (cheaper than a movie or an evening at Skateland), Creighton's latest production is a must see. Take a date. Bring your Grandma. Go with all your Greek buddies.

Refreshments will be served after Thursday's opening night performance.