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One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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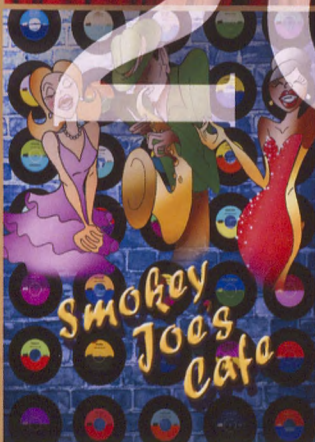
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Otterbein College Department of Theatre & Dance

Since 1907

2008



Smokey Joe's Cafe



Julius Caesar

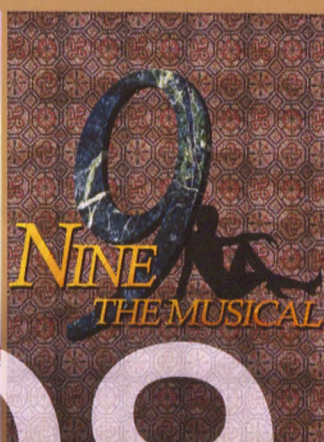
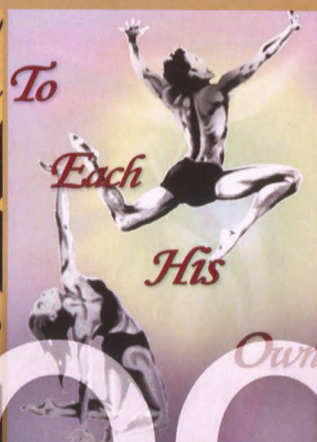


An Absolute Turkey

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Dance Concert 2009

Nine



2009

PROGRAM

OTTERBEIN COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Presents

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

By

DALE WASSERMAN

Adapted from the novel by

KEN KESEY

Directed by

DENNIS ROMER

Set Design

STEPHANIE GERCKENS

Costume Design

REBECCA WHITE

Sound Design

DAVE MEAD

Lighting Design

DAVID KERR

Fight Choreography by

DREW COTTON

Stage Managed by

ALLIE VAN NIMAN

April 30 - May 2, May 8 & 9, 2009

Campus Center Theatre

cast

The Patients

Chief Bromden.....	Eric Folks
Dale Harding.....	Cory Michael Smith
Billy Bibbit.....	Nathan Keen
Scanlon.....	Jackson Hille
Cheswick.....	A.J. Smitrovich
Martini.....	Jihad Milhem
Ruckly.....	Josh Mahaffey
Randle P. McMurphy.....	Steve Czarnecki

The Staff

Aide Warren.....	Drew Cotton
Aide Williams.....	Luke Scroggins
Dr. Spivey.....	Trenton I. Weaver
Nurse Ratched.....	Lauren J. Wertz
Nurse Flinn.....	Caroline Whetzel
Aide Turkle.....	Kolby Kindle

Others

Candy Starr.....	Christina Scariano
Sandra.....	Jonelle Browne

setting

The Pacific Northwest, fall of 1962

The Action takes place in the day room of the State Mental Ward

There will be one 15-minute Intermission.

special thanks

Mt. Carmel St. Ann's Hospital
Chile Verde, Sawmill Rd.

Trudy Mason, Otterbein College Nursing Department

production team

Artistic Advisor	Rob Johnson
Audience Services Director	Elizabeth Saltzgeber
Production Manager	Meghan Gauger
Movement Coach	Melinda Murphy
Speech & Dialect Coach	Melissa Lusher
Technical Director	Greg Bell
Scenic Studio Supervisor	Richard Uhrick
Costume Shop Supervisor	Marcia Hain
Assistant Director	Seth Cotterman
Assistant Costume Designer	Renee Scott
Assistant Lighting Designer	Jon Seiler
Assistant Stage Managers	Samantha Fremer & Julia Rice
Assistant Technical Director	Colin Murray
Master Carpenter/ Deck Chief	Laura Fickley
Master Painter/ Costume Shopper	Alex Raabe
Props Master	Becky Woodruff
Draper	Sandy Vojta
First Hands	Michelle Leibrock & Lauren Williams
Wardrobe Master	Micah Harvey
Master Electrician	Michelle Leibrock
Assistant Master Electrician	Jack Denzinger
Light Board Operator	Reece Arthur
Sound Designer	Dave Mead
Sound Operator	Alyssa Pence
Box Office Manager	Sarah Waits
House Manager	Seth Cotterman

Scenic Studio Assistants

Doug Sarmir	Abbey Bay
Jack Denzinger	Reece Arthur
Jon Seiler	Micah Harvey
James McSweeney	Renee Scott
Ali Flynn	

Scenic Studio Participation Crew

Berlyn Drabik	Ellie Testa
Becky Woodruff	Heavenee Chandler
Jake Robinson	Leea Ayers
James McSweeney	Michael Weingand
Scott Drayer	Reece Arthur

Set and Props Running Crew

Berlyn Drabik	James McSweeney
Becky Woodruff	Scott Drayer
Jake Robinson	

Costume Shop Assistants

Berlyn Drabik	Michelle Leibrock
Jamie Ferguson	Lauren Williams
Wes Jenkins	

Light & Sound Assistants

Laura Fickley	David Kerr
Colin Murray	Jon Seiler

Wardrobe Running Crew

Adam Schalter	Abbey Bay
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Electrics Participation Crew

Shane Zalcburg	Patrick Shafer
Stanzi Davis	Alexandria Flynn
Lauren Friednash	Samantha Fremer
Jamie Ferguson	

Box Office Assistants

Rebecca Bell	Jordan Martin
Travis Harty	Kari Sims
Liz Shivener	Becky Woodruff

program notes

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest is a staged adaptation of Ken Kesey's well known novel about his personal experiences while participating in a government study on drugs such as LSD. Several of the characters are based on actual people Kesey encountered during this trial as well as time he spent working in an asylum. There are strong references to the experimental treatments used in psychiatric institutions during the 1960's including electroshock therapy, lobotomies, and medications which produced severe side effects. In the 1950's, it is estimated that 1 in 3 families would have someone admitted into a psychiatric institution. Patients not only included the mentally ill, but also wards of the state, orphans, chronically ill persons, and elderly who no one wished to care for. Institutionalizing became a modern day witch hunt, with families and the government admitting anyone they did not view as "normal."

-Julia Rice, Assistant Stage Manager

One flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest isn't just about patients in a psychiatric ward, it is about something much deeper. It is much more about the question of normalcy. In today's world we often find ourselves labeling others "crazy". When we walk down the street and see someone talking to themselves, it's easy for us to say, "Wow, that's not normal, he must be insane." In reality, however, we have all had an imaginary friend and we have all been so caught up in something that literal conversations occur in our heads.

As we go through today's headlines and read about a woman who has given birth to eight children it is at first, "miraculous," but as soon as we discover that she is already a single mother of six and has little income, we are quick to change the label to "outrageous" and to question the woman's sanity. There are many examples in our daily routines that blur the line between normalcy and instability.

So what is normal? By definition normal means "serving an established standard by conforming to a common type." If that is true then wouldn't we all be considered a little abnormal? Would it really be fair and honest to say you are just as common as the person sitting next to you?

When watching *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, we have to ask ourselves if the patients in the play really are that different from us. They may display strange twitches or neuroses, but can we always promise a proper display of emotion? In the play, for instance, Nurse Ratched can be viewed as a nurturing and caring woman who wants nothing but for her patients to be cured, or she can be a terrifying and controlling character that demonstrates an unnatural urge for domination. Another character, Billy, is institutionalized because of tremendous issues of living up to his mother's standards.

Which character do you classify as "crazy"? Both have the same thoughts, fears, and anxieties that you and I share, and both exhibit extreme ways of coping with those emotions. The difference in the play is that one is in the mental ward, and the other is in charge of the mental ward. McMurphy just may be right in saying, "They're a lot crazier outside".

-Seth Cotterman, Assistant Director

Dennis Romer (Director) has directed many productions for the Otterbein College Department of Theatre and Dance. Some favorite projects include *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *The Scene*, *And Baby Makes Seven*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Stop Kiss*, *Father Joy*, *A Little Night Music*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Phantom* and *The Laramie Project*. Dennis is enjoying an outstanding collaborative process with the cast, designers, and crew. He sends special thanks to his Assistant Director, Seth, and the Stage Management Staff, Allie, Julia, and Sam.

Stephanie Gerckens (Scenic Designer) is pleased to return to her alma mater, Otterbein College, where she previously designed *Violet*, *Longevity Abbreviated*, *Blood Brothers*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Antigravity*, and *Moonchildren* (co-production with CATCO). Her design credits at CATCO include *Boston Marriage*, *Escanaba in Da Moonlight*, *Lobby Hero*, *Murder in Green Meadows*, *Taste of Sunrise*, and *Drawer Boy*. She was awarded Best Design for her work on *Drawer Boy* by the Central Ohio Theatre Critics' Circle. Phoenix Theatre's productions of *Miss Piggle-Wiggle* and *Many Moons* featured her scenic designs. She has also designed scenery for Ohio Wesleyan University, Weathervane Playhouse, Miami Valley Dinner Theatre (*La Comedia*), Chicago's Remains Theatre, Griffin Theatre and Pegasus Players and Circa-21 in Rock Island, Illinois. She spent two seasons at Actors Theatre of Louisville as Resident Assistant Scene Designer and Charge Scenic Artist. Stephanie has painted for theatre, television, and film with clients including The Oprah Winfrey Show, Carnegie Hall, The Massachusetts Museum of Science, Arena Stage, BalletMet, Opera Columbus, the independent feature film *Lawn Dogs* (Lead Painter) and professional scene shops in Boston, Washington D.C. and Chicago.

Rebecca White (Costume Designer) is Otterbein's faculty costume designer. Rebecca teaches courses in Costume Design, Technology, Makeup, and an Integrative Studies course. Rebecca holds an MFA from the University of Minnesota, and a BS from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse. Originally from Minnesota, Rebecca has done design work for The Penumbra Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Theatre l'Homme Dieu, and the Minnesota Centennial Showboat. Here at Otterbein, Rebecca has designed for *Peter Pan*, *Julius Caesar*, *An Absolute Turkey*, and *Proof*. She will also design the costumes for *Don't Talk to the Actors* and *The Last Night of Ballhoo* during the 2009 Otterbein Summer Theatre season.

Dave Kerr (Lighting Designer) is a junior at Otterbein College majoring in Theatre Design/Tech. This will be his 15th show and second lighting design at Otterbein. His previous positions included Lighting Designer on Dance 2009: *To Each His, Own Master Electrician* on *And Baby Makes Seven*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and *Smokey Joe's Café*, Assistant Technical Director on *An Absolute Turkey* and Assistant Lighting Designer on Dance 2008: *Gotta Dance* and *Smokey Joe's Café*. David is very excited to be working with everyone on this show and he would like to thank his parents for their continuing encouragement and support. He would also like to thank the faculty with their help and support on his first full lighting design at Otterbein and everyone else who has helped him along the way.

Dave Mead (Sound Designer & Consultant) has worked on national touring productions of *The Fantasticks*, and The Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular as an audio designer for theatrical productions. Regionally, Mead has worked as a sound designer for Players Theatre, and the Contemporary American Theatre Company. Mead has served as a sound designer and sound consultant for the Otterbein College Theatre Department for the past seventeen years and over 46 different productions. Notable Otterbein productions include *Into The Woods*,

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Evita, Cabaret, To Kill a Mockingbird, Jesus Christ Superstar and *West Side Story*. In 2008 Mead stepped down as CEO of Live Technologies, Inc. after founding and leading the company for twenty-three years. During that period of time the company grew from a staff of five to over eighty associates and sales exceeding nine million dollars. Mead is currently working as a business development associate for Live Technologies.

Allie van Niman (Stage Manager) is stage managing her first show at Otterbein College, and she couldn't have worked with a better cast and crew! Allie is a sophomore BA, and she has been an Assistant Stage Manager on *Julius Caesar* and Dance Concert 2008 before this. She wants to thank her amazing ASMs, her sisters of Epsilon Kappa Tau, and her mom for keeping her from joining the crazies on stage!

Marcia Hain (Costume Shop Supervisor) has been a member of the Otterbein Theatre Tech Staff since 1989. She runs the costume shop full time and has also designed for the productions of Dance 2008: *Encore!*, *Urinetown*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Private Lives*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Harvey*, Dance 2006: *Street Fest*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, Dance 2005: *Passions*, *The Ugly Duckling + 2*, *The Music Man*, *Schoolhouse Rock*, *Live!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *A Guy*, *A Girl and Gershwin*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Secret Garden*, *Oklahoma*, *Hay Fever*, Dance 2000, *Pinocchio*, *How The Other Half Loves*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *1776*, *A Few Good Men*, and *Sherlock's Last Case*. She also served as Associate Designer for *Phantom*. Ms. Hain has an extensive background in Home Economics, as well as commercial costuming and free-lance design and construction.

Melissa Lusher (Speech & Dialect Coach) teaches speech, dialects, and theatre history in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College, where she is also the resident speech/dialects coach for all productions. In addition, she regularly serves as a guest dialect coach at area universities and theatre companies. Recent guest coaching posts include Noises Off at Ohio Wesleyan University, Homebody/Kabul at Denison University, and Hay Fever at the Dublin Abbey Theatre. Melissa holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia and a B.F.A. in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. She was a founding company member of the American Studio Theatre in New York City and also served as the company's resident voice and speech coach. Melissa performs regularly with Actors' Theatre Company (Goneril in *King Lear*, Maria in *Twelfth Night*, and multiple roles in *Measure for Measure*). Other favorite roles include Marina in *Volodya* (La-Mama E.T.C.), Margaret in *Richard III* and Emilia in *Othello* (AST), Clytemnestra in *The Greeks* (Moscow Art Theatre), and the title role in *Miss Julie* (CMU). Melissa is a member of the Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA).

Melinda Murphy (Movement Coach) teaches Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method® in the Otterbein Theatre and Dance Department, with application to movement, voice, characterization, singing, and dance. Melinda is one of the few teachers trained in both methods; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. Since coming to Otterbein, she also trained to teach Fitzmaurice Voice work for its specialized tools for improving the voice and breath. Melinda has coached Otterbein productions since the turn of the century. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medalist Southern Gateway Chorus.

Rich Uhrick (Scene Shop Supervisor) Before his return to his alma mater, he worked in Regional Theatres across the Midwest and New England including Actors Theatre of Louisville, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New American Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre (at UMKC), and The Court Theatre in Chicago. He received his Master's in Theatre Technology from UMKC in 1997. He now lives in Columbus with his wife, Lisa, and his son Michael. They work with Ohio Pug Rescue, to provide abandoned or surrendered dogs foster homes. In addition, they are active foster parents for the Bair Foundation. Rich is also a published poet and newsletter editor for the Columbus Bonsai Society and the Palatines to America: Ohio chapter genealogical society.

Jonelle Browne (Sandra) is a senior BFA Acting major wrapping up her last quarter here at Otterbein. She just spent all of winter quarter in NY on an internship with NBC and loved every minute of it. Before that, Jonelle was in the classroom project, *The Scene* fall quarter. Some other past productions here at Otterbein include *While We Were Bowling*, *Batting Cage*, *Proof*, *Indian Blood*, and *Peter Pan*. She is very much looking forward to performing this summer in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* as part of the summer season. She'd like to thank Dennis for giving her a fun scene for the quarter; Melinda for the drunk chocolate; Rebecca for stuffing her into her pink pants; her parents for making the trek to support her as the drunk earthy wench; her favorite twitch, Tina, for the dressing up, the character study, and for the bravery to let it all out; and her amazing class of 2009. "Here we go, y'all! Love you."

Seth Cotterman (Assistan Director/ House Manager) is a sophomore BA Theatre and Public Relations double major. Working on Cuckoo's Nest has been intense and rewarding. Thanks to Dennis, cast and crew, for making this a great experience. "Thanks Mom, for keeping me grounded and focused."

Drew Cotton (Aide Warren/ Fight Choreographer) is a junior Musical Theater major and is extremely excited to be involved in such a wonderful experience with the greatest group of people. He wants to thank Dennis for being so wonderful to work with and for giving him the opportunity to continue his fight choreography work here at Otterbein College. (He also choreographed the fighting for *Julius Caesar* and *An Absolute Turkey*. He wants to thank Eric, Steve, and Lauren for their trust in his choreography and Nate for being a rock to lean on. He also wants to thank his parents for their love; his brothers for being his inspiration; Barbara for keeping him happy; and the class of '10 for their sarcasm. "Death Is Temporary, Love is Forever" -SW.

Steve Czarnecki (Randel P. McMurphy) is a senior Musical Theatre major from Rochester Hills Michigan. Steve is thrilled to be part of such a powerful piece with usch an incredible ensemble. Previous credits include Antony *Julius Caesar*, Lockstock in *Urinetown*. Steve was also lucky enough to work at the Utah Shakesperian Festival. Steve would like to thank the circus, Liz, the Shivener's and John and Jan for all their support! Enjoy the show!

Eric Folks (Chief Bromden) is a junior Acting major from Fort Wayne, IN. Previous Otterbein credits include *An Absolute Turkey*, *The Scene*, *Civil Disobedience*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Urinetown*, and *Hello Dolby!* He would like to thank Dennis, the cast, and crew for a wonderful process; the ever magnificent BFA Class of 2010 for being awesome; his parents Kay and Ken, brother Nathan, and Harvey for their constant love and support; and his brothers at Pi Beta Sigma.

profiles

Samantha Fremer (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman Design/Tech major emphasizing in Stage Management. Past productions include: *An Absolute Turkey* and *Julius Caesar* at Otterbein and *Barefoot in the Park* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Culver Academies. Working on his show has been an incredible experience! Samantha would like to thank Allie, Julia, Seth, Mom, and the freshman DTs.

Jackson Hille (Scanlon) is just tickled pink to be in his first Otterbein Campus Center Theater performance. His previous Otterbein credits include Victor, the trouser-less bellhop, in *An Absolute Turkey*; Slightly Soiled, eldest of the Lost Boys, in *Peter Pan*; and a Soldier/Commoner in *Julius Caesar*. Jackson sends many thanks to Dennis for making this show so insanely fun to be a part of; his mother, Kim, for putting up with him; and (as always) the brothers of Pi Beta Sigma for absolutely nothing. Enjoy the show! OFA

Nathan Keen (Billy Bibbit) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major with a concentration in Dance from Birmingham, MI. Nathan is thrilled to have the chance to perform in this amazing production. Previous Otterbein Theatre credits include Barnaby (*Hello Dolly!*), Tiny Tom (*Urinetown: The Musical*), Indian (*Peter Pan*), Lucius (*Julius Caesar*), and a featured Dancer (*Encore, Gotta Dance!, To Each His Own*). Favorite roles include The Little Boy (*Ragtime* original cast of the National Tour), and Gavroche (*Les Misérables* National Tour and Broadway). Thank you to Dennis Romer for giving him this amazing opportunity and for putting up this absolutely spectacular show; and thanks to the entire cast and crew for making this one of the most special and unforgettable experiences of his life. He also would like to thank his roommates and Drew for putting up with him and keeping him sane; and the amazingly talented class of 2010. He sends special thanks to his family for everything, and to Cassie for all her love and support. "I love you." *Strength & Honor*

Kolby Kindle (Aide Turkle) is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Oklahoma City, OK, and is thrilled to be a part of such a powerful show. Kolby's Otterbein credits include, *Hello Dolly!* (Rudolph), *Urinetown* (Robby the Stockfish), *Peter Pan* (Smee), *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Singer/Dancer), *An Absolute Turkey* (Pontagnac) and Dance Concerts: *Encore* (2007) and *Gotta Dance* (2008). Kolby has performed with The Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, The Pollard Theatre (Guthrie, OK) and West Virginia Public Theatre's productions of *Dreamgirls* (Tiny Joe Dixon / Ensemble) and *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion). Other credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Chess*, *Once on this Island*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Music Man*. Kolby would like to thank God, his family and his friends for all of their love and support. He would also like to thank Dennis for his "cool" direction. Kolby sends MUCH LUV to the cast of this great show and to the class of 2010!

Josh Mahaffey (Ruckly) is thrilled almost to the point of insanity that he has the opportunity to work on this show. His previous Otterbein credits include *An Absolute Turkey*, *Julius Caesar*, *Indian Blood*, *Peter Pan* and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. Some of his other favorite productions include *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Madwoman of Chailot*. Josh would like to thank Dennis, this wonderful cast, the ever-talented class of 2010, his family and friends, the BBTC, his lady Megan and his Brothers at Pi Beta Sigma. Enjoy the show!

Jihad Milhem (Martini) is a junior Acting major from Columbus. This is Jihad's 6th produc-

profiles

tion here at Otterbein; others include *Proof*, *Julius Caesar*, and *The Batting Cage*. Jihad would like to thank Dennis for giving him the chance to tackle this challenging role; the amazing ensemble of actors that allow him to get lost with them; and the fantastic crew for making the day room become a living, breathing machine. He would also like to give thanks to his family and friends (especially his mom); his brothers at Pi Beta Sigma; the ever-fierce class of 2010; and wish all the best to the class of 2009. "This is for all the guys who got caught in an Air Raid."

Julia Rice is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Coshocton, OH. She is thrilled to be the Assistant Stage Manager on this show. She was previously the ASM on *The Scene* and *Miss Witherspoon* and the House Manager for *Smokey Joe's Café* and *Dance 2009: To Each His Own*. Julia thanks the cast and crew for all of their hard work in making this production possible. She sends special thanks to Allie and Sam for all of their hard work and enthusiasm. (7:02?) Also, thanks to my family and Ben for all of their love and support and to the One who never leaves nor forsakes.

Christina Scariano (Candy Starr) is a junior Musical Theatre major from Billings, MT. Past Otterbein credits include: *An Absolute Turkey* (Lucienne), *The Scene* (Clea), *Urinetown* (Hope), *Civil Disobedience* (Actress), *Proof* (Catherine), and *My Way*. Tina would like to thank the cast and crew, especially her big earthy wench Sandra for helping her to become the best twitch she can be. She sends her love to the housemates and best wishes to all the seniors!

Luke Scroggins (Aide Williams) is a sophomore Acting major from the Republic of Texas. He enjoys all rodeo activities and events, most especially the pony toss. Luke is thrilled to be working with this awesomely talented cast and crew on such a crazy and incredible journey. Past OC credits include *Peter Pan*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Savage/Love*. Luke sends a big fat "thank you" to his parents, Rick and Jess - but definitely not to Pi Beta Sigma; those guys are losers. "Its okay Honey, they're a lot crazier outside"

A.J. Smitrovich (Cheswick) is a senior BFA Acting major from Los Angeles, CA. He recently completed an internship at April Webster Casting, working on the casting for *Criminal Minds* and the new pilot, *Washington Field*. He also made his television debut late last month on *Criminal Minds*. He will return to LA to find an agent and continue working. He would like to thank his parents, Bill and Shaw, and sister Maya for their undying love and support. A.J. would also like to thank his wonderful girlfriend Courtney, his extremely successful class of '09 and his brothers at Pi Beta Sigma. "OFA."

Trenton I. Weaver (Dr. Spivey) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major from Gahanna, Ohio and is thrilled to be a part of such an incredible team. Previous Otterbein credits include *An Absolute Turkey* (Pinchard), *Smokey Joe's Café* (Ensemble), and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (the Fat Prince). He would like to thank Dennis for believing in him, the cast and crew for being brilliant, Melinda for her magic, the class of 2011 for being... something, Jen for whom words do not do justice, and his family for all of their love and support.

Lauren J. Wertz (Nurse Ratched) After driving 757 miles southeast with her Dad in 2007, Lauren now finds herself as a Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major on the Otterbein stage! She hails from Minnesota where there are in fact more than 10,000 lakes and where the phrase "you-betcha" honestly isn't said all too often. She was thrilled to be a part of this

profiles

awesome production and was extremely excited to take on its challenges. Previous Otterbein credits include Madame Pinchard, *An Absolute Turkey*, and Caius Ligarius, *Julius Caesar*. "Many thanks to Sandy and Rebecca, my fellow cast members, and Dennis. To my family at home: my heart and thanks for your never-ending support. Justin, Dan, and Kristin: I love you and miss you all; can't wait for what's to come! And to Everyone: enjoy the show!"

Caroline Whetzel (Nurse Flinn) is a junior BFA Acting major from Louisville, KY, and is thrilled to be a part of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Most recently Caroline has been seen as Caesar's Servant in *Julius Caesar*, and Michael in *Peter Pan*. Caroline would like to thank the cast and crew for all of their hard work and dedication to the production. She would like to thank her family for all of their love and support.; Mark for all of his constant encouragement; the fabulous girls of 1D for being such wonderful friends and her home away from home; and of course, the crazy fierce class of 2010. "I love you all! "

Becky Woodruff (Props Master) is a freshman Theatre major. Previous Otterbein Theatre credits include Assistant Prop Master and Publicity Assistant for *The Scene*. She was an intern for the upcoming independent film *Take Me Home*, written and directed by Sam Jaeger. Becky will also be Prop Master for the Otterbein Summer Theatre shows this year. She would like to thank Doreen, Asami, Janie, Richard, Danica, Joel, Greg, Stephanie, Dennis, her family, and most of all, Will.

Produced by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.



OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE

Latecomer's Policy - The House Manager may seat latecomers only during times which minimize disruption of the performance. The management accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to latecomers and can make no adjustment because of it.

Fire Notice - The exit indicated by a red light nearest to your seat is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run - walk to that exit.

Cameras and Recording Devices - The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs during the performance are strictly prohibited.

Restrooms and Telephones - The restrooms and telephones are located underneath the lobby.

Assisted Hearing Devices are available for Cowan Hall productions. Please request one at the Box Office.

Administrative Office

614/823-1657

Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00

Box Office

614/823-1109

Monday-Friday 1:00-4:30

THEATER REVIEW | ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

Humanity replaces usual villainy

By Margaret Quamme
FOR THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest isn't quite a classic: It tips toward melodrama rather than tragedy.

It's a feminist nightmare in which the forces of good are represented by a punch-drunk, sexually aggressive guy and the forces of evil by a woman with power.

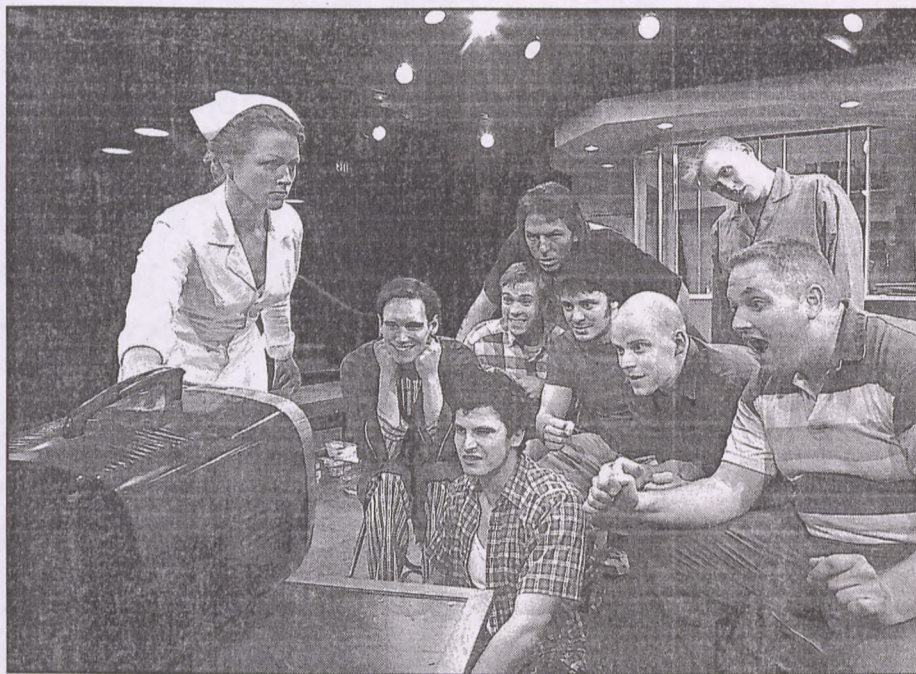
So it's a pleasant surprise that, under Dennis Romer's nuanced direction, the recently opened Otterbein College production finds complexity under the fable-like surface and humanity in what were originally the most unconditionally villainous roles.

Dale Wasserman's adaptation of Ken Kesey's 1962 cult novel explores what happens when rabble-rouser Randle P. McMurphy (Steve Czarnecki) enters the fearful world of a men's ward at a mental institution whose inhabitants seem to have suffered permanent damage from encounters with controlling wives and mothers.

Randle, who has gotten himself committed simply to avoid work at a prison camp, immediately enters into conflict with icy Nurse Ratched (Lauren Wertz) — and the battle for the souls of the other inmates occupies the rest of the play.

Underscoring Romer's control as a director is the way the production steers deftly away from imitating the well-known film adaptation of the novel — particularly the key characters created by Jack Nicholson and Louise Fletcher.

Czarnecki's McMurphy has a commanding physical



KARL KUNTZ | DIS

Nurse Ratched (Lauren Wertz) and patients, with McMurphy (Steve Czarnecki) in the c

► Otterbein College will present *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* at 8 p.m. today, Saturday, next Friday and May 9 in the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St., Westerville. Tickets cost \$15. Call 614-823-1109 or visit www.otterbein.edu/theatre.

presence, but his mind doesn't keep pace with his blustering mouth: He makes conscious choices only after he's already in action.

Wertz is particularly well-cast as Nurse Ratched, and her subtle performance reveals how a few small changes in a scene's tone can affect a play's influence.

Although she has the firm smile of someone conducting a permanent tea party,

this nurse isn't oversize or evil: Her actions might yield devastating results, but she clearly acts out of what she thinks are the best of intentions.

The rest of the large cast performs ably in the ensemble.

The standouts include Eric Folks as the quietly stirring Chief Bromden, the narrator whose inner dialogue is interspersed with the outer action; Corey Michael Smith as the bright and prickly Dale Harding, the leader of the group before McMurphy's arrival; Josh Mahaffey as the surprisingly moving Rucky, the inmate who for most of the play stands self-crucified against a wall; and Kolby Kindle as the refreshingly

dry Turkle, the prison ai least dedicated to his jo

The production plays the comedy in the story without ignoring its pat and, at the Wednesday j view performance for n bers of the campus com nity, the audience responded with enthusi to its many sparks of humor.

Much about the scrip remains a problem: The constant and explicit re nences to McMurphy as : Christ figure, in particul become grating.

Yet Romer's thoughtfu production finds grace i places where the origin: found only horror, maki the story more powerfu expanding its vision of human possibility.

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