

DALLAS HIGH SCHOOL PLAY

A different take on Shakespeare

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Post Correspondent

In "As You Like It," William Shakespeare wrote, "All the world's a stage. And all the men and women merely players." It's no different for the cast of Dallas High School's production of "Get Bill Shakespeare Off The Stage."

"It's a nice balance between farce and drama," says Christine Zavaskas, who plays a teacher who wants to produce a Shakespearean play but has reluctant students.

Zavaskas, a senior at Dallas, is a veteran of eight student productions and some community theater. She plans to attend Penn State main campus in the fall and study theater and public relations.

"It's lighthearted and very touching, really. The students see themselves through the Shakespearean characters," says Zavaskas. Many Shakespearean themes are explored.

Megan Vodzak, who plays a Juliet-like character who threatens to kill herself when the Romeo-like boyfriend played by Matt Buckman ends their relationship, will especially enjoy the role. "I've been in some really serious drama. In one they actually killed me," she said, recoiling.

"This is more of a comedy-farce. This play has a good cast, good dynamics, and some new people," Vodzak said, including her younger sister, Amy.

Vodzak's real-life boyfriend is in the play, too. Phil Walter, a senior, plays one of the antagonists who tries to sabotage the production. "Even though it's second nature for me to be on the stage (he's in a band), I wish I had done this (acting) sooner. This is my first production," laments



Some of the students playing principal characters in the Dallas High School production of "Get Bill Shakespeare Off The Stage" are shown. Seated, Matt Buckman. Next row, from left: Moira Yanik, Phil Walter, Amy Vodzak, Matt Daube, Jeff Kelly. At top, Megan Vodzak, Christine Zavaskas.

Walter.

The players line up to have their pictures taken. Megan Vodzak kisses her real-life boyfriend Phil Walter but Matt Buckman, the stage

boyfriend will not pose with her. Well ... all the world's a stage.

To see all these characters and discover the outcome of

Tom Racklett's "Get Bill Shakespeare Off The Stage," come to the Dallas High School auditorium Friday or Saturday night, at 8 p.m. Admission is \$3.

FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Personal enrichment workshops at Penn State Wilkes-Barre

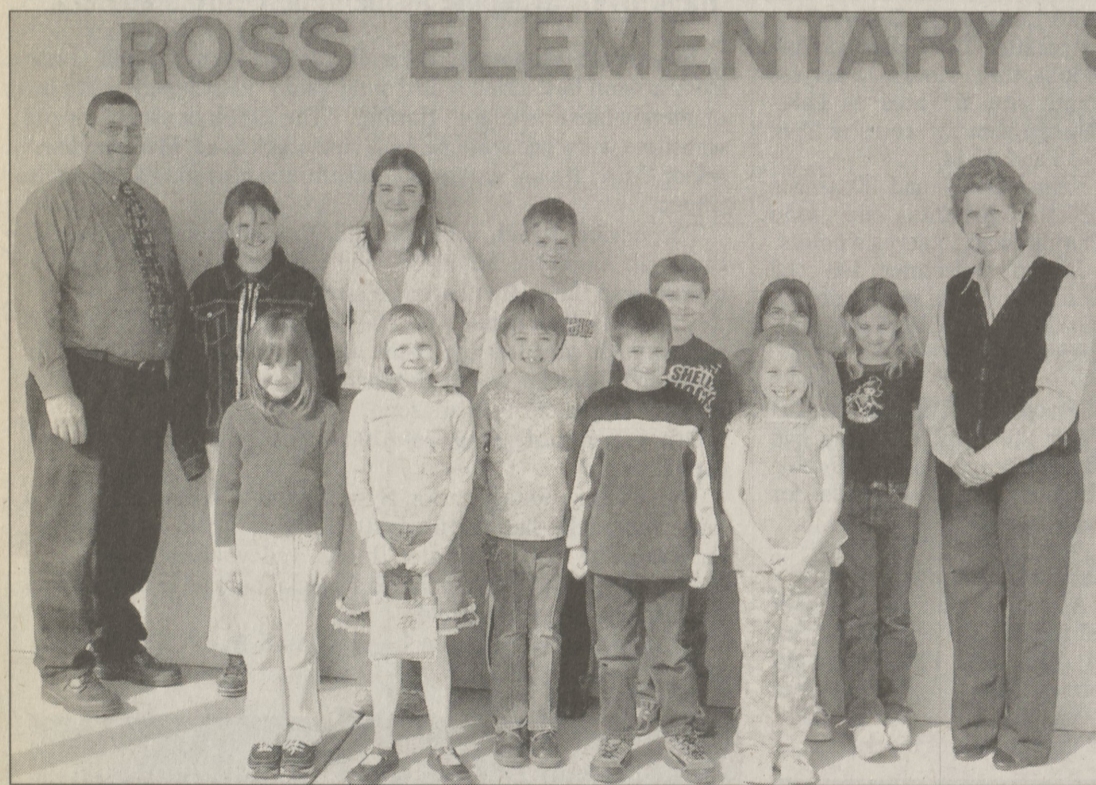
Penn State Wilkes-Barre will continue its series of personal enrichment workshops this spring with Wines of Italy, and a Virtual Tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Wines from three prominent regions of Italy well-known for quality wines — Tuscany and central Italy, Piedmont and northwest Italy, and Frullini and northeast

Italy — will be sampled and critiqued on Friday evenings, May 6, 13, and 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. Light refreshments featuring Italian cuisine will complement wine selections. Participants must be at least 21 years of age with valid proof of age.

An evening devoted to those interested in art history and appreciation of the arts will be held on Friday, June 3, from 6:30 to

8:30 p.m. in the campus's science building. Experience New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art with a virtual tour led by Penn State art instructor Mary Mattern. For more information or to register for any of these programs, call Janet Rosenbaum at 675-9102 or e-mail wbcc@outreach.psu.edu



Ross Students of the Building For March

Ross Elementary Principal, Mr. Don James, is pleased to announce the nominees and winners for the "Student of the Building for March." Students are chosen for improvement, academic achievements and citizenship. The nominees were: K-1 Emily Carey; K-2 Karly Ann Johns; 1-1 Clayton Vasey; 1-2 Christina Olson; 2-1 Abigail Carr; 2-2 Natalee Barker; 3-1 Tylo Kurtz; 3-2 Felecia Nevel; 4-1 Vincent Edwards; 4-2 Alyssa Meeker; 5th Jared Novitski; 6-1 Kristen Baker; 6-2 Alexandra Lubinski.

One primary and one intermediate student will represent the school for March. The Students of the Building for March are: Primary (1-1) Clayton Vasey Intermediate (6-2) Alexandra Lubinski.

From left, front row: Emily Carey, Karley Ann Johns, Christina Olson, Clayton Vasey, Natalee Barker.

Back row: Mr. Steele, Kristen Baker, Alexandra Lubinski, Jared Novitski, Vincent Edwards, Felecia Nevel, Tylo Kurtz, Mrs. Yagodzinski. Absent from photo Abigail Carr and Alyssa Meeker.

Fire and rescue training at LCCC

Luzerne County Community College, in conjunction with the Luzerne County Fire and Rescue Training Association and the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, will host the Eastern Pennsylvania Fire Technology Weekend on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The courses are designed for firefighters, EMS and rescue personnel. Applicants must be 16 years of age or older. All students must be authorized by their chief or supervisor to attend. Junior firefighters may not enroll in any course which involves live fire or live fire smoke.

Tuition is \$60 for Pa. residents and \$100 for out-of-state residents. Pre-registration is necessary and should be done early. Tuition includes facilities, expendable materials, text books, lunch, and refreshments.

For more information, call LCCC at (800) 377-LCCC, extension 481 or 521 or 740-0481 or 740-0521.

Need extra copies of this week's Post?

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Luzerne County 'Envirothon' this week at Moon Lake

The Luzerne Conservation District is sponsoring the 2005 Luzerne County Envirothon on Wed., April 27, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. The event is being hosted by Moon Lake County Park for high school students in grades 9-12, to test their knowledge of the environment.

There will be five testing stations: Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and a Current Issue. The 2005 Current Issue is "Managing Cultural Landscapes." Approximately 60 students from five Luzerne County school districts are participating. Representatives from the following organizations will administer the tests: Natural Resource Conservation Service, Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, Pennsylvania

Game Commission, and Department of Conservation of Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry and Luzerne County Planning Commission.

Volunteers from the following organizations will assist with the competition by monitoring, scoring and in other areas where help is needed: PA DEP, EPCAMR, Huntsville Golf Club, Luzerne Conservation District and members from the community.

Joshua Longmore, Luzerne Conservation District Watershed Specialist, will make a presentation to the students' teachers/advisors on Luzerne County Watersheds along with Bowman's Creek and Hicks Creek watershed associations.

College fair may ease the search

Representatives from more than 160 schools expected

High school students and their parents are invited to attend The Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling (PACAC) Northeast Regional College Fair on Monday, May 2 at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza. Designed as a public service to benefit high school sophomores, juniors and their parents, this event is free and open to the public. No advance registration is required.

More than 160 colleges and universities from throughout the eastern United States and parts of the Midwest are expected to attend. Representatives from 10 financial lending institutions also will be available. An updated

list of participants can be found at www.wyomingseminary.org.

The fair will be open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 6 to 8:30 p.m. College admissions counselors will be available during the day and in the evening, and financial aid officers will be available to answer questions.

Parents and their children are encouraged to attend the evening session together.

Students who want to request information from many colleges should bring pre-printed labels with their names, addresses, intended major, year of graduation and high school name to reduce time spent in filling out forms.

Students and parents interested in getting more information about this fair may contact their school guidance counselors.



Sharing the joy of reading

George Conyngham of Shavertown reads Cactus Café, a family favorite, to his daughter Corinne's second-grade class at Wyoming Seminary Lower School. Conyngham is one of several parent volunteers who knock on the doors of primary grade classrooms once a month to read to students, for the simple joy of sharing a book and conveying a love of reading. Pictured with Conyngham in the second-grade classroom of Angela Stout are, from left: Rory Crabbe, Dallas; Rebecca Barnes, Scranton; John Hepp, Kingston; Guy Edmunds, Kingston; and Corinne Conyngham, Shavertown.

Dallas P.T.O. offers summer fun ideas

The Dallas Elementary P.T.O. will sponsor its annual Summer Fun Night on Wednesday, April 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. It is open to the public and there will be numerous organizations present to help with ideas for summer activities for school age children.

Dallas High 2005 Grad Lock-in meeting

The Dallas High School Grad Lock-in committee will meet on Tuesday, May 3 and Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m. in the Dallas High School library. Everyone is welcome to attend, especially parents of juniors who would like to get involved with the committee for next year. Volunteers for decorating, chaperoning and cleanup are needed for this year's lock-in party. Any questions, call Judy Dickson at 675-4269 or Kathleen Savage at 696-1657.

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