

# Fresh Take on Two Classics

## OPINIONATED JUDGE

BY  
DARLEEN ORTEGA



### Women of Color direct opening plays at Ashland

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As the Oregon Shakespeare Festival opens its 2018 season, I can offer two good reasons to begin planning a trip to Ashland: two plays directed by women of color who offer a fresh take on two clas-

sic stories.

The first is "Henry V," Shakespeare's play about a young king who openly struggles with the questions of what it means to be a political leader, even as he makes weighty decisions to commit his subjects to a costly war. This production marks the completion of a cycle of four plays, with many of the cast members who appeared in one or more of the prior productions, Richard II in 2016 and Hen-



PHOTO BY JENNY GRAHAM, OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL  
Lucy Steele (Samantha Miller) and her sister Anne (Lauren Modica) hold a secret that will be of great interest to Elinor and to Edward's family in 'Sense and Sensibility,' now playing at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland.

ry IV Parts 1 and 2 in 2017. The titular king of this production is portrayed with gripping intensity by Daniel Jose' Molina, who last season showed us the evolution of a rebellious Prince Hal who resents his father's grasp of the throne and the resulting expectations thrust upon him as the heir to a Henry finally compelled to shed prior associations to assume the role and finds himself suited for it.

In this production in the intimate Thomas Theater, Molina's Henry pulses with an immediacy one rarely sees on stage; One senses him wrestling with the import of his actions with such vis-

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### Wells Fargo Worker Ousted

Citing its policy of diversity and inclusion, Wells Fargo reported last week that one of its Portland area employees is no longer with the company after allegations he promoted racist groups and participated in last summer's violent white-supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va. Andrew Alexander Murphy Harkins, 33, worked as a home mortgage consultant at the bank's Washington Square Road branch.

### Self Driving Car Kills Pedestrian

Uber removed its self-driving cars from the roads Monday following what is believed to be the first fatality involving a fully autonomous car. A self-driving Uber SUV with a driver behind the wheel struck and killed 49-year-old Elaine Herzberg as she walked her bicycle across a street in Tempe, Ariz. Sunday night, according to the Tempe police. The department is investigating the crash.

### Serial Bombings in Texas Investigated

A package exploded and injured one worker at a FedEx mail distribution facility near San Antonio, Texas, Tuesday, prompting the FBI to investigate any connection to a series of bombings this month in Austin, Texas, where two men were injured Sunday night in the fourth bombing in 17 days to rock the Texas capital.

### Franklin Student with Gun Charged

A 17-year-old male student at Franklin High School

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was arrested on charges of carrying a concealed weapon, menacing and second degree disorderly conduct last week, after posing in a classroom for a picture on Snapchat with a handgun in his waistband.

### Charleston Church Shooter's Sister Arrested

Morgan Roof, the younger sister of Charleston church shooter Dylann Roof, was arrested last week after taking two weapons to school and posting to Snapchat that she hoped students protesting against gun violence in a nationwide walkout "get shot." She faces weapons and drugs charges.

### Train Derails at Steel Bridge

A freight train derailed Sunday in an industrial area near the Steel Bridge at Interstate Avenue and Thunderbird Way. Six empty train cars, including three lumber carriers, two box cars and a tanker derailed. No injuries were reported.



### Oregon Food Bank Recalls Expand

As a result of the ongoing recall of donated chia seeds that could be contaminated, the Oregon Food Bank Friday initiated a voluntary recall of pumpkin seeds that were received from the same supplier and nutritional yeast that was distributed around the same time. While no illnesses have been reported, the recall is out of an abundance of caution, officials said.

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