



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Aunt Florence yells at her doctor for misdiagnosing her in a scene from DHS's production of "Leading Ladies."

All for money, boys don dresses

Dallas High presents 'Leading Ladies,' a comedy where not all is what it seems

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Think about it, \$1 million.

That amount of money is on the minds of the leading women — err, men — of Dallas High School's production of Ken Ludwig's "Leading Ladies" running Thursday through Saturday.

Leo (Zac Parnell) and Jack (Isaac Monroe), later known to the rest of the cast of characters as Max and Steve (really Maxine and Stephanie), will go to great (dress) lengths to get their hands on that fortune.

Down on their luck actors, the pair read about an ailing elderly woman with a \$3 million estate to pass on. She's looking for her sister's long-lost daughters to include in the will, except Leo and Jack are convinced by the names "Max" and "Steve" that the would-be

It's such a 'drag'

What: Ken Ludwig's "Leading Ladies."
When: Thursday through Saturday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m.
Where: Dallas High School's Bollman Auditorium, 1250 SE Holman Ave.
Tickets: \$5, available at DHS office or at the door.
For more information: 503-623-8336.

heiresses are men they can impersonate.

When they find that is not the case, they are so fixated on the money that Leo and reluctantly, Jack, dress in drag to pull off the scam.

They don't make for a pretty picture as women, but that only adds to the fun.

"It is a farce," said director Aaron Fawcett. "It's a complete farce."

"Leading Ladies," set in 1952, borrows from "Some Like it Hot," and Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in the use of cross-dressing as a means to an end. But there

is much more to making a successful comedy than putting characters in ridiculous costumes.

"Comedy is very hard work. It's very hard to do well," Fawcett said. "A lot of people could come out and yell and scream and be very dramatic."

Though it may look easier, comedy takes extra effort, especially for young actors.

"It's about timing and pace and physicality," Fawcett said. "They know what is funny, but doing it is different."

Sophomore Molly Bucher,

who plays Meg, said learning the right way to play comedy has been challenging.

"I think the hardest part is getting the timing right and knowing when people are going to laugh and try to keep a straight face through most of it," she said.

That is especially true for the actor playing the only character that isn't supposed to be having a good time. It seems that Leo and Jack aren't the only ones looking to make a fortune from dear Aunt Florence.

Rev. Duncan Woolsey (Luke Disney) is engaged to Florence's niece, Meg, in hopes of eventually inheriting all \$3 million for his foundation.

"There is one scene where I'm laughing maniacally. That's all the laughing I do through the entire play," Disney said of his character.

See LADIES, Page 14A

ACADEMIC HONORS

Costa named to president's list

FRONT ROYAL, Va. — Lucas Costa, of Monmouth, was named to the Randolph-Macon Academy's president's list for the second quarter of the 2015-16 school year. To be named to the president's list, a student must earn a grade-point average of 4.0 or higher.

Costa is a junior at the academy.

Deptula named to MBC honors list

STAUNTON, Va. — Wendy Deptula, of Monmouth, was named to Mary Baldwin College's Honors list for fall 2015. To be named to the Honor List, students must earn a grade-point average of 3.75 to 4.00 and must have earned at least 12 semester hours for the grading period.

Dallas woman named to dean's list

ELMIRA, NY — Gwendolynn Coons, of Dallas, has been named to the Elmira College dean's list for term one, 2015.

Students who earn a 3.6 or greater grade-point average on a 4.0 scale for the academic term are recognized on the Elmira College Dean's List for academic excellence.

WOU announces fall honor roll

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University announced its honor roll and president's list students. To make the honor roll, students must earn a grade-point average of 3.5 to 3.99. President's list honors are given to those students who earn a GPA of 4.0.

Students who made the honor roll:

Dallas: Baylee Jordyn Andersen, Blake Thomas Bauer, Bethany Blancher, Regina Derise Bliven, Grant Michael Bollman, Tyler Jacob Dankenbring, Ariana Michelle Davis, Emily DuMond, David Elphic, Melissa Garcia, Michelle M. Howard, Kyle Jeffrey Kuust, Kelsey Renee Linn, Jacob Tyler Martin, Maria Mei-Li McCarthy, Jessica Reimer, Matthew Steven Schafer, Jordan Allen Schrock, Alan James Smietana, Bethany Marion Steele, Tyler Jerome Unger, Christina Nicole Wakinyan and Jesse James Wilcoxon.

Independence: Kevin Salvador Alejandrez, Guadalupe Becerra Becerra, Michael Newman Becker, Alondra Mariso Bocanegra, Daisy S. Chavez Guzman, Jeffery Wayne Clinton, Aleysia Elizabeth Hauge, Karina Lopez, Erick Roberto Martinez, Ambre Jean McKee, Belen Selinda Rodriguez, Cindy Rosales and John Arthur Wood.

Monmouth: Kegan Terrence Allen, Aaron Adaly Carmona, Lucas R. Castanon, Jeff Aaron Collet, Quince Marinda Engle, Alexis Amanda Garcia, Elaina Joy Glasscock, Ryanne Renee Huffman, Kevin James Hutt, Megan Elizabeth Johnson, James Martin Masnov, Erin Mathews, Ty Mamoru Phillips, Mykel Jeffrey Presler, Janie Ramirez Manzo and Tori Ann Stutzman.

Students who made the president's list:

Dallas: Emmaly Sue Basaraba, Mitchell John Bollman, Josh Brehm, Emily J. Koons, Elizabeth Ann Kowash, Brittany Newman, Julie Ann Postma, Olivia Marie Preciado, Megan Raschel Reynolds, Parker Neal Smith and Tyler A. Sommerfeldt.

Independence: Zarah Lynn Buitron, Celene Garcia-Murillo, Isaac Cory Golden, Dana Ruth McLean, Rahevin Slade Potter-Clark and Raina Kae Smith.

Monmouth: Thomas Leif Anderson, Frank Adelbert Asay, Dillon Michael Blinn, Adam Dutton and Havilah Mary Esther Sutter.

What's YOUR neighbor up to?

Find out in the Itemizer Observer. You may find your neighbor, your boss, your friend or yourself in the pages of the Itemizer Observer. Local stories on local people - that's our specialty.

Itemizer-Observer

capitol WEST VALLEY
CERTIFIED • PRE-OWNED • SERVICE

THE VALLEY'S LARGEST INVENTORY OF PRE-OWNED VEHICLES!

STK#W1432A
2004 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE
3.4 V6 • POWER
\$4,915

STK#T183370C
2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE
MP3 • STEERING WHEEL CONTROLS
\$13,915

STK#W1424A
2005 NISSAN TITAN SE
5.6L V8 • ALUMINUM WHEELS
\$10,915

STK#W1417A
1998 DODGE RAM 2500
8L V10 • 4X2 • ACCESS CAB
\$11,915

STK#S256287A
2005 SATURN VUE
2.2L 4CYL • PRIVACY GLASS
\$5,915

2 Years or 24K Miles Complimentary Service!

*Must have services performed at any Capitol Auto Group location. See dealership for details.

FULL VEHICLE SERVICE & MAINTENANCE ANY MAKE ANY MODEL!

- ✓ Knowledgeable Service Advisors to assist you.
- ✓ Full service car repair and maintenance by Certified Technicians.

SERVICE SPECIAL

15% OFF!

BRAKE SERVICE

Repair or replace. Must present coupon at time of service. Valid at Capitol West Valley location only. Max discount of \$50.00. Exp. 2/29/16.

Lube Oil & Filter

\$6.00 OFF!

CONVENTIONAL OIL!

Includes a Free Multi-Point Inspection! Must present coupon at time of service. Valid at Capitol West Valley location only. Synthetic oil extra. Expires 2/29/16.

\$9.00 OFF!

SYNTHETIC OIL!

Must present coupon at time of service. Valid at Capitol West Valley location only. Expires 2/29/16.

Sales: (503) 623-6686
Service: (888) 480-2074
812 SE. Jefferson St. Dallas

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9am. to 6pm.
Service Mon. - Fri. 7:30 - 5:30

SEE OUR ENTIRE INVENTORY ONLINE!
cap-westvalley.com

* Subject to prior sale. Prices do not include license fees, title fees and \$100 Doc fees. All financing on approved credit, with Tier 3 and above credit rating. All sale prices on in stock units only. Expires 2/29/16.