

Auditions announced for "Perfect 36"

By **ANDREW MARTIN**
Copy Editor

Auditions for "Perfect 36," Volunteer State's fall theater production, will be Sept. 14 and 15 at 8 p.m., and by appointment only on Sept. 16. The auditions will be in the Wemyss Auditorium in the Caudill Hall.

Community members, as well as students of the college, are welcome to audition.

"We need a mature man and woman, and an African-American woman, amongst others," says Dr. Dawn Larsen, the play's director.

"Women are still not considered equal in this part of the country, we're not recognized in the same way as men are, we don't get equal

opportunity, and there are so few women in legislature, but there are women than men in the state. It seems to me like we're fighting the same 100-year-old battle," states Larsen.

"Perfect 36" is a historical play about the women's suffragist movement in Tennessee, the 36th state ratified to vote, and the last state needed for final national adoption.

The battle was taken to Nashville, where pro-suffragists wore yellow roses, and anti-suffragists wore red roses, to show their stand on the issue. Even the Tennessee House of Representatives wore roses, 47 yellow and 49 red, when they met to vote on Aug. 18, 1920.

However, during the first roll call, Rep. Banks Turner switched over to the pro-suffrage side, tying

the vote 48 to 48. A second roll call again left the vote evenly divided.

Then Rep. Harry Burn changed his vote after receiving a telegram from his elderly mother, urging him to vote for women's suffrage.

Opponents of the amendment became outraged and began chasing Burn around the room, forcing him to climb out of a third-story window. He then crawled along a ledge and hid within the Capitol attic.

On Aug. 24, 1920 Governor A.H. Roberts signed the bill, and two days later, it was adopted as national law.

The play will also have a number of firsts for the college.

"We're going to try to take this to the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival, this is the first time Vol

State has ever entered that competition.

"So the set has to travel, which hasn't done before. We're also working with the playwright (Candace Corrigan) which we haven't done either," says Larsen.

Corrigan is a Nashville artist who has been involved in various artistic projects surrounding women's history. She is currently working on a radio project entitled "The Nashville Nobody Knows."

"Perfect 36" has been performed at Tennessee Performing Arts Center and on National Public Radio.

Other historical projects she's written include "Through A Woman's Voice" and "Running For Freedom."

"Perfect 36" is set to be staged on Nov. 4-6.

'Batman Begins' offers gritty, realistic retelling of comic book film franchise

When one thinks of a *Batman* movie, they imagine lavishly colorful landscapes, super-villains on ice skates, and painfully bad dialogue. From Tim Burton's feeble 1989 attempt to Gary Schumacher's mystifyingly misguided approach to the Caped Crusader, Batman on celluloid has never reached the dark grittiness he enjoys in the comic medium.

Until now.

Director Christopher Nolan weaves a deeply personal story about the orphaned Bruce Wayne. We all know the story. Parents get killed, Bruce becomes Batman.

Nolan begins the story in a foreign prison. Bruce Wayne (Bale) is held captive and gets into daily fistfights with his co-inmates. This

seemingly dead-end existence is offered meaning when Bruce is visited by the mysterious Ducard (Neeson).

Learning the combat skills of ninjas, Bruce grows into an adept warrior for the League of Shadows, an organization led by Ras-Al-Ghul. Ducard is the lone Westerner and spiritual guide for Bruce within the League.

As one can imagine, Bruce Wayne ultimately dons the hood, cape, and tights of Batman to battle crime on the corrupt streets of Gotham City.

In the past, when audiences were treated to super-villains that were really nothing more than actors playing dress-up, Nolan's Gotham is rife with corrupt cops, corrupt politicians, and a ruthless mafia don named Carmine Falcone.

Instead of annoying one-liners, the new Batman is brooding, intimidating and very, very dark.

The new Batman hides in the shadows, pulling criminals into the dark unknown.

The new Batman kidnaps corrupt cops and dangles them from the top of Gotham's highest building.

Along with Bale's brilliant performance as the tortured yet determined Bruce Wayne, Nolan casts an impressive cadre of talented actors to bring the story to life.

Morgan Freeman portrays Lucius Fox, a former Waynetech executive.

BATMAN BEGINS

Rated PG-13

Starring: *Christian Bale, Katie Holmes, Liam Neeson, Morgan Freeman, Gary Oldman, Cillian Murphy, Rutger Hauer.*

Directed by Christopher Nolan
PLAYING FRIDAY 7PM
WEMYSS AUDITORIUM

Gary Oldman is a young Jim Gordon, the one good cop in a dirty city.

Katie Holmes is an effective love interest, playing an assistant D.A. Cillian Murphy makes an excellent Scarecrow, and Liam Neeson as Ducard brings almost as much screen presence as Batman himself.

His character is also perhaps the one person in the world who can beat up Batman.

"Batman Begins" is the end of the Caped Crusader and the beginning of the Dark Knight.

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relief efforts.

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Tue. 8:00 - 9:30

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Thu. 11:00 - 1:30

\$1 from each purchase
will be donated.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sept. 12
SGA SENATE MEETING
12:30 Rochelle Center

Sept. 12
EMERGING LEADERS
2-3pm Jim Moore Room

Sept. 14
FALL FLING
10-2 Courtyard

Sept. 16
CONSTITUTION DAY
12pm Rochelle Center
Featuring:
Constitutional Debate
ART McCLELLAN
ANDY ALLMAN
Moderated by:
DR. ROBERT RUFF

Sept. 16
BATMAN BEGINS
7pm Wemyss Auditorium
Presented by A.C.E. &
Student Government Assoc.



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