

Ah, Wilderness!

By Eugene O'Neill

*Northwest Missouri State University's
Centennial Production*



March 2-4, 2006

Thursday-Saturday: 7:30 p.m.

March 5

Sunday: 2 p.m.

Presented by Theatre Northwest
Northwest Missouri State University
Department of Communication, Theatre, and Languages

The area between the Quads and Horace Mann, circa 1910.

Ah, Wilderness!

By Eugene O'Neill

Director: Mike D. Morris

Scenic Designer: Patrick J. Immel

Costume Designer: Dr. Constance L. Campbell

Technical Director: Kent Andel

Lighting Designer: Patrick J. Immel

Sound Designer: Roelof Gorham

Stage Manager: Amanda Rhodes

Partial funding for this production provided by a generous gift from DST Systems, Inc.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

1905 - 1906 Timeline

1904

- Oct. 27 New York City subway opens.
- Nov. 8 Theodore Roosevelt wins re-election as president of the United States.
- Dec. 10 Ivan Pavlov wins Nobel Prize for stimulus response studies with dogs.

1905

- Jan. 22 Russian Czar, Nicholas, orders troops to open fire on 100,000 workers marching in St. Petersburg, killing over 500 on "Bloody Sunday."
- March 22 Children working in British mines are granted an 8 hour maximum working day.



- March 25 The bill creating the Fifth District Normal School is signed by Missouri governor, Joseph W. Folk.
- April 15 Youth fined \$35 for possession of rolling papers in violation of Indiana anti-smoking law.
- May 16 American actor Henry Fonda born.
- Aug. 31 U.S. reports 1,026,499 immigrants arrived in 1904, mostly on the east coast.

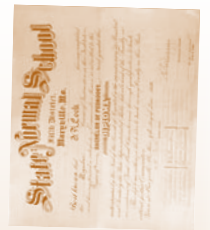
Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Tommy Miller	Ray Holt
Mildred Miller	Sammy Halter
Arthur Miller	Jeffrey Butcher
Essie Miller	Michelle Trester
Aunt Lilly, Nat's sister.....	Katie Schmidt
Uncle Sid, Essie's brother.....	David Carr
Nat Miller	Eric Niece
Richard Miller	Jeff Talley
Dave McComber	Tristan Raines
Nora, the Miller's maid.....	Lauren Schuberth
Wint Selby	Douglas Siers
Belle	Allison Hubbard
Bartender.....	Troy Battle
Salesman	Steven Perkins
Muriel McComber.....	Erin Jenkins

of the Play's Time Period

Sept. 12	First meeting of the Board of Regents.
Oct. 31	George Bernard Shaw's play <i>Mrs. Warren's Profession</i> opens in New York amid protests that the play is "indecent."
Nov. 28	Sinn Fein, the Irish nationalist movement declares itself a political party in Ireland.
1906	
Jan. 4	Frank Deerwester is selected as president. Arrived in Maryville in summer to reside in the Gaunt House.
Feb. 8	10,000 killed by hurricane in Tahiti.
March 31	Harvard Athletic Director cautions women against playing "rough" contact sports such as basketball.
June 11	The first student, Eliza Munn, is enrolled.
June 13	Classes begin.
June 23	Playwright Henrik Ibsen dies.
June 30	Congress enacts the Pure Food and Drug Act.
Aug. 9	First Commencement.



Synopsis of Scenes

Act I

Scene 1—The Miller home in a large small town in Connecticut. Early morning July 4, 1906.

Scene 2—The Miller home. Evening of the same day.

TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

Act II

Scene 1—Back room of a bar in a small hotel. 10 o'clock the same night.

Scene 2—The Miller home. Late the same night.

Scene 3—The Miller home. About 1 o'clock the following afternoon.

TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

Act III

Scene 1—A strip of beach near the harbor. About 9 o'clock that night.

Scene 2—The Miller home. About 10 o'clock the same night.

Food, drink, smoking, the use of cameras, recording devices, pagers and cell phones are strictly forbidden in the theatre.

Because of contractual agreements with the publishing agents and unions, we do not permit photographs to be taken during the performance. Please check all cameras, recorders, cell phones and pagers at the Box Office or turn them off.

They will be returned to you at the end of the performance. Thank you.

Technical Staff/Running Crew

Assistant Director/Dramaturge	Michael Padden
Assistant Stage Manager	Matt Ashpaugh
Assistant Lighting Designer	David Carr
Assistant Costume Designer	Tomoko Koga
Assistant Scenic Designer	Evan Rossa
Props Masters.....	Hannah Barfoot and Emily Wheatley
Master Electrician.....	Russell Langdon
Light Board Operator.....	Kat Dorrell
Sound Board Operator.....	Roelof Gorham
Dressers.....	Patrick Robbins and Michelle Zey
Stage Hands.....	Patrick Magnuson and Sarah Jeter



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™

XXXIX

Presented and Produced by

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Supported in Part by

The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund

The U.S. Department of Education

Delta Airlines

The National Committee for the Performing Arts

Dr. and Mrs. Gerald McNichols

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., in the spring of 2006.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



*Normal School play cast,
circa 1915.*

Glossary

On the Tappee — This is Nat's way of asking what everyone's plans are for the day.

Boola-Boola — Originally part of the lyrics to a Yale University fight song, this phrase came to refer to anything associated with the school, including students like Arthur.

Sachem Club — Sid and Nat attend this club for the most senior members of the Tammany Society, a group that dominated New York City politics for large portions of the 19th and 20th centuries. The name is taken from the title of Native American chiefs.

W.C.T.U. — Sid jokes about being a member of this organization, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which was founded in 1874 by women who were concerned about the negative effects of alcohol.

"Nick Carter" — Nick Carter began as a fictional detective who made his debut in 1886 in cheap novels in imitation of Sherlock Holmes. Over the years, the character has evolved with the times and today he is depicted as a James Bond-like super-spy.

"Old Cap Collier" — Collier, an aging detective was another popular hero of pulp fiction created in 1870 by Norman Munro.

Pierpont Morgan — Known commonly as J.P. Morgan. He organized the merger between Edison General Electric and Thompson House electric to form G.E. He also formed the United States Steel Corporation.

Emma Goldman — Well known turn of the century anarchist and feminist. An early advocate of such things as free speech, birth control, women's equality, independence, and union organization.

Mirabeau — A French Revolutionary political leader. He had a wild personal reputation but still found himself to be a French Statesman. He wanted to use the British Model of Government in France and set himself up to be Prime Minister. He never was able to realize this because he died in April 1781.

Marat — Scientist and physician best known as a French Revolutionary. He helped to launch the famous "Reign of Terror." He also helped to set up the Committee of Surveillance" to kill anti revolutionaries. He was stabbed in the bathtub by Charlotte Corday in 1793.

Robespierre — One of the best known leaders of the French Revolution. He helped to organize the French "Reign of Terror." He was a follower of the French philosophies and was not a very imposing individual.

Oscar Wilde — One of the most successful playwrights of late Victorian London. He suffered a very dramatic downfall. He was convicted of "gross indecencies" which was better known as a homosexual act.

Bigamy — The crime of marrying someone while still legally being married to another. This is Arthur's misconception of what Oscar Wilde was on trial for.

"The Ballad of Reading Gaol" — Famous poem by Oscar Wilde. After being convicted of homosexual activity, Oscar Wilde was sentenced to two years in a labor prison. While he was there a hanging occurred. A man was hung for slitting his wife's throat with a razor. This proved to Wilde that we are all in need of forgiveness.

George Bernard Shaw — Shaw was an Irish writer/dramatic critic. He was also a noted socialist who was involved in the Fabian Society. This society's purpose was to advance socialist ideals through socialist democratic means as opposed to revolutionary means.

"The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam" — Collection of poems attributed to the Persian mathematician and astronomer Omar Khayyam. Rubaiyat means quatrain or four-line verses. These poems were translated to English by Edward Fitzgerald.

"A greenhorn" — An inexperienced or immature person, especially one who is easily deceived.

Kelly pool — A popular billiard game.

Bluefish — A voracious food and game fish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*) of temperate and tropical waters of the Atlantic and Indian oceans.

Weakfish — Lean flesh of food and game fishes of the Atlantic coast of the United States.

Soused — Slang, drunk.

Macushla — (an Irish term of address expressing affection) darling.

Blarney Stone — A legendary block of limestone built into the battlements of Blarney Castle near Cork, Ireland. Kissing the stone gives the kisser great eloquence.

Mavourneen — n. Irish. My darling.

Lucretia Borgia — Member of the infamous Borgia family in Renaissance Italy, famous for using Foxglove to poison her enemies.

Epicures — A person with refined taste, especially in food and wine

Tart — A woman considered to be sexually promiscuous; a prostitute.

Piker — A person regarded as petty or stingy.

Blow — To buy something for someone else, as in “blow them to drinks.”

Water closet — A room or booth containing a toilet and often a washbowl.

Vesta Victoria — An English music hall singer and comedienne She lamented with a deadpan approach and this style became popular in the United States as well as in her homeland. Her solo career took off in 1892 with “Daddy Wouldn’t Buy Me a Bow Wow.”

Bed house — A house of prostitution.

Ruccion — A riotous disturbance; a noisy quarrel.

Bromo Seltzer — An antacid.

Insouciance — Blithe lack of concern; nonchalance.

Delirium tremens — An acute, sometimes fatal episode of delirium usually caused by withdrawal or abstinence from alcohol following habitual excessive drinking. It also may occur during an episode of heavy alcohol consumption.

Ibsen — A nineteenth-century Norwegian playwright, Ibsen’s realistic portrayal of human behavior earned him the title “father of modern drama.”

Swinburne — An English poet and literary critic, Swinburne often wrote on themes of physical love and liberty.

Shelley — Percy Shelley is one of the best-known English romantic poets.

Kipling — Rudyard Kipling, an English writer, is remembered for his short stories set in India, the most famous being *The Jungle Book*.

Piazza — The Millers use this Italian term for their porch.

Swift babies — Young, attractive women looking for a good time.

Sweetbreads — This food has a misleading name, as it is neither sweet, nor bread but is made from the pancreas of a young animal, usually a calf.

Whole cheese — Translated to current slang, this phrase might be “da bomb.”

Whited sepulchres — This phrase usually refers to someone who appears attractive and good on the outside but is actually corrupt on the inside.



*“And the Truth Shall Make You Free”
inscribed above the doors of the
Administration Building.*

Upcoming Events

Same Time, Next Year

April 6-7, 7:30 p.m.

Mary Linn Auditorium in the Performing Arts Center

Women and Wallace

April 13-14, 7:30 p.m.

Charles Johnson Theatre in the Fine Arts Building



Northwest Missouri State Teachers College, 1925.

Northwest Missouri State University

Dr. Dean L. Hubbard, President

Dr. Kichoon Yang, Provost

College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Charles A. McAdams, Dean

Department of Communication, Theatre & Languages

Dr. Theo Ross, Chair

Theatre Faculty

Dr. Constance L. Campbell, Costume Design, USITT Sponsor

Patrick J. Immel, Scenic and Lighting Design, Alpha Psi Omega Sponsor

Dr. Joe Kreizinger, Director of Theatre, Theatre Education, Performance

Mike D. Morris, Performance, Front of House, University Players Sponsor

Kent Anandel, Technical Direction, Facility Manager

