

THE MONMOUTH COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

PRESENTS



FEBRUARY 21-24, 2019
WELLS THEATER



1853

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

My attachment to soccer goes back to 1977. I became a member of the Monmouth College soccer team under Coach Bill Urban and assistant coaches Lyman O. Williams and George Converse. All of those esteemed faculty are now gone from the college, but certainly not forgotten. Instead of the fine facilities we now enjoy, we played on the football field or the former practice field to the north. Instead of the strong women's and men's teams we now have, we were a co-ed team, which had an unusual but interesting dynamic. In a parallel dimension, we have a mixed cast for *The Wolves*: talented veteran soccer players and talented veteran stage actors

If you know nothing about Sarah DeLappe, I didn't either. The young playwright was a 26-year old graduate student at Brooklyn College. "I wrote the play in silence, in the middle of the night, when most of my roommates"—they live in Brooklyn—"were sleeping." DeLappe added: "My desk was littered with charts, which tracked action and character traits. The writing was like cooking—a bit of parsley here, a sprig of rosemary there." DeLappe went on: "I also thought of the writing as music, an orchestration for 9 voices, each representing one of the girls."¹ DeLappe grew up in Reno, Nevada, where she played soccer from 8 to 14. She has a twin sister, who attends Mt. Sinai Medical School in New York. She went to Yale, where she eventually developed a passion for the theatre, a discovery encouraged by that superlative mentor of dramatists: Paula Vogel. DeLappe explains she was moved to write the play after visiting the New Museum in NYC for an exhibit of contemporary art from the Middle East and North Africa. She was taken by the juxtaposition—of New Yorkers taking in the show, while on their iPhones and drinking cold brew in the middle of the summer—and the artists who made these political works in response to the current or historical situations of their countries. "What could be further away from those humanitarian disasters than a bunch of American suburbanites on an indoor soccer field warming up for a game?" She started thinking of the characters as if they were in a war movie, but instead of young men in the trenches preparing for battle, they were young women on AstroTurf preparing for a soccer game. "There was something appealing about showing these girls as strong athletes, not sexualized objects, moving through something with military precision and unity..."²

In my many years of teaching theatre at a liberal arts college, I have had the privilege of working with students of many disciplines. Many of my students are athletes. They assimilate well into my classes. Theatre is like sports: an ensemble is a team; a stage crew is a team; a stage is a field of play; rehearsals are practices; directors and choreographers are coaches; everyone works toward a common goal. I hope you will enjoy seeing this all come together. To me, this has been a "coach's" dream.

—DOUG RANKIN '79, DIRECTOR

¹ Lincoln Center Theatre Blogs. "THE WOLVES," by Brendan Lemon, Oct. 3, 2017

² OnStage Magazine, February-March, 2018. "Leaders of the Pack: A Conversation with *The Wolves* Playwright Sarah DeLappe and Director Vanessa Stalling.

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THE WOLVES

By Sarah DeLappe

Directed by Doug Rankin

February 21-24, 2019
Wells Theater

The runtime is approximately 90 minutes.
There will be no intermission.

DRAMATURGY NOTE

Sarah DeLappe wrote her first draft of *The Wolves* in three short weeks during the middle of the night. The product of this isolation is a play that explores how we navigate complex relationships with friends, rivals, outsiders and the world around us. These nine young women do their pre-game warm-ups with confidence as they discuss the real world and where they fit in it. Their circle becomes a microcosm where they can debate pads vs. tampons, how to pronounce "Khmer Rouge," what counts as abortion, and more in overlapping dialogue that becomes like a nine-part musical dance. DeLappe labels these players with only their numbers, choosing to solely define them as athletes rather than by their relation to adults such as parents, coaches or teachers. DeLappe explains, "I was attracted to the idea of a stage where we were watching young women whose bodies were active throughout. I was inspired to think of these characters as a pack preparing for battle." For these women and others, passivity is no longer an option. They must choose to fight for what they want and put everything they have into their own power. *The Wolves* is a celebration of life, friendship and the thrill of battle.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

#11 MIDFIELD	Allie Bryan
Brainy, morbid, budding elitist, thoughtful, age 17	
#25 DEFENSE	Amanda Grissom
Captain, classic (ex) coach's daughter, age 17	
#13 MIDFIELD	Molly Wintermute
Stoner, older pot dealer brother, into her wackiness, age 16	
#46 BENCH	Brie Stumbo
New girl, awkward, different, just wants to fit in, age 16	
#2 DEFENSE	Amy Ward
Innocent, unlucky, kind, skinny, age 16	
#7 STRIKER	Amelia Chavez
Too cool for school, sarcastic, "fuck," thick eyeliner. Almost 17	
#14 MIDFIELD	Deandrea Halmon
#7's insecure sidekick, just switched to contacts, age 16	
#8 DEFENSE	Hannah Lingle
Childlike and determined to stay that way, age 16	
#00 GOALIE	Haley Willits
Intense performance anxiety, perfectionist, high achiever, age 17	
SOCCER MOM	Maddie Baker

CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Doug Rankin
Technical Director	Doug Rankin
Scenic Designer	Patrick Weaver
Lighting Designer	Doug Rankin
Assistant Lighting Designer	Bekkah Gebe
Dramaturgy	Haley Willits
Construction Crew	Bekkah Gebe, Doug Rankin, Patrick Weaver
Lighting Crew	Bekkah Gebe
Members of Introduction to Theatre	
Stage Manager	Billy Savage
Assistant Stage Managers	Noah Harshbarger, Connor Schmall
Sound Designer	Catherine Bozarth
Box Office Manager	Amanda Green
Assistant Box Office Manager	Catherine Bozarth

RUN CREW

Mackenzie Baker
Mark Talbert

Abby Tucker
Reggie Willis

Isaiah Wright

COMPANY

Maddie Baker '19 (Soccer Mom) is a classics major from Galesburg, Illinois. She has been active in the theatre department since her freshman year, using her talents in the costume shop. She was costume director for *Pieces of Glaspell* and held a small role in that production. Maddie was prop manager for *FusionFest IV* and a playwright for *FusionFest V*.



Maddie Baker

Catherine Bozarth '22 (Sound Designer, Assistant Box Office Manager) is an English major from Pekin, Illinois. She has been involved in two other plays at Monmouth. Catherine is the philanthropy director for Kappa Kappa Gamma and is involved in the Fulton Hall council.



Catherine Bozarth

Allie Bryan '22 (#11) is a communications major and theatre minor from Abingdon, Illinois. She was involved in her first production at Monmouth—*Almost, Maine*—as an actor and assistant stage manager. She also participates in the campus group Mindful Monmouth.



Allie Bryan

Amelia Chavez '21 (#7) is a theatre major from Chicago. She has been involved with the department of theatre since the beginning of her freshman year, as well as being a part of the Monmouth College Chorale and Chamber Choir. Amelia is vice president of Crimson Masque. She has performed roles in *Pieces of Glaspell*, *The Pitchfork Disney*, *And Baby Makes Seven* and *Almost Maine*, as well as stage managing *Saving Toyland* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Amelia also has worked as properties manager. She has participated in the Irene Ryan portion of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region III festival for the past two years. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she enjoyed working on it with her fellow cast mates.



Amelia Chavez

Bekkah Gebe '22 (Assistant Lighting Designer) is from Sandwich, Illinois. She is a history major working on her teaching license. A theatre scholarship recipient, she made her acting debut last semester, playing Sandrine in *Almost, Maine*. Gebe is on the technical theatre staff, is involved with the forensics team and plays in the marching band.



Bekkah Gebe

Amanda Green '20 (Box Office Manager) is a communication studies major. A member of the Alpha Psi Omega theatre honor society, she serves as box office manager. Green has worked on sound for multiple productions, including *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Saving Toyland*, *Pitchfork Disney* and *And Baby Makes Seven*.



Amanda Green



Amanda Jean Grissom



Deandrea Halmon



Noah Harshbarger



Hannah Lingle



Billy Savage

Amanda Grissom '19 (#25) is a theatre major and English minor from Eldridge, Iowa. She has been active in the department of theatre since her freshman year, filling roles such as actress, assistant technical director, dramaturg, playwright, hair and makeup designer, director and set designer. She has presented dramaturgical research, received a certificate of merit award for her set design work, been nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship twice, and is the 2019 winner of KCACTF Region III's 10-Minute Play Director Award. This is her second year as president of the national theatre honor society, Alpha Psi Omega.

Deandrea Halmon '19 (#14) is a sociology and anthropology major from Chicago. She has been seen in many productions since coming to Monmouth. She began her college theatre experience in the role of Angelica Bianca in *The Rover* her sophomore year. From there, she has played many roles such as Eve in *Meet Me in St. Louis* and Tituba in *The Crucible*. She was part of the chorus in *Oedipus Rex* and acted in *FusionFest IV* and *V*. She also lends her voice to the concert choir.

Noah Harshbarger '21 (Assistant Stage Manager) is a theatre major from Cameron, Illinois. He found his love for theatre in eighth grade when he was the puppeteer of Audrey 2 in *Little Shop of Horrors* because he was "small enough, yet strong enough" to operate a larger-than-life puppet. At Monmouth, he has played Gordon Wallace in *A Woman's Honor*, Grumio in *Saving Toyland*, Demetrius and Starveling in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Pete and Steve in *Almost, Maine*. Love goes to his parents, family and friends, and especially his late grandma Roberta.

Hannah Lingle '19 (#8) is an exercise science major with a global public health minor from Muscatine, Iowa. She is the public relations chair in the kinesiology honor society. She has been a member of the women's soccer team for four years, where she sports jersey #21.

Billy Savage '19 (Stage Manager) is a theatre and political science major and president of Crimson Masque. His acting credits include Creon in Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, Reverend Paris in Miller's *The Crucible*, Peter in Paula Vogel's *And Baby Makes Seven* and Master Toymaker in the world premiere of *Saving Toyland*. He also served as sound designer and stage manager in Susan Glaspell's *Trifles* and *Woman's Honor*.

Connor Schmall '21 (Assistant Stage Manager) is an English major with a minor in philosophy, from Dixon, Illinois. He has been active in theatre since his freshman year, acting and stage managing. His acting credits include *The Lawyer in A Woman's Honor*, *Inspector Marmaduke* in *Saving Toyland* and multiple roles in *Fusion Fest*. His freshman year saw him visit KCACTF, and his junior and senior years will hopefully see him do more in the Department of Theatre.



Connor Schmall

Gabrielle Stumbo '22 (#46) is a freshman from Shelley, Idaho. She is #29 on the Monmouth College Fighting Scots soccer team. This is her first appearance on the Monmouth stage.



Gabrielle Stumbo

Amy Ward '19 (#2) is a senior English major with minors in history, classics and 19th-century studies, from Lacon, Illinois. Last fall she performed in *FusionFest IV* and the production *Pieces of Glaspell*. This year she has acted in *FusionFest V* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



Amy Ward

Haley Willits '18 (#00, Dramaturg) is an alumna of Monmouth's Department of Theatre. While in college, she acted, dramaturged and designed while pursuing her English degree and theatre minor. She was also secretary of Alpha Psi Omega, the national theatre honor society, and she presented theatrical research at KCACTF. She is excited to return to Monmouth as a guest dramaturg and actress.



Haley Willits

Molly Wintermute '22 (#13) is a theatre major with an English minor from Oswego, Illinois. She is also a theatre scholarship recipient. She has previously performed in *FusionFest V* and was properties designer and dramaturg for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Enjoy the show!



Molly Wintermute

SPECIAL THANKS

Axline Pharmacy
Azer Medical Supply
Izzy Demara
Dean Laura Hutchinson
Professor Todd Quick
Tamy Rankin
Monmouth College Athletic Department
Nick Rizzo
President Clarence R. Wyatt and First Lady Lobie Stone
Dean Mark Willhardt

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please silence all electronics.

Restrooms and drinking fountains are located in the lobby.

Photography and recording of any kind is prohibited.

THE KENNEDY CENTER

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Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

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, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

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.

*The Wolves is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC. The world premiere was produced by The Playwrights Realm (Katherine Kovner, Artistic Director; Roberta Pereira, Producing Director) on September 8, 2016, and remounted on December 5, 2016, by special arrangement with Scott Rudin and Eli Bush. *The Wolves* was originally presented by New York Stage and Film and Vassar in the Powerhouse Season, Summer 2016. Playwrights Horizons Theater School produced a workshop of *The Wolves* in 2015 in association with Clubbed Thumb, where the play had been developed previously.*

Winner of the 2016 Sky Cooper New American Play Prize
at Marin Theatre Company, Mill Valley, CA

Jasson Minadakis, Artistic Director; Keri Kellerman, Managing Director
Produced by Lincoln Center

COVER ILLUSTRATION BY NATALIE CURTIS '18