11-11-1982

Thoreau Spends Night in Jail at UD

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation
https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/4314

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, msclangen1@udayton.edu.
THOREAU SPENDS NIGHT IN JAIL AT UD

DAYTON, Ohio, November 11, 1982 -- The University of Dayton's theatre season will open November 18, 19, and 20 with the play "The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail."

The event mentioned in the play's title occurred in 1846 after American author and philosopher Henry David Thoreau refused to pay his poll tax as a protest against the Mexican War. This famous act of civil disobedience forms the basis for the drama, which, according to director Robert Bouffier, S.M., is an "expressionistic piece. It's all a dream that Thoreau had while he was in jail." During the night, and throughout the play, Thoreau reviews his life: his years at Harvard, his admiration for Ralph Waldo Emerson, the establishment of his own school, the death of his brother, an encounter with a runaway slave, and his sojourn at Walden Pond. Explains Bouffier: "These are all occasions for his comments on life. But the basic point of the play is, I think, the change from being a contemplative hermit to being an active participant in the world."

The cast of 19 students includes David Lee Dutton in the lead role, Brian Sajko as Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Mary Jaye Liset as Thoreau's romantic interest.

Performances will be held in Boll Theatre in Kennedy Union at 8 p.m. Tickets are $3.50 for the general public.

-30-