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Wild West Show Packs the House

The classic western musical, Irving Berlin's *Annie Get Your Gun* opened with a bang and a full house Aug. 3. This popular show runs thru Sept. 29 at Cripple Creek's historic Butte Theater.

The Butte's second professional show of the 2007 season is one of Broadway's most loved musicals, with such songs as *There's No Business Like Show Business* and *Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better*. Thin Air Theatre Company (TATC) actors and crew clearly showed who could present this musical better – exquisite costumes, stellar vocals and a cast that gives it their all make TACT's staging of this production a top notch night out on the town.

For those unfamiliar with the show, sharpshooter Annie Oakley, portrayed by Amanda Pulcini, enters a shooting contest in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and wins. Next thing she knows she is part of the show. Oakley falls in love with the star of the show, Frank Butler, portrayed by Grant Golson. Although she has no idea what "show business" is all about, she is informed with the classic song, *There's No Business Like Show Business*.

Over the course of the musical, Frank becomes enamoured of Annie. His ego is bruised and he becomes jealous when Annie becomes a star, and he walks out on her. After various complications, they come together again, only to have one last shooting duel in the finale - *Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better*. Annie deliberately loses to Frank to soothe his ego, Frank does the same and they walk off into the sunset together.

Directed by Mace Archer, the show is the second in a series of 2007 performances staged by Thin Air Theatre Company. Fall and holiday shows will follow with an all new *Dr. Jekyll's Medicine Show* and *Angel of the Christmas Mine*.

The show dates are:

Thru Sept. 2: Wednesdays 1 & 7 p.m.; Thursdays 1 & 7 p.m.; Fridays 7 p.m.; Saturdays 1 & 7 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m. Sept 6 – Sept 29: Thursdays & Fridays 7 p.m., Saturdays 1 & 7 p.m., Sundays 1 p.m.

Regular season ticket prices are: \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$9 for children 12 & under, \$11 for groups of 20 or more. You can also purchase a TATC 2007 season ticket and save 15%.

For more information and to reserve online, visit butteoperahouse.com or call 719-235-8944 or toll-free 877-689-6402.

Photos courtesy of the City of Cripple Creek.

Annie.jpg = Annie Oakley (Amanda Pulcini)

Annie2.jpg = Annie Oakley (Amanda Pulcini) takes aim.

Frank = Frank Butler (Grant Golson)

Show1.jpg = Chief Sitting Bull (Nickolas Masson), Charlie Davenport (Stephen Turner) and Wild Bill (Chas Llewlyn) play a game of chance en route to New York City.