

## **Burdick and Moser Team Up for Spring Show at Butte**

Opening March 26 and running through April 11, the Butte Theater is proud to present a comedy about the high stakes world of Little League baseball. Last mounted in 2006 to rave reviews, Mel Moser and Mickey Burdick once again assume their roles as two Little League coaches pitted against one another in the game of life.

*Rounding Third* follows their journey through an entire season, from their first meeting to the championship game, as they teach the team about competition, character, punctuality, and the importance of wearing the right equipment.

Don is the tough, blue-collar, win-at-all-costs veteran coach whose son is the star pitcher. Michael is a newcomer both to the town and to baseball. He's agreed to be Don's assistant because he wants a special activity with his son, who's never played baseball before.

Despite their differences, Michael and Don form an uneasy alliance for the benefit of the team. And over the course of exhilarating victories, heartbreaking defeats, and interminable rain-outs, the two men battle over how to lead the team.

Michael believes that the job of the coaches is to shield the kids from the intense pressure of competition while making sure everyone has a good time. Don thinks they should be teaching the kids how to win. Out of these conflicting philosophies, the real issues of the play emerge: how should we raise our children? Since we live in such a ferociously competitive society, do we protect our children as long as possible? Or do we prepare them to be tough enough to win? And what does it mean to be an American man?

Their clash of styles and wills makes "Rounding Third" a humorous, heartfelt and insightful look at fatherhood and sports, and a home run for anyone who's ever played, coached or watched a Little League game. Both actors are melodrama veterans and have starred in several Butte productions.

Written by Richard Dresser, an author whose plays are widely produced regionally, in New York, and in Europe. "Rounding Third" appeared off-Broadway at the John Houseman Theatre after regional productions in Chicago, Laguna Beach, and the Old Globe in San Diego. He also writes for film and television.

This production is sponsored by the Gold Camp Arts Foundation and produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.

Contains mild adult language. Some material may be inappropriate for Children under 13.

Show times are Thursdays and Fridays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 1 and 7 p.m., Sundays at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$15.75 adults, \$13.75 seniors.

The Butte Opera House is located at 139 E. Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek. For information or for reservations, call 719-689-3247 or 719-689-6402.

For more information or to book on line, visit [www.butteoperahouse.com](http://www.butteoperahouse.com).