



NICK BRANNAM
DIRECTOR | CHOREOGRAPHER

PRODUCTION	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical</i>
COMPANY	Basingstoke Amateur Theatrical Society
PUBLISHED BY	National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA)
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Legally Blonde the Musical is based on the novel and hit movie of the same name. It chronicles the journey of the famously perky Elle Woods, a fashion savvy, UCLA sorority girl who finds her life turned upside down when she is dumped by her boyfriend Warren. In an effort to prove to Warren that she is more than just some blonde sorority girl, she follows him to Harvard Law, where she struggles to fit in and do well. Ultimately she defies expectations and manages to stay true to her delightfully pink personality. Prior to the how there seemed to be a great build up of excitement and anticipation amongst the audience. They were not to be disappointed.

The scenery was simple in concept but complex in execution. The cast and crew worked very hard to achieve smooth and seamless changes. The selection and use of props was well thought through and added to the production. The lighting and sound were generally most effective and good use was made of subtle lighting effects to change the mood of the scenes. A few technical difficulties with a microphone were tackled well by the Stage Manager and did not deter from the enjoyment of the show. Whilst the sound from the principals was well enhanced that of the chorus numbers, particularly the girls, seemed to lack clarity which made it difficult to hear the words. The costumes were all very colourful and had great visual impact whilst being in keeping with the flavour of the show.

The orchestra created a really good sound and supported the singers well. The ensemble singing was good and in particular the principals are to be congratulated for capturing the spirit of the age. The team of choreographers under the direction of Nick Brannam produced some really original moves and interpretations. I am sure many of the dancers would not have dreamt of skipping and singing at the same time last year.

The whole performance was exceedingly well executed and the excitement, the tension and the pathos were all acted out in superb style. The musical interpretation of the songs was most enjoyable and the band supported the singers well. All of the principals had examined their characters in detail and this lead to the development of real cohesion amongst the team which made the fantasy even more credible. Both acts moved at a great pace such that the audience were truly surprised when the show finished because they had not noticed the passing of time. The audience approval was all around me as I left the theatre. Congratulations to all those involved on a most entertaining, colourful and successful show.

Kay Rowan NODA South East Councillor