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Media Advisory

Chris Weber
Illinois Wesleyan University

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November 13, 2003

Contact: Chris Weber, (309) 556-3181

Media Advisory

- Event:** Illinois Wesleyan University's McPherson Theatre presents:
Our Country's Good, a play by Timberlake Wertenbaker
- Date:** Nov. 18—23 (Tuesday-Sunday)
- Time:** 8 p.m., Tuesday—Saturday and 2 p.m., Sunday
- Location:** McPherson Theatre, Illinois Wesleyan University, 2 Ames Plaza East, Bloomington
- Admission:** Tuesday—Thursday, Sunday: \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens
Friday and Saturday: \$8 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens
All performances: \$1 for students with a valid ID.
- Background:** At the Sydney Cove penal colony in 1789, a young lieutenant directs rehearsals of the Restoration comedy "The Recruiting Officer." With only two copies of the text, a cast of convicts, opposition from sadistic officers, and a leading lady about to be hanged, the production is in trouble from the start.
- Based on an historical incident and on Thomas Keneally's novel *The Playmaker*, Wertenbaker's play shows the redemptive, transcendental power of theatre with elegance and passion.
- Our Country's Good* was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre, London, in 1988 and won the Laurence Olivier Award/BBC Award for best new play and the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for best new foreign play.
- Wertenbaker was raised and educated in the United States and later worked in publishing and journalism in London and New York. Wertenbaker began writing plays while teaching French in Greece and moved to London, where she became involved with a number of small theatre companies. She was resident writer for the Royal Court Theatre from 1984 to 1985.
- Contact:** Tickets may be reserved in advance by calling the McPherson Theatre Box Office at (309) 556-3232, and may also be purchased at the door.