



The Short Line Theatre Company

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN March 1, 2009 RE: The *Faith and Justice* Series

As the Artistic Director, I unabashedly recommend Gary L. Anderson's *Faith and Justice* series. This series comprises two shows: *Keeping the Faith: The Life of William Jennings Bryan* and *Clarence Darrow's Search for Justice*. Mr. Anderson, of course, plays both roles. The shows run on consecutive nights. Now, that should be amazing enough but no ...

Mr. Anderson's portrayal of both of these pivotal men is stunning! His stellar performances bring out the humanity of icons. Seldom do dry, historical figures who reside in forgotten, high school history books, walk out of the pages to face a new generation. Mr. Anderson's phenomenal performances make the audiences laugh, cry and think!

Audience members who came for the *Darrow* performance were so engaged that they returned to see the *Bryan* show. (Some traveling 75 miles one way to do so!) Remarkably, as he portrays Clarence Darrow, and as he engages in an historic cross examination of his friend William Jennings Bryan in the *Scopes* "Monkey" Trial, it was almost as if you could hear Bryan's responses. Conversely, during the *Keeping the Faith* performances when Bryan talked of the same trial, you could almost hear Darrow. In the humble opinion of this director, it was a remarkable feat for any actor.

I would be remiss if I did not comment upon the pre-production help that was supplied by American Legends. Everything that I could have asked for was supplied: program copy, ad copy, posters, interview material. Mr. Anderson and the staff of American Legends Theatre were extremely accommodating. All aspects of the shows were extremely professional – from pre-production to conclusion. His knowledge of his subject matter and his acting ability are unsurpassed.

We, in Dillon, feel fortunate to have opened the door to the past through the *Faith and Justice* series, so we may walk through the gate of the future with more confidence. Thank you, Mr. Anderson. Your productions are welcome here at any time in the future.

Very Truly Yours,

Virginia Cook
Artistic Director