From an on-line pamphlet entitled: Free Enterprise: The Economics of Cooperation Chapter 1: A Wealth of Opportunities in a World of Limits

Few people approach the study of economics with excitement. Economics has a reputation for being difficult and dull. In fact, it's commonly known as the dismal science. But economics doesn't have to be difficult, and it certainly shouldn't be dull because it provides insight into something we are all interested in—producing wealth and having the freedom to enjoy it.

But getting wealthy is not easy. The power of economics comes from understanding the obstacles to creating wealth. Wealth doesn't simply fall from the sky; it has to be coaxed out of natural resources with effort and ingenuity, neither of which is plentiful enough to accomplish all we would like. Creating wealth requires that we cooperate with each other to make the most valuable use of our limited time, effort and resources. But no matter how successful we are, limits will remain on the desirable things that can be accomplished.

Concentrating on limits may seem dismal, but it is the key to creating a wealth of opportunities. As this book makes clear, economics delivers the hopeful message that human progress can continue to be made through communication, coordination and cooperation. There is a lot of optimism to be found in the dismal science.

Private Property Promotes Cooperation

Market cooperation depends on private property, since market prices emerge only when exchange occurs, and most exchanges involve private property. The importance of private property to social cooperation is nicely illustrated by the cooperation that existed for many years between the Audubon Society and hot-rodders.

We all know the Audubon Society wants to protect the environment and fragile habitats for birds and other animals. Not surprisingly, it opposes drilling for oil in environmentally sensitive areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in Alaska. But because of private property, hot-rodders communicated their desire for cheaper gas to the Audubon Society so effectively that it accommodated them by exposing a fragile environment to risk.

The Audubon Society owns a wilderness area in Louisiana known as the Rainey Preserve, an ideal habitat for birds and other wildlife. It also contained commercial quantities of petroleum and natural gas, which the society allowed oil companies to drill for from the 1940s until 1999.

American Buffalo

by David Mamet



"That's not free enterprise. You know what is free enterprise? The freedom... of the Individual... to Embark on Any F---ing Course that he sees fit in order to secure his honest chance to make a profit. Am I so out of line on this?" -Walt 'Teacher' Cole.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY April 21st & 22nd 2006 Margot Tenney Theatre Don: Teach: Bobby:

Director:

Stage Manager:

Assistant Stage Manager:

Costumes:

Lights:

Light Board Operator

Set:

Wardrobe:

Fight Choreographer:

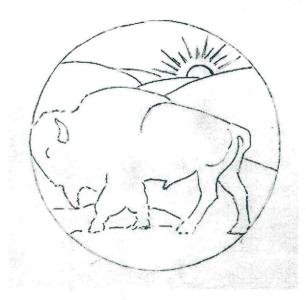
Andrew Barton Dan Wilcox Eli Phillips

Malcolm Young Kelli Karsten Chris Burgan Robyn King Leah Wichler Heather Coleman Catherine Hessing Caitlin Loehr Caitlin Monahan

Chris Edwards

Scene Shop Crew: Jordan Becker, Ashley Davis, Eva Deangelis-Glasser, Keith Eyrich, Sophie Hinderberger, Kevin Lackaff-Gilligan, Kelli Karsten, Jacob Perkins, Dylan Sanders-Self, Katie Stoop

Electrics Crew: Jen Funk, Ashley Hanna, Brianne Panneton, Hannah Torrelson, Jami Marshall-Lively, Madeline Best, Asher Wodoworth, Emma Morehouse



Bennington College Drama Faculty & Staff:

Kathleen Dimmick Michael Giannitti Michael Heil Linda Hurley Dina Janis Kirk Jackson Frank LaFrazia Daniel Michaelson Michael Rancourt Jean Randich Sue Rees Jennifer Rohn Caridad Svich Terry Teitelbaum

American Buffalo A drama in two acts by David Mamet

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is peeling down the alley in a black and yellow Ford." -Folk Tune.

Characters:

Donny Dubrow, the owner of Don's Resale Shop. Walter Cole, called Teacher, a friend and associate of Donny. Bobby, Donny's Gopher.

The Scene:

Don's Resale Shop. A Junkshop.

The Time:

One Friday. Act One takes place in the morning, Act Two starts around 11:00 that night.

