

# Moliere comedy set at Eastern

CHARLESTON — *The Doctor In Spite Of Himself*, one of the great classic comedies of the world theatre, has been cast for the next attraction to be presented at the University Theatre where it will open on November 19.

Written by Moliere, one of the great comic playwrights of theatrical history, this play about an ordinary man forced to pretend he's a doctor has convulsed audiences with laughter for over 300 years, since it was first acted in Paris in 1666.

With its satirical jabs at the medical profession, *The Doctor In Spite Of Himself* is the tale of a man reluctantly posing as a physician, compelled to cure a pretty girl of a pretended illness. After being coerced into his masquerade, the pseudo-doctor decides to keep up his practice because, he

says, he's discovered that "We doctors don't get blamed for bad workmanship. Whether we do any good or not, we still get our money."

Elwyn Webb will be in the role of the innocent man shanghaied into being a healer — the role that Moliere himself originated, and has since then been acted by some of the greatest comedians in theatrical annals.

Lynn Lupo will appear as the non-doctor's wife, who gets her husband into his plights as a vengeance for his having mistreated her, Nancy Slusser as his pretty patient, Karl Daniel as her credulous father, Kurt Christensen as the girl's suitor. Others in the cast will be Jeff Bennett, Marty Stanberry, Steve Scherer, Ann Schluter, Michael Ries, Dan Perry, and Paul Mitri.

E.G. Gabbard has

adapted the script and is directing the farce with an emphasis on its swift, racy clowning, and C.P. Blanchette is designing the picturesque 17th century setting. Period costumes for the production have been designed by Nancy Paule.

Other performances of *The Doctor In Spite Of Himself* are slated for November 20, December 3, 4, and 5 in the Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Tickets for the production go on sale Monday, November 15 at the Fine arts Ticket Office. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults, \$2.50 for youth and senior citizens and \$2 for EIU students. Reservations can be made by calling 581-3110 between 1 and 5 p.m.

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