

## **Pink, Please! San Juan Hills' 'Legally Blonde' is a Delight**

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Elle Woods is content in her chic Malibu utopia; from a relationship with the "school catch" Warner to presidency of the Delta Nu sorority, the blonde Barbie seemingly has it all. However, she ditches pools for lecture halls in a twist of fate that leads her to very foreign territory, Harvard Law School. San Juan Hills' production of Legally Blonde captures the heartwarming tale of determination, self-acceptance and challenging the status quo against all anti-blonde bias.

Bailey Smolinski is a blast as Harvard's trusty tomboy, Enid. She saunters into every room with hilarious swagger, awkwardly shooting finger guns at Elle and rubbing her hands with anger at the prospect of an insult towards her beloved Gloria Steinem. With comical physicality, Smolinski captures Enid's quirky brashness.

Sashaying their way through the story, the Delta Nu sorority sisters are a peppy powerhouse. Not a beat passes without a giddy embrace or sassy snap of approval, each actress delivering a unique yet equally energetic portrayal of Delta Nu's unbreakable sisterhood.

Lighting design by Ashley Koclanis, Millie Wilding, and Luci Sulkess is a feat to be applauded. The Delta Nu sorority is lit by an ambient fuchsia shade, paying homage to the members' signature color. Later, the scrim flashes rainbow during "Gay or European?", humorously referencing the hotly debated topic of the number. Koclanis, Wilding, and Sulkess demonstrate remarkable creativity through various moments of skillful lighting.

Costumes by Holiday Jones and Emily Smith transform the show into a bedazzled 2000s wonderland. On her first day in class, Elle's attire makes her a bubblegum beacon in the sea of blacks and greys. Navy slacks and a modest briefcase take over as she refines her academic performance, but eventually, Jones and Smith combine her styles into a bright pink pantsuit as the character learns to embrace all aspects of herself. The designers effectively integrate costumes into Elle's growth, reflecting her developing character along her journey.

Elevating the performance is the entirely student orchestra. Despite constantly fluctuating moods and styles of music, each musician masterfully blend their abilities into a stunning symphony of sound, invoking tension during "Blood in the Water" and jazzy flair in "Bend and Snap".

With superb acting and tech, San Juan Hills gives an effortlessly excellent performance of 'Legally Blonde', as if to say, "What? Like it's hard?"