***By Shari Friedel***
***Tribune Staff***

Perkins County High School’s drama department invites the public to enjoy its portrayal of the musical, “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” to be staged Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26 and 27 in the high school multi-purpose room.

The story, set in the 1850s in Oregon, depicts a family of rough and tumble backwoods brothers, the Pontipees, whose home needs a woman’s touch after the loss of their parents. Adam, the oldest brother, goes to town determined to find a wife. He returns with a new bride who vows to turn the whole slovenly bunch into gentlemen.

The remaining single brothers then scheme to find their own brides, with the help of Adam.

The musical is based on the book by Lawrence Kasha and David Landay. Music and lyrics are by Gene de Paul and Johnny Mercer.

Created in the 1950s, the production features the song, “Bless Yore Beautiful Hide,” and a barn-raising brawl.

The eldest brother, Adam, will be portrayed by senior Kye Kurkowski. The “gal for him” is Milly, played by fellow senior Mackenzie Hite.

Brothers Benjamin, Caleb, Daniel, Ephraim, Frank and Gideon are played by Erik Hagan, Michael York, Jeremy Hagan, Nick Turner, Brian Krajewski and John Prante.

Rivals of the enthusiastic brothers are the suitors, Jeb, Joel, Luke, Zeke, Carl and Matt, portrayed by Mark Hanson, Patrick Teppert, Quinton Hite, Christian Miyamoto, Trevor Lee and Wayne Deaver.

Lumbermen are Elliot Carlson, Michael Dreiling and Rassel Hausman. Mrs. and Mrs. Perkins are portrayed by A.J. Hausman and Robyn Krause.

Taylor Boldt is the preacher and Blake Poppe will portray Mr. Bixby.

The brides are Dorcas (Elisa Carlson), Alice (Brooke Poppe), Sarah (Kaylyn Hanson), Martha (Calla Mailand), Ruth (Debbie Dahlkoetter), and Liza (Krystal Gaar).

Townspeople include Dani Schimonitz, Alecia Friedel, Emily Kiolbasa, Stephanie Reichert, Tanya Metcalf, Ashley Kemling, Naomi Schmitt, Kristin Beck, Kimberly Cook, Lacey Jensen, Rachel Patrick, Kate Rowley, Jessie Woodmancy, Callie Meyer and Shania Metcalf.

The sister is portrayed by Amara Meyer; Mrs. Bixby by Tori Osler.

Handling the technical and behind-the-scenes tasks are crew chief Kyle Schulze and crew members Zach Jameson, Emma Friedel, Austin Gaston, Michi Prante, Drake Jiminez and Blake Edmonds.

Providing the accompaniment is Jeanne Gaar. Sponsors of the activity are instructors Doug Babbit and Judy Kurkowski.