



Western Force get behind local theatre company

EVERY person who buys a theatre ticket to the forthcoming production of Australian vs South Africa will receive a free ticket to an Emirates Western Force rugby game in Perth this season.

Perth's Barking Gecko Theatre Company will host renowned South African performers, Ellis Pearson and Bheki Mkhwane when the company remounts South Africa's acclaimed Zeal Theatre production, Australian vs South Africa with local actors, Craig Wil-

liams and Sam Longley at the Subiaco Arts Centre from 8 February during the 2008 Perth International Arts Festival.

Directed by Tom Lycos, who co-wrote the play with Stefo Nantsou, Australia vs South Africa is a funny, physical and thought-provoking play that and over-hyped assumptions examines current social issues including, peer pressure, racism and the relationship between national identity, media and sport and is suit-

able for people aged over 12 years and their families.

Australia vs South Africa tells the story of four young people who cross paths during a much-hyped international sporting event, with energetic performances and plenty of humour. After one of the characters plays a harmless prank, they each experience much more than just the 'big game'.

Barking Gecko has been established for more than 15 years and through theatre performances, regional tour-

ing, schools touring, drama workshops and community arts projects, the company reaches more than 60,000 young people each year. For the season of Australia vs South Africa, the company has entered into a unique partnership where every ticket holder to the production will receive a ticket to a rugby game.

Barking Gecko's General Manager, Kate Miller said that the free rugby ticket offer was a wonderful expression of support for the pro-

duction and the company. "Australia vs South Africa is not about any particular code of sport but the thrills and spills of watching an international match," she said. "We know that whatever code of sport you like or even if you don't, this play is an exciting dramatisation of the emotional highs and lows of big crowds and events."

For bookings, contact BOCS on 9484 1133 or visit www.bocsticketing.com.au.



Playing the game: Australia vs South Africa