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Personality Profile

Bonds *Continued from Page 28C*

Bonds also said the art of designing and constructing costumes does not only affect the designer or builder, it also affects the actor or actress who puts on that costume.

"It really helps them if the costume looks good close up to them," she said. "And they feel confident that they can move and it's not going to rip out."

"And if they know they look good on stage, they can concentrate their efforts on their performance, and that's why we put so much effort into it."

Constructing strong costumes also helps cut down costs because less expensive fabrics can be used if the costumes are well designed and built, Bonds said.

In addition to her works with UT, Bonds also designs and builds costumes for the Eugene Festival of Musical Theater. The festival's latest production, *My Fair Lady*, featured Bonds costumes.

Aside from her duties as a costumer, Bonds is the Theater Arts Area head.

Bonds first became Theater Arts Area director two years ago. It was not all smooth sailing over the last two years because she was not totally prepared for it, she said.

"I came in to this position kind of through the back door," she explained. "The first year was just survival, fig-



Photo by Mark Ylen

Alexandra Bonds, the University Speech Department's Theater Arts Area director, reviews sketches of costumes she designed for a University play last year.

uring out what do I do in order to make things run smoothly."

"The second year, I began to recognize it is a position where I could have an impact and make a difference," Bonds said. "My sense is with this year, I might actually start to implement some ideas that I've had in terms of what I would like to see happen in the theater."

Despite all she has accomplished, Bonds still remains humble.

"One of the things that is important to me is to mention my colleagues because we are an area and none of us can do what we do without the support of the rest of the faculty and the students," she said. "We all work together to put something on. I can't do what I

do without my graduate assistants, without the students."

Bonds said that's the nature of theater.

In addition, Bonds tries to get away from it all at least once a year by traveling.

"Just about every year, I have gone to Europe or Asia or the Middle East, just somewhere, because I love to travel but also because I'm always collecting visual images," she said. "And it's ideas I can use in my research, ideas I can use in my design and information that I can incorporate into my classwork."

While she is on vacation, Bonds visits other schools to find out what coursework is like there, and visits museums to find works of art that she has

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