Revisiting the RENAISSANCE

Hundreds of people gathered Sept. 11-12 in Kings Valley, Ore., to attend the Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire. Sights included historical costumes, games, crafts and even jousting performances. Many of the fairgoers were dressed in elaborate period costumes that they made or paid to have handmade for them.

Most of the costumes were decorative, but some were practical as well. David Stephens, for example, paid about $800 for a set of armor, which took the smith more than five months to create. Stephens used the armor to participate in a combat exercise.

The fair included music, too. Jay Branscomb, a 2004 University music and psychology graduate, and Ansel Dow, 11, whose father, Mark Down, works in the psychology department's Brain Development Lab, played violin at the fair.

— All photos by Craig Volpe

A helmet and gauntlets made by Fire Blood weaponsmiths in California sit on display at the Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire.

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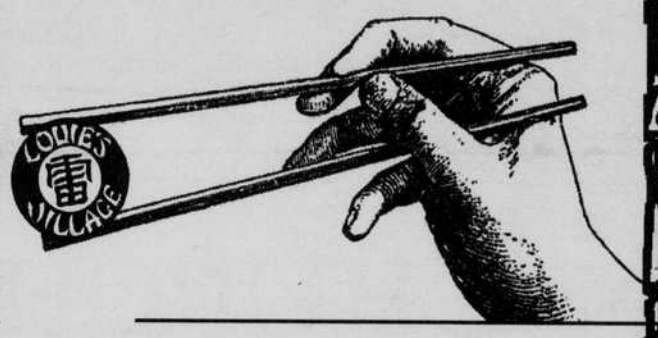

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