

Shakespeare classes visit Ashland plays



DRAMA IS big part of MHCC's co-curricular program. Richard Melo will direct the drama program this fall and has scheduled as his first production "The Canterbury Tales." Performances will be November 10-11-17-18.

(Spens photo)

"Stay four days, see four plays."

Signs and banners proclaim the message throughout Ashland home for the annual Shakespearean Festival.

Mt. Hood Community College students and community citizens did just that, July 13-16. In fact, they saw five plays in four days.

The field trip was coordinated through the summer Shakespeare course, taught by Miss Winifred Casterline.

"We had a wonderful group. They were so eager," she said.

Approximately 40 people travelled to Ashland for the event. An equal number of students and interested citizens went. Expenses were paid by the participants.

"This summer marked our fourth trip," notes Miss Casterline "We have more people each year and we try to do more each year. We went at a fearful pace."

The five plays included Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost," "Troilus and Cressida," and Henry The Fourth, Part Two." Also seen were Miller's "The Crucible" and Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya."

"We talked about the plays

constantly. I asked for questions and got them. I gave them things to look for and we discussed everything. It was an informal classroom everywhere we went," Miss Casterline said.

Besides play-going, the MHCC group visited Jacksonville, an old gold mining town near Medford, and saw Crater Lake.

"We also toured the Shakespearean Theater."

The field trip is scheduled each year at the close of a summer session to allow preparation.

The class had read all the Shakespeare plays seen in Ashland.

"We also provide background material for the community participants," said Miss Casterline.

Charles Abshire, library chairman, reproduced summaries and critiques of the plays.

"The group particularly enjoyed "The Crucible" and "Troilus and Cressida," Miss Casterline thought.

"Next year, we hope to include an extra day and attend the Peter Britt Music Festival in Jacksonville," she said.

CUCUMBERS

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weather resulting in a lowering of moisture in the cucumber. This bitterness will not carry over if the cucumbers are used to make pickles, however, it is recommended that to reduce the bitterness, the cukes be soaked overnight in a 5 per cent brine (3/4 cup salt to 1 gallon water).

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