

Drama



Rehearsal Time

D-Day is drawing near for several score students at North and South Eugene High Schools. Hundreds of hours of rehearsal, covering many weeks, that started back in midwinter are about to bear fruit. The spring musicals to be presented by both schools are upon us. At South, (left photo) Director Ed Ragozzino looks a trifle worried as he gives instructions to the chorus of "Music Man," which



opens May 9 for a three-day run. His counterpart at North Eugene (right), William Quesinberry, moves his cast around on stage in rehearsals of "Redhead," which opens May 1 for a four-night run. "Music Man" tickets are sold out, but ducats for "Redhead" are available at the North Eugene High boxoffice.

Absurd's the Vogue

University Students Direct Two Plays

"Theatre of the absurd" — currently in vogue in the world of drama — will be on display Tuesday at the University of Oregon.

Two one-act plays of the "absurd" classification, a classification that is difficult to define, will be presented at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday on the University Theatre stage. The performances will be open to the public without charge.

The plays are "The Sandbox" by Edward Albee, and "Stewed Apples" by Terry Jones, a University of Oregon special student in speech from Dublin, Ireland.

The Tuesday presentation will serve as a preview of the two before their performance Thursday in Portland at the Portland State College Festival of Arts. Both plays are student acted and directed.

Director of both is Betty Parnow, UO grad student in speech from Flint, Mich. She also designed the sets and costumes for both.

"The Sandbox" was described by Betty as a mixture of comedy and tragedy "that produces a grotesque sort of laughter." The playwright, Albee, is also the author of a current Broadway hit, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

In the cast are Karen Achor, a sophomore majoring in foreign languages; Larry Ferguson, a senior speech major; his wife Linda, a graduate student in theater; Bill Ellege, Roseburg freshman in speech, and Mike Wren, a South Eugene High School student.

"Stewed Apples," according to its director, "is a funny, biting comment on theatergoers." The Tuesday performance will be the first time the play has been produced.

In the cast are Kauri St. Sure; Stewart Rogers, a grad student in theater, and Jerry Reed, senior in English from Oakridge.

Total performance time of the two plays will be about 30-45 minutes.

Gauguin Dramas Planned

NEW YORK (AP)—Stage and screen versions of a drama about Paul Gauguin are being planned by Julian Lesser and Leon Barsha.

The script about the French painter has already been written by Norman Corwin, but is to get additional

material from a Gauguin biography, "Noble Savage," by Lawrence and Elizabeth Hanson. The book title has been tentatively adopted as the name of the show.

Plans call for a tryout tour on the West Coast next spring.



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Duke Ellington Composes Score

STRATFORD, Ont. (AP)—American composer Duke Ellington will compose the background score for a modern-dress production of Shakespeare's "Timon of Athens" that will be included in the summer repertoire of the Stratford Festival's 11th season.

The Duke and his orchestra have appeared here in the concert phase of the festival on two occasions, and in 1957 he composed a Shakespearean suite called "Such Sweet Thunder" in honor of the festival.

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