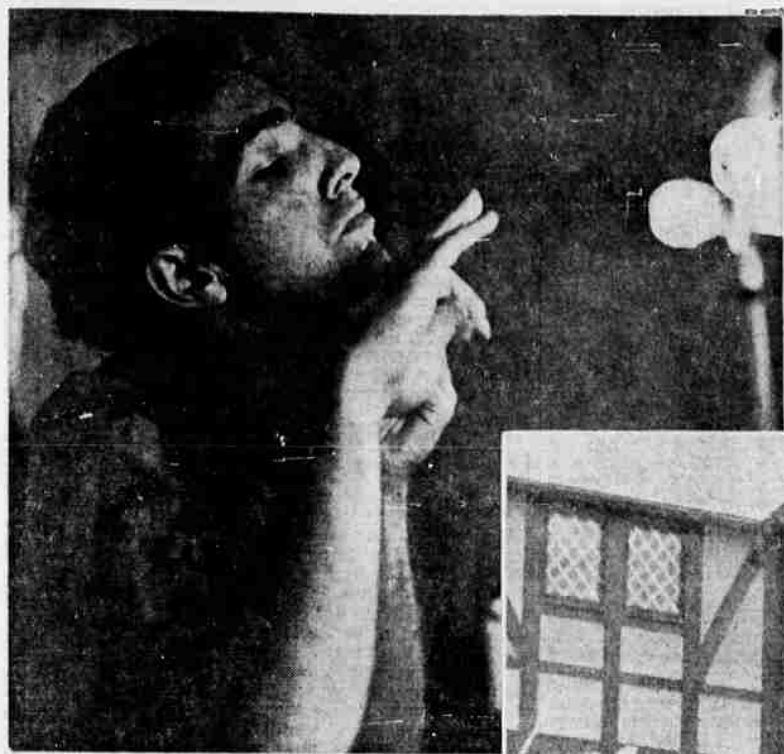




Grease paint, putty, false wigs and beards go into the "creation" of Shakespeare's colorful characters. Dan Hoppe of New York City is shown above as he constructs a beard, a few strands at a time, for his part as Sicinius in "Coriolanus."



Elizabeth Huddle, Sacramento, who is prominently cast in "Comedy of Errors," "Henry IV" and "As You Like It," relaxes outside the theater as she sews on her costume.

Dwaine Smith Photo

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, JULY 23, 1962

'The Play's The Thing...'



As opening night draws near, there is a feeling of excitement in the air at the Shakespearean theater in Ashland. Here and there throughout the grounds actors and actresses are at work "polishing" their lines and working out the action for various scenes. Above, Milton Fuchs, left, and Adolph Creaser, both of New York City, are shown during an impromptu mid-morning rehearsal.

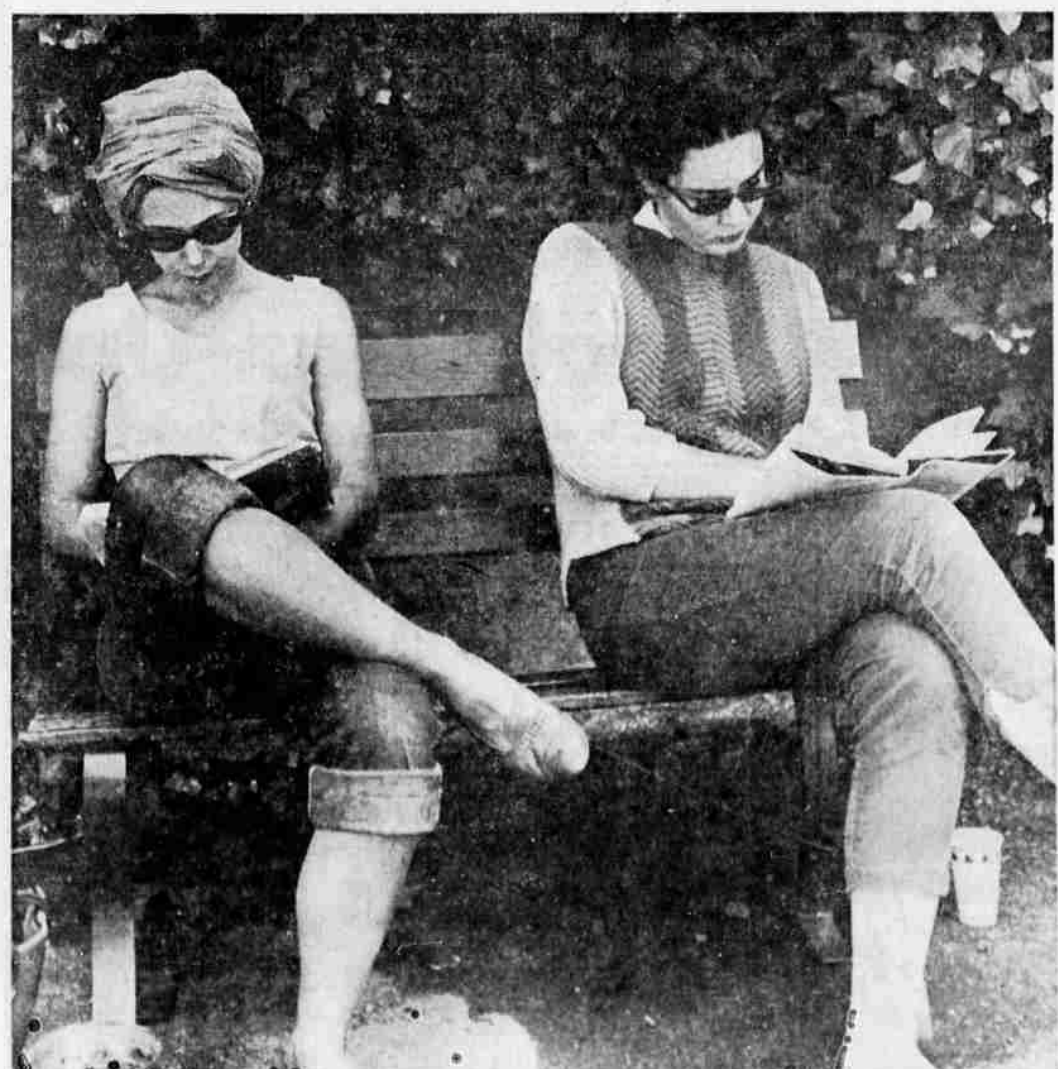
Dwaine Smith Photo



Busy seamstresses in the costume department work against time to ready the "authentic" clothing of Shakespeare's time for the first dress rehearsals. Above, Jane Ruckman of Iowa, costume assistant, concentrates on a difficult seam. Design of costumes took much research and complex panels and inserts often make construction difficult.



During the hectic pre-opening days players rehearse and study scripts all day and into the night. Julie Townley of Montague, Calif., is shown above as she catches a few winks between scenes on the bed of King Henry IV.



Marian Hailey of San Francisco, left, and Elizabeth Huddle, Sacramento, oblivious to other activity around them, study hard on their playbooks outside the stage door of the theater. The pressure of forthcoming dress rehearsals call for work and more work, so the performance will go off without a hitch.



The culmination of weeks of effort by members of the cast and the hoards of persons behind the scenes is the play itself. In this scene from "Comedy of Errors," Marian Hailey as a Courtesan, is accused by Antipholus of Syracuse (Stacy Keach, Sherman Oaks, Calif.) of being a mysterious caste. Dromio of Syracuse (Stacy Keach, Sherman Oaks, Calif.) views the action from a safer distance.

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