

So Runs the World Away theatre production unusual

By Sandy Holmes

On Friday the Theatre Hour Company performed the world of Shakespeare in a novel and unusual way. The title was "So Runs the World Away."

The play revolved around four people and a fool, Francis. The four awake, never having seen each other before. They are in a foreign world—Francis' world—and though they are at first not aware of it, they can speak only the words of Shakespeare.

The play lasted about an hour, then a question period was held. The company includes Ian Wallace, who played Francis, Dana Still,

Wendell Smith, Rhona Gold, Zoe Alexander, and stage manager, Nancy Carson. They travel around Ontario in a Greyhound bus with their stage and costumes. The group travels for six months at a time performing at different schools. Later the personnel changes, puts on a new play and goes on tour again.

Most of the teachers I talked to said they really enjoyed the performance. Some of the students liked the humor in the play even though they really did not understand the Shakespeare. I enjoyed it even more because of the way the performers put their hearts into the play. Here are three reports from grade 9 students.



THEATRE HOUR COMPANY DESCENDS ON ACTON HIGH

Six months to write

By Susan Mellor

The Theatre Hour Company is a group of professional actors and actresses who go on tour throughout Ontario performing in High Schools. Each year the members are changed and the script performed is also new.

Our school had the pleasure of seeing the company on December 7 when they performed the play, "So Runs the World Away." This particular play is written on the

basis of some of the famous Shakespearean plays. It took four writers six months to choose the phrases and ideas from Shakespeare and work them into a play that was suitable for a high school audience. The reason for having such a play as this was to give the audience some of the highlights from the famous plays by Shakespeare in a very short time.

The acting was very good and at the beginning, extremely funny. It was dramatic in later parts.

Windsor designs

By Maureen Sall

On Friday December 7, Acton High had the pleasure of meeting and watching five actors from the Theatre Hour Company. We watched these professional actors put on a selection of well-known lines and phrases from Shakespeare.

Their props were designed by a woman from Windsor, and included a carriage with a chest. The main prop was a stage with two rows of stairs on either side. At first a man came out from behind with a long cloak and then four other actors (two men and two women) came out of the front part of the stage.

It was a hit from the opening scene and got a lot of response from the audience. The theme of the play was about the world's position in the universe, and a man's ego. All the way through the play the actors received plenty of laughs from the audience, and rounds of applause at the end.

Questions come last

By Jacqueline Smith

It was December 7, the auditorium buzzed with student voices. Ripples of laughter changed to roars as a man in a w... cloak and outlandish clothing capered around the room, excited over various new discoveries. We later found that he was Ian Wallace, a member of the Theatre Hour Company. He kept us well entertained for quite a while before being joined by his fellow performers in a very surprising manner. Ian Wallace and four other young actors kept us in suspense with an exaggerated play based on Shakespeare. The applause was lengthy and loud.

A question period followed the performance and for several minutes the young cast satisfied our curiosity as to how long the company had been together, etc. It was, for all, a very enjoyable morning.

AHS chess

By Ann Vanderlaan

Last Wednesday the Acton High School chessmen defeated White Oaks to earn their second victory. The final score was 4-3. Winners for our team were Eric Dubuc, Gary Pickles, Alec Pitt and Ian Coats.

After this victory Acton now has two wins, two losses. The next game will be played Thursday in Oakville-Trafalgar.

Acton High Notes

By Janice Gibson

This week we had some visitors all the way from Timmins. This is quite a distance to come to have a look at the way we run semester here at Acton High.

Christmas will be here very shortly and at the High School things are getting very busy. Choir contests, Limerick contests, room decorating, auditions, rehearsals and letters to Santa are all indications that Christmas has got a hold on the school.

This Friday, room decorations will be judged. The students are then responsible for making sure that their home rooms are cleaned up before school is dismissed next Friday.

The Closet is sponsoring a Limerick Contest this year. Students are invited to write a limerick on a Christmas or Acton theme and the winner will be awarded a prize at the Christmas assembly.

Choirs have been organized and registered for the contest.

Next week an assembly will be held to judge the winners. Auditions and rehearsals for the skits making up the programs of the assembly, next Friday, are also under way. Students have entered wholeheartedly into the Christmas spirit this year and it is this participation that makes this season a successful one at the High School.

Performance

The Theatre Hour Company was at the school last Friday. In the morning they put on a performance for the whole school and during the afternoon conducted a workshop for interested students.

Tomorrow former Hamilton Tiger Cat, now District Recruiting Officer for the Bank of Canada, John Michluk will appear at our Spea-



Janice Gibson

Lost pix

Pictures were missing from last week's Free Press, when a film was completely lost. Technical difficulties... but Guide presentations and other pictures were unusable.

Glacier effects studied

On Tuesday morning, the grade 11 geography classes and Jim Goring went on a field trip to study features of continental glaciation. They looked at moraines in Blue Springs, misfit-stream features in Eden Mills, an esker southeast of Guelph, a drumlin at Eramosa, a recessional moraine and an erratic north of Acton and Acton's Three Sisters formation.

The students took notes for use later in geography class, and reported that they had a great time.

Webb was accompanied by another member of his staff, John Campbell. Mr. Campbell is related to one of our own teachers here at Acton High School, Ian McGillivray and Mr. Campbell are brothers-in-law.

Other teachers from Roland Michener School attended Lord Elgin High School and St. Thomas Moore High School in Hamilton that day. Friday, they went on to two schools in Toronto: This-tleton and Newtonbrook.

Roland Michener High School is presently on a program called Flexible Modular Scheduling, a system similar to one operating in some of the Quebec schools. They hope to adapt their program to the semester system, thus obtaining the advantage of both types.

ker Series. He will talk about pro football as well as banking.

Last Thursday, we had some visitors in the school from South Porcupine, a town about four miles outside of Timmins in northern Ontario. The principal of Roland Michener High School, Karl

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CAST OF THEATRE HOUR COMPANY PERFORMS

ABOUT WISE MEN

Except for the words of St. Matthew, legend accounts for the little that is known about the wise men. One of the legends says that the star appeared to them once more, near the end of their lives.

Tomorrow former Hamilton Tiger Cat, now District Recruiting Officer for the Bank of Canada, John Michluk will appear at our Spea-

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School program

A musical evening, with given at the M.Z. Bennett school on Dec. 17 and at the Robert Little school on Dec. 18.

The high school band will play as well.

The schools' music supervisor Elaine Diggle is preparing the program and holding extra practices with the children.

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