

Players Work To Make Costuming Authentic

The drama staff and the Masque Players of Schoolcraft College have been working hard this week to present as authentic a production as is possible of the Greek tragedy "Oedipus Rex."

The play will open Friday, Nov. 10, in the Liberal Arts Theater on the college campus, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. It will also be staged Nov. 11, 12, 18 and 19. Performances are at 8 p.m., except Sundays, when they are 7 p.m.

TICKETS ARE \$1.50 and may be purchased or reserved at the cashier's office in the Administration Building from 1-4 and 6-9 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and in the student activities office. They will also be sold at the door. Among the props being prepared for "Oedipus" are



A LOT OF work is going into making the Masque Players' production of "Oedipus Rex" conform to the traditions of the Greek stage. In the picture at the left, Ralph Kelley, drama teacher, and Mike Nemchik are working on a

THE FUNDAMENTAL

masks and colorful costumes. Masks were used on the Greek stage by the tragic actors to give some indication of the actors' age, station and mood. They also made it possible for a small number of actors to enact many parts.

The widely-opened mouth helped make the actors' voices more resonant and capable of being heard in the large open-air theaters. Masks were made of linen, cork or wood and with painted expressions on them provided information for the spectators.

The Greek actors (all male) also wore a headdress which towered over the masks. Known as "onkos," these headdresses varied with the station of the person the actor was portraying. The king's, of course, would be the tallest.

costume was known as the "chiton," a loose-fitting and flowing garment which extended from the neck to the ankles and had sleeves extending to the wrist. This was often decorated with bright colors and ornamented with formal designs or painted with animals, figures or symbolic forms.

Over this was thrown a cloak, which was beautifully colored for symbolic effect. Finishing touches are being put on all of these at Schoolcraft this week under the direction of Dr. Lawrence Rudick and Ralph Kelley, drama instructors, but Schoolcraft actors have decided not to try to put together the "chiton" or heavily-soled wooden boot, another traditional Greek indication of the importance of the character.

CHRISTINE BOHRER plays Jocasta and Ralph Viaw is cast as Oedipus in Schoolcraft College's production of "Oedipus Rex." It opens Friday, Nov. 10, in the Liberal Arts Theater for five weekend performances. (Observer photos by Bob Woodring)



mask. All players will wear masks. At the right, Diane Norrow pins a cloak over Christopher Keyes' "chiton." Keyes plays the leader of the chorus.

Amusements

Roamin Club Meets Tonight

The Roamin Rock and Mineral Club of Livonia meets at 7:30 tonight (Wednesday) in Room B, the Senior Citizens Building, Farmington and Five Mile, Livonia.

Registrations of specimens will be from 7 to 7:30. The board meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15, in the same location. There will be no study session this month because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Party Follows Nov. 12 Show

The Nov. 12 performance of the Farmington Players fall production "Forty Carats" will be a benefit for the Farmington Community Center.

The price will include an after-glow in the center with champagne and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres.

Reservations may be made by calling the center. A minimum ticket donation of \$5 is requested.

The play itself will be presented in the Farmington Players Barn on 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads. Sunday curtain time is 7 p.m.



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Thanks, Mr. Ballman. We appreciate.

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Artists' Club Meets Nov. 9

Philip Prager will give a p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9, in the demonstration of landscape painting at this month's meeting of the Livonia Artists' Club. It will be held at 7:30

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