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Mikado on stage tonight at Manning

Special to The Albertan

1885 was a very good year for wine and popular playwrights. This was the year that Gilbert and Sullivan wrote the world favorite Mikado. Tonight, Thursday and Friday Ernest Manning High School presents The Mikado, the love story that is a satire on the justice of the British of the time of the authors.

The Mikado is the story of the Mikado's son (Verne Fielder) who is betrothed to the very unpleasant and dictatorial Katisha (Cathy Ramsden). He runs away from the palace and disguises himself as the second trombone player in a band. He meets and falls in love with Yum Yum (Sharon Davies) who is betrothed to her guardian Koko (Barry Armstrong).

Koko was pardoned from a death sentence and has now

become the Lord High Executioner and he is threatened with the loss of his position if someone is not beheaded within the month. He arranges a temporary month-long marriage between Yum Yum and Nanki Poo, with the agreement that at the end of the month he will be beheaded.

Meanwhile the Mikado and Katisha come looking for Nanki Poo and Koko believing that the purpose of the Mikado's visit is to check up on him contrives to convince him that someone has been beheaded. In the ensuing mixup Koko must accept Katisha for his wife and Nanki Poo and Yum Yum are officially married.

This production has been mainly in charge of the students of the music department. There are nine leads and a chorus of 42. The music part of the show has been in rehearsal since September, and it has been on the stage for six weeks.



THE ROD. Three Ernest School teachers demonstrate aristocrats of society 100 and the "upper hand" over various stations in life. Sean yields the rod that strikes

fear and respect in the hearts of Gary Frykling (kneeling), a peasant soldier and Dave Anderson, an early gentryman. The trio was part of the Centennial Day held recently at the southwest Calgary high school.

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School shows Oklahoma

The Rogers and Hammerstein musical, Oklahoma! has been on the go for years and whether it's produced on stage or screen, it always guarantees an evening of fun.

Last night the Ernest Manning high school gave it a try and judging from a capacity

audience of 700 and a standing ovation, it was obvious the musical had in no way become tarnished.

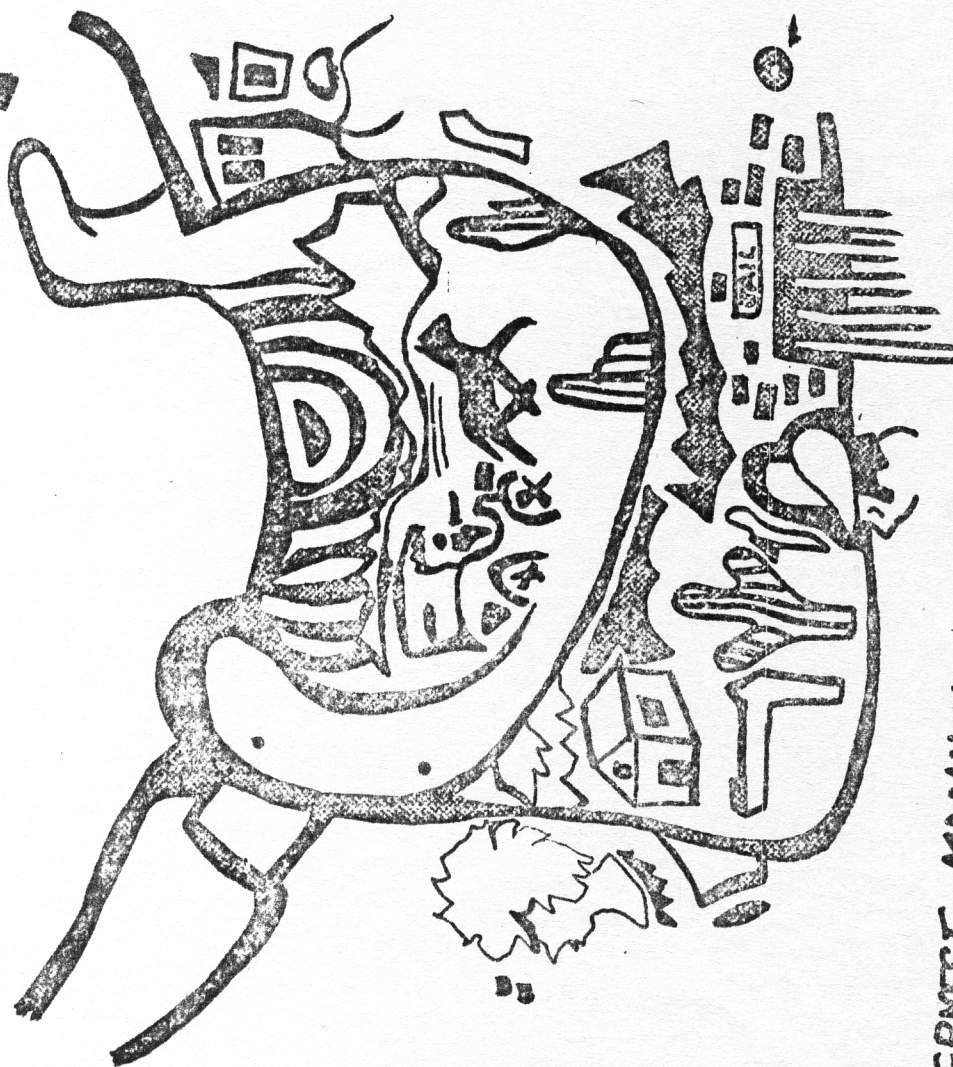
Organized entirely by the students themselves, with a competent cast of Grade 10-12 students, the production can be seen in its final performance tonight at 8 p.m.

THE PAPER

EMHS

NUMBER 3

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S
OKLAHOMA



ERNEST MANNING HIGH SCHOOL



SOUTH PACIFIC will be presented by the students of Ernest Manning High School March 19 and 20 in the school auditorium. The leads are Beth Law, Murray Barker, Glen Pearson, Kevin Davies, Darcy Friesen, Mary Williamson, and Cathy Hayes. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. —Tom Thomas Photo.

S. SMIRNOR HA



JOHN STOVER AS TEVYE AND MERV SCHUETZLE AS MOTEL
... caught in the hustle and bustle of rehearsal

First in North America

Students' enthusiasm meets ambitious Fiddler challenge

Feb 2, 1972

By MIKE McNINCH
of The Albertan

An ambitious undertaking, certainly, is Ernest Manning High School's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, but a look at the ordered disorder of the cast and the enthusiasm of the stage crew is sufficient to convince any visitor that the necessary spirit for the project is not lacking.

Dozens of teen-agers scurry about backstage with tubes of makeup and long flowered

skirts; hordes of technicians manoeuvre cabins and flats into place — the atmosphere is full of anticipation for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, when the Broadway musical is to be staged.

"We wrote two years ago and asked for permission to stage the show," says director James Eadie, "and since we asked so early, we were given first opportunity last May."

Ernest Manning's will be the first high school production of the show in North America, so

the 150-odd persons involved are justifiably proud.

Mr. Eadie acted in New York before he came to Calgary; he had worked previously at the Drumheller summer drama festival, and was impressed with the quality of drama people and students in the province.

He flew to New York over Christmas to confer with people who had worked on the play, and get some pointers from them.

Other professional help was given by Rabbi Solomon Domb, of the House of Jacob Synagogue in Calgary; Rabbi Domb has attended several rehearsals and offered advice on how to conduct the Sabbath prayer scene, and is providing the cast with a number of skull caps.

"The students are all calling themselves 'drama freaks' now," said Mr. Eadie. "A lot of parents are pleased because, as one woman said, they have something to waste their energy on."