

CCHS Senior Class Attends Wayside's Play Of Macbeth

by Carol Handy

The senior class at Clarke County High School attended a matinee performance of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" at the Wayside Theater in Middletown last Friday.

The performance, directed by Michael Procacine, focused attention on the two main characters, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, which were portrayed by Harold Herman and Linde Hayen. The costumes were designed by Maida Jones, and the sets and lighting effects were created by Jane Caspar and Lynn Sams. Narration to coordinate the scenes was given by Mr. Procacine.

The series of scenes, selected and developed into an extensive character study of the two characters, follows their actions and inner changes beginning with Macbeth's first confrontation with the witches. The study traces their reactions to the first murders and their callousness to the later murders, and it concludes with Lady Macbeth's supposed suicide and Macbeth's final show of strength before his death.

Following the performance, the actors and directors remained on stage for a question and answer period. Student reaction to the performance, especially back in the classroom at CCHS, was very enthusiastic. Among the most repeated comments was a great liking for the series of scenes, rather than a complete performance of the play. The students felt that the selected scenes were organized excellently, so that the plot of the play progressed very smoothly with just the two characters. They felt that this arrangement gave them a deep insight into the characters of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, and the comment was also made that the interpretation, inflection, and expression which the actors put into Shakespeare's verse made it "come alive."