Performing arts department holds play, musical tryouts

By Cathy Nabity

Auditions for the fine and performing arts department's productions of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Oklahoma!" were held last week.

"At least 75 people turned out for the general auditions," said Bill Hutson, assistant professor of theater and director of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

"The play is very similar to the movie," said Hutson, "but I think the play emphasizes humor more."

Hutson said he played the role of Randle P. McMurphy 10 years ago at Michigan State University before the movie version of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" came out.

The cast of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" includes: Creighton Law School graduate Don Fiedler (Chief Bromden), Arts junior Kathy Christal (Nurse Ratch) and Arts junior Frank Kosmicki (Randle P. McMurphy).

"Since we had to consider acting, dancing and singing we could not cast some very good people for the principal parts," said Suzanne Dieckman, associate professor of theater and director of "Oklahoma!"

Members of the University Chorus and dance classes were cast automatically for the chorus, but those who wanted speaking roles had to audition, Dieckman said. The dance ensemble for the dream scene of the play has been selected but parts have not yet been assigned, she said.

Valerie Roche and Jill Lile are the choreographers, Randall Drake is musical director, Tom Mazur is technical director, and Carole Bean is in charge of musical preparation.

"This year the separate arts in the department made a cooperative effort to schedule their events so they could put on a musical together," Dieckman said.

"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" performances are Feb. 28-March 2 and March 7-9. "Oklahoma!" is scheduled for April 18-21 and 25-28.

Tickets are $3 with a Creighton ID. Hutson suggested that students made reservations because the productions are both popular.