4-24-1963

**Montana State University Department of Drama to tour Japan and South Korea**

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

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The Montana State University Department of Drama will tour the Orient in the fall of 1963 with a production of "The Fantasticks," MSU President H. K. Newburn announced Tuesday.

The MSU company will entertain U. S. servicemen in Japan, Korea and Okinawa during the seven-week tour, Dr. Newburn said. Firman H. Brown Jr., chairman of the Drama Department, will accompany the cast.

Thirteen colleges and universities in the United States have been selected for the 1963-64 Overseas Touring Program, sponsored by the American Educational Theater Association and the USO. The Defense Department provides transportation and travel accommodations.

The American companies will play for servicemen in the Pacific, the European and the Northeast commands, Dr. Newburn said. MSU, Brigham Young University and the University of California at Los Angeles will perform in the Pacific area.

College and university drama departments have entertained thousands of American troops in the various commands since the AETA-USO touring program was initiated in 1958, Dr. Newburn said. Montana State College toured the Pacific command last winter, he noted.

"The Fantasticks" is an off-Broadway musical which has had a highly successful run in New York and has been released for non-professional production. The Montana Masquers offered the play last October as their first major production of the current season.

Dean Charles W. Bolen of the MSU School of Fine Arts commented that the tour will be of great educational and cultural significance to the drama students touring as American ambassadors with Prof. Brown and will also have an impact on campus.

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