The Tar Heel/Thursday, June 4, 1987/7

## PlayMakers has schedule for next year

PlayMakers Repertory Company has announced its schedule of plays for the 1987-88 season a schedule that includes a "balanced repertoire of world theatre," according to David Hammond, artistic director.

The productions include John Gay's "The Beggar's Opera" and Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." The annual PlayFest series will be a two-evening presentation of Eugene O'Neill's "Mourning Becomes Electra."

Hammond said the "Electra" trilogy had been selected to commemorate the O'Neill centennial celebration. PlayFest '88 is scheduled for late January.

PlayMakers had planned to present The Red Clay Ramblers in Sam Shepherd's "A Lie of the Mind" in October, but had to cancel the performance due to lack of funds. Hammond selected the drama "Orphans" by Lyle Kessler to replace the Shepherd play.

Hammond described the December production, "A Child's Christmas in Wales," as a musical adaptation of a poem by Dylan Thomas. "It's very moving and funny," he said. "It's an impressionist theatre piece."

The final play of the '87-'88 season is John Gay's "The Beggar's Opera," which was the theatre's first musical comedy, Hammond said. "It's a political satire about corruption in love and business."

## Program

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volunteers completed six weeks of continuous training and attended monthly meetings afterward, Echols said.

The training program has resource people from county agencies who hold workshops on relevant topics for the volunteers,



she said.

During the first two weeks of training, volunteers attend workshops dealing with issues such as drug abuse, human sexuality, suicide and unemployment, Echols said. Workshops are also offered on topics such as nutrition, diet and prenatal care, she added. "You are trained and armed with information which comes out in an everyday kind of way," said volunteer Peggy Smith.

Parents talk to the helpers about problems they are having with their teen-age daughters, said Smith. Sometimes it is difficult for teen-agers to communicate with their parents because the parents may deny that there is a problem, she added.

"Teen-agers are in the middle of a situation in which they are often asking for limits to be set for them," Smith said.

Besides counseling teen-agers, one of the goals of the program has been to make people aware of community agencies, Echols said. "The program has been successful because people might not have known about these agencies (otherwise)," she said.