

Wednesday, November 8, 1967

Livonia-Redford Guild Books 'Irma La Douce'

The Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford will present "Irma La Douce" Nov. 24-25 and Dec. 1-3 in the Bentley High School auditorium, Livonia. Performances will be at 8:30 p.m., except for the Dec. 3 show which will be at 7:30 p.m.

For tickets call Ke 7-8109 or 427-9080. Special group rates are available. The play is sponsored by the Adult Education Department of Livonia.

Beverly Gatch will portray the little role of the lady of the house. Other castmembers are David Ukali and George Savage.

With all of its characters reprehensible, "Irma" parallels the 18th century "Beggars"

Opera and the Broadway success "Guys and Dolls."

Instead of the cast portraying highlanders of Old London or Broadway's gambling dens of "Guys and Dolls," it will be playing the Parisian equivalents of these characters. The plot concerns many kinds of skulduggery from stolen jewels to counterfeit money.

Directs Music

William Johnston, of Farmington, a senior theater arts major at Kalamazoo College, is musical director of the school's production of "The Roar of the Greasepaint, The Smell of the Crowd" to be presented on campus Nov. 16-18.



VICTOR BUONO, Oscar nominee for "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?" will star in the premiere of "Amazing Grace," the 1967 New Play Project of the University of Michigan Professional Theatre Program. The production will be Dec. 5 through 10 in Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets are on sale at the Theatre, Grinnell's and Hudson's.

Terrace Awards 33 Prizes

Terrace Theater, 30400 Plymouth Rd., and Berry's Home Supply, 27419 Joy, have awarded prizes to three major winners of their joint color TV sweepstakes.

Ann Korona, of Detroit, won a Magnavox color television set for first prize.

Charlotte Strizel, Garden City, won a six months courtesy admission to the Terrace as second prize.

Mrs. Carol Norwood, Westland, won a three months courtesy admission to the Terrace as third prize.

FOR THE FIRST 10 minutes, the James Thurber-Elliott Nugent script seems dated, with

At Barn:

'The Male Animal' Is 'Revived'

By TIM RICHARD

A amateur theatrical groups have a tendency to stick to the tried-and-true—the plays where Hollywood and Broadway have broken the ground.

And then they pattern their performances after the big winners.

In this contest, the Farmington Players is refreshingly different. Granted, "The Male Animal" has been on the screen and stage some years back, but the Farmington group has revived it, not repeated it.

The Farmington Players puts its own touch on "The Male Animal." Its 5th production which opened last weekend and will continue Nov. 10, 11, 12, 17 and 18 in the barn on 12 Mile between Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads.

1959 college campus talk about the "Hoot" scare? A flaming liberal campus editor, a board of trustees chairman who prefers a new stadium to an operating endowment, an "academic freedom" fight and two love triangles bring the viewer back to the present.

Joel Hepler plays a professor of English who finds himself isolated by the campus editor for a casually-revealed intention of reading in class a letter by doomed anarchist Bartolomeo Vanzetti. Hepler is more stylish and absent-minded than

the detached Henry Fonda in this lead role; you don't get the impression you're seeing the same story over again. Jerry Austensen is absolutely his own man in the role of a former All-American grid star who parades into town for the homecoming game and almost roars back out with the professor's wife. A theatrical professional now in industry, Austensen presents a character somewhat smarter than the interpretation of Jack Carson.

Scene-stealer of the evening is Duane Broadhead, the youth-

ful editor who in Act II, Scene two gets roaring drunk with the professor as they philosophize on the male animal's instinct to protect his home violently.

JOAN STONE, as the former girlfriend of the All-American and now the professor's wife, blew several lines on opening night and had trouble convincing this viewer that she was really enthralled by her old flame's return.

John Wilson, as the philistine board chairman, could use his lines to get elected to office in some of our cities today.

Fel there's no major weak spot in the entire cast. Even the little details—such as three wives discussing operations during another conversation in Act I—come off slickly.

The cast's work reflects great credit on Kay Britton, the quarterback—er, master-teacher—ah, director.

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Barnes In Play

James Barnes, 41025 Montrose, Farmington, a freshman student at Northern Michigan University, is appearing in the school's production of "Richard III."

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