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Tobacco Road

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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OTTERBEIN
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THEATRE

presents
280th Production (46th Summer Theatre)

TOBACCO ROAD

by JACK KIRKLAND

from the novel by Erskine Caldwell

JUNE 22-23-24-25-26, 1976

Director – PATRICIA L. RYAN

Designer/Technical Director – MARTY BOOKWALTER

Costume Designer – BETH KENDIG

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DIRECTORS

PATRICIA L. RYAN, Assistant Professor of Voice and Acting at Penn State University, is a graduate of Westhampton College, received her M.A. at Wayne State University and formerly taught at Denison University. Ms. Ryan's extensive resume includes directing and acting in numerous professional and educational theatres. A list of representative plays directed include *The Three Sisters*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *House of Blue Leaves*, *Medea*, *Miss Reardon Drinks a Little*, *Cherry Orchard* and *Hay Fever*. Some of her acting roles include Joanne from *Company*, Lucience from *A Flea in Her Ear*, Maria from *Twelfth Night* and Mama Rose from *Gypsy*. Patricia Ryan is also listed in *Who's Who in American Women*.

MARTY BOOKWALTER, a 1975 Otterbein graduate, is here for his second season as Designer/Technical Director at the Summer Theatre. He served as an intern at Arena Stage in Washington while an undergraduate. Since graduation Marty studied design at The Lester Polakov Studio of Scenic Design and taught design workshops at the Dayton Arts Center. He has designed over 40 productions and will be studying design at the California Institute of the Arts this fall.

DAVID MACK, a 1972 Otterbein graduate, joins the Summer Theatre Company as guest actor. As an undergraduate at Otterbein he appeared in some 20 roles including two summer theatre seasons. Among his roles at Otterbein are Thomas Cromwell in *A Man for All Seasons*, Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* and Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Since graduating David has had roles at Playhouse in the Park in Cincinnati and has spent a season as a member of the Trinity Square Repertory Company in Providence, R.I. David currently lives in New York City where he has studied acting at the Herbert Berghof Studio.

FRED J. THAYER, Managing Director of Summer Theatre this season, has an M.A. from Bowling Green State University and has been Designer/Technical Director at Otterbein since 1960. He has designed for Toledo University, Bowling Green State University and The Huron Playhouse. This is his eighth season of Otterbein Summer Theatre. Last summer he managed the first season of the Sabina Barn Theatre and directed *Our Town* and the musical *Two by Two*.

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The staff and students of the Otterbein Summer Theatre extend grateful appreciation to the above PATRONS for their support. All of the above have contributed \$10 to \$50 to help pay a small monetary stipend to members of the company. Without this valuable support we could not exist because box office funds are not sufficient to meet our needs. Thus, PATRON support is an absolute necessity! Others desiring to contribute may do so at the box office. We still need an additional \$400 PATRONS' funds to support the present company.

NEXT PRODUCTION

OF THEE I SING - June 30, July 1, 2, 3, and July 7, 8, 9, 10. Otterbein Summer Theatre's salute to the Bicentennial, presents this Pulitzer Prize musical with music by George Gershwin and will feature DAVID MACK, BETH TITUS, JAMES WEST and CINDY SNODGRASS.

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CAST

Dude Lester	JAMES WEST
Ada Lester	CINDY SNODGRASS
Jeeter Lester	DAVID MACK
Ellie May	BETH TITUS
Grandma Lester	MARY ANN DEER
Lov Beasey	GREG RYBAK
Henry Peabody	JAMES ST. CLAIR
Sister Bessie Rice	JENNY HERRON
Pearl	CYNTHIA JUDGE
Captain Tim	TOM DOWNARD
George Payne	CABOT REA

SYNOPSIS

The entire action of the play takes place at the farm of Jeeter Lester, situated on a tobacco road in the back country of Georgia. Time: 1933, during the depression.

ACT I: Late afternoon

Intermission

ACT II: Next morning

Intermission

ACT III: Dawn, the following day

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Lights	TOM DOWNARD
Props	JOHN WOODLAND, JAMES ST. CLAIR
Scenery	PAM BURNS, JAMES DENISON, LANNY NAVARRO, KAREN ROHR
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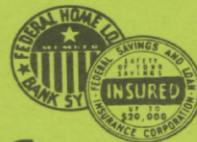
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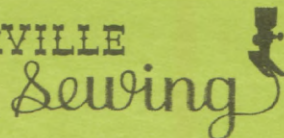
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SUMMER THEATRE COMPANY

JAMES WEST - a 1976 Otterbein graduate from Greensburg, Pennsylvania. This past year Jim served as an intern at the Actor's Theatre of Louisville (Kentucky). During the regular theatre season he has been seen in *Hamlet* and *Blithe Spirit*.

JAMES ST. CLAIR - an Otterbein senior is from Springfield, Ohio and is here for his second year as a member of the acting company. He has been seen this past year in *Matchmaker*, *Aladdin* and *Hamlet*.

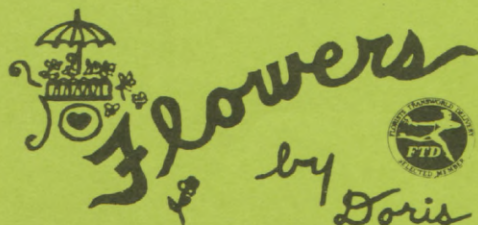
BETH TITUS - a senior at Otterbein from Columbus. She is back for her second season this summer. She played Irene Malloy in *Matchmaker* and Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* this past regular season.

CINDY SNODGRASS - an Otterbein senior from Bedford Heights, Ohio is a first year member of the company. This past regular season she was seen as Minnie in *Matchmaker*, Edith in *Blithe Spirit* and Ellie in *Showboat*.

GREG RYBAK - a 1976 graduate of Bowling Green State University joins the acting company for the first time. Last summer he was a member of Huron Playhouse where he was seen as Mitch in *Streetcar Named Desire*, Marcel in *The Boy Friend* and the Lion in *Androcles and the Lion*.

JENNY HERRON - an Otterbein senior from Oakwood is a first year member of the acting company. She played Ruth in *Blithe Spirit* this past year and last summer was a member of the Sabina Barn Theatre company.

TOM DOWNARD - a first year member of the acting company will be a junior at Otterbein. Tom's home is Wellston, Ohio. He was a member of the Sabina Barn Theatre last summer.



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CYNTHIA JUDGE – a sophomore at Baldwin-Wallace College is also a first year member of the acting company. Her home is Cleveland where she was active in the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival and Lakewood Little Theatre.

CABOT REA – a senior at Otterbein joins the company for his first season here. He has been seen in *Cabaret* as Cliff and Gaylord in *Showboat*. He was a member of the Sabina Barn Theatre last summer.

BETH KENDIG – a 1976 Otterbein graduate from Canton will design costumes for four shows this summer and run the costume shop. Beth has designed costumes for *Aladdin*, the opera workshop and co-designed for *Showboat* this year. Last summer Beth was the costumer for Sabina Barn Theatre.

JOHN WOODLAND – a 1976 Otterbein graduate from Reynoldsburg will serve a second season as Property Master. This last year John designed sets for *Aladdin* and costumes for *Blithe Spirit*. **PAM BURNS** will be the Master Carpenter for this season. She is a junior at Otterbein from Columbus, Georgia. **ROBERT KOKAI**, a sophomore at Otterbein, is in charge of the Box Office. Last year he was an apprentice in the company.

LANNY NAVARRO, a junior at Otterbein; **KAREN ROHR**, a junior transfer from Capital University; **MARY ANN DEER** from Fostoria; **JAMES DENNISON** from Mt. Vernon, will serve as apprentices to the company.

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