

Jan & Cardinal

5/30/80

Jackson A Success As Playwright's First Effort

And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson, Otterbein College Theatre's next production running June 3-7 in the Campus Center Arena Theatre, has some unique qualities that director Don Paisley is happy to point out.

"James Leonard Jr., the author of *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*, is only 24 years old, and although this play was his first attempt at a full-length play, it won second place at the 1978-79 American College Theatre Festival. *Jackson* has been produced by schools across the country already.

"Another unique thing about Leonard's plays is they deal with life in Indiana, which he equated to the symbol of middle America, both in morals and character," Paisley said. Leonard is planning to be on campus for Otterbein's production of his show.

And They Dance Real Slow in

Jackson is the story of a young girl who has been crippled by polio, and the frustrations she encounters because of the small-town attitudes of the people of Jackson, Indiana. Her attempts to lead a normal life, despite her confinement to a wheelchair, are constantly thwarted by her well-meaning but short-sighted parents.

The story of crippled Elizabeth Ann Willow is told through the use of flashbacks, with four people who comprise The Chorus portraying a number of people from Elizabeth's life.

Sophomore Gwen Torry will play Elizabeth and senior Karen Radcliffe will play Mrs. Willow, Elizabeth's mother. Senior Mike Echols is cast as Mr. Willow.

Tickets for the show may be obtained at the Cowan Hall box office between 1 and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Student tickets are free with I.D.

Theater Roundup

Otterbein To Present Area Premiere

Confined to a wheelchair by polio, a young girl is confronted with the small town prejudices of her neighbors and the over-protective attitude of her parents in *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*, the closing show of the Otterbein College Theater Season.

The show will be staged in the Campus Center Arena Theater at 8:15 p.m. June 3-7.

And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson was the 1978-79 second place winner of the American College Theater Festival and was authored by James Leonard Jr. of Bloomington, Ind. The Otterbein production marks its first area presentation.

Don Paisley of Otterbein's theater department direct the show. Kathleen Lewicki will design the set and sophomore Tammy Perakis will design the costumes.

Gwen Torry has been cast as Elizabeth Ann Willow, the crippled girl through whose eyes the story is told in a series of flashbacks. Karen Radcliffe will play the girl's mother and Mike Echols will play her father.

Four people will comprise The Chorus, with each player responsible for playing several roles. John Ebner has been cast as the First Man, Linda Finnell as the First Woman, Carlyle Ownes III as the Second Man and Kelly Maurer as the Second Woman.

The Cowan Hall box office will open Wednesday for ticket sales.

★ ★ ★

Summer Carousel Theater auditions will be held at 2 p.m. May 31 and June 1 at Capital University's Campus Center.

Those auditioning should be prepared for a movement audition and singing audition. A pianist will be on hand.

Singers, dancers and actors will be able to try out for any of the three shows set for this summer. They are *Stop The World — I Want to Get Off*, June 27-29 and July 3-5; *You Can't Take It With You*, July 11-13 and 17-19; and *Of Thee I Sing*, July 25-27, 31 and Aug. 1-2.

Further information may be obtained from Gary Smith, director of theater, at Capital University.

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Columbus Stage Centre will hold auditions for *Strivers Row* at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the theater, 855 N. Nelson Rd.

The final production of the season will open July 11 and be presented on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for four weekends.

Strivers Row was the name of a block in

Harlem where an affluent community of doctors, lawyers and business people made their homes. They established a rigid pattern of living to combat slum encroachment.

The satirical look at middle-class struggles and pretensions centers on the Van Strivens family and occurs in their home.

Strivers Row calls for a cast of 10 women and six men.

Further information about auditions may be obtained by calling Columbus Stage Centre.

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DELAWARE, Ohio — The Department of Theater at Ohio Wesleyan University will present William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* at 8:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday and May 30-31 in the Chappelle Drama Center on the OWU campus.

Tickets may be obtained by calling the OWU office of public relations.

This spring will mark Ohio Wesleyan's 61st consecutive year of presenting a Shakespearian play.

The Winter's Tale, one of Shakespeare's last plays, is a romance of jealousy and reconciled love. As with all of Shakespeare's romances, the serious and comedic ele-

ments are carefully interwoven to create a poignant story with many themes.

The Winter's Tale is directed by Dr. L.B. Rabby with costumes and sets by Bill Gwynne.

Lead roles include Mark Kemble as King Leontes, Susan Foster as Queen Hermione and Betsy Bullock as Paulina.

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Another Dumb Ghost Story, a play about a woman's conscience materializing as a spirit, continues at 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Little Theater Off Broadway, 3981 Broadway in Grove City.

Rene Saxton plays the ghost, a creature devised by the imagination of Mary.

Played by Sharon Kriel, Mary has been arguing quite a bit with her boyfriend and flees to a resort inn to sort out her feelings.

Through several funny but unworldly tricks, the ghost diverts her attempts at suicide and restores her faith in humanity.

Always flamboyantly costumed, the ghost does have a secondary motive in helping Mary. He wants to get his wings.

Written and directed by Robert Weesner, *Another Dumb Ghost Story* also features Sally Drees as the owner of the inn and Jack Beatty as her suitor.

Tickets may be obtained by calling LTOB.

Public Opinion - May 22, 1980

'Dance Real Slow' at Otterbein

Confined to a wheelchair by polio, a young girl is confronted with the small town prejudices and the overprotective attitude of her parents in "And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson," the closing show of the Otterbein College Theatre season to be staged in the Otterbein Campus Center Arena Theater June 3 through June 7 at 8:15 p.m.

"And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson" was the 1978-79 second place winner of the American College

Theater Festival and was authored by James Leonard Jr. of Bloomington, Indiana.

This Otterbein production marks the first area presentation of the show, told through a series of flashbacks on crippled Elizabeth Ann Willow's life.

Don Paisley of the Otterbein Theater Department will be director for the show. Kathleen Lewicki will design the set. Sophomore Tammy Perakis will design costumes.

Gwen Torrey has been cast

as Elizabeth Ann Willow, Karen Radcliffe as her mother, Beth Willow, and Mike Echols as her father, Ben Willow.

Four people comprise the chorus. Each person plays several roles.

John Ebner has been cast as the First Man, Linda Finnell as the First Woman, Carlyle Owens III as the Second Man and Kelly Maurer as the Second Woman.

The Cowan Hall box office is now open for ticket sales.



Linda Finnell, Carlyle Owens III, Gwen Torrey, Kelly Maurer and John Ebner in rehearsal for the closing show of the Otterbein season.

Four seniors in final season production

"And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson," Otterbein College Theatre's last production of the season, is also the last regular season show for the four seniors who are in the cast.

Three of these seniors, Linda Finnell, Mike Echols, and John Ebner, will return with Otterbein Summer Theatre in June, but for Karen Radcliffe, the "Jackson" production on June 3-7 at 8:15 p.m. in the Campus

Center Arena Theatre finishes her days as a student actress.

Miss Radcliffe has gained acclaim for the roles she has created on the Otterbein stage, and has been honored by the theatre department as the outstanding senior in theatre as recipient of the Gressman-Schultz Drama Award at the recent department banquet.

She was also named one of 27 actors and actresses from

17 schools to participate in the Theatre Communications Group Final Auditions. Students auditioned and interviewed with representatives of some 35 nonprofit professional theatres across the country.

Mike Echols will be opposite Miss Radcliffe. Others playing in "And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson" will be Kelly Maurer, Carlyle Owens III, and Gwen Torrey. Don Paisley is directing.



Otterbein Sets Play

Carlyle Owens III and Gwen Torry appear in *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*, the Otterbein College Theater production opening June 3 in Campus Center Arena Theater. The play, which won second prize at the American College Theater Festival, will be staged at 8:15 p.m. through June 7. Tickets may be obtained at the Cowan Hall box office.

YOU'LL LIKE
OUR

THE MAXIMUM FORCE
OF THE FUTURE 9:00

*Swanton
News 5/28/80*

Otterbein "Dance"

Confined to a wheelchair by polio, a young girl is confronted with the small town prejudices of her neighbors and the overprotective attitude of her parents in "And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson," the closing show of the Otterbein College Theatre season.

To be staged in the Campus Center Arena Theater, the show will run Tuesday, June 3, through Saturday, June 7, at 8:15 p.m.

"And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson" was the 1978-79 second place winner of the American College Theater Festival and was authored by James Leonard Jr. Bloomington, Ind. This Otterbein production marks the first area presentation of the show, which is told through a series of flashbacks on crippled Elizabeth Ann Willow's life.

Don Paisley of Otterbein's theater department will be director for the show, and Kathleen Lewicki of the staff will design the set. Sophomore Tammy Perakis will design costumes.

Gwen Torry has been cast as Elizabeth Ann Willow, Karen Radcliffe as her mother Beth Willow and Mike Echols as her father Ben Willow.

Four people comprise the Chorus, with each person charged with playing several roles. John Ebner has been cast as the First Man, Linda Finnell as the First Woman, Carlyle Owens III as the Second Man and Kelly Maurer as the Second