

## College Players Close to Professional Art in 'J.B.'

By ROBERT S. BRAVARD

The College Players opened their production of J. B. Thursday night on the Lock Haven State College campus. The play, scheduled to run through tonight, proved, with the staging to be a treat for the eyes and a challenge to the mind.

Archibald MacLeish, the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, has chosen to remake the Biblical story of Job into a contemporary drama. It is to his great credit that he comes close to success.

The story of Job as originally written is highly dramatic and in the King James translation is one of the glories of the English language. MacLeish's contemporary version cannot match the original insight and his language too frequently merely lunges at poetry. MacLeish, however, has written a quartet of highly demanding lead roles, several first rate supporting parts and a series of fine dramatic confrontations.

In this contemporary version, the story of Job is a circus act continually restaged each night. God peddles balloons and Satan hawks popcorn before the show. Circus personnel wander on and off the stage, taking roles and commenting on the action. Job is anyman recruited anew for each night's show.

To perform this complex drama, director Robert McCormick has marshaled a cast of some 30 people and designed a single setting of high efficiency. He has drilled a speaking chorus and created a series of fleeting swirls of action of great contemporary significance.



AFTER THE BOMB — "J.B." (Bruce Blaine) comforts Sarah (Patricia Muench) after the death of her last child from the atomic bomb blast. Photo was taken in rehearsal for the Archibald MacLeish drama being presented this weekend by the Lock Haven State College Players in Price Auditorium. (College Photo)

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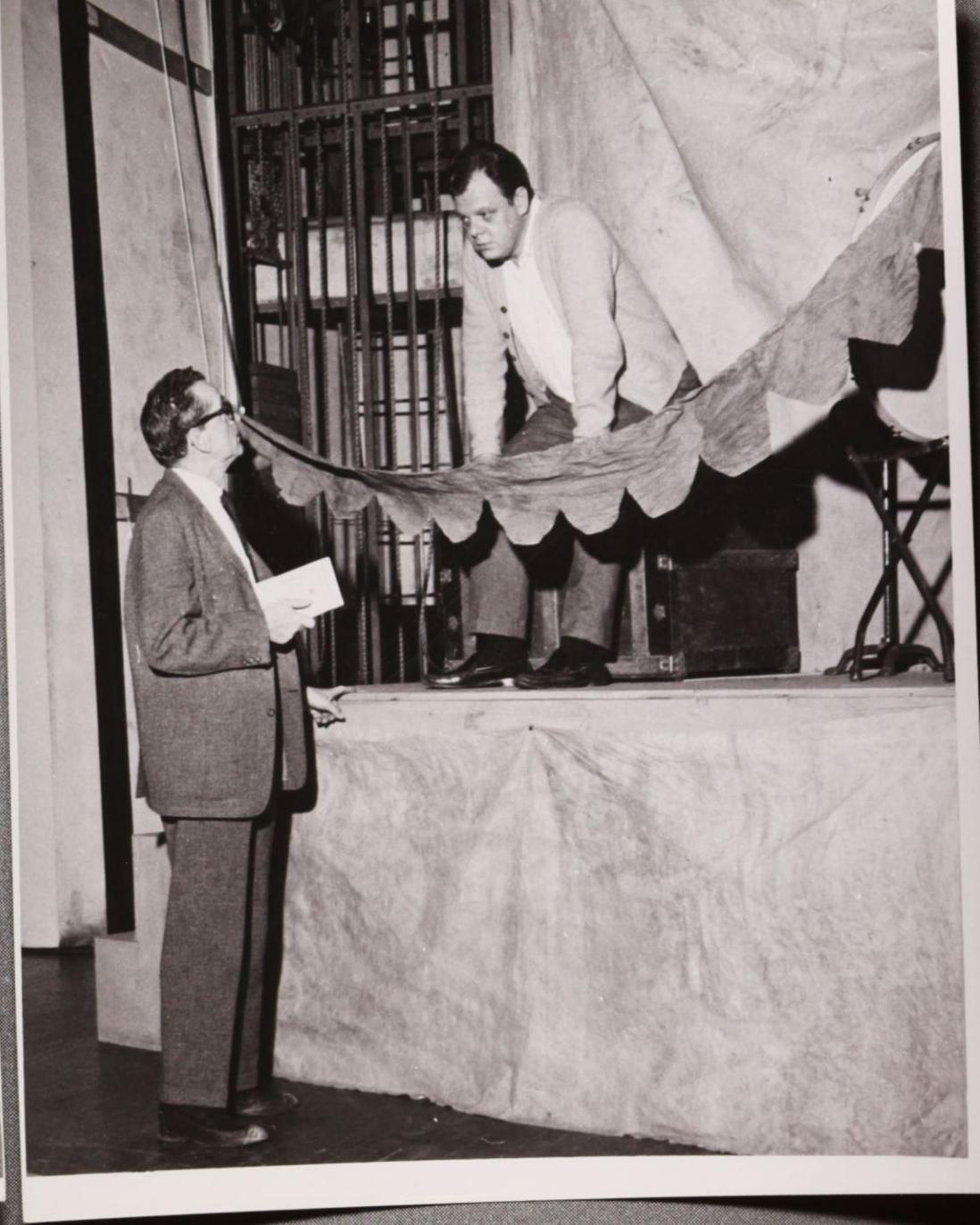
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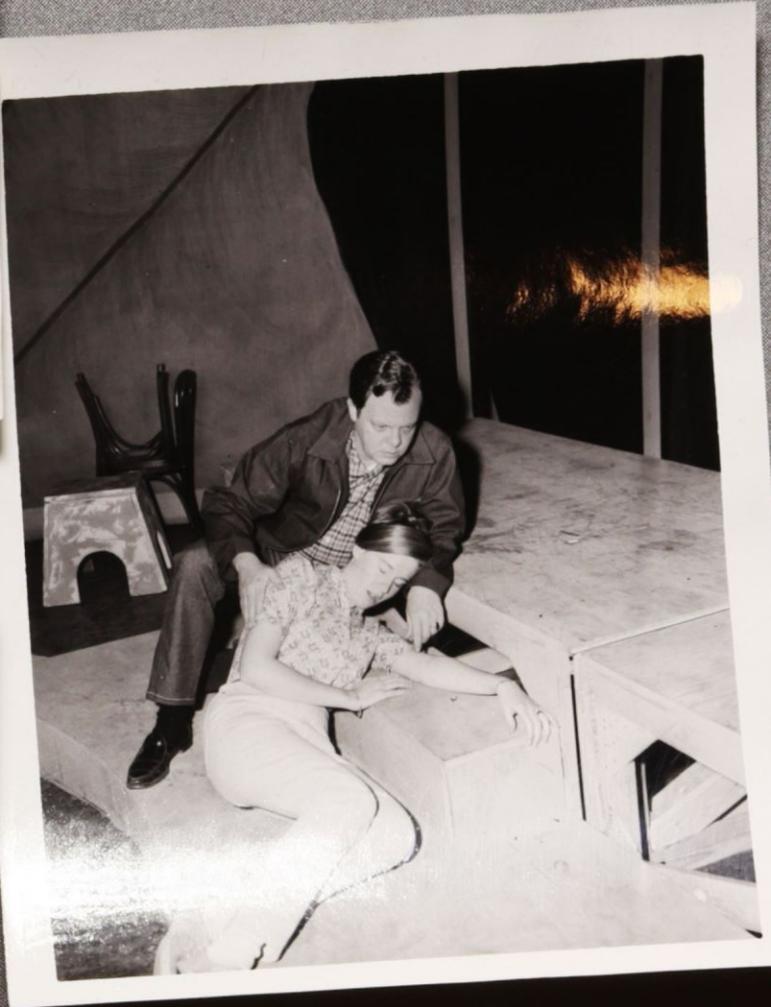
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ALPHA PSI OMEGA

NATIONAL HONORARY DRAMATIC FRATERNITY

*no* Virginia Weaver

*no* Carol Tarasi

*(no called)* Oliver Mattas

*yes* Walter Rudder

*no* Doris Geringer

*no* Wilbur Decker

*no* Robert Marasa

*no* Mark Wallace

*no* Harrison Hamlin

*yes* Victoria Andrus

*no* Lawrence Imgrund

Adviser — Hazel Ray Ferguson

Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

# The College Players

present

## BRUCE BLAINE

in

### J. B.

by

Archibald MacLeish

Staged by

Robert A. McCormick

Costume Design

by

Hazel Ray Ferguson

Light Design

by

Robert L. Peace

LOCK HAVEN STATE COLLEGE

