

At EIU Tonight and Sunday

'Marigolds' Best Show of Season

By JIM ELLEDGE

CHARLESTON — Without a doubt, "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon-Marigolds", the last production of EIU's summer season, is the best of the three shows made available to Charleston.

Written by Paul Zindel and directed by Dr. Gabbard, "Marigolds" will be open to

the public Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00 and Sunday afternoon at 2:00.

The script itself is somewhat reminiscent of Tennessee William's "The Glass Menagerie" and just as powerful. It centers around Beatrice, the mother, played by Nancy Paule, and Beatrice's two daughters — Ruth, portrayed by Barbara Evans, and Tillie, played by

Anne Shapland. It describes the conflicts which arise in a woman whose life is filled with pipe-dreams and how these conflicts have mutated the lives of her daughters.

All the characters in "Marigolds" are female—a novelty for EIU's stage. All the acting can only be considered brilliant—an innovation for this summer's productions.

Nancy Paule, once again, must be commended for her performance of the frustrated and selfish Beatrice, and Anne Shapland out-did herself as Beatrice's alter-ego, Tilly Barbara Evans, who has never let EIU's audience's down, gives a stirring performance of Ruth, the jealous daughter whose convulsions

would rule the family were Beatrice's selfishness not stronger.

Although their parts are superficially minor, Mildred Navolt as Nanny, the old woman who never speaks, and Pat Hinzy, as the giggly Janice Vickery, make their presence known by their own acting abilities.

These five women, alone with the lighting and sound crews, the costumers and the set builders, splendidly show five women whose lives, like the marigolds themselves, are "plotted against time."

It's the best show EIU has done this season, and one must thank Clarence Blanchette and John Keough for their parts in the production as well as Dr. Gabbard.