

ECSU PLAYERS GIVE GRAND PERFORMANCE



Pauletter Hall helps Shirley Weaver change from black to white.

Superbly performed by our ECSU Players was "Day of Absence," a satirical fantasy by Douglas Turner Ward, one of the leading black playwrights of the present generation. This play made a humorous statement concerning what might happen to a Southern community if all the Negroes in town mysteriously disappeared. The parts of the white citizens were all played by black actors.

Featured in "Day of Absence" were Walter Sykes and Donald Liverman as Clem and Luke, two Lum-and-Abner-type storekeepers who discovered that the Negroes had disappeared. James Robert Hall and Brenda Boone played the roles of John and Mary, a young executive and his southern belle wife, who faced the problem of caring for their own baby without the help of their maid, Lula. The part of the

northern radio announcer who broadcasted the news to the rest of the world was portrayed by Gerald Bundy. The role of the Mayor of the town was played by Bernard L. Peterson, Jr. who directed the play. Assistant director was Tommy Brown; lighting manager was Harold Coppedge.

Also billed with "Day of Absence", was Paul Green's "The No 'No County Boy". This play is the best known of a number of one-act plays which has been written by Greene about Negro life in rural North eastern North Carolina. Starring as the harmonica-playing "no 'count Boy" was Charles Caudle, a veteran player who has appeared with the group for the past seven years. Also featured were Ella Parker as Pheelie, Eddie Davis as Enos, and Gail Turner as the Mother.



Brenda Boone and Robert Hall -- "What did you marry me for?"



Rosa Monroe an addition to the cast of characters here listens to Mr. Peterson "scoop back and tell the members of your organization that everything be alright".



Tommy Brown, Mr. Peterson, Pauletter Hall, Willie Woodard -- "Those niggers in the hospital must know something about the others".