'Gamma Rays' looks at human relationships

By Ted Stefaniak

"The Effects of Gamma Rays On Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" will be the Performing Arts Center's next production to be presented April 17-20.

The play, which was written by Paul Zindel, deals with human relationships. The main characters are Beatrice, played by Kathy Christal; Tillie, the younger daughter, played by Rebecca Elliot; the older daughter, Ruth, played by Tamie Delaney, and the Nanny, played by Margaret Stein.

The play is about the relationship of the mother and her daughters. Tillie conducts a science project on the effects that gamma rays have on marigold seeds. Some flowers become mutated while others grow beautifully.

"The relationship between the mother and daughter parallel the flowers," director Alan Klem said.

Dave Dechant, fine arts director of promotions said, "Plays tend to have cycles. After a play has been out for a while, people tend to forget about it. Then, 10 or 15 years later, it will pop up again. 'Marigolds' is popping up again."

Zindel's play was written in 1970 and originally performed off-Broadway.

Performances will be held April 17-19 at 8 p.m. and April 20 at 2:30 p.m. All performances will be held at the Performing Arts Center, 30th and Burt. Ticket prices are $3 for students and seniors and $5 for general public. Reservations can be obtained by calling 280-2836.

Director Alan Klem works with members of the "Marigolds" cast.