

The comedy concerns a swinging bachelor who manages to maintain three stewardess-fiancees, on different schedules, in his apartment. When the airlines make some schedule changes, the plan collapses when the three women descend on him simultaneously.

Jack Scott stars as the bachelor in this Ron

nas been awarded to Ron Gural of New Orleans, second place to Michael Bennett of New Orleans and third place to Donna Motiroe of Gretna's Theater West. In the university category, David Hymel of the University of Southwestern Louisiana took first place and Debra Taylor of Grambling State University second place. The winning directors in the high-school category are Robert

was director, and ones they've now returned to there with the current "The Saga of Chicken Little."

Reviews in Atlanta's two daily papers were both filled with praise for Barroso, Graham and Palmisano. "Palmisano and Graham could easily be working on Broadway," wrote the Atlanta Journal's reviewer.

Toole novel great for screen or stage

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Jill Jackson

movie. She took the books to 20th Century-Fox, but got absolutely nowhere. Now young Scott Kramer has bought the movie rights to "Dunces." I do hope he fares better with something which should really be seen by the public. However, the more I read Toole's work the more I feel it would make a far better play, if written by a good playwright, than it would a movie.

I understand Kramer has been thinking of John Belushi for the central role of Ignatius J. Reilly. I think he could do better. And if he doesn't latch onto Ruth Gordon for the role of Miss Trixie, who works at Levy's Pants, he's missing a big bet. As for the other characters, each will be a wonderful role for some actor or actress. This is a work I pray Hollywood doesn't muck up. If it's not done right, I hope it never makes it to the big screen at all.

THE LATEST FASHION: Harold Robbins never fails to turn out a best-seller, and that's the prediction for his about-to-be-released "Goodbye Janette," a novel about the fashion world.

On May 20 Robbins takes over the posh L'Orangerie restaurant to celebrate the publication of the book and his birthday. The guest list reads like a who's who of the Screen Actors Guild, plus a pack of press. One of the big moments will be a Parisian fashion show, with a lot more surprises promised by Harold and his wife, Grace, who love to give parties.

LET THEM HAVE MUSICALS: For a while Hollywood wasn't making musicals. They were considered too expensive. However, since "Heaven's Gate," "Apocalypse Now" and a few other dramatic turkeys costing upwards of \$30 million, some producers are figuring, "Why not musicals?"

So at the moment "Pennies From Heaven," starring Steve Martin and Bernadette Peters, is before the cameras at MGM, and come the winter "Manhattan Melody" will be shooting at 20th Century-Fox. "Melody" (for which there have been no casting announcements) is the story of a young

songwriter who unearths unpublished songs of 50 years ago and presents them as his own. The original music will be by Harry Warren.

RANDOM RAMBLINGS: Gil Gerard is losing his "Buck Rogers" show, but his wife, Connie Sellecca, has told him to expect their firstborn in September.

PICAYUNES: Former Orleanian Stephen Lord is getting a chance to relax a bit while the writers' strike continues. He is also awaiting the annual visit of his parents, the Steve Loyocanos from New Orleans. ... Another former Orleanian, Deanne Barkley, adds to her list of production projects for the Osmond Co. "The Carney Case," based on the story of a quadriplegic who won custody of his two sons, and "Side by Side: The Story of the Osmond Family." ... Merci a Mlle. Gertrude Beauford pour l'invitation a la rededication de la Maison Francaise a Baton Rouge. C'est tres belle!

HOLLYWOOD — Re-reading the late John Kennedy Toole's "A Confederacy of Dunces" for the third time brings more and more awe for the man's skill as a writer. Toole is reminiscent of the late New Orleans writer Robert Tallant, who turned out the wonderful Mrs. Candy books in the '40s. There were "Mrs. Candy and Saturday Night," "Mrs. Candy Strikes It Rich" and unfortunately no more, for Tallant also died at an early age. Both wrote about the same kind of people, catching the flavor of a certain type of Orleanian, to the delight of the reader.

Years ago Joan Blondell was interested in playing Mrs. Candy in a