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MISS LESTER IS PRAISED
FOR "MARIA" ROLE

A University of Montana music graduate and former Miss Montana, Joanna Lester, is making rave notices in a Cedar Grove, N.J., production of the "West Side Story."

Miss Lester plays Maria opposite Tab Hunter in the musical at the Meadowbrook Dinner Theater. Cedar Grove is located near Montclair, some 20 miles west of New York City.

One review, by Joseph M. Grant, which is representative of at least six others in the area, said: "Joanna Lester, former Miss America pageant finalist last seen at Meadowbrook in "What Makes Sammy Run" has a voice to match her beauty. Her clear, bell-like tones reached a thrilling peak in the duet with Hunter and her solo in "I Feel Pretty" was a show-stopper. She seems destined for stardom."

Miss Lester, a 1963 UM graduate is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Lester of Missoula. Lester is a professor of music in the UM School of Fine Arts.