

After 21 years, Sam Cope has earned his sabbatical

by Sean Frazier
Clarion Reporter

Some would ask, "What's the big deal about a professor going on sabbatical?" With Sam Cope's spring sabbatical comes a notable exception.

Sam Cope has been 21 years without a sabbatical leave. The average elapsed time for a professor to gain the right to a sabbatical leave is seven to nine years. Cope takes his well-deserved leave during next year's spring semester.

Cope has been a music and drama instructor here at Brevard College. He is a graduate of Catawba College where he received a bachelor's degree in music with a concentration in piano and a minor in religion.

Although he was not a drama major there, he participated in many drama productions. He says, "I loved it!" He then went on to obtain his master's degree in music from UNC-Chapel Hill, along with a minor in literature.

He continued on at Indiana University where he worked on his doctoral degree in music. While at Indiana U., he also took "a number of theatre courses." Also, he obtained a master's degree in speech and theatre at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

He has been able to use all of his degrees effectively at Brevard College where he was directed 37 productions, including this fall's production "Nude with Violin."

Sam has always enjoyed "doing creative things." Among Cope's many talents is his wonderful ability to sew. Many, if not all, of the costumes that one will see in any of his productions, Cope made himself.

He has also used this particular talent to produce teddy bears, one of his most favorite pastimes.

"When my children were little, I made stuffed animals for them to play with. Then one day I was making a Christmas present for my nephew and I decided on a teddy bear pattern that I liked and made it for him. It turned out quite well," he said, "until six years ago I hadn't made a teddy bear."

He's continued since then making teddy bears and he is now on "number 165." When asked about how he felt about selling them he said laughingly, "Well, I sold some this summer and it felt as if I was giving up a child for adoption."

He said of the selling of his bears in conclusion that it was "an interesting experience."

Cope said that his sabbatical is going to be a "hodge-podge, a potpourri of activities." He is planning to visit different schools and view other collegiate productions. He is going to sit in on some classes in some other theatre departments and view what is going on in other colleges outside of the Brevard College region.

He would also like to "go to New York and see some shows." Finally, Cope said of his time on sabbatical, "I plan to make a number of teddy bears!"



The man behind the bears — and 21 years of BC drama productions, Professor Sam Cope hugs an armful of his cuddly creations, including, at left, Bella Beartok, who Cope characterizes as "an industrial-strength bear," (Clarion photo by Jock Lauterer)



Student winners of the Turkey Trot, John Hackworth and Tina Wiegierink, are congratulated by Intramural Coordinator Jan Gillean, center. They won pizza dinners. Faculty/Administration winners Tina Holland and Jock Lauterer won turkeys. (Clarion photo)

Clarion schedule

Due to Christmas break and exams, this is the final edition of the Clarion this semester.

Copy deadline for next issue will be Mon. Jan. 22, 10a.m. room 104 Beam Administration building. The next Clarion will be published Mon. Jan. 29.

Good luck on exams and happy holidays!
-Clarion Editors.

Intramural Results -- Turkey Trot

Men's (Fac/Staff)	1st Jock Lauterer	21 sec.
	2nd Devin Brown	1:28 sec.
Women's (Fac/Staff)	1st Tina Holland	35 sec.
	2nd Gala Robinson	57 sec.
Men's (Student)	1st John Hackworth	2 sec.
	2nd tie Jeff Moran & Tom Bernal	8 sec.
Women's (Student)	1st Tina Wiegierink	8 sec.
	2nd Leslie Goodwin	1:14 sec.

Flag Football
Regular Season and Tournament Champion - Commuters
Biltmore House Tour

Tour the Biltmore House during the holiday season for half the admission price. SPECIAL STUDENT GROUP RATE- \$10 On Sunday, Dec. 10. A group will leave campus at 12:30 p.m. to tour the Biltmore Estate. The House&Grounds will be decorated for the holiday season so this is a great time to visit the Estate. Transportation is included in the price for the first twenty people. Sign up in MG105.



Turkey Trotters assemble before the Nov. 20th event. Predicted times ranged from 10 to 45 minutes for sprinters, runners, joggers, amblers, and walkers.