

'Cabaret' — a different kind of musical

by Melissa Miles

The place is Berlin, the eve of World War 11, 1939. The scene is the Kit Kat Club where American writer Clifford Bradshaw meets cabaret singer Sally Bowles.

Despite the fact that Clifford is immature and Sally acts first and speaks later, the couple falls in love.

Meanwhile, Fraulie Schneider rents a room to Herr Scheltz with whom she

later falls in love. Although the couple is engaged, they must remain secretive because of the growing Nazi influence.

What is this? This is the scenario for "Cabaret", the musical being directed by

Sam Cope for Brevard College's fall production. The show, which features faculty members Hugh Floyd and Pat Robinson, and sophomores Philip Constable and Kellye Price, is scheduled for the weekends of November 6, 7, 8 and 13, 14, and 15. It will be the 31st major show performed at Brevard.

Although the movie omitted several characters, the play contains ten more songs. "It's considered fine theatrical music. Unfortunately, it never became popular outside of the show," said Cope. Because of the space limitations Cope says, "It will be a real challenge to do in the barn."

With a cast of less than 25, Cope was looking for actors with strong voices and who could handle complex characters. Floyd and Robinson were chosen not only for their acting ability, but also to portray a more mature couple. Price, who played Lucy in Brevard College's production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown", has always wanted to perform in "Cabaret" and feels she has much to offer the "Kooky, free spirited" Sally. Constable, who also appeared in "Charlie Brown" as Snoopy, enjoys acting and singing and feels that rehearsals are "going real well."

Other cast members include Angie Gilbert, Christine Fullerton, Julie Thompson, Paula Vasoll, and Courtney Welch as the Kit Kat girls; and Steve Galezieski, Eric Batson, Dario Garcia, Shaun Jacobsen, Philip Jones, James Kierstead, and Ches Kennedy.

Because there is limited space in the barn, the actors must know what to do off stage as well as on stage. However, no matter where you sit there is a good view of the actors. The acoustics will work well with the music which will be performed by Cope on the piano and a percussionist.

As if it were not enough to produce a musical, Cope is also helping his wife make the costumes. The Kit-Kat girls alone have five costume changes and 30 separate costume pieces. Overall, the Copes will be working on 60 individual pieces.

But why "Cabaret" now? "Why not?" replied Cope, "people seem ready to try it." Although "Cabaret" is different from previous shows produced by Cope for Brevard, it has many important things to say and yet remains entertaining.



Director Sam Cope leads the "Cabaret" chorus in rehearsal; front row, left to right, Wendy Wood, Courtney Welch, Julie Thompson, Shawn Jacobson and Hugh Floyd; back row, James Kierstead, Angela Gilbert, Ches Kennedy, Paula Vasoll, Steve Galezieski, Dario Garcia, Eric Batson, and Christin Fulkerton. (BC photo by Eric Klingensmith)

Lecture Series examines family issues

Is marriage "a dangerous opportunity?"

And if so, "where have all the families gone?"

The Rev. R.F. Smith, Jr., who posed those questions, will attempt to supply some answers during the two lectures he will deliver at Brevard College, Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 10:15 a.m. in Dunham Auditorium.

The Rev. Smith's talks are this fall's Ferguson Family Lecture Series which aims at exposing students and townspeo-

ple to the thinking of a prominent Christian scholar on the state of the American family. The lectures are free and are sponsored by the college's Life and Culture Series.

The Rev. Smith, a Lenior, N.C., native, is the senior minister at the Fifth Ave. Baptist Church of Huntington, W.Va. He earned his bachelor's degree from Wake Forest and his doctorate from Southeastern Baptist Seminary and has served as a trustee of both institutions.

He was ordained in 1953 and served churches for 25 years, including First Baptist

Churches in Durham, Hickory, North Wilksboro and Pittsboro. He served as a communications consultant for two years prior to assuming his present pastorate in 1979.

Dr. Smith is the author of "Looking Homeward," a collection of essays and "reports from the homefront," he calls them. The book is due for publication later this fall.

He is also a syndicated weekly columnist for approximately 1000 newspapers reaching a readership of 60 million.

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