



# The Decree

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## Tams To Appear

"The Tams and Tams Revue" will be the feature this year of Spring Fling weekend, April 6&7. Sponsored by the Social Commission the show and dance will take place at the Shrine Club Saturday, April 7 from 9 until 1. All members of the student body and their guests are invited to attend. Below is the Tam's story, supplied by Bill Lowery Talent.

The Tams, newly signed Dunhill recording artists, are one of those incredible groups who can do a doers dream and never lose sight of it. The dream? To make a sweet soul music that is simple, straight forward, right-on honest music.

The basic ingredients in a success recipe that has been baking to perfection "way down

yonder" in Atlanta, Georgia are well integrated harmonies, dynamic showmanship, pride in each and every presentation, and the ability to leave audiences with a sense of gratitude and pleasure.

In a "rags to riches" trek out of an Atlanta ghetto -- The Tams have managed to keep the jive going and persevere through even the worst sort of adversity. The four original Tams (Charles and Joe Pope, Robert Smith, and Horace Key) can recall standing on sultry street corners, sharing common dreams and disappointments, then getting together and performing for \$1.25 a piece per night.

Their loyal first fans named the group after the multi-colored tams that were worn as the only stage attire they could afford in those early days

working ghetto bars.

In 1962 The Tams came to the attention of Bill Lowery, acknowledged "Kingpin of the Atlanta Sound". After the Tam's first record "Untie Me" became a local Georgia hit, Lowery secured a long term contract for the group with ABC Records.

Inevitably, The Tams worked their way from Atlanta street corners to the stages of the well known theatres of the day (the Howard in Washington; New York's Apollo; The Regal in Chicago; the Uptown in Philadelphia; and Detroit's Downtown Fox).

A fifth Tams (choreographer, Al Cottle) was added when the group embarked on the bus tours of the mid-60's with such headliners as James Brown, Ray Charles, Jackie Wilson, and Paul Revere.

At all points that positive, straight-ahead, no shuck, totally together Tams' music was being made with self-explanatory titles like "What Kinda Food Do You Think I Am?", "Hey Girl Don't Bother Me", "Silly Little Girl", "You Lied To Your Daddy", and "I've Been Hurt".

Much like a fine wine that improves with age, The Tams continued to build their stage act with the experience gained in the days of consistent work at the rhythm and blues theatres and on the rock and roll bus tours.

Demand for personal appearances had built to such a pinnacle that The Tams began building their own self-contained 17 piece Revue. As a matter of fact, The Tams were on the road with bookings up

to two years in advance at Southern colleges and universities. Through it all, The Tams were enjoying ABC Records hits "Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy", "Riding For A Fall" and many others.

New facets are being added to The Tams' career with their "Hey Girl Don't Bother Me" single becoming one of 1971's top British singles and with the group embarking on their first European tours.

Here then are The Tams at the peak of their craft, the makers of a warm, sincere music that is its own best possible justification.

Joseph Lee Pope has a strong, mellow lead voice which he has refined into a beautiful and tender instrument. Joe, speaking on the group's first British tour says, he wants to have people all over the world see The Tams perform because "once they see us, they'll believe us and hopefully we can make someone else a little happier and a little more soulful."

Charles Walter Pope's favorite Tams song is "Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy". "It is most meaningful," he says, "in that it helps younger kids to realize that happiness comes from within and that you must always try to be what you are, no more and no less."

Robert Lee Smith, The Tams' bass singer, believes the group's greatest virtue, perhaps, lies in its ability to "get down with the people". Filled with great enthusiasms, Robert's favorite singer is Elvis Presley and his hobbies include baseball and basketball.

Horace Key, tenor, recognizes the importance of hard work in the creation of good soul music. He has no hobbies and his favorite song (no surprise) is The Tams' own "A Little More Soul", a song which he says characterizes what the

group tries to do -- leave a little more soul and understanding with audiences.

Albert Cottle, Jr. has had show business under his skin since his mother took him on tours with The Queen City Gospel Singers. Diversions include listening to Ben E. King records and watching television.

Now that you have met the Tams make plans to attend Wesleyan's second annual Spring Fling to listen and enjoy in person as they show a world that is troubled with pain and agony how to confront and transcend problems with happy, good-feeling music.

### Social Commission

The advanced ticket drive for Spring Fling Weekend was termed "a demoralizing failure" recently by Tom Hardison, member of the Social Commission in charge of the weekend. More than two weeks ago the Social Commission announced that "The Tams" and their revue would appear Saturday night April 7 and announced, during a dinner speech that because of budget cuts enough money was not available to finance a Friday night event. The student body was informed that in order to make possible the "total weekend" concept that has been the aim of the Commission, advance tickets would be sold. This was done to have money on hand to finance a Friday night event. Tickets were on sale for two weeks at a price of two dollars per person for the entire weekend. Those that chose not to buy in advance were warned that tickets at the door would be three dollars per person.

"We made it clear, I believe," said Hardison, "our aim. It was simple; the money raised from advance sales

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## Boyfriend Smash Hit

By ARCHIE BUNKER

Better than Valentine candy, a trip to the pines or a date chaperoned by Mama Hagins, the production of "The Boyfriend", tickled the audience pink. (And in some occasions - red.)

"The Boyfriend," a knee-slapper and smile-jerker musical comedy by Sandy Wilson, was performed in the D.S. Coltrane Theater of Braswell Building at Wesleyan College. The dates included February 15-17, and February 21-23. This highly spirited, highly applauded work, dramatically directed by Mr. Richard G. Kagey and musically minded by Dr. John Davis, culminated after many weeks of blood, sweat and tears. The biggest bulk of the work lay in the 17 songs to memorize with elaborate choreography to master. In ad-

dition to these two valuable assets, the 1920 costumes and artistic scenery gave the play constant movement and change. With enthusiasm so high, the audience felt as though they were on the stage themselves and frequently had to stifle the urge to sing or tap their feet.

The theme involved a sweet young thing, Polly Brown, who wanted to be loved for herself and not for her money. She attended a girls' school in France, Madame Dubonnet's, where she wrote love letters to herself. This was to convince the other girls that she would have a date for the upcoming carnival. Finally, her boyfriend arrived as a messenger boy, Tony. After much confusion of the flirtatious game of love and declarations of feelings, the climax occurred at 12:00 midnight at the carnival. All the girls, including Madame Du-

bonnet pledged for Polly's widowed father, all announced their decisions to marry their boyfriends. "After due consideration, we have come to the conclusion, that the decision is unanimously yes." (Tres chique, n'est pas?)

Each character had to be highly versatile, was able to sing, and dance as well as act. Polly, played by Jane Gravely, portrayed a mature and sensitive girl who seemed less light-headed than the rest of her peers. Posing as Perret, her dreams finally came true at the carnival. Kevin Kilroy as Tony, Polly's boyfriend, came across as a somewhat bashful young buck. Money upset him, for all that he longed for was a room on Bloomsberry. Polly's father, Percy, knew little what was going on. His abrupt character contrasted with Madame

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## Elections Announced

As SGA elections draw near and the time has run out for being ballot candidates the field for the offices is, in certain areas, thin.

Tom Hardison finds himself as the sole contender for the Presidency for the second time in as many years. Sharon Lockwood is the sole candidate for Treasurer. Bettie Garrick is alone in her quest for Secretary and Ted Hudson is unopposed for the office of Defense Attorney. The office of Vice-President is the only office to have two candidates. They are Weldon Lloyd and Ed Scarborough. The office for Attorney General has no candidate.

In Senior Class elections Ro-

bin Boehm is the only candidate for President. Howard Payne is the sole candidate for Vice-President. For the office of Secretary candidates are Fran Masfield and Terry Everette. The lone candidate for Treasurer is Myra Dean.

Elbert Wampler and Jacquelin Patshou will be on the Junior Class ballot for the office of President. Stewart Scott and Ellen Godson are the candidates for Vice-President. Molly Pollack and Judith Vilagos are contenders for the office for Secretary. The office of Treasurer has no candidates.

The Sophomore class has failed to fill any candidate slots.

The election will be held March 30.