Follies Tonight At 7:45

By JOANNE SEALE
Guest Columnist

The Senior Follies this year, “Some of My Best Friends are Purple,” will be presented Friday night at 7:45, Saturday night at 8:15 and Sunday afternoon at 2:30, in Hamman Hall.

A Double Life

The Follies, always a student written production, this year seems to have reached it's goal of having a plot. It is the story of a man leading a double life—both as an English Literature prof and as the leader of the local Beatniks.

John Murphy, known simultaneously as Dr. F. Getti and just plain Ferlin carries the weight of the show, both plot and acting wise and does it very successfully.

Familiar Setting

At the college, a small obscure Southern university (which seems awfully familiar) one of those complicated love situations exists. In effect Lydia, LaJuana Osborne, loves George, Terry Koonce, but has a crush on Dr. Getti on the side; George, also playing a double game, has a gleam in his eye for Chloe, Beverly Montgomery, who has eyes only for Math.

Meanwhile, back at the pad, life is simple — Ferlin is living happily with his carefree girlfriend Sophie, Diana Thomas, supported by the income brought in by the tourist trade.

Interesting Dilemma

The plot thickens and Ferlin finds his double existence threatened when among the tourists, he discovers some of his students from the college. Inevitably both sides of his life close in on him—just exactly how we’ll leave for you to find out from the show itself.

The five leads, generally do a very good job—though sometimes their dialogue drags, and the scenes in which the plot are presented are slow.

Lively Acts

It is the specialty acts, that move the play along—on the campus, Reed Martin and Barry Moore, the alums and a college scene modeled on “Separate Tables.”

At the pad there are several good characters — Neil Anderson, Chuck Berry and Phil Morris are amusingly eccentric. But it is Jay Butler who steals the prize for hilarity — her every appearance on the stage promises something funny.

Martini, Anyone?

In the main the slow songs are dead and the chorus blank-faced except in numbers like “Coffee, tea or milk?” and the “Engineers Song.”

The music by Fred Specht and Jay Butler is lively. Claire Plungian has written a clever and generally funny script. Most of the credit goes to Director and Assistant Director, Roy Nolen and Deanna Day, who have produced a Follies definitely worth seeing.