EB’s MELODRAMA

‘Bloomer Girl’ On Stage Tonight

By SHARON ATKINS

The suffrage war is fought again with a flurry of bloomers and hoop skirts when EBLs presents the Broadway musical "Bloomer Girl" tonight and tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. in Hamman Hall.

Sally Terrell plays the vivacious Dolly Bloomer, champion of the emancipated female, who contends against the hoop skirt tycoon Horatio Applegate, played by John McKnight. Horatio’s business is threatened by Aunt Dolly, who advocates, among other things, that ladies exchange their cumbersome flounces for more comfortable bloomers.

A RAID on the suffragette newspaper, "The Lily," discloses that not only Horatio’s youngest daughter Evalina (Kris Schleeter) but also Jefferson Lightfoot Calhoun (Mark Winslow), her fiance and a prominent Southern gentleman, are cooperating with Dolly Bloomer.

Further complications arise when the presence of Jeff’s family slave, Pompey (Chuck Yingling), points to Aunt Dolly’s involvement with the underground railroad.

NEWS OF THE firing on Fort Sumter eclipses the battle for woman’s emancipation and the hoop skirt enterprise as well, as Horatio’s five sons-in-law go off to war and Jeff heads for the South. But all ends well as Horatio and Aunt Dolly turn to making army uniforms and Jeff finally returns to Evalina.

Members of the supporting cast are Lou Bertch as Horatio’s foot-in-mouth wife, Serena, and Betsy Miller as Daisy, the Applegate’s dizzy maid. Seen as the sons-in-law will be Arnold Ahrens, John Blinn, Dale Friend, Freddy White, and Merton Young. Horatio’s five wedded daughters are Shirley Laughlin, Meredith Halton, Danna Holmes, Elaine Hord, and Ryn Rhea.

Tickets for the show are available in the colleges at dinner and in the Student Center.