'Li'l Abner' Production To Begin 8-Day Run

By JIM GORDON
Lariat Staff Writer

Dogpatch comes to Baylor Tuesday when the smash-hit Broadway musical comedy "Li'l Abner" opens at Baylor Theater.

A cast of 48 will portray the cartoon characters created by Al Capp as the production runs for 8:15 p.m. April 29 and 30, and May 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

Mike Savage, a sophomore music major making his first appearance in a Baylor Theater production, will play Li'l Abner. Thelma Lou Phillips, a junior who danced in the Baylor Theater production of "The Tempest," will be Daisy Mae.

Mammy Yokum will be played by freshman Kitty Alice Snead, who had supporting roles in "Gideon" and "The Miracle Worker." Glenn Lloyd, a junior who played supporting roles in "Gideon" and "The Tempest" and the lead in "Winnie the Pooh," will be Pappy Yokum.

Dr. Rasmussen T. Finsdale will be played by Barney Hammond, a junior who played Prospero in "The Tempest" and a supporting role in "Gideon." Carl Deese, the senior who read the part of Doug in "Dandelion Wine" and played Ariel in "The Tempest," will play Marryin' Sam.

Travis Lockhart, the senior who played Captain Keller in "The Miracle Worker" and supporting roles in "Gideon" and "The Tempest" and who served as a reader in "Dandelion Wine," will portray General Bullmoose. The part of Earthquake McGoon will be played by senior Bob Luttrell, who was the doctor in "The Miracle Worker" and had a supporting role in "Gideon."

"Li'l Abner" begins with Dogpatchers learning by radio that their home, judged the most unnecessary place in the United States, is to become an atomic weapons testing area. And so their quest to find something necessary about Dogpatch to save the community begins.

The remainder of the 20 scenes in two major act divisions depict the hilarious results of the efforts.

"It's all sort of a satire on Washington. There's quite a bit of up-to-date political satire included," said Rodney Eatman, Baylor Theater publicity director.

The main difficulty in producing the musical is organizing 50 people on the stage," said Jim Boerlin, assistant director.