

day, July 10, 1998

A Night of Music in 'All Night Strut'

MILFORD — All aglow with more than 30 jukebox favorites, "The All Night Strut," a sizzling song-and-dance tribute to the music of the big band era, has swung into town for 13 performances, through July 19, on the Summer Stage at the American Stage Festival.

From the funky jive of Harlem to the sophisticated elegance of El Morocco to the romance of the Stage Door Canteen, "The All Night Strut" features scores of hit tunes, including "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," "In the Mood," "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," "Lullaby of Broadway," "Tuxedo Junction," "As Time Goes By," "Java Jive," "Fascinatin' Rhythm," and "Ain't Misbehavin'."

Furthermore, "The All Night Strut" marks the return to Milford of New York director and choreographer Jim Weaver, who broke box office attendance records at the Festival in 1996 with his critically-acclaimed production of "Ain't Misbehavin'." With four Broadway performers, Weaver and Hollis scenic artist Charles F. Morgan, designer of the sparkling piano set for "Ain't Misbehavin'," will join hands again,



APPEARING through July 19 in the American Stage Festival's "All Night Strut" are, from left, Dennis Stowe, Lyn Phillistine, Gregg Godbrod and Debra Waiton.

this time to re-create the titillating world of bebop and swing in the 1930s and '40s. Jim Rice (ASF's "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Forever Plaid") will direct the music.

"The All Night Strut" also features several humorous songs of the era including "Minnie the Moocher," "Rosie the Riveter," and "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," as well as hot

dance numbers like "Beat Me, Daddy, Eight to the Bar" and "It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing."

A guest director at some of America's most prestigious theatres, such as New York's Lincoln Center and The Cleveland Playhouse, Weaver's credits include award-winning productions of "Dream Girls," "Little Shop of Horrors," and "Some Porter Please."

Performances will be at 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings. Matinees will be at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays. With air-conditioning and free parking, the 500-seat Summer Stage is located on Route 13 North on the banks of the Souhegan River and just off the historic Milford oval — only 8 miles from Nashua (Route 101 A) and 15 miles from Manchester (Route 101). Tickets range from \$14 to \$26 depending on the day of performance. Senior and student discounts will also be available for all shows. Limited \$10 RUSH tickets will be available to all performances. For tickets or information, call the American Stage Festival at 673-7515.