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DAYTON, Ohio, November 15, 1971 --- If you like television's "All in the Family," you'll like the University of Dayton Players' rendition of "Little Murders" this Thursday through Saturday, November 18-20, in the Boll Theater. "Little Murders," one of Jules Feiffer's finest, deals with an upper middle class family caught in a variety of happenings over which they have no control. Curtain time is 8 p.m. each night.

"If Archie in 'All in the Family', says director Mike Pedretti, "draws your sympathy, Carol Newquist, the 'fiftyish' father in 'Little Murders,' will cause a similar reaction. Carol, that name is enough to upset him, is in a spin over the violence of the world and antics of his family. Mother Marge doesn't help any.

"But the play revolves around daughter Patsy, whose hangup is the American Dream, and her photographer boyfriend, Alfred, who can only see the total ridiculous, ugly face of his existence. While Patsy, stars in her eyes, wants marriage; Alfred, rather nonchalantly, shrugs his shoulders and says: 'If that's what you want OK, but it's really not necessary.'

"All sorts of little 'murders,' or how the family deals with violence, runs through the entire script," Pedretti continues. Feiffer is trying to show us that the average upper middle class is almost immune to the violence of the world. Violent actions, noise, horns, and gun shots permeate the play until the audience, caught up in the excitement, takes the little 'murders' in stride. The Newquists, in a final desperate action, succumb to the true world of violence."

Pedretti joined the University's Theater Division this fall as professor and director. A native of Kansas, Pedretti came to UD from Berry College in Mt. Berry, Georgia.

Five students play the five key characters. Bill Whitman of Akron plays Carol, Rosemary Lear of Iselin, New Jersey, the mother Marge; Sheila O'Hare of Indianapolis, the daughter Patsy; Jim Kenny of Verona, New Jersey, her boyfriend, Alfred, and Jack Magee of Fort Lee, New Jersey, her brother, Ken.