



# Arts & Entertainment

February 9, 2000

## Briefly...

### Friday night at the Apollo

ACE will present "Friday Night at the Apollo" Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Hawk's Nest. The evening will give students a chance to share their talents. To register, call ACE or go by the room 214 in the University Union.

### "Arsenic and Old Lace"

Feb. 10-13, the Thalian Association will present "Arsenic and Old Lace." It will be held on Thalian Hall's main stage. The play starts at 8 p.m. on every day but Sunday, when it begins at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$14 and \$12, available from the Thalian Hall box office.

### "Private Eyes" in SRO

The department of art and theater will present its first play of the spring semester, "Private Eyes," Feb. 16-19 in Kenan's SRO Theater. Tickets are free for students with a valid idea; advance tickets require a \$2 deposit. Ed Wagenseller directs the play.

### 2nd annual Rose Bonanza Valentine Concert

Rosebud productions will blend jazz and love songs Feb. 13 for its second Valentine's concert. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. in Thalian Hall's Ballroom. Tickets are available from the Thalian Hall box office. They cost \$15 and all proceeds benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

## Homecoming Hawk Fest: week of school spirit

by RACHEL CRUZ

Staff Writer

"Hawk Fest 2000: Making a Statement" was the theme for the compilation of celebratory homecoming activities.

The week began Monday evening with "It's Time to Party," a block party in the Warwick Center ballroom. From 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. students took part in dancing, complimentary homecoming paraphernalia, and a catered spread of snack foods. The party peaked in numbers close to 9:30 with 22 students.

Senior Jeff Battle, formerly affiliated with WLOZ and now a regular Friday and Saturday night DJ at Metropolis, was spinning the music. "It [the turnout] is a little low, but it seems like everybody's having fun" he said. According to Battle, promotion is the most important element in making events like the block party more successful.

Senior Carrie Taylor, Homecoming committee chair, explained that a combination of poor promotion and the altered calendar due to the winter weather caused the low attendance of the events. "The snow pushed Greek rush events up a week," she said.

The freshman talent show, scheduled to be on Tuesday evening at Union Station, was also canceled at the last minute. Freshman class president

Amanda Jones was unavailable for comment on that matter.

Junior John Kaiser agreed that promotion was a big problem for Homecoming. He, however, was more concerned with the e-mail that was sent to each student. "The e-mail didn't come out until Tuesday night," he said. "I know it came out that night, and Monday's events had already transpired."

Kaiser also said that the student body is one of the problems behind unsuccessful campus events. "[The few numbers of students] will reflect the student apathy and the poor school spirit of most students at UNCW."

Some Homecoming events that had more students participate were the "Gift from the Heart" blood drive on Tuesday and the '80s music presentation by Barry Drake on Thursday evening.

"There was an excellent turnout of students at the blood drive competition," Taylor said. The blood drive was a competition among student organizations, with the winning group to receiving recognition at the Homecoming game.

Drake gave his presentation to an audience that filled Union Station. Using a compilation of slides, video and music, Drake illustrated the many musical elements of '80s music. Drake explained that MTV was a catalyst for

successful music in the 1980s. He showed video clips of some of the most well known songs of the '80s, from worldwide rock to all-American male and female artists. The audience laughed, cheered and at times, danced to the music that many grew up hearing.

Though the presentation was advertised with a focus on rock, Drake also covered such genres as pop and hip-hop with mentions of Cyndi Lauper to Tom Petty to the Beastie Boys.

"I believe that they did an outstanding job, covering all aspects of the '80s...he encompassed everything, the good and the bad," junior Christopher Ryan said.

Sophomore Terrence "Greyson" Davis, host of WLOZ's Monday evening hip-hop show, "The Monday Nite Beat Down," said that the show was not as diverse as it could have been.

"As far as hip-hop goes, [Drake] was kind of lost...there was a very brief section on hip-hop...[Drake] could have talked about breaking [break dancing] and the positive messages, the negative messages...it really wasn't that diverse," he said.

The voting for Homecoming Queen and King was held last Wednesday and Thursday, with 953 voters in all, according to Taylor. Student organizations also made banners to be displayed at and judged for the game on Saturday.

## Jazz Festival Preview draws full house at Thalian Hall

By MAI HAMRICK

Staff Writer

Diamonds, furs and denim overalls filled Thalian Hall on Thursday Feb. 3 as musicians and lovers of jazz mingled before the North Carolina Jazz Festival Preview began.

The event, a kick-off to the jazz festival held at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside, gave a taste of what was to come during the three day jazz party. The nearly packed audience heard a variety of melodies played by world-class performers sharing the spotlight and their talent.

Dr. Harry Van Velsor created the North Carolina Jazz Festival (NCJF) in 1980 in an attempt to make the jazz party a permanent part of the Wilmington music scene.

The musicians he gathered have extensive resumes individually. Cornet player Ed Polcer toured with Benny Goodman,

Ken Peplowski played clarinet with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and bass player Keter Betts toured with Dinah Washington, Ella Fitzgerald and Roberta Flack. Together they played seamlessly, and each performer had his moment to shine.

At 8 p.m. Van Velsor opened the event by walking out on stage with a soprano sax around his neck. The local doctor and musician introduced the performance by explaining the structure of the evening. It consisted of three sets, each with a different flavor, ranging from Dixieland to mainstream jazz.

Polcer and his NYC Dixieland Band began with the "Cake Walking Babies from Home."

The six piece band played tunes that highlighted the talents of each musician, and each responded to the rhythms his own way. Polcer bounced up and down slightly to the quick beat, while Peplowski could barely contain his energy, smiling

as his fingers twitched during the other performers' solos. Rebecca Kilgore was a guest vocalist on three songs, her lyrics blending with rather than overpowering the instruments.

For the second set, four musicians played in Frank Vignola's Hot Club USA. They played a number of tangos, including a piece written by the violinist Federico Britos for his wife, who was in attendance.

The short set also included Britos and guitarist Vignola's rendition of Brahms "Hungarian Waltz," which the two had learned backstage that evening.

The final set, Hot Reeds, included many of the musicians of the first set and two new clarinet players, Allan Vache and Antti Sarpila. Peplowski led the set, interjecting with bits of humor and interaction with the audience.

While the festival claims to have a national following of fans, loyalty is also

found closer to home.

"We came up from Florida. We watch the newspapers for this. It is the third time we've come down," said Morehead City resident Donald Nickol. He and his wife planned to attend the Friday evening performances. "I like the fact that they get all these talented musicians together for good entertainment," Nickol said.

Cape Fear student Jay Kistler of Boston, MA, has attended many performances at Thalian Hall. "This is important because it expands you. It is fun. You just can't go to a bar and hang out with the same people every night."

He also noted the older audience at the preview. "These people, they are a different part of life and they're fun. Everybody thinks that old people can't have fun. I was looking over the balcony and they were bopping their heads; they were getting into it," Kistler said.