



Arts & Entertainment

March 29, 2000

Briefly...

Stained glass artist leads lecture

St. John's Art Museum will host a lecture by artist Rowan LeCompte titled "The Art of Stained Glass: the Gothic Era through the 20th Century." It will last from 7-9 p.m. April 13 in St. John's Hughes Gallery. Tickets cost \$2 for museum members and \$3 for the general public. LeCompte has an exhibit at the museum. "Rowan LeCompte: 60 Years of Color and Light." At 12 noon April 28, museum personnel will lead a walk-through tour of LeCompte's exhibit and "Quintet: Five Print Suites" by Donald Furst. The walk-through is free with museum admission.

Taradiddle Players offering two Thalian performances

The Taradiddle Players will perform their humorous interpretation "Cinderella" at Thalian Hall April 2. The first performance will be at 2 p.m. and the second will be at 4:30 p.m. The show is recommended for audiences in kindergarten through 5th grade, and their families.

UNCW alumna signing novel at Bristol Books

MFA graduate Nancy Jones will sign copies of her first novel, "Molly," at Bristol Books in Lumina Station March 30 at 7 p.m. She will also read from the novel. She wrote the book as the thesis for her master's degree. The reading is free and open to the public.

UNCW announces Jazz Festival dates

The annual UNCW Guest Artist Jazz Festival will be held March 31 and April 1 in the Warwick Center Ballroom. The featured guest is saxophonist Vincent Herring and his quartet. Herring will perform with the UNCW Big Band at 8 p.m. March 31 and with his quartet at 8 p.m. April 1. Other events in the festival: March 31, Chapel Hill High School's Tiger Jazz Ensemble will perform at noon, Western Guilford jazz band at 1 p.m., Orange High School's jazz ensemble at 2 p.m., the New Bern High School jazz band at 3 p.m. and a jazz clinic by Vincent Herring at 4 p.m. The schedule for April 1 will start with the Southern Wayne Jazz Band at noon, the UNC-Charlotte jazz ensemble will play at 1 p.m., the Francis Marion University big band will play at 2 p.m., the UNC-Chapel Hill combo Point of Departure will perform at 3 p.m. and Herring will give another clinic at 4 p.m.

Paul Clifford exhibit puts small museum on map

by MEGAN O'BRIEN

A&E Editor

The Museum of World Cultures is tucked away in the back of the UNCW campus, behind the apartments and across the street from the police station. The museum is about to make its presence known with its first major exhibit, a donation of 18th and 19th century Latin American art from retired art dealer Paul A. Clifford.

Museum director Dr. Dori Reents-Budet was hired in the fall to make these kinds of exhibits possible.

"UNCW is trying to position itself among all of these other institutions; they want to be able to compete with...the big institutions that have museums," Reents-Budet said. "That's what they're working toward...with the Clifford exhibition, the quality of the artwork is such that they could garner the financial support."

There are about 108 pieces in the collection, which are on loan from its owner, retired art dealer Paul Clifford. Clifford, who lives in Newton, sold many of his pieces to Charlotte's Mint Museum, and the pieces he has loaned to the university make up most of his remaining collection. The artwork will hang in Kenan Hall's Howell Gallery.



"Our Lady of the Apocalypse" is one of the many pieces of Latin American art in the Clifford exhibit.

"Many of the items in the collection were made by pre-Columbian peoples, so many elements from pre-Columbian art are evident in the collection," Clifford said. "It's an interesting blend, since they were painting what they knew and mixing it in with Biblical subjects."

The Clifford collection serves two

main purposes for the university, aside from its purely aesthetic function: fundraising and education.

The exhibit will raise money for the new performing and visual arts center, which is still in the planning stages. The building will cost \$59 million, and Reents-Budet said getting the facility built will have to be a joint effort between the state and the private sector. According to Reents-Budet, the administration has decided to include a gallery space to the building.

"Without a proper gallery that meets international standards for security and temperature control and all of that, nobody's going to want to do anything [at UNCW]," she said. "To do more of what we're doing here with the Clifford, we've got to get a proper space. With the space...we can pull this off. We're doing it right now with nothing. It's really hard, five times more difficult than it needs to be, but that's always the beginning of anything."

The second purpose of the gallery is education. Three students helped curate the Clifford collection, sophomore Melinda Sugarick, non-traditional students Joanna Marsette and UNCW alumna Blair Jackson. Reents-Budet said that organizing an exhibit, especially a major one like the Clifford col-

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"Dogma" director Kevin Smith speaks at Thalian

by JEFF GRISSETT

Staff Writer

Film director Kevin Smith has received acclaim for his four movies, including last year's controversial hit "Dogma." Wilmington residents and UNCW students have the opportunity to see Smith and hear what he has to say on March 30 when the Association for Campus Entertainment (ACE) presents the director's lecture in Thalian Hall at 8 p.m.

"We're looking at a sellout crowd [for the show]. Tickets will still be available [at the door]," said Campus Program Coordinator Ian Martin. "[Smith] was chosen by ACE because he has a timely appeal. He recently released 'Dogma,' which ACE screened in the Warwick Center last week. [ACE] made their bid, and he accepted."

Kevin Smith has been a major figure in the independent film community since his 1994 hit "Clerks," which was filmed on a miniscule budget and shot in black and white. The movie's frequent use of offensive language made it the target of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), which threatened to give the film an NC-17 rating. Smith appealed the ratings board's decision and was successful in getting a more desirable R rating without removing any dialogue.

The following year, Smith released the more expensive "Mallrats" with bigger stars, such as Shannen Doherty of "Beverly Hills, 90210" fame. The film, a tribute to '80s-style teen comedies, was not well received by critics or audiences.

In 1997, Smith released "Chasing Amy," a comedy with Joey Lauren Adams and Ben Affleck. Smith won the

Independent Spirit Award in the Best Original Screenplay category for the film, about a comic book artist (Affleck) in love with a lesbian (Adams). That same year, Smith also co-produced the Oscar-winning hit "Good Will Hunting," which was written by and starred Affleck and his friend Matt Damon.

Last year was eventful for Smith. He married in April, and he and his wife, Jennifer, became the parents of daughter Harley Quinn last June 26. Smith also released "Dogma," his examination of faith and religion, featuring Damon, Affleck, Linda Fiorentino, Chris Rock and Salma Hayek, to name a few.

A firestorm of controversy surrounded the film even before it opened. Religious protestors, including the Catholic League, were upset about reports concerning Smith's irreverent view of the Catholic church. As a result,

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