

Play Allows Students To Display Talent

By Aisha Brooks
Staff Writer

If you thought FSU students had no talent, Ntozake Shange's "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf", just proved you wrong!

The play, opened September 26 and reopened for homecoming week on October 17 and 18, 2002, showcased the talents of 7 dynamic Bronco women: Aisha Brooks (Lady in Brown), Darlene Holmes (Lady in Blue), Tiffany Hill (Lady in Purple), Stacie Staton (Lady in Orange), Stephanie Bell (Lady in Green), Tiffany Carmichael (Lady in Yellow) and LaSherrie Draughon (Lady in Red).

These gifted women brought the trials and triumphs all women share to the Butler stage, under the direction of Phoebe Hall. "There were many moments of laughter, but there was also some moments of pain and sadness," said Darlene Holmes. "The audience could really relate to the pain of an abortion and the shame and guilt that accompanies such a tragic time in any woman's life."

The play touched on some heartfelt issues that not only women of color endure, but all women experience at some time in their lives. Issues such as



The play made FSU students aware of issues concerning women

the loss of virginity, rape, abortion, abuse, murder and losing touch with reality were all explored through acting, music and occasional dance sequences.

The play was a powerful production that showed the effects of sisterhood. It also showed the strength and power of connecting with others to help one endure the pain of simply "living." "This play was all about connections," said one cast member as she smiled about the moments that were shared onstage and behind the scenes.

Draughon said she, "was

glad to have the opportunity to show the strengths and weaknesses all black women, and that any woman will go through." Draughon went on to say, "the play has helped me to understand that in our 'going through times' we must remember that it is God who will ultimately heals us of our pain and helps us to move on."

This was not only a woman's play, Sir Walter Hemphill and Reyfus "J.R" Wilson also starred in the play. "I feel it was important to use men to show that men and women need each

other and the bond between the two is more powerful than people think it is," said Hemphill who played various male roles.

Wilson added "I enjoyed working on the show, it was a very serious production."

"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" was certainly not a male bashing play, but rather a celebration of womanhood. It was about a power that cannot be found in the bed of a man on a Saturday night. It was about a comfort that cannot be found in the arms of mama on a Sunday after-

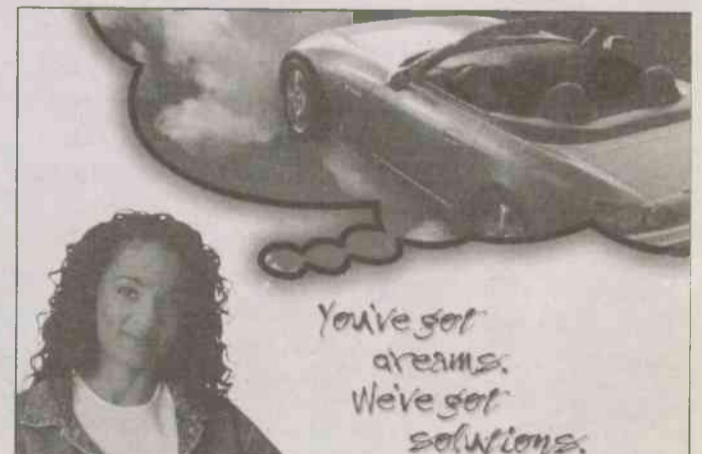
noon. It was about leaving FSU with an awareness about serious women's issues.

The play left Thomika Segar "moved and startled by the sense of realism." When the "Colored Girls" bowed their last bow, said goodnight and went their separate ways, they had all found a greater understanding about themselves and power to endure pressing issues such as the ones faced in the play.

These 7 dynamic women, like Shange, had found "God in herself and loved her fiercely."



The cast of "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" featured seven of FSU's most talented actresses.



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