

MOVIEREVIEW

by Anna Lee
Contributing Writer

According to a study by the Army College in 1925, African American soldiers "lacked intelligence and were cowardly under combat conditions." Despite being trained pilots, the Tuskegee Airmen found themselves mostly working on the ground. It would take almost two more decades before they would be able to fly and fulfill their duties of protecting the nation.

Just in time for Black History Month, Director, George Lucas' new movie 'Red Tails' gives viewers a slight glimpse of the racism and prejudices the Tuskegee Airmen had to endure during World War II.

Stationed in Italy in 1944, the airmen are at a standstill and disadvantage. They are not allowed to take on missions because they are deemed unfit. Their planes are old hand me downs. Luckily Colonel A.J. Bullard (Terrence Howard) is in the United States lobbying to get his squadron in action. After much persistence and failed missions by the white pilots Colonel Bullard gets his way. The Tuskegee

Airmen will receive new planes and their job is to fly around the bomber planes to protect them. This proves to be a success.

Of course there is more to 'Red Tails' than the racism the airmen faced. The movie also depicts the rocky relationship between Lightning (David Oyelowo) and his captain Easy (Nate Parker) who are either best buddies or mad at each other. Lightning is a self-proclaimed daredevil which naturally makes him hard headed. While Easy faces pressure from his father to succeed and uses alcohol to cope. Despite all the drama there is some comic relief in the film. Ne-Yo plays Smokey Salem, a good-ol southern boy who likes to take life easy. There is also the budding interracial relationship between Lightning and his Italian girlfriend which adds a few laughs. They are madly in love but Lightning can't speak Italian and his girlfriend can't speak English!

Being a movie based on historical events, 'Red Tails' served its purpose. It gives the audience a general understanding and makes them more aware. However,



courtesy of impawards.com

those of you who are history buffs may think this is a bit glamorized. Yes you do see the racism they face but you do not see everything that really happened. The characters and their struggles are integrated into the story. It makes the movie more relatable. The one thing I disliked was the special effects. It was very obvious that the planes were computerized. Despite the glitch in graphics 'Red Tails' is a pretty decent film. You will learn, you will laugh and you will witness a few shocks. Most importantly you will see that the underdog can rise to the top.

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CALENDAR EVENTS

ON CAMPUS:

AUDITIONS FOR JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Feb. 8 & 9 4-6 p.m. in the Butler Theater. Call (910) 672-1006 or e-mail Professor Phoebe Hall (phall@uncfsu.edu) for more information.

HONDA CAMPUS ALL-STAR REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, Feb. 18, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Rudolph Jones Student Center. The classic quiz game has been shaken up by new technology. Come see how teams from FSU and all around the region do in the new, fast-paced version of the game. The public is welcome to come watch.

NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY

Saturday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Seabrook Auditorium. The Department of Performing and Fine Arts will host the symphony. Music Director Grant Llewellyn is your guide on a personalized, in-depth tour of Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 "From the New World." Tickets are \$30, \$5 for students.

MUSIC SEMINAR: THE ART OF THEMATIC IMPROVISATION - DR. GREGG GELB

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 12-1 p.m. in the Rosenthal Ensemble Rooms.

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS: RESUME WRITING

Thursday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at SBE 230. The Office of Career Services will hold two sessions (11 a.m. and 3 p.m.) on developing your resume. Learn what to include, as well as tips and techniques, to effectively market your experience.

OFF CAMPUS:

THE HORRIBLE FOLKS COMEDY SHOW SEASON 3

Saturday, Feb. 11, 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at the Cameo Art House. The Horrible Folks Comedy Show is a variety show of improv, video sketches, and live music. Tickets are \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door.

FAYETTEVILLE FIREANTZ VS. AUGUSTA RIVERHAWKS

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. at Crown Arena. Tickets are \$11-\$22.

ROCK OF AGES

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. at the Crown Coliseum. Tony Award Nominee and American Idol finalist, Constantine Maroulis, reprises his acclaimed performance when the five-time Tony Award® nominated smash-hit musical Rock of Ages comes to the Center! In this tour de force nominated for five 2009 Tony Awards® including Best Musical, a legendary rock club faces its demise at the hands of eager developers, and a young rocker, hoping for his big break, falls for a small-town girl chasing big dreams of her own. The score of Rock of Ages features numerous classic rock hits from the 1980s. Tickets are \$18-\$38.

FAYETTEVILLE FIREANTZ VS. HUNTSVILLE HAVOC

Friday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m. at Crown Arena. Tickets are \$11-\$22.

MIKE EPPS I'M STILL STANDING TOUR

Sunday, February 19, 7:00 p.m. at the Crown Coliseum. Tickets are \$37-\$45.

TYLER PERRY'S THE HAVES AND THE HAVE NOTS

Thursday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. at Crown Arena. Tickets are \$40.