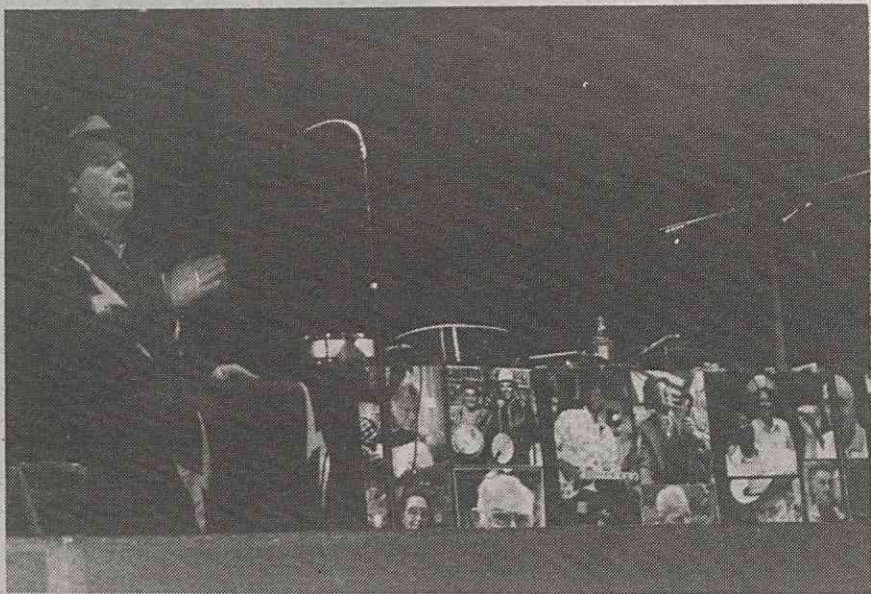


# The Arts



**Modeling his invention, "Thunderwear," Holt uses bodyslapping rhythms to create an entire percussion section.** PHOTO: ASHLEY BARNES

## Holt sings, plays 10 instruments to wow audience

By ASHLIE BARNES

What 4-time grammy award-winning entertainer, famous for his tales, ballads, and tunes accompanied by his talents on a variety of musical instruments, gave a free concert February 24, at 7:30 pm in WCC's Lecture Hall?

David Holt, musician, storyteller, historian, and television host who entertained a full house at WCC, and also performed for students at Fremont STARS, February 24, and Grantham School, February 25.

The concert was sponsored by grants from the Weil Rosenthal endowment of the WCC Foundation and the Community Arts Council.

Judy Lewis, music teacher in the Wayne County Public school system, and Marshall Lewis, music coordinator in the fine arts program at WCC, coordinated and sponsored the event.

According to Margeret Baddour, instructor at WCC who helped to arrange the concert, "David Holt had heard about the floods in Eastern NC and told Judy Lewis that he would cancel another engagement to perform at WCC, dedicating his performance to the eastern NC flood victims."

She said Holt had been booked up for the next 3 years.

The host of the PBS show "Folkways," Holt resides in Fairview, NC, where he interviews the old-time mountain people, to gain information about folk-style music and traditional storytelling.

Holt gave a very entertaining performance including such songs as "Greasy Greens," "Cripple Creek," "Gimmie Back My Wig," and "Black-eyed Susie," which he accompanied with music on a variety of instruments, and encouraged the audience to participate.

Holt displayed expert skills using a banjo, a washboard--one of the only instruments available for Blacks in the 1870's--a mouth bow (the first string instrument invented), a harmonica, steel guitar, steel ukelele, hand bow, bones, spoons, and jaw harp.

Holt credits much of his talent and knowledge to his father, a folklorist who taught him how to play the spoons and the bones when he was a child.

Holt closed the performance by dressing in a jumpsuit he invented and labels, "Thunder Wear."

The suit has electronic drum pads inserted in different places. He can hit the suit on his knee, chest or arm and, using a foot pedal to change the pitch, make an impressive variety of sounds and rhythms.



**Alan Malpass, right, WCC student and fine arts music major, responds to Holt's invitation for an audience member to accompany him on the stump fiddle while Holt played the washboard.** PHOTO: VOICE STAFF



**Dr. Ed Hogan, left, as Mr. Keckwick, drives Adam Williams, as the young Mr. Kipps, to the estate.**

## Horror play thrills theater-goers

By ALI MCLAWHORN and TENNILYA ECHARD

More than 500 people attended *The Woman in Black*, a suspenseful drama directed by Mary K. Rowland, drama instructor at Wayne and Johnston Community Colleges.

The production was performed in the campus Lecture Hall 4 times on Jan. 13-15 at 8 p.m. and at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The play was free to faculty, staff, students, and the general public thanks to grants from the Foundation of WCC.

The play, adapted by Stephen Mallatratt from the book by Susan Hill, starred Dr. Edmond Hogan, Director of Human Services; Adam Williams, a WCC fine arts major in drama, and Shannon Eubank, also a WCC student, who portrayed the woman in black.

Hogan assumed several personas in the production: Mr. Jerome, Mr. Daly, Mr. Keckwick, and Tomes.

The plot was a haunting mystery about Mr. Kipps, Hogan's character, who hires an actor to help him tell a horrific story from his past.

Kipps learns about a family tragedy in which a mother, a nurse, and a child were drowned after a buggy accident. Local legend has it that the mother's ghost continues to haunt the region.

Special effects included fog, music, whimpering dogs, and a full moon. Authentic Victorian costumes added to the realism of the play.

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