

City's high school students get a sample of environmental theatre

Chronicle Staff Report

Students and teachers from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools got a look at ways they can save the environment when RECYCLE THIS! came to town with performances at Reynolds High School March 22. The theatrical production is traveling to high schools across the country with a show designed to capture the imagination of the MTV generation.

Using music, humor, video, and a cast of five professional performers, RECYCLE THIS! delivered a Broadway-style assembly which, without sermons, challenges youth to reduce, reuse, and recycle their trash. They received a message delivered in their own language.

Three performances were held at Reynolds at 8:55 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 1 p.m. The program began with a 10-minute video warm-up that included M.C. Hammer and Paula Abdul videos interspersed with news clips that introduced the solid waste problem in America. The opening on-stage scene placed the audience in a landfill, surrounded by garbage and featured the five-member cast performing "We Didn't Start the Landfills." That was followed by a skit shattering the myth that waste degrades quickly in landfills. Recycling was discussed through a spoof on the nightly news.

The "Plastic Rap" promoted plastics recycling, explaining in song and video what products are being



RECYCLE THIS! performer raps about recycling plastics in "Plastic Rap" tune and video.



"Dr. Jimmy Jam" (right), the King of Recycled Rock 'n' Roll, renders an environmental version of "Shout."

recycled. Next, in what proved to be the most popular feature of the show, students were contestants in "Environmental Jeopardy," where they were tested on their environmental know-how. Contestants had trash dumped on them if they gave a wrong answer.

The production closed with three motivational songs that call the students to action. The closing includes "Dr. Jimmy Jam," the king of recycled rock 'n' roll, singing an environmental version of "Shout." Students received information on where to recycle in Winston-Salem and a free audiocassette — made of recycled plastic — that features the theme song from the program.

The RECYCLE THIS! production started in March 1990 and has already visited high schools in 65 cities. It will appear in more than 100 cities before its national tour ends in June.

The national tour is sponsored by the plastics recycling business of The Dow Chemical Company.

NAACP questions killings

ROANOKE (AP) — A woman who was stabbed as many as 30 times has identified her assailant as the man Roanoke police shot and killed after they say he stabbed an officer while being questioned about the woman's attack.

Police said they were able to talk to the woman Tuesday at Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where she picked Leonard A. Morris from a photographic lineup.

The identification came one day after Morris' family members said they were convinced he had nothing to do with the attack. Morris' brother, Desmond, spoke at a news conference in which he accused police of excessive force.

Leonard Morris, 27, was shot as many as nine times by police after he stabbed one officer and rushed others at knifepoint while he was being questioned at his home Saturday, authorities said.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

is calling for a federal investigation into the death of Morris, saying excessive force may have been used by police.

Police said the woman was able to give details about the inside of Morris' home that only someone who had been there would know.

The woman told police she met Morris at a Roanoke nightclub last Friday night. She said she agreed to go home with Morris, and he then began to make sexual advances. When she resisted, he became angry, she told police.

She eventually ran from the house, but Morris chased her. He caught her a few blocks away and used a knife to cut away her blouse, police said.

The woman was stabbed repeatedly in the chest, arms and back and was left in a parking lot about two blocks from Morris' home. A man on his way to work found her about 5:30 a.m. and called for help.

Fed threatened at UNC-CH

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — A federal official investigating discrimination charges against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was threatened in a phone call, school officials said.

Pete Fountain of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights said he received a threatening phone call early Wednesday at his hotel room, according to Clifton Metcalf, director of UNC News Services.

Susan Ehringhaus, the university's lawyer, said she did not know what the caller said to Fountain. She said Fountain did not sound shaken when she talked to him.

Fountain declined comment when called at his Atlanta home by

The Chapel Hill Newspaper.

Ms. Ehringhaus said Fountain told her he had finished his on-site investigation before leaving the campus.

Fountain arrived in Chapel Hill Monday to begin investigating allegations that the university practices discrimination. The original complaint was filed by Police Officer Keith Edwards, who charges that the university practices widespread discrimination against blacks and women.

During his three days on campus, Fountain was expected to interview employees who had filed grievances against the university. UNC-CH also is being investigated by the Raleigh office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

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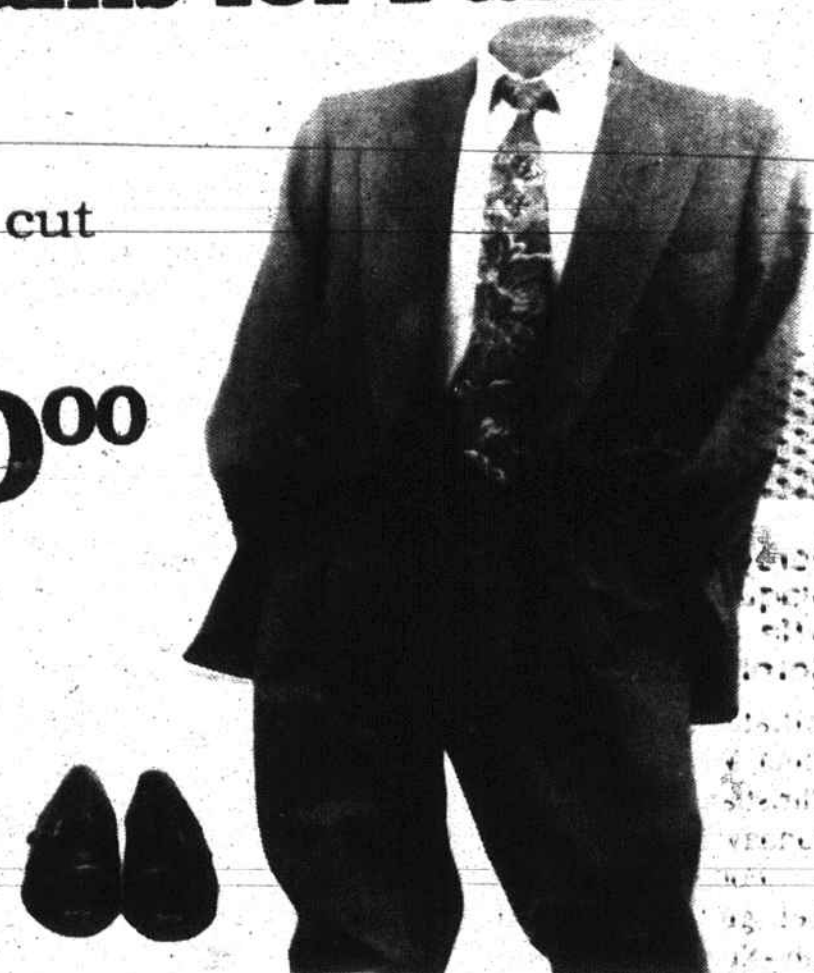
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