

Dance company's unique, exciting group

The A List

Continued from 10B

expect to see from high school students. It's rigorous and physically and emotionally demanding, but the company has really taken to it. They love it."

Stines hopes the festival will become an annual showcase for Charlotte's rapidly growing corps of modern dancers and enthusiasts.

"As more people move here from around the country, the need for modern dance will grow," she said. "People who are familiar

with it love it. The expectancy of good art is going to grow as people come in from other cities. People will desire this kind of entertainment. Hopefully this will become a huge venue for independent choreographers in Charlotte. The performance also opens doors for my kids as they get to see something other than competition dance and ballet."

The students like the idea of working with professionals. "It's a new experience," Cunningham said. "I've always

worked with the same people. It's neat to have other people come in and show us their techniques and ideas."

Stines taught and choreographed for 12 years in New York City and founded a teen dance company in Brooklyn that performed at the Apollo Theater. She enjoys working with students.

"They're great," she said. "They want to learn and they'll try anything. This is a great opportunity for them." Cunningham has high hopes for

the performance.

"We want other students to join," he said. "We want respect for our school. We want to keep this going."

N.C. Spring Dance Festival will be held at Garinger High School Auditorium, 1100 Eastway Drive. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$7. Admission is free for children under 12. For more information, call 343-6450.

Continued from 10B

UNC Charlotte will host a week of jazz events Saturday-April 4 featuring concerts by keyboardist Brian Culbertson and vocalist Jane Powell.

Culbertson performs April 4 in the university's McKnight Hall. Daryle Ryce will open for Culbertson. Tickets are \$10.

Powell will appear at 8 p.m. April 3. Tickets are \$7.

The remaining schedule includes: Monday, UNC Charlotte Jazz Combos, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Cone University Center's After Hours area; Tuesday, Ivan Hall Trio, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., After Hours; A Maestro Productions, 1-2 p.m., After Hours; Open-Mike Jazz Cafe, 7-10 p.m., Rathskellar; Wednesday, April 1, Terri Davis, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., After Hours; Talent Show, 8 p.m.,

McKnight Hall, \$3; Thursday, April 2, Jazz, Tap and African Dance, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., After Hours; Gospel Night, 7 p.m., McKnight Hall; UNCC Jazz Bands, 8-9:30 p.m., Rowe Recital Hall; April 3, College Jazz Bands, 1-5 p.m., Rowe Recital Hall; April 4, high school jazz bands, 1-5 p.m., Rowe Recital Hall.

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

For more information, call UNC Charlotte University Program Board at (704) 547-2450.



A photograph in last week's Post misidentified choreographer Alonzo King.

Shelton brings directing skills to big screen

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compelled by a story that brings people from different places, with different problems, together with one goal.

"I think it's a story that recognizes the commonality of people in spite of their differences," Yoba said. "There's a lot of culture and class clashes that make the movie funny, but ultimately it's about people from really different backgrounds who come to see the powerful sameness in one another."

The cast includes Luther Campbell, formerly of 2 Live Crew, Fredro Starr and Sticky Fingaz of the Onyx and The Lady of Rage. There's also Guy Torry, Dartanyan Edmonds, MTV VJ Idalis Leon and Kellie Williams from "Family Matters."

Reuben Asher, who plays Casper, the white rapper hoping to find his "roots" in Florida, isn't even an actor - he's a friend of

Shelton who embodied the role.

Shelton said the movie is "full of people proving that talent has few boundaries."

"Maybe because hip hop has always been about keeping it real, the performers just know how to be natural," she said. "This is a movie that gives people who don't normally get a chance to stand out an opportunity to shine."

And the actors liked Shelton's confident style.

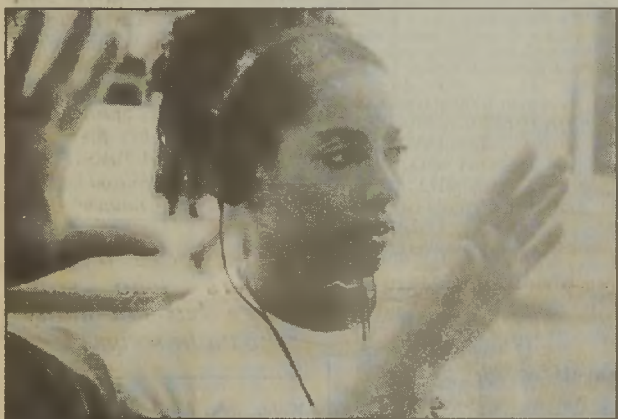
"Shew has a wonderful approach as a woman," said Williams, who plays a young singer who learns lessons on love and independence. "Millicent let us be really, really free to create these people and live truthfully in the moment."

"There's a certain intimacy that she was able to give us that I've never gotten from a male director," Williams said. "And she was always calm even when things were going crazy."

Shelton said an African American woman has something unique to add to the entertainment world.

"A woman's experience of living

in this world is different from a man's and an African American's experiences is different also. We see things in another way - but it's one that's equally interesting."



PHOTO/JERRY JACK

Writer/director Millicent Shelton on set of "Ride." Actors say they liked her confident style.

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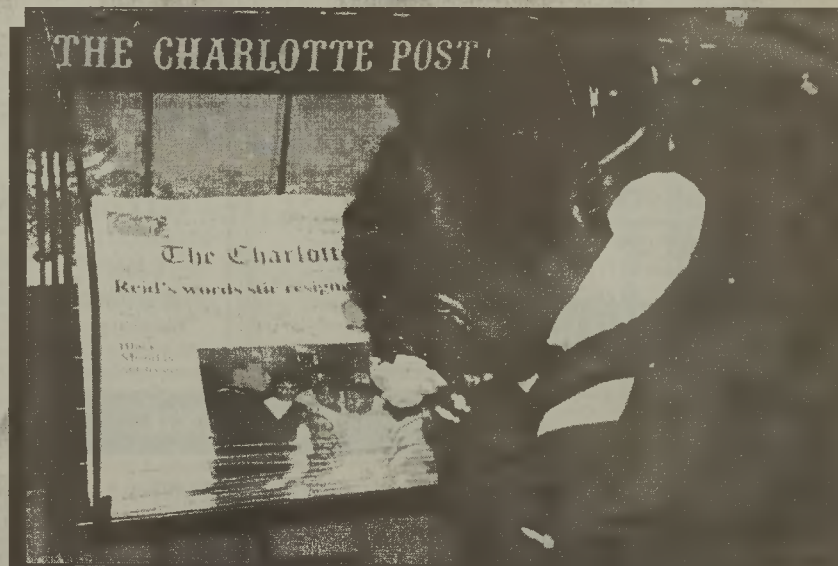
Jazz: (N.Y.) Savoy, (detail), 1964

The Mint Museum of Art and WBAV, V101.9 FM presents **Friday Night Out** on March 27th from 6 to 9 p.m. Charlotte's best jazz band, the *Xperiment*, provides the rhythmic connection to the exhibition **Romare Bearden in Black-and-White** on display through May 10th. A taste of the Savoy (and hors d'oeuvres), Bearden and great jazz for just \$F at the door.

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Friday Nights at 11

A 30-minute review of critical issues that affect the black community and influence the quality of living for all North Carolinians.

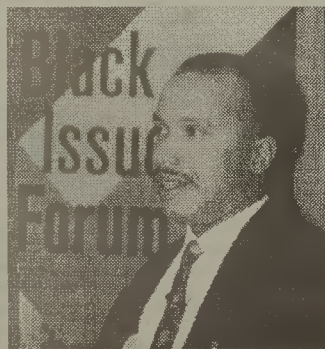
Coming for Festival '98

2/27 *Race Relations in NC*
Guests: Melvin "Skip" Alston, President NC NAACP and broadcaster, Tom Joyner

3/6 *Profile in Achievement:*
Guest: NC's first black female state senator, Jeanne Lucas

3/13 *Affirmative Action*
With coaches Cash Michaels and Don Carrington on hand, NC high school students debate affects on the workforce and higher education.

3/20 *Profile of Achievement*
Guest: UNC-CH's first black female undergraduate, Karen Parker



Host, Jay Holloway

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