

# Film festival to feature classic '30s musicals

By ED BRACKETT  
Staff Writer

The Union Film Committee will present three classic musicals from days gone by and a controversial one made just a couple of years ago in its "Musicals of the 1930s" film festival, which begins this weekend.

The first of these, to be shown Saturday at 7 and 9:30 p.m., is *Gold Diggers of 1933*. Stars Ginger Rogers, Dick Powell, Ruby Keeler and Joan Blondell, along with a legion of chorus girls, perform an array of lavish musical numbers under the expert choreography of Busby Berkeley.

Songs include the now-familiar "We're in the Money" and the somewhat racy "Pettin' in the Park." The latter probably would have been excised from the final product had *Gold Diggers* not been made before the era of Hollywood censorship under the guidance of the Hays Code, which took effect in 1934.

The next film, *San Francisco* (1936), stars Jeanette MacDonald as an opera singer living and performing on the Barbary Coast shortly before the 1906 earthquake. The musical also features, of all people, Clark Gable and Spencer Tracy, relative strangers to the genre who are better-known for their work in dramas or comedies.

*San Francisco* will be shown March 31, at 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Fred and Ginger (Astaire and Rogers, of course) strap on their dancing shoes for the next film, 1937's *Shall We Dance?*, featuring songs by George Gershwin. The songs performed by the duo include "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" and the Academy Award-nominated "They Can't Take That Away From Me."

*Shall We Dance?* will be shown April 4, at 7 and 9 p.m.

The last film of the series, 1981's *Pennies From Heaven*, though not filmed in the '30s, is nevertheless a definite comment on the musicals of the period. A highly stylized movie, *Pennies From Heaven* almost defies description: It is at once a tribute to, an affectionate take-off on, and a scathing indictment of the '30s musical.

Steve Martin plays an unsuccessful sheet music salesman in mid-1930s Chicago who, put off by his frigid wife, gets involved with a timid but beautiful school teacher played by Bernadette Peters. Unfortunately, she becomes pregnant.

From there the story gets increasingly depressing.

Eventually, the only happiness the two



Steve Martin and Bernadette Peters croon in 'Pennies From Heaven.' ...This 1981 film is a controversial comment on musicals of the 1930s.

can obtain comes from their fantasies, which are fueled by popular tunes and musicals of the day. Meanwhile, in the real world, the depression — and the Depression — continues. It is this type of escapism, so prevalent in musicals of the '30s, that scriptwriter Dennis Potter reveals and examines.

*Pennies From Heaven* will be shown on Sunday, April 8, at 7 and 9:30 p.m.

For an interesting, lyrical glimpse of the past, check out the "Musicals of the 1930s" Film Festival. After all, how often does one get to see Clark Gable sing? Or Steve Martin being serious? Or Fred Astaire roller-skating?

# Film Night lets students see work of would-be directors

By STEVE MURRAY  
Staff Writer

No limousines, spotlights or furs are expected, but fun should be abundant Sunday at 7 p.m. as the Union Film Committee presents Student Film Night in the Union Auditorium.

Designed as an outlet for any UNC students who want to screen their movies, Film Night is characterized by variety. Hobbyists and RTVMP majors alike have entered films originally meant to fulfill project assignments or just made to idle away a Sunday afternoon.

The only restriction on entries is a 12- to 13-minute running length. Otherwise, anything goes.

Traditionally, a festive mood pervades the presentation. Technical blunders — on screen and in the projection room — are expected to contribute to the rowdy spirit of the evening.

Bur Sorien Schmidt, chairperson of the Film Committee, pointed out that not all the films are meant to be funny. In fact, in past Student Film Nights, some serious entries were buried by audience merriment.

Running that risk Sunday night will be *Welcome to Carrboro*, a 10-minute documentary made by Sharon Anton, concerning Carrboro's problems of black unemployment and alcoholism.

Anton, a graduate student in English, made the film in the fall of 1983 for an RTVMP production class. She herself teaches a movie criticism course and was quick to point out that her movie, a first effort, has flaws.

She also admitted that the title fools some people. It sounds like a satire or travelogue, but the film, Anton said, "focuses on the poor black community of Carrboro, a side nobody pays any attention to. Most people are surprised by what they see."

Asked if she were nervous about Sunday night, she gave a flat "No."

Schmidt, thinking back on previous student film nights, recalled that most students showing their films kept their cool — at least till the last moment. "I've

seen some totally fall apart," she said.

No wonder. For some entrants the presentation will be the first time anyone but friends has seen their work. "It's excellent opportunity to see how audiences react," Schmidt said.

John Paul Middlesworth, an RTVMP graduate student, has already shown his film, *The Big Party*, to a Duke audience, by whom it was "well received," he said.

Middlesworth made the 2-minute animated short last spring as an experiment. He spent six hours maneuvering and shooting cut-out figures to produce what he called "a scathing attack on college party life" in which "a couple of dozen generic students have a generic party."

Like Anton, he denied any opening night jitters. In fact, he was only sorry that the film would be screened just once. "To catch all the nasty little things that happen in it, you need to see it several times," he said.

Graduate students aren't the only ones showing films Sunday. Sophomore David Palmer's movie *Photogenic* is neither documentary nor satire, but what Palmer called "Twilight Zone or Hitchcockian."

Palmer made his film "just for the heck of it." When asked about nervousness, he seemed as untroubled as Anton and Middlesworth. Palmer already has shown three films on previous Student Film Night programs.

Documentary, comedy, mystery — these are just three offerings in an evening promising diversity.

Student Film Night has been called UNC's little Cannes. But there is no judging, no competition. The purpose of the event is to give student filmmakers an outlet to an audience, and to give that audience the first view of a new Hitchcock or Spielberg's nascent work.

Palmer, Middlesworth and Anton all plan to be in the Union Auditorium Sunday night. Whether they arrive by limousine or bus, draped by furs or sweatshirts is — like their films — yet to be seen.

Spotlights aren't important. What counts is that flicker of life onscreen.

## EXPERIENCE ENGLAND AT WROXTON COLLEGE IN THE HEART OF SHAKESPEARE COUNTRY

Spend a semester or a summer session basking in British literature, art and drama—or absorbing England's history and its contemporary social, economic and political sciences. At Fairleigh Dickinson University's Wroxton College, in the heart of rural Oxfordshire, England, you learn and live in Lord North's historic home, Wroxton Abbey. Courses conducted by resident and visiting British scholars, under the English lecture and tutorial system, are offered to undergraduates year-round and to graduate students in summer sessions. Independent study opportunities, wide-ranging weekend trips, and attendance at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre all make the time spent at Wroxton a lively learning experience, full of England's past and present. The program is conducted under the auspices of a fully accredited, well-established American university. Students from your university have enjoyed the Wroxton experience over the years. To find out how you can carry on their tradition, fill out the coupon and mail to: Overseas Programs, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, NJ 07070.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE I NOW ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_

I'M INTERESTED IN WROXTON  UNDERGRADUATE  GRADUATE PROGRAMS

An equal opportunity/affirmative action institution

**FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY**

Rutherford-Madison, Rutherford/Wayne, Teaneck-Hackensack, New Jersey



## Glee clubs sing

The UNC Men's and Women's Glee Clubs will present their annual spring concert on April 8, at 4 p.m. in Hill Hall.

Under the direction of Michael Tamte-Horan, the concert will feature a variety of choral works for men's, women's and mixed choruses including 16-20th century motets, German Romantic part songs and American folk songs, sea chanteys and spirituals.

The concert is free of charge and open to the public.

Support the  
**March of Dimes**  
BIRTH DEFECTS FOUNDATION

## treasury

From page 1

the year, because the student body treasurer has been inclined to go by the spirit of the law, and SAFO is always going to go by the letter of the law," he said. "This is just the biggest of the conflicts, but it's not the only one that's occurred through the course of this year."

"Many times in dealing with other student organizations, the SBT and FCC

would find that the Treasury Laws are very restrictive," he said. "In many cases what the SBT and FCC would attempt to do is work around those Treasury Laws and grant exceptions to those laws."

"On the other hand, SAFO will follow the very letter of the law. That's where you get your conflict."

The new police recruits.  
Call them slobs.  
Call them jerks.  
Call them gross.

Just don't call them  
when you're in trouble.



# POLICE ACADEMY

What an Institution!

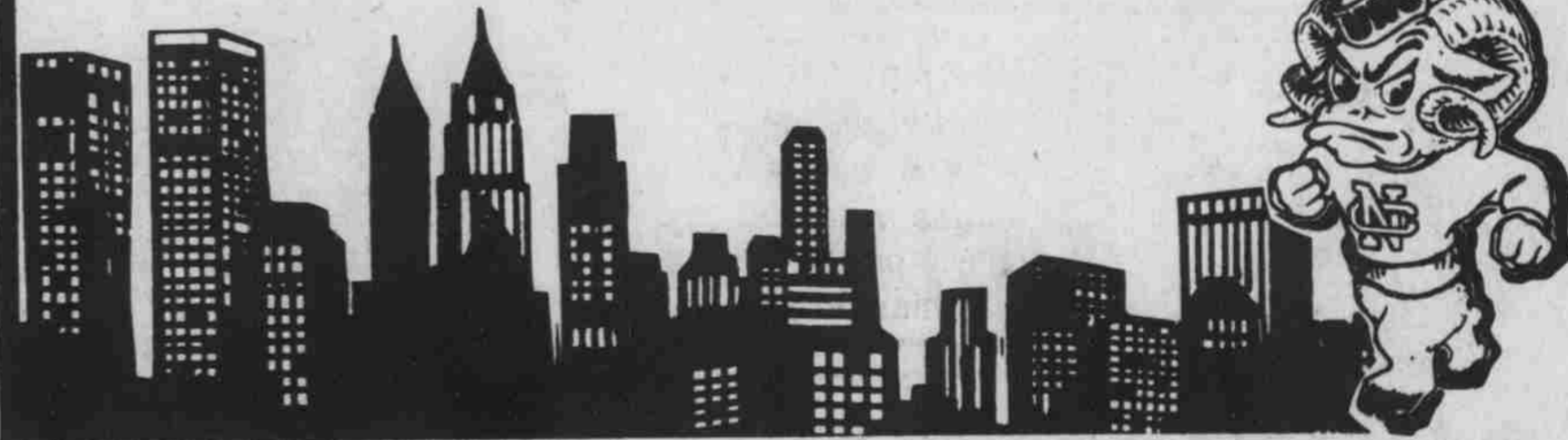
"POLICE ACADEMY" A PAUL MASLANSKY PRODUCTION  
STARRING STEVE GUTTENBERG • KIM CATTRALL • BUBBA SMITH • AND GEORGE GAYNES AS COMDT. LASSARD  
STORY BY NEAL ISRAEL & PAT PROFT • SCREENPLAY BY NEAL ISRAEL & PAT PROFT AND HUGH WILSON  
PRODUCED BY PAUL MASLANSKY • DIRECTED BY HUGH WILSON

R RESTRICTED  
UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

A LADD COMPANY RELEASE

OPENS AT THEATERS EVERYWHERE ON MARCH 23.

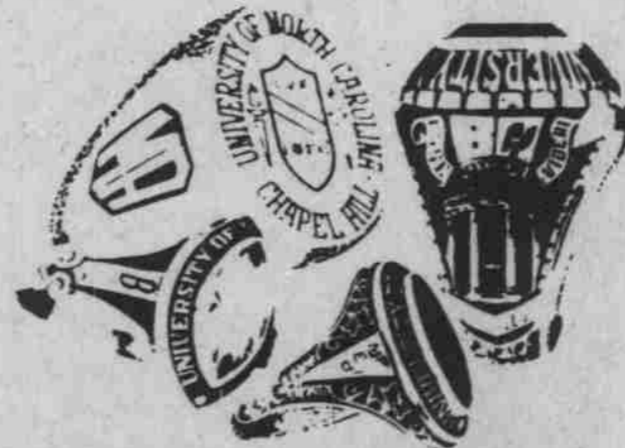
\* WIN \*  
TRANSPORTATION TO & FROM AIRPORT  
A Weekend In New York!!  
2 ORCHESTRA SEATS TO A BROADWAY PLAY  
FIRST CLASS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS



Stop by and see the many BEAUTIFUL and OFFICIAL CLASS RING designs...

20-30% Off

No Purchase Necessary To Enter!



LOW, LOW, GOLD PRICES

Order on this date for EARLY DELIVERY

Date: March 23 Time: 9 am-2 pm  
Place: STUDENT STORES Deposit: \$20.00

HERFF JONES  
Division of Carnation Company