



Union-sponsored drama "Bent" has final performance tonight
DTH/Tony Deitell

'Bent,' an ironic mirror for society

Marty Michaels
Theater

The word "bent" implies something that is twisted out of shape. In the two-act play "Bent," which opened Monday night in Memorial Hall, the word describes the treatment of people that society considers aberrations. In its entirety, "Bent" is a provocative and well-conceived exploration of society and the scapegoats it persecutes.

The drama follows the internal progress of Max, a homosexual living in Nazi Germany. He is the personality at the vortex of the play; it is as if all the other characters serve primarily to expose his examination of values and self.

The opening scene finds Max and his boyfriend, Rudy, evacuating their apartment in Berlin, one step ahead of the Gestapo. After their capture two years later, they are herded onto a transport train en route to the death camp of Dachau.

Act Two takes place entirely within a Dachau workyard where Max and a fellow prisoner, Horst, work together in a Sisyphus-like task of continually moving rocks from one pile to another. These scenes are an exposition of Max's mind as he renounces the token pink triangle of homosexuality for the more accepted yellow star of Judaism.

Ironically, he is like Judas: he is a traitor to himself, renouncing the truth of who he really is. Horst, also a homosexual, knows the truth, and their secret conversations are particularly poignant because they are the only remaining form of human interaction. The conclusion is stun-

ning: a tragedy allows Max to return full circle to the inescapable truth of his identity as a "pink triangle."

The play, written by Martin Sherman, is excellent in almost every aspect. It is a rare play, a play that is significant not only in its own frame of reference but also in that of every human being. Great credit for its local success should go to director Steve Maler, a UNC senior in dramatic art.

The acting in the student production is generally first-rate, particularly the demanding role of the ambivalent Max. As played by Lane Wurster, he comes across as confused, wavering between the will to survive and the reality of his homosexuality. Wurster's face and body are sinewy and expressive, communicating much of the torn ambiguity of Max as he is twisted by various internal factions.

Edward Timberlake as Rudy is a thoroughly believable counterpart. The somewhat uneasy chemistry between the two is convincingly portrayed. Exemplifying a cold Teutonic mentality, Andrew Edmonson is convincing as both the sadomasochist Wolf and as a Nazi officer.

Mike Wilson as Horst is also a credible counterpart to the intense Max. His excellent characterization

of Horst slowly reveals a sympathetic individual who teaches Max about human dignity and love.

In their rather limited roles as guards and captains, Shawn Albert and Bobby Wallace are believably stone-faced and unmovingly rational. The role of the commandant who trips the tragic wire at the play's end, however, would be more convincing if it were not played so stiffly. As an embodiment of evil, the character of the commandant would be more chilling as a derived human representation, like Milton's Satan, rather than as an automaton.

The play is performed on the stage of Memorial Hall in a theater-within-a-theater setting. The audience sits around the action, and this results in a very involved perspective. The staging very effectively expresses the concept of the microcosm of Nazi Germany and Dachau within the macrocosm of society in general. The stark and simplistic sets leave much to the imagination.

The tinny, scratchy background

music is appropriately like a '30s-style cabaret. The costumes are simple and authentic. Credit for this effective rendering of the play should go to stage manager Cheryl Torney, assistant stage manager Beth A. Bakeman, and the entire support crew.

"Bent" is an excellent choice for the current issues of this time and place. In the wake of repetitive events, we often become desensitized to the larger scope of human rights. "Bent" is not a play about gays in Nazi Germany. Like all good drama, it is an ironic mirror to be held up to our society and to ourselves. History has an unfortunate tendency of repeating itself, and collective guilt often forces the persecution of minorities.

The regimented lines of an electrified fence at Dachau may not be so different from the "straight" barriers people unconsciously erect every day.

Bent will be performed at 3 and 8 p.m. today in Memorial Hall.

2 students pay fines for possessing alcohol

By KELLY JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Two UNC students who were charged with underage possession of alcohol in the Smith Center at the Feb. 22 Genesis concert paid their fines in Orange County District Court Tuesday.

Junior Susan Abrahamson of 208 Alderman Hall was charged with underage possession of alcohol in an unauthorized area. After she paid a \$50 fine and a \$40 court cost, Abrahamson's case was dismissed.

Sophomore Robert Wardlaw of 105 Avery Hall was charged with the same violation. He said

the police caught him carrying an empty flask in his pocket.

Wardlaw's case was settled by an agreement to defer prosecution if he demonstrates good conduct. Represented by Chapel Hill attorney H. William Miller, Wardlaw agreed to not commit any criminal offenses other than waivable traffic offenses and to pay a court cost of \$40.

Wardlaw must also complete 24 hours of volunteer work and pay a \$100 fee for community service. If he completes these terms of agreement by May 19, he will not have to reappear in court.

Morehead scholarships to be taxed

By FELISA NEURINGER
Business Editor

For the first time since the Morehead Foundation was established 42 years ago, Morehead scholars will be paying taxes on their annual allotments for room, board, living expenses and summer enrichment programs as a result of the federal 1986 Tax Reform Act.

John Motley Morehead III established the private scholarship foundation to finance full tuition, living expenses and summer internships for outstanding students.

"In the past, scholarship recipients were not subject to personal income tax," said Charles Lovelace, treasurer and assistant director of the Morehead Foundation.

For a scholarship to remain exempt from taxation under the Tax Reform Act, the money must be used for "qualified" tuition and related expenses: tuition and fees, books,

supplies and equipment required for courses.

Lovelace said most scholarships paid only tuition and fees, so the average student on financial aid would not be affected.

But the average impact will be \$500 a year per Morehead scholar. "We're going to increase the scholarships to assist the students on paying the income tax," he said. "But we're still developing a procedure for doing it."

"Some Moreheads' parents will help them out," said Andy Ward, a freshman Morehead scholar from Clarkton. "But I'm basically on my own, and that (\$500 tax) is a big burden. . . I'm not sure how I'll pay for it."

The Foundation originally thought the 254 current scholars would be exempt from taxation under a grandfather clause because

the law includes only scholarships granted after Aug. 16, 1986, Lovelace said. But a private ruling by the Internal Revenue Service determined that these students are not exempt. The IRS based its decision on when the actual money is paid, which is on a continual basis, rather than when the money is granted.

Morehead scholars will file their first tax returns next April for the income received this year and will be giving quarterly estimated returns as well, Lovelace said.

"It's going to be a pain because we have to keep separate records of what's taxable and what's not taxable," said Neil Riemann, a sophomore Morehead scholar from Misenheimer.

Lovelace said the North Carolina recipients will also pay state income taxes on their scholarships.

"I think it's ridiculous to give a scholarship and then take some of

it back," Ward said. "The point is to help them (students) to get the education. It's all counterproductive."

Mary Dillon, a sophomore Morehead scholar from Sparta, said she thought the tax seemed foolish. "It's taking away from what the school tries to give the students," she said.

Sixty scholarships are given each year to rising freshmen, Lovelace said. "Obviously the tax has a negative impact on the amount of aid we give individuals, but I see no changes in the current level of awards."

Riemann said the money to make up for the tax will have to come from somewhere. "Somebody is going to lose out that shouldn't," he said. "There's nothing good coming out of it (the tax). The money is going straight to the government."

Elderly

because they died when I was young," said Monic Jain, a senior who participates in the student-elderly exchange.

Learning from older people's experiences is another benefit of volunteering, Jain said. "Just through their life's experiences they teach you a lot. I used to be scared of older people and now I can talk to them as if they were normal people, which they are."

Many students said volunteering has made them more aware of problems that face elderly people.

"I've learned a lot about how poorly America treats the elderly, and about how much we (young Americans) ignore them," Jain said.

Stacy Stowe, a sophomore nursing home committee volunteer, said the elderly deserve more respect than they receive. "Older people aren't looked up to that much," she said, "but since they've lived through so much they have a lot of experiences they can share, and it makes you realize how lucky you are."

"The main problem is that the

government and people in general don't care enough," Stowe said.

Once she adjusted to working with older people, Stowe said she found it very rewarding. "At first it was depressing, but I think compared with other countries, the U.S. doesn't take care of its elderly," she said. "Once you go into the homes and see how pathetically they're being taken care of, you realize you can help. I feel better after doing it. I feel like I'm helping somebody."

Just, nursing home committee co-chairwoman, said that she has noticed that many of the older people's families treat them poorly, but she tries not to let that affect her volunteer work.

"I try not to get involved in their personal lives because I don't think I'd be able to go out there (to the nursing homes) without getting mad," she said. "I've decided not to concern myself with changing things. I've just got to make my visit worth something else, and brighten their day by being with them."

Volunteers also expressed concern

about how they themselves will be treated when they grow older.

"We're all going to be there someday," Just said. "And there are people in Lakeview who have to use up all their money to qualify for Medicare. Is that everybody's destiny?"

"It makes you want to die young if you think that's the way it's going to turn out," she said.

But what students said they learned most from volunteering was the value of people. "You can always give something, you can always be a friend, you never become worthless," said sophomore Rayanne Strong, who volunteers at Hillhaven Convalescent Center.

"You're never too old to contribute to society, she said. "The people there (in the nursing home) are so full of love — they're just looking for somebody to give it to."



from page 1

MICHAEL J. FOX

There's no such thing as an overnight success.
Brantley Foster took two weeks.

THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS

• A RASTAR PRODUCTION • A HERBERT ROSS FILM •
• "THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS" •
• HELEN SLATER • RICHARD JORDAN • MARGARET WHITTON •
• SCREENPLAY BY JIM CASH & JACK EPPS, JR. AND AJ CAROTHERS •
• STORY BY AJ CAROTHERS • MUSIC BY DAVID FOSTER •
• EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DAVID CHASMAN • PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY HERBERT ROSS •

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
RASTAR A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

OPENS APRIL 10TH

ATTENTION JUNIORS
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY
WITH
General Foods Corporation
Grocery Sales Division

GENERAL INFORMATION

General Foods is the largest food processing manufacturer in the world. You will accomplish sales objectives on such well-known brands as Jell-O, Post Cereals, Stove Top, Minute Rice, Bakers, and Log Cabin. Position can be based either in Raleigh or Charlotte.

Interns will learn basic sales skills/responsibilities and be introduced to transportation, distribution, and marketing principles.

REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should have completed three years of school by May 1987. Business majors and Liberal Arts candidates in English, Speech, and Economics will be considered. Candidates must have personal automobile, valid license and insurance. A desire to seek a career in consumer product sales/management is preferred.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

General Foods offers a competitive salary, benefits, mileage allowance, and expenses. The primary benefit is the opportunity to learn sales responsibilities, structure, and execution of marketing strategies.

REPLY

Qualified and interested candidates should contact the Career Planning and Placement Office and drop resume April 10. On-campus interviews will be conducted on April 14.

GENERAL FOODS CORPORATION
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER