

ON STAGE

From Country to Zydeco, ArtsCenter hops

Cajun music; food, too

C.J. Chenier

with Master Chef Roy Melton

Tonight, 8:30 p.m.
ArtsCenter
929-ARTS

Tickets \$10 public,
\$8 Friends of the ArtsCenter

According to the New York Times, C.J. Chenier is "an incredibly talented piano accordionist, as well as an accomplished saxophonist, lead vocalist, band leader, and soundman." The son of the famous blues musician Clifton Chenier (widely considered the "king of Zydeco"), C.J. started out in his father's footsteps, but has since developed a sound and style uniquely his own.

C.J. Chenier's Red Hot Louisiana Band, described as even "bluesier" than that of his father, will be performing tonight at the ArtsCenter

DARBY OREUTT

concert

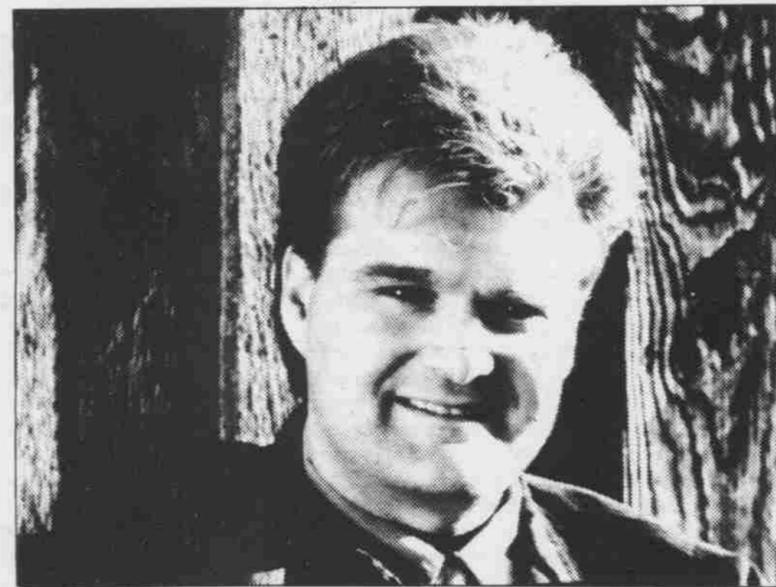
in Carrboro. The show will also include a la carte Bayou cooking by master chef Roy Melton, who once played harmonica with C.J. in a now-defunct band.

C.J. assumed leadership of the Red Hot Band following his father's death in 1987. Although he has changed the band's style in many ways, tradition is still very important. C.J. performs using the same accordion his father did, and the group regularly plays its classic numbers as well as its newer songs.

From first learning how to play the accordion from an ailing and aging superstar father, C.J. Chenier has come a long way. He shows, at least to some degree, the same sort of enthusiasm and dedication of his father, who performed with one leg amputated and while wired to a kidney dialysis machine.



C.J. Chenier and the Red-Hot Louisiana Band



Ricky Skaggs

Kentucky native twangs in Carrboro

Ricky Skaggs

with Bell and Shore

Friday, Sept. 29, 7:30. & 9 p.m.
ArtsCenter
929-ARTS

Tickets \$20 public,
\$17 Friends of the ArtsCenter

Because of his influential country music and his stick-to-your-roots attitude, Ricky Skaggs has been dubbed "father of the neo-traditionalists." He will share his versatile musical talent and traditional sound on Friday at the ArtsCenter in Carrboro in conjunction with the

DONALD BECK

concert

Weaver Street Market.

After eight years experience in such groups as the Country Gentlemen and J.D. Crowe & the New South, Skaggs began his own group Boone Creek at the age of 23. His experiments with various forms of music including rock, folk, jazz and country earned him more than 30 awards including CMA Entertainer of the Year, four Grammys and induction into the Grand Old Opry.

Originally from Kentucky, Skaggs grew up under the influence of greats like Flatt & Scruggs, George Jones

and Buck Owens. To these legends he attributes his extended instrument prowess. At the age of five, Skaggs began to play the mandolin, and by the age of fifteen he had begun his musical career with Ralph Stanley's Clinch Mountain Boys.

"He taught me one of the best lessons of my musical career, and that's to play the music you feel most strongly about. That's something I'll carry with me forever," said Skaggs.

This concert will highlight several cuts from Skaggs' ninth self-produced Epic release *Comin' Home To Stay*. In addition to remakes of classics from country icons Ray Price, Stonewall Jackson and Bob Wills, the album features some of his own up-beat tunes, including one co-written by Randy Travis.

Mystery honky-tonk man has 'No Regrets'

Leon Redbone

Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 p.m.
ArtsCenter
929-ARTS

Tickets \$12.50 public,
\$10 Friends of the ArtsCenter

Leon Redbone makes his living bringing to life the music your grandparents courted to. He will bring his rich-as-molasses, lower-than-low baritone to the ArtsCenter in Carrboro on Saturday, performing everything from forgotten 1920s-style

ALISA DEMAYO

concert

jazz to early honky-tonk.

His real name, age and origins shrouded in mystery, Redbone tours all over the U.S. and in various countries. He weaves together vintage songs, visual gags, vaudeville and even a hand shadow show to create a time and place out of his own imagination. He says, "In the best of music it is the feeling, not the words, that come through. It's the balance between sentiment and imagery that I look for in the music that I perform." That music includes the work of

Jelly Roll Morton, Blind Blake, Emmett Miller and Jimmie Rodgers. The common thread that ties them together is romance. Redbone's own musical favorites include Caruso, Chopin, Gene Austin and Blind Lemon Jefferson. "Blind Lemon Jefferson was the same as Chopin. Their

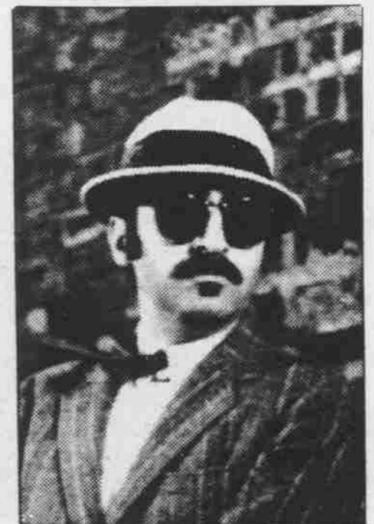
'Blind Lemon Jefferson was the same as Chopin. Their sentiments were the same: They were both romantics'

sentiments were the same: They were both romantics," he said.

Redbone has had six albums on

Warner Brothers, Atlantic and Sugar Hill Records. His debut in 1975 on Warner Brothers was *On the Right Track*. This was followed at regular intervals by *Double Time* (1977), *Champagne Charlie* (1978), *From Branch to Branch* (1981), and *Red to Blue* (1986). His most recent effort was 1988's *No Regrets*.

He first gained national fame through his 1976 and 1977 appearances on *Saturday Night Live*. His commercial for Budweiser, which featured Redbone sailing past a backdrop of paper moons, ran for an unprecedented three years. He has also done commercials for Kodak, Levi's and Timex. He made his film debut last year in a cameo appearance in *Candy Mountain*.



Leon Redbone