

# Arts & Features

Thursday, April 30, 2009

{THE BLUE BANNER}

Page 9

Peeing is a privilege



"Urinetown" featured drama students, professors and other UNCA students. The play ran through last weekend. Susan Terry - Staff Photographer

## UNCA theatre performed last play of spring semester

By Alyssa Spencer  
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Last week, the UNC Asheville drama department performed their final spring show *Urinetown*, selling out its first night.

"What a good production," said psychology student China Whiteside. "Usually in theater, one part of the performance is lacking. But in this show, the acting, singing and dancing were all great."

The cast portrayed characters living in *Urinetown*, a town suffering from a drought and enforcing laws prohibiting urinating without paying a fee. The cast and crew created a pleasant working environment from the beginning, according to Robert Bowen, the director of the play and

chair of the UNCA drama department.

"I started in earnest with the casting in January, and we have been rehearsing since the first week of March," Bowen said. "My favorite part and biggest challenge was working with a cast this large. I have never done that before, but I was lucky to have some tremendous talent, both on and offstage to help. It has been one of the most positive production processes that I have ever been involved with. We were always moving forward and making new discoveries."

Bowen said the audition process was swift, efficient and different from any he did before.

"They had to sing, do a dance and read a scene. I made it very professional, but I held no callbacks and cast from what I

saw," Bowen said.

Bowen said he sought out the advice of music director Ruth Seber-Johnson and choreographer Cherie Holmes for the best fits in casting the play.

"Auditions at Theatre UNCA are open to the UNCA community as a whole. Not all performers are drama majors, and faculty members played two roles," he said.

Skyler Goff, a cast member pursuing a major in literature and a minor in drama, said this performance gave him an outlet for expressing himself.

"I release my demons and my energy to people who are there to see just that," Goff said. "The best part was going through the rehearsal process. That

SEE URINETOWN PAGE 11 |

## 10th annual Lawn Party hosts comedy and music

By Taliaferro Pollock  
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UNC Asheville hosted their 10th annual Lawn Party with a retro theme last Saturday, representing each generation dating back to the '50s.

"The main purpose of the (Lawn Party) is for students to have as much fun as possible and get their minds off of the stress of exam time coming up," said Cassady Burke, president of Underdog Productions. We are also hoping that open house (falling on the same weekend) will attract new students to the Lawn Party and give them a chance to see how awesome UNCA is."

The party featured a combination of activities such as blow-up obstacle courses and slides, sumo wrestling with body suits for participants, a Michael Jackson cover band known as "Who's Bad?" and the comedian Dave Coulier, also known as Uncle Joey from the hit TV show *Full House*.

"The sumo wrestling is definitely one of the most popular games that we provide," said Keshia Freeman, a junior psychology student, and an event volunteer. "This is my third year to attend, and the sumo wrestling is worth having each time. Even though it doesn't relate to the theme, people love it."

The event welcomed all members of the UNCA community, including their families and upcoming freshmen.

The Lawn Party offered guests a variety of food corresponding with the "retro" theme and a fact sheet to explain the relevance of each dish.

SEE LAWN PARTY PAGE 15 |