



THE COMPASS

U. S. Postage
Non-Profit Organization
PAID
Elizabeth City, N.C.
Permit No. 5

VOLUME 31

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.

MAY 11, 1970

NUMBER 8

ECSU TO HOLD ANNUAL FINE ARTS FESTIVAL



Dr. deGregorio, Chairman of the 1970 Fine Arts Festival.

Dr. Vincent J. de Gregorio, chairman of the Elizabeth City State University Fine Arts Festival, announced that this year's program is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 through Thursday, April 30.

The complete schedule of this extraordinary event covers a vast display of art through sculpture, painting, photography, and through performing artists, with Ivan Dixon, a star on CBS's "Hogans Heroes," being the central attraction.

The Lyceum Committee of Elizabeth City State University presented "Les Danseurs Africains," Wednesday night, at 8:00 p.m., in Moore Hall Auditorium, the audience watched the prelude to the year's excit-

ing Fine Arts Festival. The Festival, directed by Dr. Vincent J. deGregorio, was certainly something to dance about, a panorama of the arts and the artists.

The dancers from the Republic of Cameroon, with their bizarre costumes and energetic dances, did everything possible to shake the ECSU Fine Arts Festival. The award-winning show featured an ensemble of 45 dancers, drummers, acrobats, singers, and instrumentalists, in the most unusual stage spectacle ever to be shown in northern North Carolina, and Tidewater Virginia.

Following the Wednesday night Lyceum presentation, the Festival officially opened at 7:30 P.M., Thursday, in the University Center. Guest Artist was Miss Rita Marlier, Head of the Sculpture Division of the Norfolk Museum Art School. She had a unique background of her nationally recognized sculptural productions surrounding her, as she addressed the area's art enthusiasts who attended the Festival's opening. Excluding a concert by the North Carolina Central University Band, on Saturday, April 25, at 8:00 p.m., Miss Marlier was one of four guest artists or groups to participate in the ECSU Fine Arts

Festival.

Friday morning, at 10:00 am, in the Theatre of the G. R. Little Library, Jack Williams presented an extensive slide presentation, "The Art of Seeing in Photography." Williams is a known professional in photography, having already had some of his works reprinted in the U. S. Congressional Record, The New York Times, U. S. Air Services, Speed and Spray, and in other national publications. The former newspaper feature writer operates a commercial studio on U. S. Highway 17, just South of Elizabeth City. While Miss Marlier's exhibition of sculpture occupies the University Center until April 30, 61 of Jack Williams' photographic productions, many of them state and national award winners, will go on exhibit in the library.

Just as the African dancers shook in the Festival's opening, the ECSU Modern Dance Group, with its exotic and modern interpretation of dances, twisted in the Festival's central attraction, in a recital, at 8:00 p.m., Friday, in the auditorium. Then, at 9:30 p.m., in the University Center, students and area citizens had a chance to meet, listen to, and chat with Ivan Dixon.

Dixon, a regular actor

on CBS's Friday night show, "Hogans Hero," has an extensive background of stage appearances and in motion picture. He has appeared in such productions as "A Raisin In The Sun," "A Patch of Blue," "The Mod Squad," "I Spy," "The Cave Dwellers," and other shows. For his contributions to the arts through the world of theatre, ECSU honored him during an invitation-only banquet, at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, and saluted him, at 6:00 p.m., in the Theatre, with performances by the University Players.

Since Dixon's appearances did not mark the beginning of the Festival, it certainly did not punctuate the ending. The following week, from Sunday, April 26, through Thursday, April 30, the Festival featured all-ECSU presentations. This included a student art exhibit, music faculty concert, movie, discussion, and ended with a presentation of three black plays by the University Players. Except for the small admissions price to the Lyceum Program, and the by-invitation only banquet, events of the entire Festival were opened to the public without charge. Certainly, when the curtains closed, and banners and posters taken down, and equipment moved, the area long remembered

the African Dancers, Rita Marlier, Ivan Dixon, and Jack Williams, for their performances during the well-planned Festival at ECSU.

Rainey Sits On \$3,000 Chair



Dr. Thorpe Elected C.I.A.A. Council President

Dr. Marion D. Thorpe, President of Elizabeth City State University, has been elected President of the Presidents' Council of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association. The Council, an advisory body, conveys the thinking of the administrators of member colleges and universities to the association.

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An Exclusive Interview With Ivan Dixon

Ivan Dixon was recently on the campus of Elizabeth City State University.

While present here, Mr. Dixon consented to an exclusive interview for the Compass. In his interview, he told about his life and his future plans.

Ivan Dixon was born in Harlem, New York.

Dixon received formal education at the Lincoln Academy. After graduating from the Lincoln Academy, he decided to

continue his education because he felt that a college degree is essential in order to be successful in such a progressive society.

Later, he decided to attend North Carolina College, known today as the North Carolina Central University.

While attending N.C.C., he became interested in dramatics.

After graduating from N. C. C. U. with a degree in Political Science, he married Miss Berlie

Ray, and they moved to New York where he entered a theatrical school to study acting.

He received minor parts in Broadway productions.

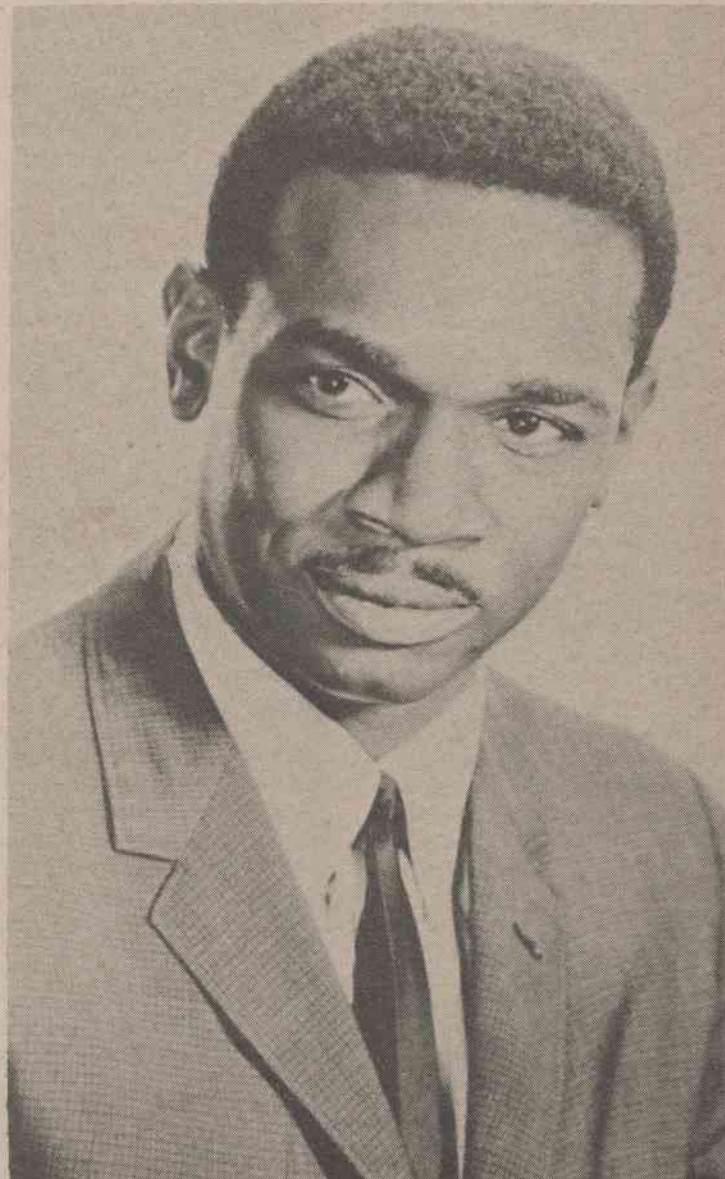
Later, he moved to Hollywood, California.

Dixon became unemployed for a short period of time. While being unemployed, he headed an organization known as the N. A. A., (Negro Action for Actors.)

The proposal of the N. A. A. was to pressure producers and directors into finding parts for black actors. This organization indirectly enabled Dixon to receive a part in the television series, "Hogans Heroes."

Dixon has no definite plans for the future although he hopes to become the director of a black oriented company of actors.

He is currently working on the possibility of producing and directing a play based on the book entitled "Spooky Sat by the Door."



Guest Star, Ivan Dixon

