



Photo courtesy of Lyceum Series

Jazz Bassist, Carroll Dashiell performed at the Fine Arts Complex located on campus March 25, 2000.

## ECSU players present Barefoot in the park

By Amber Hassell  
Copy Editor

The University Players, Elizabeth City State University's theatre troupe, presented Neil Simon's smash hit comedy *Barefoot in the Park* for a four performance run on February 23, 24, 25, 27, in The Little Theatre, located in the G. R. Little Library building.

*Barefoot in the Park*, one of Simon's earliest Broadway comedies, centers on the trials and tribulations of a young newlywed couple who move into a New York City walk-up apartment. Paul and Corie are as opposite as a man and woman can be: he's an up-tight beginning lawyer and she's a free-spirit trying to fix her widowed mother up with one of the wacky neighbors. She kicks Paul out, but he comes back to claim the apartment for himself.

Life magazine called *Barefoot in the Park* "...one of the funniest comedies ever." Following a hugely successful Broadway run, the play was made into a hit film starring Robert Redford and Jane Fonda.

Shawn Smith, ECSU's Director of Theatre, directed the Players' production. Corie Bratter, the young wife, was played by Jessica C. Yelverton, an ECSU sophomore Geology major from Garner, NC. James Wilton, an ECSU junior, portrayed Corie's lawyer husband, Paul. Wilton won acclaim last season for his strong performance as Eugene in *Look Homeward, Angel*.

Dorothy Wills Downing played the role of Corie's mother. Last seen in *Tambourines to Glory*, Downing has become a favorite of Little Theatre audiences with her acting in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *A Raisin in the Sun* and *The First Breeze of Summer*; she has also performed with the Encore Theatre Company in *Nunsense II*. Jerome Brothers, another stage veteran, played the unique character of Victor Velasco. His long list of credits include roles in *Member of the Wedding*, *Tambourines to Glory*, *Two Trains Running*, and *Look Homeward, Angel*.

Other cast members included Kimberly M. Carter, Gerald Langford, and Lionel Branche. Kelly Anne Mahaffey was the production stage manager, and the set and lighting designer was Randy Berry.

## Jazz Bassist to perform on March 25th

By Stacy Brock  
Assistant Editor

Bassist Carroll Dashiell, Jr. will perform at Elizabeth City State University on Sunday, March 25, 2000 as part of the University's 1999-2000 Lyceum Series.

Mr. Dashiell, a native of Washington, DC, is a graduate of Howard University. He has been cited in musical publications which include *Who't Who in Music* and *Down Beat Magazine* both of which recognized him for excellence in the music industry as a bassist, musical director, composer and arranger.

His performance history includes concerts with the Boston Pops, the National Symphony and the Washington Philharmonic Orchestras; performance dates with Dr. Billy Taylor, singer Ethel Ennis and the Fifth Dimension. He can be heard on several CD and album recordings as bassist with jazz saxophonist Bobby

Watson, Muse recording artist Horizon and the Washington, DC based saxophonist, "Buck" Hill. Educated at Howard University, Dashiell is Assistant Professor of Music and Director Jazz Studies at East Carolina University. Dashiell has performed with Vanesa Rubin, Ray Charels, Maceo Parker, Marlena Shaw, Fifth Dimension, Maurice Hines, Ethel Ennis and Stephanie Mills.

He has also performed in many musicals and stage show performances, both on tour and at such venues as The Warner Theatre, Arena State Theatre and the Kennedy Center, all in Washington, DC. He has performed in orchestras with Leonard Bernstein, Arthur Fiedler and Aaron Copeland. Mr. Dashiell has several recordings and has made TV appearances, including one on the CBS program *Sunday Morning*. The performance is free and open to the public.



Photo courtesy of the University Players

Left to right: Jessica Yelverton, Dorothy Downing, Jerome Brothers and James Wilson.