

Some things are beautiful, some things are blue

Jazzy soundtrack recalls the 60's

By Danielle S. Parker  
Staff Writer

The 2004 HBO film "Lackawanna Blues" written by Ruben Santiago-Hudson, is a cliché-choked travesty about the relationship between a boarding house owner and the young son of former tenants whom she finds herself raising during the late 1960's.



Fueled by the rhythm of the blues, this coming of age story tells the tale of a young boy whose life is changed both by nanny's love and the stories from various border's outrageous lives and haunted pasts. Like a good blues song, the film strikes notes that are painful but beautiful, that remain alive to both the heartbreaks and joys of life. The film is blessed with an all-star

cast- S. Epatha Merkesron, Mos Def, Louis Gosse, Ernie Hudson, Macy Gray, Delroy Lindo, Jeffrey Wright, Rosie Perez, Jimmy Smits, and Schreider. The Lackawanna Blues soundtrack, produced by Eyyen J. Klean, features various artists such as Mos Def, Ricky Fante, Etta Banks, The Blind Boys of Alabama and Macy Gray. The soundtrack includes 13 soulful

UnEmployed by Matt Steen



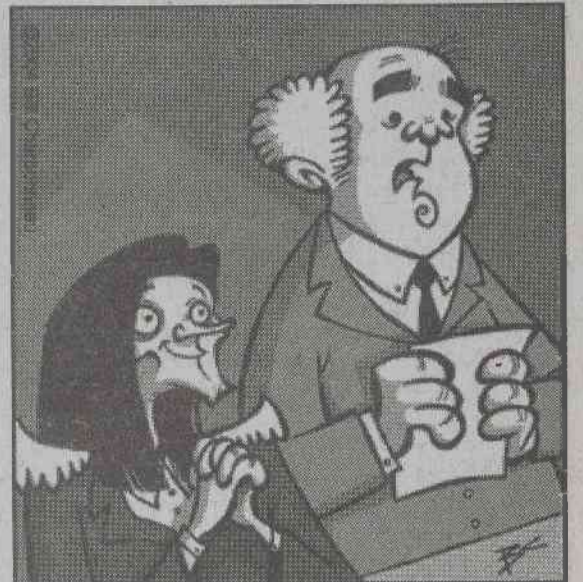
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and jazz-fee tracks such as Caldonia, One Dime Blues, Boogie Woogie Country Girls, Dark Road, and many, many more.

"I enjoy listening to various types of music, so listening to this CD was quite enjoyable," said 22-year-old Michelle Ruckers.

The soundtrack digs deep into the 60s, bringing back the blues and the jazz. The forty-minute recording includes many themes about struggles and the changes that black people had to go through during that decade.

If you love jazz and blues, the Lackawanna Blues soundtrack will be a great CD to just pop in your CD player.



"Your honor, Mr. Jackson would be willing to change his plea to 'guilty' provided he could serve out his sentence in a juvenile detention center."



Left: Eric Peebles II and Patrick Ball looking pensive in "The Complete Works of Shakespeare" on March 6 at the Little Theatre. Above: Bisi Adeleke, African Master Drummer, performs "The Talking Drum" at Floyd Robinsom auditorium on Feb. 18

Photos by Rich Harvey

Speech  
continued from page 7

The bombshell of the evening was dropped when Vaughan suggested that it was time for ECSU to look at changing its name. He then went through a list of the school's previous names, saying that each one was representative of a turning point in the school's history.

Vaughan also related the name change to a story about joining the CIAA in 1959, and the ECSU basketball team, then known as the Pirates, having to change their name at the behest of the CIAA. At first, it was decided to use the name "Buccaneers" in order to keep the pirate logo, but was later rejected in favor of "Vikings."

The new names suggested by Vaughan for the school were "Northeastern North Carolina University" and "University of Northeastern North Carolina," because, Vaughan said, ECSU is known as a northeastern N.C. university. It remains to be seen whether Vaughan's suggestion will gain any momentum.

After Vaughan's speech, Chancellor Mickey Burnim, smiling, stepped up to the podium and said, looking back at Vaughan, "I've never heard a Founder's Day speech like that before."

SWIM is offered to college students who plan to start careers as school library media

specialists or teachers of chemistry, earth science, mathematics, physics or special education. Enrollees work with a teacher as a teacher's assistant and earn \$12.50 per hour for 150 hours between June and August.

The Virginia Beach schools send representatives to the job fair because it's always on the lookout for good prospective teachers.

"We want somebody who loves children, is passionate about children," said Bernard Platt, recruitment specialist for the school district. "(We want) somebody that knows about the best practices and current trends of teaching."

Putting the job fair together takes quite a bit of work, says Brutus Jackson, ECSU director of Career Services.

"At the end of the fair, we start contacting the participants for next year," Jackson said. "We go to conferences, visit companies and schools and get them interested in the university by letting them see the quality of our students."

Jackson, who has been coordinating the fair since 1993, said he and his staff then send out 200 to 350 letters to various companies and organizations, inviting them to the fair.

Among the employers agreeing to participate this year include the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Enterprise Rent-a-Car and other school districts in North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland.

For more information about internships, Jackson can be reached at 335-3287 or by e-mail at bnjackson@mail.ecsu.edu.

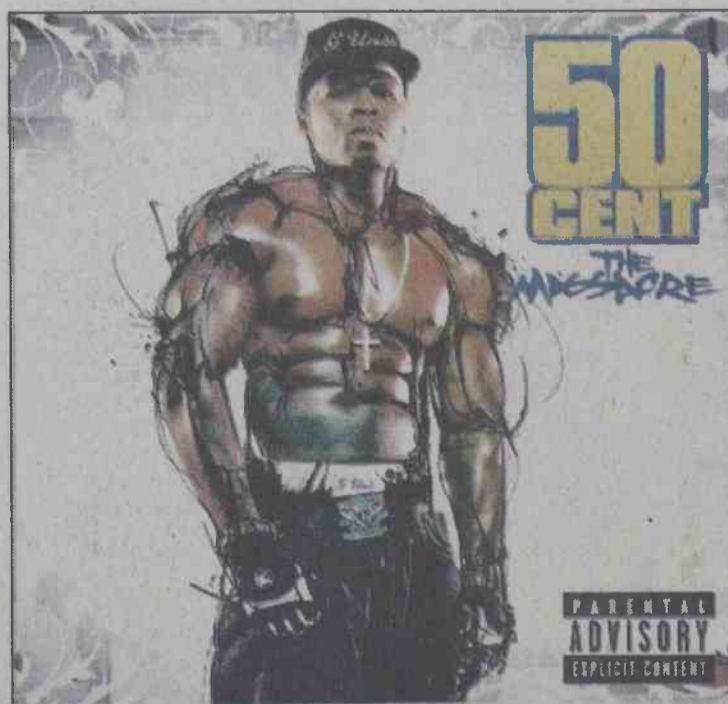
## .50 Cent faces reality on new CD

Introduces new energy drink

By Keria Miller  
Staff Writer

Curtis Jackson, AKA 50 Cent, attracted the eyes of many with his first album in 2003, "Get Rich or Die Trying," which exploded by selling 1.7 million copies in its first eleven days (now up to 7.1 million copies), and paved the way for G-unit members Lloyd Banks (The Hunger for More, 1.4 million) and Young Buck (Straight Outta Cashville, 984,000). 50 Cent's second new gun-blazing street party album, "Massacre," is making a killing. The "Massacre" is introduced with a St. Valentine greeting and contradicted by a hail of bullets. "He already has two radio hits on his album and is getting radio play somewhere on half the tracks, 900,000 - plus seems like a safe projection," said Geoff Mayfield, Billboard's director of charts. 50 Cent is the first artist since 1991 to have three of the top five singles on the Hot 100. Candy Shop is No.1, How We Do (with The Game) is No.4 and Disco Inferno is No.5.

The charts position isn't only most important for 50 Cent. The Queens rapper says, the widespread praise for Massacre's mix of menace and mischief: "I feel this record solidifies my



position. There's a shadow of doubt cast between projects regardless of how great your album does. They say, 'Do you think he can do it again?' not 'Do you think he could put out a good record?'"

Singled out by critics as ambitious is the song called A Baltimore Love Thing. The song is about a twisted love story with heroin as a character persuading a female junkie to stay and the hardships and struggles she goes through because of her addiction. "I tried to make heroin human and give it emotions, I took my time and made it more interesting than 'I sold drugs

before.' I wanted to write things that are relevant to where I come from and who I am. I'm always going to write about the harsh realities."

Though 50's crack dealing days may be over, the gunplay that left him with nine bullet scars continues to interrupt his rap career. 50 announced on New York's radio station Hot 97 that he was dismantling The Game from G-unit, a member of the Game's posse that was shot outside the station.

2005 is said to be 50 Cent's year. He's shepherding albums by Tony Yayo and Olivia and starring in a still untitled biopic

directed by Jim Sheridan that's based on his life story that begins shooting in April.

With no sugarcoating of the drugs and violence that helps clarify 50's lyrics and background, a Hollywood treatment could do for 50 what it has for Eminem with 8 Mile: build a bridge and fill in the gap to the mainstream of his true life story. He also plans to have a soundtrack out by the year end, and he's working on "Bulletproof" which is a gangland video game due this fall with three new songs.

50's putting fresh new looks into his G-unit clothing line and introducing his energy drink "Formula 50 Vitamin Water," and has a new edition to his clothing line for women. Examples of the clothing will be featured in Olivia's "Behind Closed Doors," due out in May, as an opportunity to get publicity for the brand.

Many students at ECSU have already picked up 50's new album, which can be heard emanating from cars that ride by on campus or floating from a dorm room window.

Everett Wiggins, resident of Elizabeth City and student at ECSU said, "I think this album is better than the first. It's creative and expresses a lot more of what 50 cent has to offer to the world. 50 just won't stop and I think this is just the beginning for him."