

Entertainment

Black American Arts Festival Rescheduled

PRESS RELEASE

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro's Neo-Black Society Sing-In scheduled for February 19th has been rescheduled for 3 pm, Sunday, April 16th at the Carolina Theatre.

Sponsored by Miller Brewing Company, *Greensboro News & Record* and WQMG/WEAL, the Black American Arts Festival is a month long series of arts events held in celebration of the outstanding contributions of Black artists to the American culture.

The Neo-Black Society Sing-In will feature over 300 voices joining in harmony to celebrate the Society Choir for this unique gospel extravaganza on April 16th. Founded in 1968, the Society aims to encourage UNC-G and the surrounding community toward a greater awareness, understanding and appreciation of the culture and achievements of black people.

The event is open to the public free.

'Colored Boys and Girls': A Drama Guild Presentation

By Georgellen Brown
STAFF WRITER

The WSSU Drama Guild presented *Colored Boys and Girls*, directed by Dr. Fred Eady, in March.

The production included excerpts from various dramas and songs, including "No Place to be Somebody", "What the Wine Sellers Buy", "Dark Shadows of Womanhood", "4:30 a.m.", "Graduation Night", "Sorry", and "Ever Since I Realized", all from *Colored Girls*.

"The First Breeze of Summer", "Native Son", "Farewell Speech", "O Do Do", and "To Be A Black Man", from *Amen Corner*, were also showcased.

A variety of songs, including Aretha Franklin's "Respect", "For God So Loved The World", The Winan's "Tomorrow", and "God Bless the Child", were featured.

The production was excellent, and from the audience's response, they enjoyed it from beginning to end.

Winfrey's Brewster Place a Hit: Commentary

By Shandra Cammack

The Women of Brewster Place was a two part mini series shown on NBC

on March 19 and 20.

The show was about eight black women and their inner and outer struggles on dead end Brewster Place.

Many people had mixed feeling about the mini-series because of how the men were portrayed in a negative light and how some of the women characters were scripted in roles like they portray on their regular series. However, many thought that the series couldn't touch the book because the book was far more interesting.

'Lean on Me': A Movie Review

By Janet Pierce

"Lean on me, when you're not strong, and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on, for it won't be long till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on."

This popular song, first recorded by Bill Withers and later remade by Club Nouveau, has become the theme song of a motion picture by the same title, "Lean On Me". "Lean On Me" is the action packed true story of Joe Clark, a teacher turned high school principal who fights to bring dignity back to a once respected high school in Patterson, New Jersey.

His tactics for obtaining discipline (such as carrying a bat and bullhorn through the halls) are what made Joe Clark the center of national attention, thus leading to the production of "Lean On Me".

In the movie, Joe Clark must persuade board members, co-workers, and concerned citizens that his means of disciplinary action are best and perhaps most suitable for the category of students who attend the high school, most of them being black lower class.

You will see familiar actors and actresses in this motion picture and a host of new faces as well. "Lean On Me", is now showing at a local theater near you.

Philadanco Performs: A Review

By John Poindexter
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Philadelphia Dance Company, known as Philadanco, one of America's renowned minority dance companies, danced through Winston-Salem to an enthusiastic crowd.

Philadanco, comprised of Afro-American and Hispanic dancers, took a bizarre voyage through many different

styles of dance. From classical toe, jazz, modern and avant-garde the troupe shared the many facets of this art form.

The choreography, along with lighting and music, were, at times very effective. I was fortunate to be seated by student dancers in training at the North Carolina School of the Arts, who helped me with this critique. Many of the dancers were well trained and technique was apparent, but, an emotional element was missing. Some scenes looked as if the dancers were dancing for themselves, not the audience. However, in every crowd there are personalities that refuse to lie dormant. Thanks to principals Kim Bears, Danielle Gee, Hector Vega and Orlando Rodriguez for sustaining the evening's intensity.

Although the show ran close to two hours, there was either good music, concept or dancers to keep our attention. Philadanco has been in existence over 15 years and has gained a reputation of having something to offer everyone. The capacity-filled house at Wake Forest thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all in all, the repertory was appropriate. However, I will remember Philadanco and its TECHNIQUE, TECHNIQUE, TECHNIQUE!

'Chickasaw Park' Presented by Playwright Alfred Wiggins

By John Poindexter
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Alfred Wiggins, a playwright and Associate Professor at Western Carolina University, presented cuttings from his play "Chickasaw Park" in a program hosted by Dr. Glenda Gill and her Creative Writing class.

In the words of Wiggins "Chickasaw Park," the only "colored" park in his native Louisville, was "black folks wall-to-wall: babies, mothers, young girls, young boys, old men, chicken, barbecue, potato salad, horseshoes, softball, beer, basketball, badminton, checkers, dominoes, whiskey, wine and a whole bunch of love."

He discussed and presented a character from the play "Chickasaw Park" as well as entertained questions and spoke on creative writing with emphasis on playwriting.

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