

Arts & Entertainment

"Great deal of anticipation" for St. Augustine's International festival

By JAMES MONTAGUE

St. Augustine's College Eighth Annual International Festival will be held on campus, April 13-17.

The festival will begin with an opening ceremony on April 13, featuring Dr. Thomas Hammond, a professor at North Carolina State University. Dr. Hammond will give a lecture and film presentation about Haiti.

Thursday April 15, Obakunle Akinlana and his dance troupe, also known as Akinlana, will give a performance in the Fine Arts Building. Akinlana, a nationally renowned drummer, specializes in African drumming.

The themes for Akinlana's presentation will be African folk tales and traditional African culture. After the show, there will be an exhibit of the instruments and other artifacts used by the troupe in the lobby of the Fine Arts Building.

Friday April 16, there will be a bazaar in the Martin Luther King Student Union. There will be culinary treats from various countries as well as booths where international students will show videos about their countries and display and sell artifacts. The festival will end with a cultural show on Saturday, April 17.

There is a great deal of anticipation from students and faculty alike. "I would like to encourage all students, faculty and staff to come out and become more aware of different world cultures," said Dr. Helen C. Othow, coordinator of the International Festival.

A & E Trivia

*When were the first Academy Awards presented?

*Which movie holds the record for the most Academy Awards?

Answers in next issue



Billy Zane stars as an ambitious but inexperienced National Security Council bureaucrat who undergoes a dramatic metamorphosis when he embarks on a dangerous mission in "SNIPER." Pic: Courtesy of Tri-Star Pictures.

Healing Force conducts workshop through "The Rhythm of the Drum"

By ISHMAEL SMITH

Joseph, Gail, Karim and Sonji--The Healing Force--brought The Rhythm of the Drum to Saint Augustine's Thursday, March 19, 12:00 noon.

The workshop was part of the 1993 Partners in the Arts Series conducted by faculty and students of Saint Augustine's College.

The Healing Force is, something more than a cultural awareness group: it is a family.

The Rhythm of The Drum is something more than a presentation: it is an embodiment of cultural heritage.

The Andersons opened their family circle to over 20 elementary school children, their teachers and education majors from Saint Augustine's in the Emery Gymnasium.

The gym was filled with singing and laughter, as Gail Anderson, a native of Winston-Salem, taught the

young and not so young how to sing, "We welcome You," in the style of the Liberians, and also how to say it with their hands.

The gym then reverberated to the sounds of African drums, as Joseph and Karim played. The participants of the workshop watched closely as Gail and Sonji taught them

small sections of a Liberian dance, and then sat enraptured as mother and daughter performed the dance gracefully, utilizing every extension of their bodies--head, neck, arms, hands, waist and legs.

Following the workshop the Andersons shared with education majors their experiences during their recent visit to West Africa. The Andersons also shared how The Healing Force was an outgrowth of their experiences with the group New Breed during the 60's.

In explaining the name New Breed they essentially disclosed the reason for

calling the group The Healing Force.

"We are a New Breed... we are no longer Africans, we are African Americans."

When questioned about her statement Gail shared how in Africa, Africans noted that she and her family resembled the people of certain tribes, but they were not considered Africans but Americans.

She also said that it was important for "Afro-Americans to recognize and re-discover our heritage," but it was equally important to realize that Black Americans "are a New Breed" and they need to work to better America.

The Healing Force is a way of introducing students and adults to the culture of Western Africa and The Rhythm of The Drum is the educational tool used to dispel the negative myths of African culture and civilization.

The Healing Force is an NC Arts Council sponsored cultural ministry.

Movie Review

By Audra Noble

The Crying Game

Starring: Stephen Rhea, Forest Whittaker, Jaye Davidson

One check: Don't waste your time; Two checks: Wait for it on video; Three checks: good; Four checks: very good

Rating: Three checks

This foreign film, which is one of the most talked-about recent films, is set in London and Ireland. Forest Whittaker plays Jodie, a black Englishman held prisoner by the Irish Republican army (IRA). While in captivity, Jodie becomes friends with one of the members of the IRA, Ferguson, played by actor Stephen Rhea.

As their friendship grows, Jodie makes Ferguson promise to go to London and tell his girlfriend of the events that took place and that he loves her. At this point, the movie switches settings to London, where Ferguson finds Jodie's girlfriend. The girlfriend played by Jaye Davidson, is a bubbly hairdresser who is immediately drawn to Ferguson. From this point, the relationship matures and Ferguson gets a lot more than he bargained for.

The Crying Game is one of the strangest movies ever made. However, the characters in the movie are well developed.

Whittaker clearly worked hard on his English accent and it definitely shows. The movie is excellent and full of unexpected twists.

The Crying Game only won one Oscar--that for best original screenplay. But the fact that it received six nominations, including that for best picture, is deserved recognition.

MINGO'S "MARCH MADNESS" HOT PICKS

1. Naughty By Nature - *Hip Hop Hooray*
2. Dr. Dre - *Nuthin' But A G Thang.*
3. Run DMC - *Down With The King*
4. Silk - *Freak Me*
5. SWV - *I'm So Into You*

A & E Trivia

How did the word "Oscar" come to be used to refer to the coveted Academy Award statuette?

Answer in next issue