



The Decree

Special Greek Supplement Enclosed

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 3

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1977

A Review

"Mice" Leaves Mixed Emotions

By STEVE BRASWELL

Only the "shadow" knows where it could be. It seems to me that a stage no larger than 20 by 20 should be enforced with as many instruments as the New York City Ballet would use for a production of the "Nutcracker Suite," and still allow eerie shadows to creep everywhere, including the foyer.

Bill Medlin's portrayal of George, the realist, was most refreshing. His acting wasn't like Fonda's, but he carried the show in the midst of seekers of Dianoyisis. Small of frame, it was evident that he knew what Steinbeck wanted: the statement rather than exposition. He if anything underplayed, but silent power is more effective anyway. I'd pay for the ticket to see him play cards anyday. He was the show.

David Knotts as Lenny must be related to Don Knotts. His Lenny was not up to the helplessness that the role requires. I could not identify with him. His costume was not in the least representative of the period or the character; not that his costume made any difference. Why should I waste my time?

Ken Rogers as Candy needed a brogue. His limp didn't develop until the second act. The role needed to be played



with more chutzpah. Nevertheless, Ken gave us the general impression of the dreamer and the Don Quixote in everyone. He did not, however, need to continually give the mamby stares with the pamby arm.

Curly, alias the Rhinestone Cowboy was funny. Played by Mark James, he should have waited for another show to appear Roy Rogers in search of Trigger. He needs work in basic movement: away from the theatre.

Curly's wife, played by Susie Williams, needs to pick up the tempo. As the only woman in

an all male show she should glisten; rather she comes across tarnished. She perhaps has the only opportunity to emote and play the role. She doesn't. She is a Americana, too often thought of as glamorous and sterile, quickened John Steinbeck. "Of Mice and Men" was one of his contributions to the already vulgar paradox of American history. His dealings with the cliched American Dream usually focuses on the American Tragedy, and from the acute dregs of gutter talk comes a beautiful slice of apple pie. Somehow, Steinbeck has

the ability to let us become aware of people rather than universality of "ism."

N. C. Wesleyan College's production of "Of Mice and Men" is a combination of Agnes DeMille's "Rodeo," "The Waltons," and Cooke's "America." The play is material for a superior company and shouldn't be abused. Due to the nature of the play (absolutes) one cannot be confused by aesthetics, although many human emotions are presented. One must take it for what it is: a statement, a fact, an actual working of the problem, rather than a postu-

late. Wesleyan's director, John Tobinski evidently thought that his life was at stake. His presentation was fraught with mamby-pamby stares into space signifying poignant reminders that we are all like George and Lenny and share the same desires as those in the ever popular bunk house, (the place where bunk is exchanged). I happened to know that all people have much in common before buying the ticket. His blocking was a great deal like a double helix raging away into space with no apparent intention, and certainly no motive or purpose for existing in the first place.

Donald Williams, the technical director, who also played "The Boss" deserves some credit for his effort at verisimilitude. Although his acting is reminiscent of Liberace, his concept for the set was visually pleasant. His talent for lighting design has been lost. Caricature of Mae West.

Slim, played by Roy Crim shouldn't be discussed.

Carlson, played by Jeff Acree is a perfect foil for Bill Medlin. He was believable. Type casting.

Steven Bryant, playing Whit was lost in this production.

Pat Cook, who played Crooks needed more stage direction, but was believable.

74 Students On NCWC Dean's List

Seventy-four students have been named on the academic achievement lists at N. C. Wesleyan College for the fall term. Twenty-eight of these being from the Nash-Edgecombe area.

Fourteen of the area students have been named to the Dean's Honor List which is a recognition of academic distinction and the highest honor a student at Wesleyan can achieve. Inclusion on the Dean's Honor List ranks a student in the upper five per cent of the Wesleyan student body. Requirements include a minimum of 12 semester hours of which 75 per cent must be graded "A" and 25 per cent "B."

Named to the Dean's Honor List from Nash and Edgecombe counties are: Mrs. Sarah

Adcox, Battleboro; Willie H. Cockrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert H. Cockrell Sr., Rocky Mount; Mrs. Barbara Cristan, Battleboro; Miss Jo Anne Dorsett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin R. Dorsett, Rocky Mount; Miss Laura E. Forsythe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Forsythe, Rocky Mount; Frederick A. Frohbose, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Frohbose, Rocky Mount; Miss Amelia Johnson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Allen S. Johnson, Rocky Mount; Mrs. Sarah K. Kittner, Weldon; Mrs. Koral R. Lewis, Whitakers; Mrs. Lucy Smith, Rocky Mount; Miss Beverly R. Stoner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Stoner, Battleboro; Horace F. Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie F. Ward, Rocky Mount; Miss

Pamela S. Watson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Watson, Rocky Mount; Mrs. Anne B. Wilson, Rocky Mount; Rev. James E. Drake, Hobgood.

Fourteen area students have been named on the Dean's List which ranks a student in the upper 15 per cent of the student body. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must carry 10 semester hours, and at least 50 per cent must be graded "A" with no grade below a "B."

Nash and Edgecombe students on the Dean's List are:

Miss Leannette Bishop, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. L. L. Bishop, Rocky Mount; Mrs. Ethel Brake, Nashville; Miss Barbara C. Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Carpenter, Rocky Mount; Miss

Teresa L. Cook, daughter of Mrs. Nellie Louise Cook, Nashville; Mrs. Jeanette B. Cooper, Battleboro; Mrs. Beverly C. Gelo, Rocky Mount; Mrs. Mary P. Gilbert, Rocky Mount; Clifton E. Hinton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin L. Hinton, Nashville; Miss Mary S. Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar D. Powell, Rocky Mount; Thomas H. Smith III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Smith Jr., Rocky Mount; Stanley J. Stroud, Rocky Mount; Bob A. Unrue, Rocky Mount; Michael E. Weatherford, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Weatherford, Rocky Mount; Mrs. Sheila Hines Whitehurst, Enfield.

Other students named were: Dean's List — Gregory Allen, James Allen, Melody Begley, Connie Bryan, William Buchan-

an, Theo Ejim, Ronald Ferrell, Paula Frazier, Robert Friese, Jeffrey Garrett, Kevin Gaydos, Michael Haskins, Homei Hayes, Pamela Hudson, Melinda Hux, Dana Linder, Eleanor Maynard, Winston Moss, Cynthia Powers, Ellis Price, Alice Rogers, Robert Seay, Ralph Strickland, Walter Sykes, Marvin Tyson, Dana Wade and Debby Williams.

Dean's Honor List — Jean Alston, Vickie Brickhouse, Joseph Burdette, Alyce Carter, Kathy Collins, Betty Davis, Thomas Follett, George Greatrex, James Harris, James Hembree, Connie Henderson, Ronald Hess, Vickie Mitchell, William Rawlins, Carol Reid, Sally Smith, Teresa Taylor, Rebecca Walker.