

# Gardner opens Writers Series

By CECILIA LYNN CASEY

The first event of the 1994-1995 Visiting Writers Series was held on Sept. 20 in the Pearsall Library. Angela Davis Gardner read from her works and much like the bees in her second book, *Forms of Shelter*, she made a stunning impression.

*Forms of Shelter*, is about a girl's struggles dealing with the changes within her family. Gardner read over five excerpts from her book.

The first passages that she read were about the girl's memories of her father and the days before he left the family to go play saxophone in Chicago. She remem-

bered feeding a pony, and trying to stretch out the time with her father before they had to go back to her house where her mother and brother would be.

She then remembered the color of her father's eyes and how, as she slowly forgot her father's face, she tried to remember his eyes. Gardner moved from passage to passage, each an entertaining story in themselves.

Professor of History Dr. David Jones was very impressed by Gardner and said "Gardner was a wonderful introduction to the series because her story was so easily understandable and believable."

Gardner teaches full time at

North Carolina State University and she "likes teaching creative writing the most because student are full of their own ideas which give me energy."

Gardner works on her own writing during the summer and in the mornings before her classes. Gardner's novels are *Felice*, *Forms of Shelter*, and she is working on a third book, which will be set in Japan.

Gardner's work has been well received and she has enjoyed much success. However Gardner measures her success in different terms: "I want to be successful enough to keep writing, the writing is what matters to me."



**HOMECOMING OPENER** — The comedy group "Selected Hilarity" appeared at North Carolina Wesleyan College as the first Homecoming activity. Students enjoyed their skill at improvisational skits.

## 'Selected Hilarity' opens Homecoming activities

By PATRICK BRANNAN and JULIE SCALZO

The comedy group Selected Hilarity performed for an enthusiastic crowd in the Student Activities Center on Sept. 26.

The group consists of five guys from Chapel Hill: Andy Bagwell, Bryan Tucker, Dave Drake, Scott Brown, and Larry Weaver.

The group performs improvisational skits, impressions, and a mix of regular stand-up comedy in the hour-long show. With suggestions from the crowd, the group constructs and performs skits.

"It was a good crowd and the audience understood our material," Bagwell said. Not only did the crowd get it, they loved it. Good crowd participation in the improvisation skits helped add to the quality of the show.

The group brought down the house with their final skit which was formed by suggestions from the crowd. The skit involved a party taking place and one of the comedians had to guess the occupations of the guests at the party. The crowd participated by shouting out suggestions of occupations and characteristics of people to create a mix for the comedians to choose from.

The crowd that night was especially creative. The final combination included a hyperactive sumo wrestler, a blind gynecologist with a wooden leg, a crazy paperboy that used to be a gymnast, and a gay hairdresser/hooker.

The skit had the crowd laugh-

ing as the final comedian attempted to guess the combinations as each party guest appeared on stage. The crowd applauded as the party host got closer to deciphering the make-up of each guest.

Another crowd favorite was yet another improvisational skit about music. The "British top three" skit was composed of three sayings provided by the audience. Song number one was a country song called "Satan is Love." Song number two was a rock song titled, "All Righty Then" from the movie *Ace Ventura Pet Detective*.

The third song in the skit was a rap song, "Let's Get Drunk and Screw." This final number had the crowd rolling as three comedians with droopy pants performed the Beastie Boys' rendition of the song.

Selected Hilarity got started in UNC-Chapel Hill with the student television station. A contest brought the group together as they realized that together they had material for a hour-long show. After graduation, part in '92 and the rest in '93, they signed with an agent and have been touring since. The group plays about 90 percent colleges according to Bagwell. They also play clubs on the strip in New York.

Eventually the group hopes to get a T.V. show, Bagwell added. They have appeared on America's Funniest People and on local, Raleigh area, television.

"We understand we're still young and that it takes time," Bagwell said.

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