



JOE ORVAVIS REHEARSES FOR "GREATER TUNA"

Club Dramatica to perform first full-length production

By ALAN P. FELTON

The hillbilly humor of Tuna, Texas, will fill North Carolina's Wesleyan College's Coltrane Theatre when Club Dramatica, Wesleyan's drama club, presents the comedy *Greater Tuna* in February.

The production will be the first full-length play presented by Club Dramatica and will also be the first Wesleyan production to be sponsored by a local business. The Texas Steakhouse and Saloon is providing various props and other assistance to the project.

Greater Tuna is a biting satire of Southerners and their culture that blends stereotypical characters and comic situations into a rousing work of entertainment. But according to the production's director, Christopher Alexander, the entertainment is only one important facet of the overall work.

Alexander said, "I hate racism and ignorance. That is what this show makes fun of. By ridiculing racism, I have tried to show how stupid it really is."

The cast consists of six members of Club Dramatica with each member portraying at least two different characters. According to the cast, playing more than one role presented an interesting challenge especially since most of the roles involve crossing genders and one cast member, Michelle Anderson, plays a dog named Yippy during parts of the show.

But for most of the cast it was not difficult to find actual people on which to model their characters because, as cast member Joe Bratcher said, "I just draw on my family for character inspiration."

The Wesleyan production of *Greater Tuna* is unique in several other ways according to its director. Alexander said the show will use a real, working train on stage and audience members will not be merely purchasing a ticket when they enter the theater.

Pianist to give recital Jan. 29 at Wesleyan

Frank Vulpi, pianist from UNC-G, will give a recital on the campus of North Carolina Wesleyan College Jan. 29.

The recital, held in Leon Russell Chapel at 3 p.m., will feature selected works of Brahms, Chopin, and Debussy. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, call Mike McAllister at 985-5212.

Rather, audience members will buy a membership in the Tuna Hunting Club.

"I wanted to give the audience a feeling of real involvement when they come out for the show. By selling memberships in the Tuna Hunting Club the audience will become part of the show. I believe it is a concept that will add to the fun of the show," Alexander said.

Greater Tuna will be the directorial debut for Alexander who is a second year theatre major.

"I have learned a lot by doing this show. I have had to establish a trust with the cast which was not easy at first. Theatre is a tough business and we have to be serious about the work going on. But we have made a good effort during our rehearsals. I have been lucky to be able to work with such a high level of talent in the cast," Alexander said.

Greater Tuna will be performed in the Coltrane Theatre at 8 p.m. Feb. 2-4 and 9-11. Admission is free for students and \$5 for community members.

Best, worst, films

By KEVIN CORBETT

Here are my picks for the best films of 1994:

Forrest Gump: A wonderful film featuring Tom Hanks as a simple-minded man who goes through many different adventures in his life.

Ed Wood: Tim Burton's hilarious true story about a Hollywood director famous for making bad movies.

Clear and Present Danger: The third installment in the Jack Ryan series, features Harrison Ford in this fast-paced political thriller.

The River Wild: It may not have a deep plot, but it's a thrill-ride down the rapids.

The worst films:

The Specialist: Stallone stars as a bomb expert (how fitting — he's been in enough — remember *Stop Or My Mom Will Shoot?*). This film drags on with unlikable characters.

Being Human: Robin Williams plays five different guys named Hector. It's a great film to watch if you can't fall asleep.

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein: Robert NeDiro's performance is terrible in this extra graphic, un compelling version of the classic story.

North: After making cinematic masterpieces like *The Princess Bride*, *When Harry Met Sally*, and *A Few Good Men*, Rob Reinder strikes out with this really dumb movie.

Kevin's Oscar picks:

Best Actor: Tom Hanks, *Forrest Gump*.

Review

Best Actress: Meryl Streep, *The River Wild*.

Best Picture: *Forrest Gump*.

Best Supporting Actress: Kristen Dunst, *Interview with a Vampire*.

Best Supporting Actor: Samuel L. Jackson, *Pulp Fiction*.

Best Director: Quentin Tarantino, *Pulp Fiction*.

Best Comeback: Arnold Schwarzenegger, *True Lies*.

January's star of the month: Laurence Fishburne. This incredible actor displays his talents in John Singleton's *Higher Learning* and in the thriller *Bad Company*. In February he will be seen in *Just Cause* with Sean Connery.

What to Expect for 1995:

Die Hard: With a Vengeance, starring Bruce Willis, Samuel Jackson, and Jeremy Irons.

Batman Forever, starring Val Kilmer, Jim Carrey, and Tommy Lee Jones.

Mission Impossible, starring Tom Cruise.

The Quick and the Dead, starring Sharon Stone and Gene Hackman.

Under Siege 2: Dark Territory, starring: Steven Seagal, Morris Chestnut, and Eric Bogosian.

Bad Boys, starring: Will Smith and Martin Lawrence.

Rob Roy, starring: Jessica Lang and Liam Neeson.

CAB
Presents...

Wolf

January 28

9:30pm

Clear &
Present Danger

February 4

9:30pm

SATURDAY NIGHT
CINEMA

Saturday Night - SACenter