

CAMPUS NEWS

Wesleyan to produce 'Fences'

August Wilson's 1985 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, "Fences," is to be produced this month at North Carolina Wesleyan College.

The African-American play has been awarded numerous honors including New York Drama Critics, Outer Critics Circle, and Drama Desk awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1990. The play is directed by N.C. Wesleyan professor, Richard Stafford.

The production will be staged in the Powers Recital Hall in the Dunn Center and will include four morning performances open to the public at 10 a.m., April 11-14. Evening performances begin at 8 p.m. and run April 13-15.

There is one afternoon matinee at 2 p.m., closing the show, on Sunday, April 16.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Belk Box Office at 252-985-5197. Tickets to the daytime morning shows are \$2 per person, students and adults. The evening performances and Sunday matinee are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults.

The drama centers on the later life of Troy Maxson, a Pittsburgh garbage collector in 1957. Maxson, his wife Rose, and their 18-year-old son Cory struggle to maintain a sense of family unity. Their efforts to maintain happiness are dashed to the ground as Maxson, formerly a player for the Negro Baseball league, stumbles and strikes out in most of his relationships.

A reviewer for the New York Post reported when the play first opened, "One of the richest experiences I have ever had in theatre.

I wasn't just moved, I was transfixed."

Stafford, who is finishing his second year at Wesleyan, says the play is an extraordinary step for the college theatre program.

"I feel this play is the most significant drama in the 50-year history of the college. The theme of how we handle 'fence-building' is an important lesson for us all," he said.

"Students need to recognize when fences are being thrown up at them in life, and they need to understand the appropriate manner in which to dismantle them, as well," Stafford said. "I think it is going to be a fine theatre experience for the actors, the campus, and the community."

August Wilson, the playwright, is also known for his other African-American plays includ-

ing "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," "The Piano Lesson," "Two Trains Running," and "Seven Guitars."

Wilson grew up in Pittsburgh with his mother and five siblings. His father, Frederick August Wilson, who was white, never lived with the family. Wilson founded several theatre companies, including the Playwrights Center in Minneapolis. In the 1960's and 70's Wilson was a civil rights activist.

Most of his plays have strong ties to blues music and often have multiple references to food.

Cast as Troy Maxson is Washington, D.C., sophomore, Carl D. Thomas. Thomas has also served

as assistant director for the production.

Rose. Maxson's wife, is played by Rocky Mount native, Carl Edge Dudley.

Others in the cast include Moquisis Brown (Richmond, Va.), Samuel Scott (Rocky Mount), Jermain N. Prince, Ernest Ike Uche, and Z. Williamson, all of Washington, D.C.

The set designer is M. Burnett and the play is staged by Ita Yarborough of Durham. Rick Wise, of Berryville, Va., is the sound designer and Meghan Lancaster from Wilmington, is lighting designer.

Dunn Center to resound with sounds of tap tonight

The tap-dancing show, "Caution: Men at Work TAP," comes to the Dunn Center for the Performing Arts tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for senior or students 12-17, and \$12 for youth 12 and under. For reservations, call the Belk Box Office at 252-985-5197.

The performance at the Dunn Center is sponsored in part by New Mix 99.7 FM.

In the tradition of "Stomp" and "Tap Dogs," "Tap" is an energetic show filled with vibrant music, physical prowess, pulsating rhythms, and spectacular showmanship.

Six dancers and three band members provide a unique opportunity to witness the progression of tap dance and its rhythm from the streets of Harlem to the lights of Broadway.

"Tap" combines the precision of a military drill team with the electric energy of a concert production.

Rehearsals began in mid February for the National Tour of "Caution: Men At Work TAP," produced by Theatrical Arts International. The original show, directed by Alfred Desio, was produced last February and premiered at the California Music Theatre in San Bernadino, with additional performances in Bakersfield.

This spring the show will tour to 12 states. It features six tap dancers and three musicians. Bob Carroll, Chance Taylor, and Hiroshi Hamanishi return from the original cast.

New dancers include Jimmy Fisher, Demetria Moss, and Nick Bowman. Musicians include Voyce McGinley III, Gary Ayrapetyan, and Earl Harris.

Desio's invention Tap-Tronics is also used in the show. Choreography is by Alfred Desio and Louise Reichlin, with additional choreography by Chance Taylor and Thommie Retter. Music is by Adrian Henson.

Allen Evenson and Joseph Henson are producers.

The Decree

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North Carolina Wesleyan College
now has

Interlibrary Loan Online

For Interlibrary Loan Information,
go to <http://annex.ncwc.edu/Library/illform.htm>

Career opportunities

"Spring into Action" Job Fair
April 18

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Nash Community College Business and Industry Center. Co-sponsored by the Employment Security Commission, this is your chance to meet employers and discuss job opportunities. Business dress is appropriate-take lots of resumes!

Criminal Justice Career Fair
April 20

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Nash Community College Business and Industry Center. Meet law enforcement/justice recruiters from across the state and investigate job possibilities. Take plenty of resumes and DRESS FOR SUCCESS!

Contact the ICSC at 985-5258
for more information!