

NCCU to house state's first black archive

Taken from the Durham Sun
In Dr. Jon Michael Spencer's office on the North Carolina Central University campus is the beginning of a one-of-a-kind collection of musical artifacts.

Spencer, thanks partly to a \$5,000 grant from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, has been authorized to gather

material for the first black music archive in the state.

"In five years we hope to have a significant collection of black music," Spencer said. "But in 10 years, we hope to have a really major collection. We want researchers from all over the country to come here and find material they can't find anywhere else."

The archive will include published and unpublished works of black musicians representing popular music, jazz, spirituals, ragtime, blues and black classical music.

Spencer has been collecting music for the archive since August and already has over 200 compositions. When the collection becomes larger it

will be moved to NCCU's Music and Fine Arts Library building. Until then it will be in Spencer's office where it is being catalogued.

The move to the library should occur within a month, Spencer said. When the music is transported, the public will be invited to view it.

Through personal donations, the collection now includes works by Scott Joplin, Eubie Blake, Paul Jeffries and Durham's Shirley Caesar. Spencer is also a composer and has donated his original works

to the collection. Professor at NCCU, said he is now calling up known owners of black music and asking them to donate to the collection. He is also writing to living black composers and asking them for donations.

It is hard to judge the importance of the archive, but he said it should be of value to all North Carolina students, faculty and researchers, as well as those from out of state.

"We just want to preserve the music for later generations," Spencer said.

Spencer, who is a music pro-

Childbirth alters routine

By Rhonda McLaurin

Is there life after birth? Many will agree that mothering is a very strenuous and time-consuming occupation. Even more will agree that teaching is just as strenuous and time-consuming. When you combine the two, you're bound to encounter numerous problems in adjusting.

Karen Dacons-Brock, a dramatic arts teacher at N.C. Central University, found that the readjustment of her academic life began during her pregnancy. "I was extremely tired all the time and suffered from edema, caused by the body's excessive retention of water, so I was unable to direct any major season productions last year. However, I was able to direct reader's theatre productions with my oral interpretation class," said Dacons-Brock.

After the birth of her

daughter Alison, she took a six-week leave of absence and returned to NCCU three weeks before the end of the semester.

Upon returning, one major problem she encountered was not being able to nurse the baby. "I planned to nurse the baby for six months, but after I returned I found it almost impossible to nurse her while I was working, so I had to stop," said Dacons-Brock.

Child care is another problem. "Presently, an older woman referred to us by one of my husband's co-workers cares for Alison during the day, and my husband Michael keeps her at night while I direct rehearsals for "Bubbling Brown Sugar," said Dacons-Brock. "However, she is planning to discontinue her child care service and I'll be faced with finding acceptable care for the baby," continued Dacons-

Brock.

As far as school work is concerned, Dacons-Brock says she gets a lot of support from her husband, who helps grade papers, care for the baby, and provide overall assistance.

So there is life after birth! Even in a profession as demanding as teaching, it is possible to combine a career with motherhood.

Hummingbirds to perform

NCCU News Bureau

Armenta Adams Hummings will play solo piano works by Schubert, Mozart, and Bach in the second event of N.C. Central University's Diamond Anniversary season of the B. N. Duke/Lyceum series, at 3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30 at B. N. Duke Auditorium.

Ms. Hummings' program includes the Schubert "Impromptu in G Flat Major," the Mozart "Sonata in D Major," and Bach's "Aria" and "30 Variations (The Goldberg Variations)."

Tickets for the program will be sold at the door.

'God's Creation' heads new Lyceum calendar

By Ronnie Hopkins

N.C. Central University's Lyceum Committee announces its year of festivities.

The season began with its B.N. Duke Concert Series, "God's Creation: The Gospel in Drama and Song," was held Sunday, Sept. 16 at 3:00 p.m. in B.N. Duke Auditorium.

"Though the production consisted of amateur performers, I still thought it was an excellent show," said Lawrence V. Poole, a junior public administration major from Somerset, N.J.

"God's Creation" consisted of two acts that portrayed the entire lifespan of Jesus Christ.

Under the musical direction of Calvin Croom and guided by the dance choreography of Cardell Hall, the cast, musicians and technical crew managed to transform B.N. Duke Auditorium into such scenes as the Garden of Eden, the woman at the well, and Calvary Hill.

"It put me back in biblical days and allowed me to actually view the creations of God up to the death of Christ," Poole said.

The Lyceum Committee Calendar is as follows.

- B.N. Duke Series:**
- Sept. 30 Armenta Hummings, one of America's great pianists, 3:00 p.m.
 - Oct. 26 Maynard Ferguson, outstanding jazzman, 8:15 p.m.
 - Nov. 11 Seth McCoy, one of the world's leading tenors, 3:00 p.m.
 - Feb. 12 Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre, modern dance at its best, 8:15 p.m.
 - April 4 "Ain't Misbehavin,'" the best of "Fats" Waller, 8:15 p.m.

- Afternoon Concert Series:**
- Sept. 26 Dan Andrews, baritone
 - Oct. 24 Christopher Berg, guitarist
 - Feb. 22 Ron Crutcher, cellist
 - March 27 Bill Jones, Trumpeter

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Letters

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year about changes that had to be made in order for our class to be the most prosperous one yet at NCCU University. Now that elections are over, where is all the talk?

Thus far this academic year, attendance at class meetings and the two functions our class has sponsored has shown me that your talk was just that...TALK! One of my mottos is "ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS."

I need your support in order for our class to function properly and only you can decide if you will give that support. I cannot make you support your

activities, for that decision is left entirely up to you. I can only appeal to you in hope that your conscious will awaken you to what you have to do to make this year a successful one.

The journey to success is a two way street. We have started this year hoping that success in the end will be ours. I hope you will find time to come out and share the ideas you have with me and the other officers in which you have entrusted the success of our class. We will listen and every opinion will be valued. Class meetings will be held

every other Tuesday at 10:40 in the Student Union beginning Oct. 2. Other meetings will be scheduled if necessary.

In closing, there is an old saying I wish to share with you. God has given us two ends to use: one to sit upon and one to think with. The success of our class depends upon which end you choose. Heads we win; tails we loose.

I hope that this year will be very prosperous one for you academically, socially, and spiritually.

Sincerest Wishes,
Kelvin Lovaun Chesson
junior class president

Not Readin or Ritin, But Rithmetic

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