

United Arts Council sponsors 18th annual City Stage Festival of Arts

By FELECIA P. McMILLAN
Special to THE CHRONICLE

Since 1979, the United Arts Council has produced City Stage, a free community event. It is one of the few completely free festivals left in the nation. All of the activities are coordinated by the United Arts Council and a group of dedicated, conscientious volunteers. This year's event was held during the weekend of Oct. 3-5 in Greensboro.

Some of the events that took place were the Art Hop, sponsored by the Greensboro Merchants Association; and a block party featuring the music of Flashback, sponsored by I.H. Caffey and Rock 92. The parade of marching bands, popular characters and more started in the Weaver Education Parking lot and headed toward downtown on Market Street on Saturday. Also on Saturday, the 10K run/5K run was hosted by the Greensboro Running Club in conjunction with Wesley Long and Moses Cone Hospitals. Runners received prizes, awards and medals.

Music was a major part of the entertainment schedule. Three stages accommodated the talent each day. On Saturday Titus, War, Ben Caught Stealing and Plutopia occupied the rhythm and blues stage sponsored by JAMZ and WQMG. Blues Hangover, Lonnie Brooks, Roy Roberts, Wayne Toups and Zydecajun occupied the blues stage sponsored by Classic Rock 92 and WNAA. Some of the

Dancers on stage were Town & Country Cloggers, the Miss Greensboro Talent Troupe, Greensboro Folk Dancers, Greensboro Chinese Association, Magic Carpet Belly Dancers, Asian Celebration, Hand Made, Nyritya Bharati, and Tumblebees, sponsored by the News and Record.

On Sunday the rock alternative stage sponsored by 97.5 The Eagle accommodated Dosy's Kitchen, Snuzz Band, Running from Anna, Athenaeum, and Happy Annie's. The country stage sponsored by BB&T and Whistle 100 WHSL included Treva, Smith, Huffman and Foxhall, and Country Headliner. The Music of local and regional performers included B.R. Boys, Chuck Harmon, Billy Jonas, Laura Boosinger, Bruce Piephoff, and Ransom Notes.

Included in the City Stage events was Cityworks, a group of activities and exhibits that shows the many services available through the Greensboro Parks and Recreation and other City departments. This was sponsored by Greensboro Parks & Recreation and The Ticket WTCK (1320 AM). Target and Magic WMAG sponsored fun and games such as the Moon Walk, the Big Slide, face painting, and other amusements. For adults, a rock climbing wall, a gyroscope and other activities were available. Arts and crafts and international food were available festival-goers of all ages, but for the beer gardens, people had to be at least 21.

The Greensboro Cultural Center allowed participants to visit the five visual art galleries in the center. They had a variety of arts, crafts, African carvings, hand-made jewelry, Native American dream catchers, provocative paintings, and contemporary works.

City Stage sponsors were Samet Corporation, Miller Brewing Company, Calley, Greater Greensboro Merchants Association, Coca-Cola, Guilford Fabric, BB&T, U-S Airways, Wesley Long Community Hospital, Cellular One, Target, The Burris Agency, and Eastwind Airlines.



Lloyd Glover (left) and Angus Meachum said they have always loved the sound of the band War.



Joan Goins and Charles Baird enjoyed the excitement of the entertainment and the good food.

STUDENTS

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ated from here. They told us we had \$60,000. Then they said we had \$40,000, then \$20,000. Now they are telling us we have no budget; therefore, we have no money."

After nearly two hours in the meeting, the chancellor returned to Blair Hall after announcing that things had been worked out with the students and they would continue their dialogue tomorrow at a retreat. Karen Young, president of the Student Government Association, announced that the chancellor had directed his staff to get contracts and purchase orders processed immediately and the march and the gospel concert were reinstated. He also gave them the assurance that he would look at his staff and get to the bottom of this and find out where the breakdown occurred. Farrakhan had already given them notice that he would not be able to come. When the excitement had subsided, the police contingent and television cameras departed. Students returned to their classes.

During the evening, the campus was visited by Chancellor Julius Chambers of North Carolina Central University, who delivered the J. Alston Atkins Lecture Series on constitutional law at Dillard Auditorium. He was accompanied by Molly Broad, president of the University of North Carolina system and other dignitaries. The audience was packed with people from the community, faculty, staff, and students.

Following the lecture, there was a question-and-answer period. With expressions of dignity, students questioned Chambers. The questions included the following: Why do we have to give up our culture and our heritage and our historically black university to join into a statewide university system? Why do we have to give up our name of Winston-

Salem State University to become a University of North Carolina at Winston-Salem?

The last question was followed by the proclamation "We are proud of our name and our school." The audience exploded with applause.

They seemed to be less satisfied with the answer given, which essentially suggested that it is more important to achieve a high degree of excellence and become more competitive than to maintain a name. They were told that they could maintain their culture while at the same time accomplishing those goals of excellence and competitiveness.

At the end of the day, the campus returned to an atmosphere of quietude. Students were returning to their dorms — some to prepare for makeup exams, others were making ready for the trip to Philadelphia.

I returned home and shook the dust from my dairies of 1967 and 1970 to the time when I was a student who had once occupied the president's office while matriculating at the universities of Hawaii and Harvard. We were successful in persuading the board of regents to establish a Department of Ethnic Studies at Hawaii. While at Harvard, after much discussion, we were able to persuade them to send money and students to Selma and Tuskegee, Ala., to help in the struggle there. As I returned the old diary to its file, a lump of pride swelled my breast as I took a backward glance, while at the same time tossing a salute to Chancellor Schexnider for the calm and professional manner in which he handled the matter, and the students at WSSU for the orderly way in which they conducted themselves.

(English Bradshaw is a writer and political consultant.)

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