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## THE CHARLOTTE POST

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### Sensitive Ballads Have Been Rick James' Trademark

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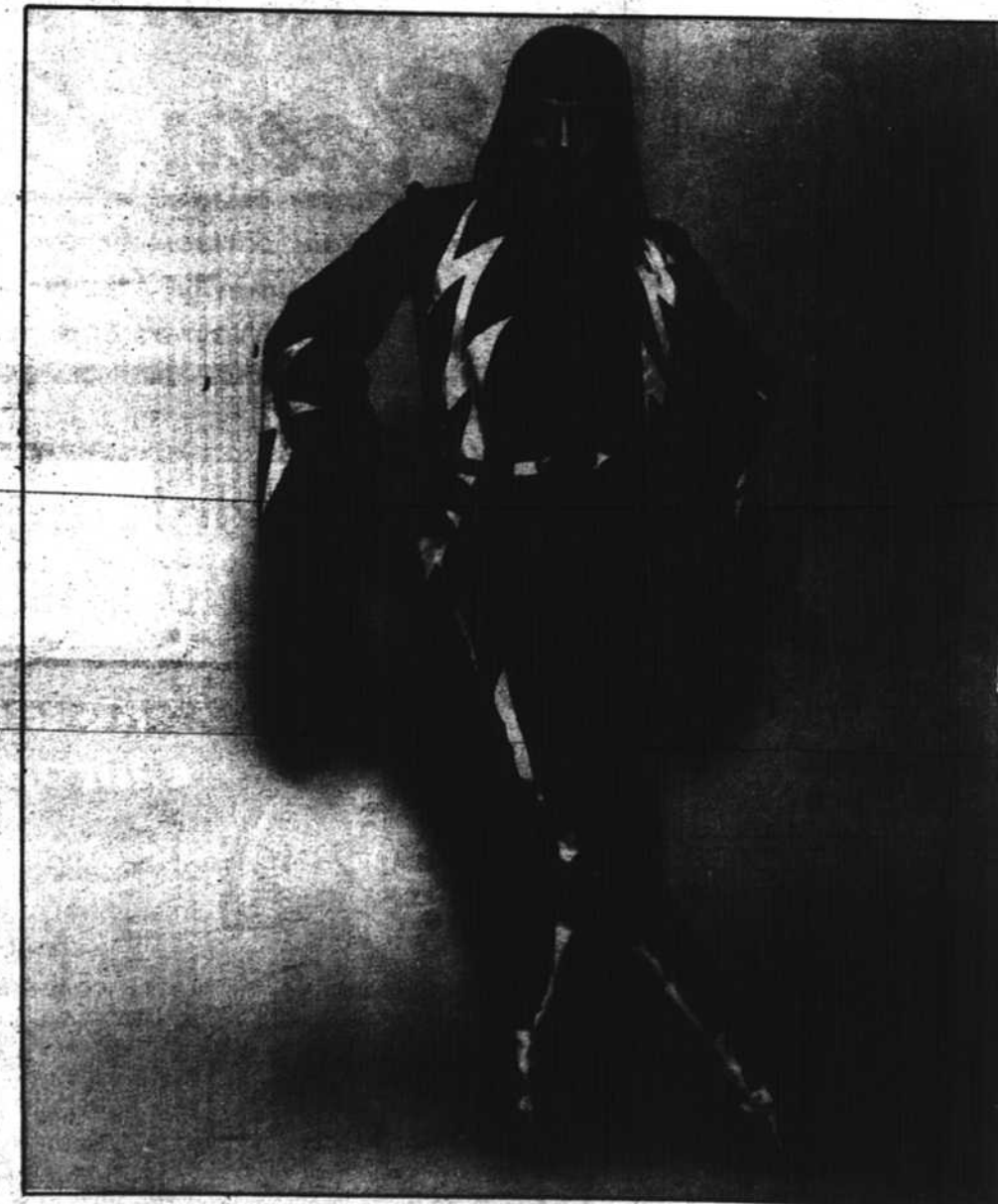
Even the most savage of beasts are calmed when he pours from the depth of his soul the sensitive ballads that have become his trademark. But there's another side to this artist who erases timidity from a soul with his rocking, funky numbers. Rick James is this recording artist.

He has built a reputation on that type of versatility. It has given him the status and the credibility that only the "creme de la creme" share.

Not only is his singing style versatile, but Rick James as a recording artist is too. That's because Rick James is not just another singer. He has proven his flexibility and adeptness in the music business and in other areas which leave little doubt about what he is capable.

Look at the Mary Jane Girls. With only an idea of female funk and roll group, James brought the group into existence. After an extensive audition, James wrote, produced and financed an entire album for this creation. The evidence of the Mary Jane Girls' single "Candy Man" and "All Night Long" rising to the top of R&B charts, was proof enough that James was on the right target.

But that's not all. He has seen the enormous wealth of talent that lies within his back-up band, "The Stone City Band." Not allowing it to go to waste, James took on the project of producing The Stone City Band's debut and subsequent albums.



RICK JAMES

.....Not just another singer

In addition to his production credits with The Stone City Band and the Mary Jane Girls, James also produced the Temptations' top R&B hit,

"Standing On The Top" and Teena Marie's first album, "Wild and Peaceful."

The year 1983 also marked the year James

factured in Buffalo and available in stores nationwide.

For most, the responsibility of being a recording artist would be more than enough to handle, but not Rick James. In the near future, James plans to ini-

tiate his debut in motion pictures with a series of projects still in development. If all goes well, James hopes to begin film production this year on at

least one of his projects, "Spice of Life" with himself as the star.

#### In New Light

### UNCC Students To See Faculty, Staff

Students and the public may see faculty and staff of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in a new light on Friday, March 23.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. on that date, faculty will put down chalk and eraser and turn aside from the computer terminal to pick up guitar, fiddle, saxophone or voice and try the spotlight on the stage—all for a good cause, the emergency student-loan fund.

The occasion is UNCC's first faculty-staff talent show and benefit, sponsored by the UNCC Women's Association.

Mrs. Binnie Neel, president, said the event has a two-fold purpose—to bring students, faculty and staff together for an informal and "fun" occasion and to raise money for the organization's favorite charity.

Many students never see their professors in a setting other than the classroom, she indicated.

The show will feature the University's top leaders: Chancellor Fretwell, Jr. playing in a saxophone trio with legal assistant Bill Steimer and Political Science Department Head Bob Mundt; and Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor

J. H. Werntz, Jr. and the academic deans doing a Gilbert and Sullivan skit; and Vice Chancellor for Research and Public Service Doug Orr and Psy-

chology Professor Nace Toner and members of the WFAE staff performing as Highland Bru, a Celtic music band.

Bill Hanna, well known Charlotte jazz musician and a member of the UNCC faculty, will open the show with the closest thing to a professional act.

Another well known local group comprised of UNCC faculty, is the Mallard Creek String Band, an old time music group which will perform midway through the show.

Other acts range from a satirical presentation by UNCC and Charlotte-Mecklenburg historian Dan Morrill to the Gospel Train Singers, a faculty-staff group augmented by Charlotte attorney J.T. Millsaps.

There will even be a belly dance performed by a faculty member under the name of "Mikaila."

Other acts include classical piano and flute presentations, guitar numbers, skits, barbershop quartet singing, and a bass solo by Dean of Admissions and Records Bob Gwaltney.

The program is open to the public. Cost is \$2 for students and \$3 for adults other than students.

For further information, contact Ken Sanford, at UNCC, 597-4286 week-days from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Easy Moving Dance Group To Appear Here

The Easy Moving Company Dance Troupe out of Raleigh, N.C., will present a Master Class and a Demonstration-Lecture at

Johnson C. Smith University on Tuesday, March 27. Each session is open free to the public and will be held in Grimes Lounge of the

Student Union. The Master Class will be held from 3-5 p.m. while the Demonstration-Lectures will run from 8-10 p.m.

The Easy Moving Company was formed in 1976 as a "co-op" ensemble by Geraldine Bowen, Pattie Kilpatrick, Cynthia Schraf-

Fletcher and Vincent Taylor. All members of the dance company participate in the creative process.

Their program numbers blend the traditional and avant-garde ranging from slapstick humor to human pathos to purely joyous

ventured into the fashion world. He sponsored a complete line of unisex designer sportswear, created by Hawaiian Christopher Lee. The line is manu-

motion. Easy Moving Company conducts regular classes in Raleigh as well as participating in the North Carolina Artists-in-the-School's Program and the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities. They are supported by the North Carolina Arts Council.