



Photo/CALVIN FERGUSON

Donald Lawrence (front) is the writer, choreographer, and director of the musical play PREACHERMAN.

## Church News Briefs Preacherman Comes To Ovens

ALLIANCE CHURCH NEWS  
By Sonya A. White

### PREACHERMAN

If your spirits need a lift and your spirit needs a message, plan to attend the March 12 performance of the PREACHERMAN at Ovens Auditorium. PREACHERMAN is a wonderful musical play with an important spiritual message, written, choreographed and directed by Donald Lawrence, a native of Gastonia. Lawrence is well known in the gospel circle, locally and nationally. He is musical director for the popular local gospel group "Company". In addition to his work as musical director for recording artist Stephanie Mills.

"Once you really love someone, you can find it in your heart to forgive them, no matter what they have done," says Lawrence about his message in PREACHERMAN.

Agape love, unconditional and all forgiving, is one of underlying.

The play stars local talent from many area churches including Helena McClure, Reverend Joann Barber, Ann Barber, Erica Bratton, Curtis Blake, Crystal Watson Caldwell, Stephanie Armstrong, Luther Benton, Kevin Barber, Rodney Barber, Glenda Neeley, Linda Setzer, Donyell Bratton, Barry Gallo-way, James Mason, and features background vocals by the talented gospel group, God's Choice. This will be a marvelous outing for church groups. Tickets can be purchased at a group rate of \$12, for a group of 20 or more. For further information on group rates call 1-522-0221. Individual tickets are \$15 in advance and \$16 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from members of the cast or at Ovens Auditorium Box Office. This play is excellent don't miss it! Curtain time is at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 12 at Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte.



Dr. Eric White

### MOORE'S CHAPEL

The Moore's Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, Lincolnton, proudly presents in concert, the sensational Fellowship Choir of the Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church of Gastonia. The Fellowship Choir is under the direction of Gene W. Friday. Reverend George H. Lowery is the pastor of Greater Mt. Zion. The concert will be sponsored by Stewardess Board Number 1 on Sunday, March 5, at 4 p.m. Moore's Chapel is located at 1009 East Main Street in Lincolnton. The public is cordially invited to attend.

### BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

"HE's better than Tide Detergent... He gets the dirt out others leave behind!" "Everybody ought to know who Jesus is", Reverend Eric White told a packed audience of ministers and their wives at the annual Gaston Baptist Association Fellowship Meeting on Monday, February 27. Rev. White, who is the pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Belmont, was the guest speaker for the occasion and spoke to the group on the subject "A Proper Introduction". The Gaston Baptist Association is located at 1607 Rankin Lake Road in Gastonia. Reverend Richard N. Spencer is the director.

### FRIENDSHIP

You are invited to attend an afternoon of song and praise by the Friendly Hill Gospel Choir. This special service will be held on Sunday, March 5, 3 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church in Gastonia. The program is sponsored by the Trustee's Wives, who invite all to come and help lift the name of Jesus. The church is located at 221 West Bradley Avenue. Reverend John A. McCullough is the interim Pastor.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

All are invited to attend the Lenten Luncheon series being held at First Presbyterian Church in Belmont. On Friday, March 3, the Reverend Jack Painter of First Baptist Church, Belmont will be the luncheon speaker. Lunch will begin at noon and the program will conclude promptly at 12:50. Lunch is \$1.50. A nursery will be provided; please bring your child's lunch. First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall is located at 102 South Central Avenue in Belmont. Reverend Leslie Tucker is the minister.

**SOUL WINNING WORKSHOP**  
On Tuesday March 7, a One Day Regional Soul Winning Workshop will be conducted at the Gaston Baptist Building, located at 1607 Rankin Road in Gastonia. Session I will run from 9 a.m. until noon, lunch will be on your own, and Session II will run from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. This free workshop is open to anyone. If you would like further information or to register, call the Personal Evangelism Department of the Baptist State Convention, 1-800-222-8478. Participants in the workshop will be trained to lead this one day event in their own churches.

If you would like for your church related news to be included in the Alliance Church News Column, send information and announcements to Sonya A. White 609 East Avenue in Belmont 28012. Deadline for March 16, Alliance is March 8.

## Gardin Gets Honorable Mention

By MILLICENT LINK  
Alliance Staff Writer

Maranda Gardin, the daughter of Ms. Frances Nichols has been selected to receive Honorable Mention recognition for her composition on Women's History Month.



Maranda Gardin

Maranda, 14, is a ninth grade student at Highland Junior High School in Gastonia. Over 200 entries were submitted in the contest. For her contest entry, Maranda wrote a comparison of life as it was for her grandmother, Mrs. Clara Gardin, when she was a teenager, and life as it is for a teenager today.

The awards presentation ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 16, 7 p.m. at the Public Service Company building located on Cox Road.

As a young girl growing up on a farm Miranda's grandmother did not have the treasures that her granddaughter and other teenagers have become accustomed to today.

"I believe the reasons for such such changes is because life-styles have changed. In our world today, you have to know so much about the advancements of the world, but in my grandmother's day, you did not have to know all that much to get by," Maranda explains in her composition.

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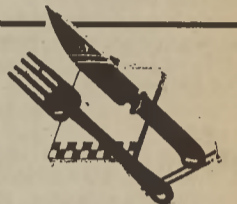
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