

Freestyle Rappers Prepare For Contest at Cat's Cradle

BY GREG KALISS
FEATURES EDITOR

For those who find poetry readings a little lacking in spontaneity, beat and good ol' fashioned funky feel, Cat's Cradle may have just the event to give a little life to rhyming couplets — tonight's first-ever Verbal Combat, a freestyle rap contest.

The event will be held at 9 p.m. and will feature the first 16 people who volunteer to try their hand at rapping. Tickets for the contest are \$5.

Cherryl Aldave, coordinator for the event, said the contest was a way to showcase area rappers and their music. She said the Triangle region was a good one for rap music. "There's so much talent in this area," she said. "It's got a growing underground scene."

She said the contest would be a way to give more publicity to the rap musicians in the area, because they don't get as much airplay as other local indie-rock bands do. "The rap movement hasn't been as widely publicized as the indie-rockers," she said.

But she said she felt that trend was changing for the better as rap started to make more of an impact in local music. "The Triangle is just going to blow up with it because there is so much untapped potential," she said.

Aldave said freestyle rap, in which the rapper came up with the words on the spot, was the origin of rap music.

"It's how rap started," she said. "It's poetry in motion, really, because it's spontaneous."

"There's so much (rap) talent in this area. It's got a growing underground scene"

CHERRYL ALDAVE
Verbal Combat Coordinator

Aldave's partner, Keeshon Walker, said freestyle rap in the mainstream was not very common. "You don't find it very often," he said. "It's that rare."

Aldave said the contest would be set up by giving the contestants a topic and then asking them to rap about it on the spot for 45 seconds. Each round would pair up two rappers, eliminating one by judges' decision, until the final pair-off determined the winner.

"You've got to be able to think really fast on your feet," Aldave said. "And it can be very mentally taxing."

Walker said he agreed. "That really puts people on the hot spot," he said.

Aldave said the prizes for the winner were \$100, a job doing a promotional spot for 97.5 FM and a T-shirt with a picture of the winner's face on it.

Aldave said there was additional reason for the rappers to do their best. "The judges are all producers and DJs, even one from Greensboro who works for Wu-Tang management," she said. "So it's a real opportunity for anyone who's interested in becoming involved in rap; just come on out and there."

Despite the Hike, Students Dig South Campus

BY JULIE TWELLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Some people might sigh in sympathy when you tell them you live on the ninth floor of Hinton James Residence Hall. Others just laugh as you whine about the heinous miles of walking you have to do each day just to get to class. One or two might smile with a glint of remembrance in their eyes of the long-ago times when they, too, lived on South Campus.

What most North Campus residents don't realize, and what most freshmen take the good part of a year to figure out, is that South Campus really is a great place to live, many of the high-rise residents say.

Most South Campus residents verify that there is a special bond among the people who live at the end of the long paths leading away from the Student Union.

"This feels like my home away from

home," said Dominic Demeritte, a freshman from Nassau, Bahamas. "I'm having so much fun here. It's going to be hard to go home."

Kendra Windly, a freshman from Belhaven, said she agreed with him. "I've really bonded with the people down here. We do dinner every night, and there's always someone around to play cards with if you need a study break."

With over 40 percent of the student population living in just four dorms, some worry that lack of privacy might be a problem. But the people who live there have mixed feelings.

"It's a totally different lifestyle," said Brielle Kelly, a sophomore from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. "Closer quarters obviously mean more people and less privacy — and a lot less 'conditioned' air — but it's a great way to meet people. The only disadvantage for me is that there are so many people

that I just can't meet them all." Demeritte said he shared her feelings. "The dorm never sleeps," he said of Morrison. "Even at 4 a.m. you can find someone to talk to. North Campus seems dead to me in comparison."

Although there are several insults and interesting names given to the buildings of South campus, such as the "Hinton James Hilton" and the "Ehringhaus Ghetto," many students find great benefits to living in an area with a high population.

"People need to come see what it's like to live here before they go calling it a ghetto," said Chris Whiteley, a sophomore from Kinston. "Each high-rise is self-sufficient, unlike a lot of North Campus dorms. We all have our own computer labs and laundry rooms, so we don't have to go across to another building. Sporting events are a lot closer, too."

But a major problem with South Cam-

pus is the long trek it takes to get to the main part of campus.

"I think it really keeps out the people who don't need to be here," said Amber Tankard, a freshman from Bath. "Nobody makes the hike unless they live here or have friends here, so you don't have people just wandering around because it's convenient to be here, like they do on North Campus." Tankard also said she agreed with the thought that everyone on South Campus had a common bond because of the long walks every day.

"I have found that students who live on other parts of campus tend to be kind of snooty, like they're none too eager to talk to you," Whiteley said. "Down here, when you talk to people, they talk back — on the elevators, in the halls, it doesn't matter. I think we're just so glad to get home after a long day, we just totally relax with each other."

DRUGS

FROM PAGE 1

Eugene Street) are very, very happy now."

The people who lived on Eugene Street cited the problems three years ago, Kinnaird said.

Although one of the known drug houses on Eugene Street was cleaned up, one still remains in the neighborhood, Kinnaird said. The police cannot take action on the other house until enough evidence can be collected.

"You have to have buys, usually done by undercover officers," she said. "Our officers are well-known, so we have to get people from outside to come in, and that costs money."

Now that the house has been cleaned of the drug trade, Kinnaird is now concerned about the two children who lived at the house and are now in foster care, Kinnaird said. The Carrboro Police Department was helped in their investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and various other agencies in North Carolina.

LIBRARIES

FROM PAGE 1

Joe Hewitt, University librarian, said campus libraries had improved in national rankings over the last few years but were still in need of funding to keep up.

"We're kind of holding our own right now," he said. "We have improved a little bit over the past couple of years, but we have a lot of ground to make up."

Hewitt said he had not seen figures on how the possible tuition hike would affect the library system's budget.

"We haven't been given any numbers,"

he said

Hewitt said he was scheduled to give a presentation to the Board of Trustees on Thursday about the libraries' needs.

"We still have a funding need in the libraries," he said. "Personally, I would prefer that it came from other revenue sources."

Hewitt said that UNC's library system had been ranked as high as 14th in the mid 1980s and as low as 22nd recently.

Currently, the library ranks 19th among other U.S. research university libraries, according to overall rankings from the Association of Research Libraries.

Student Body President Calvin Cunningham said he thought the library component of the funding was just as vital as the increased financial aid and faculty salaries. "I won't approve a plan that doesn't include the libraries," Cunningham said.

Hewitt said the libraries' ranking had moved up due to several factors, including a special gift of \$750,000 from former UNC trustee Walter Royal Davis.

"It's really a fragile coalition of various resources," he said. "If any part of it falls apart in any way then we could be in big trouble."

Campus Calendar

ing and coping strategies, in Nash Hall. For more information call Joy MacVane at 962-2175.

4 p.m. UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES will sponsor Job Hunt 101, an orientation workshop on how to use UCS in 210 Hanes Hall. Mandatory for all students participating in on-campus recruiting. For more information call 962-5607.

7 p.m. UNC MODERN EXTENSION will have an interest meeting in Women's Gym Studio B.

7 p.m. UNC-CH RUNNING CLUB will have a

general interest meeting in Union 218. Feel free to come by and see if this club appeals to you.

7:30 p.m. KALLISTI, the UNC Student Pagan Organization, will meet in Union 226 for a discussion on gender roles in Paganism.

7:30 p.m. ALPHA PHI OMEGA, a co-ed community service fraternity, is holding an informal rush meeting in the Union Film Auditorium. Attendance is mandatory for those who have not attended the previous meeting.

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