

PlayMakers Brings Wolfe's 'Angel' Home to UNC

By BRIAN MILLIKIN
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill history takes the stage Saturday as the PlayMakers Repertory Company premieres Thomas Wolfe's "Look Homeward, Angel."

centennial celebration of the birthday of Wolfe, a UNC alumnus. Ketti Frings' play adaptation is a coming-of-age story based on Wolfe's

own alienation and escape from an alcoholic father, a neglectful mother and a chronically sick brother.

The historical significance of the production is not lost on Liam Gearty, whose role as Wolfe's alter-ego Eugene Gant marks his PlayMakers debut.

"When this came around, I knew it was the anniversary of (Wolfe's) birth, and it became an exciting time to do it," Gearty said. "It's a great part, and it was a production I really wanted to join."

"Chapel Hill was his sanctuary, much more than a college - Chapel Hill became kind of a heaven for him."

Broadway veteran Jonathan Bolt, who plays Eugene's father, made his professional debut in the original Broadway production of "Look Homeward, Angel" in the role of Eugene. He canceled another job to come back to the Wolfe story, with

which he still identifies.

"(Wolfe) spoke to all of us young men who were about to search the big world," Bolt said. "And 42 years later, I have grown into the other role ... It's a real thrill to come back to the play that started your career."

PlayMakers has a long history with Wolfe beyond the play's forthcoming run. In addition to the "Look Homeward, Angel" production, Wolfe was a founding member of the Carolina PlayMakers in 1918, which became the professional PlayMakers Repertory in 1976.

"Look Homeward, Angel," will open on Saturday at 8 p.m., and will run through Nov. 12. Call 962-7529 for ticket information.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.



The University and Towns IN BRIEF

Assault, Theft Spur Police Investigation

Chapel Hill police received reports of assault with a deadly weapon and larceny of a motor vehicle at 11:06 p.m.

Wednesday at the Texaco service station at 1501 E. Franklin St. Reports state an unknown suspect entered an unattended vehicle that was left unlocked with the keys inside.

Officials said when the victim returned to the car, the victim noticed that a person was inside, and walked around to the front of the vehicle. The suspect began driving and struck the victim with the car, causing minor injuries, reports state. The victim was transported to UNC Hospitals and was treated and released Thursday morning.

The suspect is described as a male in his 20s, wearing a ball cap and a white T-shirt. The suspect was last seen heading east on Franklin Street in the car. An investigation is continuing on the case.

Campus Calendar

Today

7 p.m. - Come hear the Baha'i perspective in the Frank Porter Graham Lounge and share your own views.

7 p.m. - Black Music Series will feature the life and music of singer Nina Simone in Toy Lounge of Dey Hall.

8 p.m. - UNC in Concert, a lip-synching competition, will take place in

the Union Cabaret, part of Race Relations Week. Free tickets are available at the Union Box office and the Campus Y.

Saturday

9 a.m. - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will sponsor the Habitat for Humanity Walk-A-Thon to raise funds, starting at Hinton James Residence Hall. Volunteer forms can be found at the front desk of the Student Union.

1 p.m. - Sangam presents Namaste, a South Asian Fair. Come learn about seven different South Asian countries in the Hanes Art Center. There will be booths on politics, languages, mehndi, palm reading, dancing, music, art and food. Tickets are \$3, \$2 if you bring a food item.



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The Daily Tar Heel
Friday, October 20, 2000
Volume 108, Issue 97
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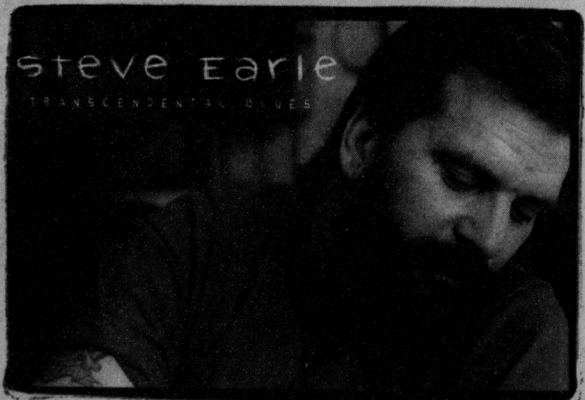
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