CUAB seeks recognition

Board leader tries to appeal to students

BY ALEXANDRIA SHEALY

Carolina Union Activities Board President Robert Gurdian said one of his biggest hopes is that the orga-nization will be more recognized by students this school year.

Considering the big names CUAB helped bring to UNC last year — Ben Folds, Lewis Black, The Roots and Spike Lee — one might wonder how this group could go unnoticed.

"I want people to be as excited as I am about what we do," Gurdian

"What we do is great and most of

the time, people don't know it's us."
The student-run organization is composed of 16 committees that come together to put on more than 100 events each year.

Several times a year, CUAB col-laborates with other University organizations, Cat's Cradle in Carrboro and others to arrange events for students and the general public.

Shows like Sufjan Stevens, Wilco and Ben Folds sold a vast majority of tickets to students before they became available to others.

But Gurdian hopes to give equal attention to smaller activities the group offers this year.

"I hope student-led shows are more successful this year," he said.
"The individual committees are ultimately in charge, but I think

some of the most important things we do are the student-focused fea-Film Committee Chairman Devin Conroy is hoping to appeal to more students this year by offer-

ing two different free movie showings each weekend.
"I like having more than one

because people with different tastes can go out and see a free movie week," Conroy said. "We're starting out with an award-winning film from Germany

and a big summer blockbuster." In addition to showing films,

Conroy also organizes the Student

Documentary Shorts Competition, which earned winners' films a spot at the Full Frame Documentary

Film Festival in Durham last year. But being a student organization

does have its pitfalls.

CUAB, which draws its funding completely from student fees, had booked British rock band Kaiser Chiefs for a September show in Memorial Hall, but the group with-drew their booking for a better offer elsewhere, Gurdian said.

"It takes so much prepping to do show like that," he said.

"We probably won't be able to fill a September spot now, and the ear-liest we'll be able to do is October

But with Homecoming festivities another CUAB project—close by, Gurdian said his committees are already working on new events.

"We're putting a new focus on marketing this year," he said. "This year we're hoping to do a

better job of making people know what it is we're doing.

> Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

PlayMakers series makes debut

BY KELLY YANG

From "Romeo and Juliet" to "The Little Prince," UNC's PlayMakers Repertory Company's new season is one of its largest yet.
PlayMakers, the oldest the-

ater company in the Carolinas, expects an exciting upcoming year with the addition of a secondstage series in the Elizabeth Price Kenan Theatre, PRC2, alongside its main-stage shows in the Paul Green Theatre.

According to Jeffrey Meanza, PlayMakers' education and outreach director, the focus of PRC2 is to bring "powerful and challenging works of theater to the audience."

Each show will be followed by post-show discussions led by facilitators with relevant backgrounds, in which the audience will be given the chance to discuss themes from the play in relation to current

Dee Reid, spokeswoman for the College of Arts and Sciences, said she hopes for diverse and open dis-

We want to have different views and all perspectives considered as

PRC² will feature three solo per-formance productions, including the season's opener Sept. 12, "When the Bulbul Stopped Singing," a per-sonal story of a Palestinian man living in Ramallah.

When the Bulbul Stopped Singing' is selling very well and our patrons have responded resoundingly well to the introduction of PRC', Meanza said. "There has been a lot of buzz surrounding this

play and the entire season."

Joseph Haj, PlayMakers' producing artistic director, will star in the one-man show, which follows his character day-by-day through experiences in Palestine during the

Israeli occupation.
The second solo, "2.5 Minute Ride," will be performed by Lisa Kron from Jan. 9 to Jan. 13.

In April UNC alumnus Mike Wiley will conclude the solos with his new play, "Witness to an Execution."

Meanza said Wiley's play will be part of the campuswide arts initiative surrounding capital punishment. PlayMakers' main-stage series

everyone gets a chance to partici"There has been a lot of buzz surrounding this play and the entire season."

> JEFFREY MEANZA, PLAYMAKERS FOUCATION AND OUTREACH

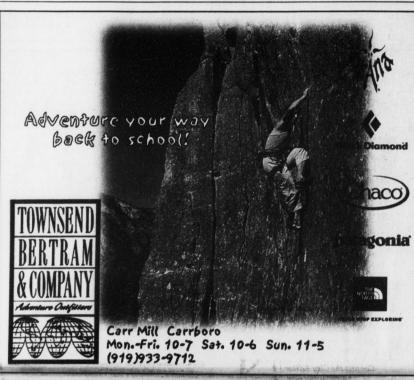
will include the classic "Romeo and Juliet," "Crimes of the Heart," "The Little Prince" and "Amadeus."

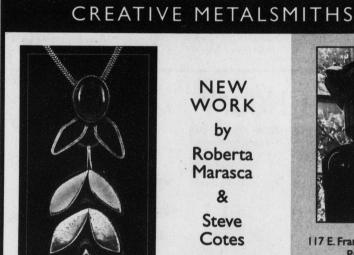
UNC students can purchase the Incredible Student Pass" for all PRC main-stage shows for \$54.

Prices for individual shows range from \$10 to \$27 for students. General admission is upwards of \$20 depending on the night of the

"The expansion of the season, both on the main stage and with PRC2, allows us to do more work to do a broader range of work and to provide a more inclusive artistic space that reflects the diversity of this community," Meanza said.

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.





THROUGH SEPTEMBER



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