

# Shining STARs: Students teach youngsters about race relations

By Monica Brown  
Staff Writer

A student walks around the classroom with a piece of paper taped to his back. The paper says one simple word, "nerd."

His classmates laugh at him, ask to borrow his pocket protector, grab him by his collar and ask for the answers to last night's homework.

No, it's not a fraternity initiation rite or a student's worst nightmare. It is a planned exercise, used in North Carolina's middle schools and high schools, that might be the answer to solving racial problems and ignorance among N.C. youth.

N.C. Students Teach and Reach, known as NC STAR, uses college students to facilitate discussions among middle and high school students about issues such as race relations, citizenship and multiculturalism.

The program began in 1990, marking the 30th anniversary of the Greensboro sit-ins. Founded by the People For the

American Way, a non-profit public interest group, NC STAR now serves more than 17,000 students in seven counties across the state.

Program coordinator, Robert Hawkins, said the purpose of NC STAR was "to create an environment in which students respect each other and promote tolerance and respect. It shows them that they can make a difference and is a way that students can get involved."

Volunteers for NC STAR are recruited from area colleges and are trained in mediation and facilitation skills. They then are assigned to visit various middle schools and high schools.

"(The volunteers) are there to act as leaders, not opinion-makers," Hawkins said. "They are there to make sure that everyone gets a chance to speak and thinks through what they are saying. They also get the students to think about how they feel and why."

"We use college students to serve as role models, someone who is close to the students' age."



Amanda Purvis, Valerie Strickland and Fred Whalen train for NC STAR

NC STAR has caught on throughout North Carolina. There are programs in Greensboro, Asheville and Caldwell County as well as pilot programs in Durham and Wake counties.

The program even has reached Cali-

fornia. A Los Angeles school system began a model program based on NC STAR after the Rodney King riots.

"I sell the program, but we've been getting a lot of calls," Hawkins said. "The need (for NC STAR) is out there."

Hopefully, we'll be able to meet that need."

The volunteers involved with NC STAR agree that it is extremely worthwhile. Mary Maynard, a senior education major, said: "It's been really great to get involved. There are common threads among all the kids — whether they're from North Raleigh or Durham."

The week after the Rodney King verdict, we sat down to talk to the kids about it. It was really refreshing to see them see that all races were being hurt by (the verdict). They looked at it as more than a racial issue. They looked at the legal system and could relate what was happening in Los Angeles to their own situations."

Senior Carla Bost agreed. "NC STAR is very rewarding. I probably learned more from the kids than they learned from me. I see it as an opportunity to talk to students in an informal setting on a one-to-one basis and see what they are all about."

Although NC STAR has been successful thus far, there are not enough

volunteers to meet its demand.

"In Wake County, we plan to put the program in over 200 classrooms, so we're involved with a heavy volunteer drive," Hawkins said.

"There are so many problems in North Carolina that we have to try to educate each other about patience, tolerance and multiculturalism."

Students interested in joining NC STAR should call 1-800-768-7329.

## PAC

from page 1

saying they would "get" Shank after the bar closed.

"They waited at the bottom of the steps," Avery said.

To avoid an incident, Shank and Avery waited inside Players until the team members left, Avery added.

"We went across the street to get a bite to eat," Avery said. "They were there."

Shank said several people surrounded him.

"That's when I took off, trying to avoid the situation," he said Sunday.

Avery said that when Shank ran, the group turned their attention toward Avery.

Avery added that he was shoved in the street and began walking away when the group came after him.

"One of them hit me in the head," Avery said.

Avery said he saw a police car's blue light from an accident on Franklin Street and started heading toward it for help.

Avery said he and a Chapel Hill police officer looked for the suspects in the alley by the Subway restaurant in the 100 block of E. Franklin Street.

## Fees

from page 1

begin to scratch the surface of the whole issue."

Bibbs said he thought it would take at least another meeting of the committee before members could begin to formulate any kind of policy.

"This is going to be an ongoing process," he said.

Flack said although he already was aware of the information presented at the meeting, he thought the information would be helpful for committee members who did not know the history of student fees.

"It started off with very basic information," he said. "Different members have different interests in different things. You've got to start with the basics."

## Campus Calendar

- MONDAY**  
9:15 a.m. UCS Nursing Job Fair will be held in the Great Hall until 1 p.m.  
5 p.m. University Career Services will offer basic information on how to use the UCS office for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.  
5:45 p.m. University Career Services will offer the basics for constructing a professional resume in 210 Hanes.  
6 p.m. Murdoch Committee needs volunteers to help challenge the mentally handicapped to challenge themselves. There will be an informational meeting in the Campus Y.  
7 p.m. Rape Action Project will hold a business meeting for all returning members who have completed training in 210 Union.  
Carolina Union Activities Board will have a meeting for students interested in joining the Public Relations Committee in 218 Union.  
7:30 p.m. Amnesty International Group 84 will hold its monthly meeting at the Newman Catholic Student Center.  
SCA will meet in 226 Union.  
UNC Young Republicans will welcome Nelson Dollar, candidate for State Commissioner of Labor, in 211 Union.  
8 p.m. Ebony Readers/Onyx Theatre will have its first meeting in the Upendo Lounge.  
Afro-II Dance Troupe will offer a dance class in Women's Gym, Studio B.

- ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
UNC-Toronto Student Exchange will be accepting applications until Wednesday.  
Foreign Service Officer Program applications are available at 211 Hanes. The deadline for submitting an application is Oct. 2.  
Exam 10-Benaviz, spring '92 makeup final exam will be given at 6 p.m. Thursday in 306A Hanes. Students should bring a copy of their permission from the dean's office. Questions: Judi Turner, Department of Economics.

- UPCOMING**  
SHS Black Cultural Center will hold the Second Annual Celebration Commemorating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Sonja Stone at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Memorial Hall.  
Women's Forum Committee will hold its first meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday in the lounge in front of 200 Union.

# '42nd Street' dances into Raleigh

By Jenni Spitz  
Staff Writer

Toes will be tapping in Raleigh this week as the Broadway extravaganza "42nd Street" rolls into town for five days.

Premiering Tuesday, the N.C. Theatre's production of this Tony Award-winning Best Musical runs through Sunday at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

A show that critics have described as "dazzle, dames and hundreds of dancing feet," "42nd Street" is the story of a chorus girl from Allentown, Pa., who travels to New York City and becomes an overnight sensation on Broadway.

The show stars five-time Emmy winner Peter Marshall, former host of the popular game show "Hollywood Squares," as Julian Marsh, the ultimate

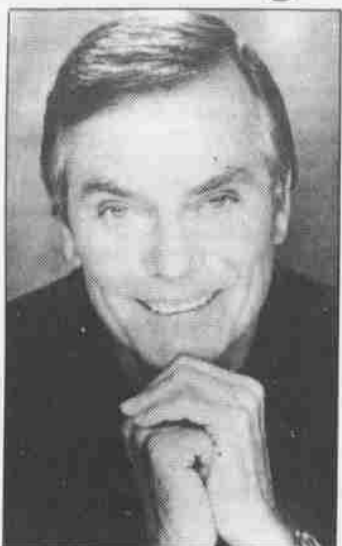
Broadway producer.

Marshall also portrayed Marsh in Maynard Sloate's Atlantic City production of "42nd Street." His other credits include Broadway appearances in "La Cage Aux Folles" and "Sky-scraper." He also starred with Chita Rivera in a London production of "Bye-Bye Birdie" and partnered in a comedy routine with Tommy Noonan on the "Ed Sullivan Show."

Darcie Roberts, an 18-year-old California native, plays Peggy Sawyer, the small-town chorus girl. Roberts recently completed a European tour of "42nd Street."

Local celebrity Alan Coats of Angier directs and choreographs the N.C. Theatre's production of "42nd Street." Coats performed in "Me and My Girl" on Broadway, but he is best known in the Triangle for his work in such N.C. Theatre shows as "West Side Story."

See 42ND STREET, page 5



Peter Marshall

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