

Arts & Entertainment

Razzmataz electrifies Brendle

By Suzanne DuBose
Senior Reporter

Although hardly noticed by the rest of the campus community, a first-time-ever event occurred in Brendle Auditorium on Nov. 10 — the Clinton Wilburn's Razzmataz and Other Roadside Attractions.

Senior Clinton Wilburn brainstormed the idea for the event as a chance for both budding poets and professionals to demonstrate their craft.

"The whole purpose behind this event was to get different genres of poetry, different races and different types of students together," Wilburn said. "Different organizations I felt were segregating and uninviting to an event like this."

Those select few who did attend found a collage of entertainment that combined open mic poetry with MTV Music Awards complete with show-host and cuts to live music between speakers.

The poets included several students including Wilburn and senior Jeff Cook, juniors Nathaniel Ezekiel, Lamaya Covington, freshman Ryan Whitley and professional poetry slammers, including poet-in-residence Jane Mead, providing a mix of drum-circle-fare poetry that has simply never been presented as a large scale, for-the-masses event, before now.

Nine poets graced the stage that was under the direction of MCs senior Khalid Jones and The Brotha Cazze, founder of the Urban Verbal Movement, along with announcer

Wilburn, as the coordinator and creator of the show, popped up several times to recite his works.

Kat Lion. The entire extravaganza would have been more appealing without the presence of The Brotha Cazze, whose nonsensical antics even perturbed members of the campus-spawned band Doctor Yapp when he pretended he was going to smash one of their guitars on the stage. Fortunately, both the band and the poets carried the show.

Opening the show was Akhnaten Jihad, a professional slammer and founder, owner and CEO of the Mass Unorthodox Drama Flood Network.

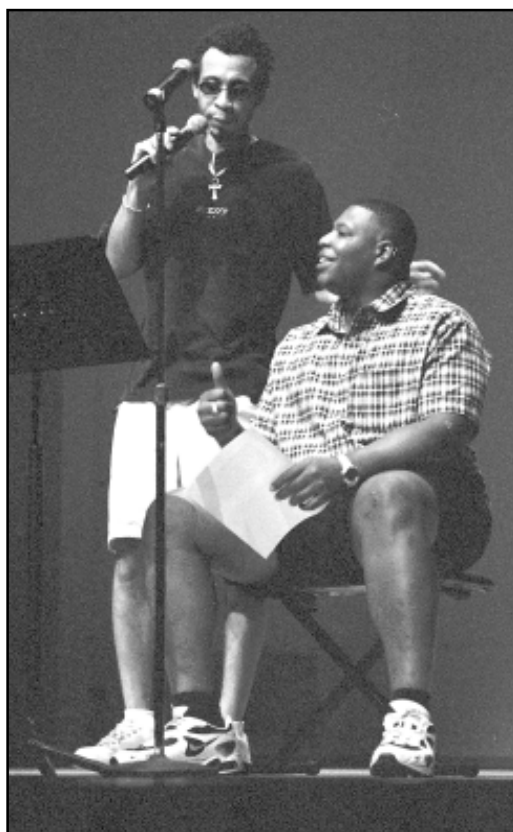
Straining to understand through a thick accent, the crowd seemed pleased, starting off what was to be a definite razzmataz of a show quite well.

Another professional "master slammer" performed a rather canny poem about a cat, going so far as to paw and "pooh" on stage.

Cynthia Charles (aka Deja the Sunchild), a student at the UNC-Greensboro, was truly the strongest of the professional poets.

She courageously faced a largely white audience with poetry on the labeling of the black race and her anger due to racism, sexism and general stereotyping.

Overall, Charles swayed the audience with verse that was both powerfully given and beautifully recited. Strangely, it was her performance combined with that of the campus residents that made this extravaganza truly memorable and brought out the hoops and



Susannah Rosenblatt/Old Gold and Black
The Brotha Cazze and senior Clinton Wilburn deliver interesting verse in the Nov. 18 Brendle performance.

hollering from the small but captivated audience. Wilburn, as the coordinator and creator of the show, popped up several times to recite his works. Like other poets, Wilburn

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Poet to lecture in Pugh tonight

By Chris Chase
Contributing Reviewer

Celebrated '60s poet Nikki Giovanni will talk about her experiences and achievements at 7 p.m. today in Pugh Auditorium.

Noted for her racially charged poetry and such powerful books as *Racism 101* and *Ego Trippin'*, Giovanni is the guest of the Black Student Alliance, Multi-cultural Affairs and Student Union.

Her newest book, released in May, is titled *Blues: For All the Changes*. The writer is a graduate of Fisk University, where she head the Civil Rights group, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1965.

In the late 1960s she moved to New York City. It was at that time that Giovanni's works were starting to get published.

Aided by grants, she started her literary career and eventually started her own communications company, NikTom Ltd., in 1970.

Throughout the '70s Giovanni was praised for her writings, receiving awards from the likes of *Mademoiselle*, *Ladies Home Journal*, the National Council of Negro Women and the American Li-

Although Giovanni has no set topic for her talk, listeners can expect to hear some of her poetry.

Currently, she is a full-time professor of English at Virginia Tech University.

During her time as a writer, Giovanni has published more than 15 books, given talks at numerous universities and other organizations and also has received numerous honorary degrees from prestigious schools.

Although Giovanni has no set topic for her talk, listeners can expect to hear some of her famous poetry.

"I expect her to do her thing," said junior Kenasha Johnson. "We will get our spirits enriched with knowledge."

Johnson also said that the talk is open to everybody, of all races. "She is not just an African American poet, she is an American poet," Johnson said. "She is a poet who will touch your heart if you allow her to do so."

Admission to Giovanni's lecture is free.

Non-silent films

In the second installment of this year's Secret Artist Series, The Paragon Ragtime Orchestra will play the original ragtime scores to classic Charlie Chaplin films Nov. 20 in Brendle Recital Hall. PRO is directed by Rick Benjamin and has been performing since 1985.

Courtesy of News Services



Small-time trio is waiting to emerge

By Colleen McDermott
Contributing Reviewer

Wallace Green. Who, or for that matter, what is that?

Sadly not many people would be able to recognize the name, Wallace Green, but that's why I'm here. I will make sure you are not blushed and embarrassed when a friend asks whether you have heard of this immensely talented emerging band.

They will no doubt be a new name residing on everyone's lips and their CD will be on everyone's most-wanted list.

Wallace Green is an underground college band. The members Chris Mitchell,

Brian Hendrix and Larry Summerlin have such excitement and knowledge about music that fame will track them down soon.

They have an obvious grasp of music and her intricacies that they feel the hype and flash are optional. But I have a feeling they won't be able to avoid the spotlight for long.

Wallace Green holds great fame attracting vibrancy in their second CD, *Evandrool*. Their vitality is manifested in their refusal to remain with one musical style. Wallace Green includes all genres of music in *Evandrool*.

Their first song, "Where I'm Thrown In," has a catchy punk, garage band feel, "Off This Bar" holds a very Jimmy Buffet style in its core, and "Quilt" is practically a country ballad.

Despite the outstanding musicianship on the rest of the album, my favorite song is the purely instrumental "Sunflowers." The number has such a soft and melodic feel, which the careful talent of these three men cultivated.

Wallace Green is able to succeed with such a random compilation of songs because of their raw knowledge of music.

All three members studied music in college, and it shows on their latest release. They know music so well that their songs hold a unity of talent within them.

No one style they choose ever feels fake or stilted. All of the songs are catchy, and this new album *Evandrool* is addictive. I have been humming their tunes for days. Wallace Green — great band. Keep an eye out for them.

Wrestling provides fans with adventure, drama

By Brendon Browne
Contributing Reporter

You know you like it. Come on, quit pretending you don't. You are a professional wrestling fan. On Mondays, Thursdays and one Sunday a month, you worship at the house of Vince McMahon or Ted Turner.

And why not? It's called sports-entertainment. That there sums it all up. It's not just sports; it's not just entertainment. It's the best of sports — competition, action, championship titles and violence; combined with the best aspects of entertainment — drama, humor, sex and violence.

In addition to this, you avoid all the stuff you hate. When your favorite NFL team gets the short end of the stick by the referee, they don't get a rematch three days later (ask the Super Bowl III Colts). And when that annoying character on some sitcom starts running his mouth, you don't see another knock him out with a chair.

This isn't the wrestling you watched Saturday mornings 10 years ago.

These days it's a billion-dollar industry. WCW (World Championship Wrestling) is part of Ted Turner's media empire. WWF (World Wrestling Federation) just went public on NASDAQ, making president Vince McMahon a healthy profit. Even Philadelphia-based ECW (Extreme Championship Wrestling) — think WWF with less plot and

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more chairs and sex) is making a healthy profit developing talent for the big leagues.

Many wrestlers are crossing over into mainstream media as well. We all remember Hulk Hogan and Rowdy Roddy Piper's movie career (or maybe we don't), and others are cashing in more successfully.

Mic Foley's (a.k.a. Mankind, Dude Love, or Cactus Jack) book recently debuted on the New York Times Best Seller List at number three. Stone Cold Steve Austin has a recurring role on *Nash Bridges*. The Rock is selling Chef Boyardee, and the only WWF stars not to be on *Pacific Blue* are those who recently appeared on *Shasta McNasty*.

So admit you like it and quit deluding yourself. Tune in to the best thing on TV that isn't *The Simpsons*.

You can say it's fake, (the argument to that is another article for another time) but so is every other good show, so sit back and enjoy. Tune in WWF (Mondays on USA 9-11 p.m., Thursdays on

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Dark Star Orchestra shines bright at Ziggy's

By Franklin Calloway
Contributing Reviewer

Although the Grateful Dead may be gone, the spirit of their music lives on in bands like the Dark Star Orchestra, who brought their powerful sound to Ziggy's Nov. 13. Expected to start their first set at 9 p.m., the band took the stage about an hour later to play to a packed house.

The Dark Star Orchestra is a Grateful Dead cover band and drew an accordingly appropriate crowd of fans. High school students to classic deadheads filled the levels and brought a music-loving vibe reminiscent of the motley fans that attended Grateful Dead concerts for three decades.

The band is made up of John Kadlecik and Mike Maraas on guitars and vocals, Scott Larned on keys and vocals, Dino English on drums, Mike Hazdra on bass and vocals and Lisa Mackey on backup vocals. They are set up onstage just as the Dead were during the specific time period of a given set.

Following the last weekend's show at Ziggy's Mackey was leaving and they were bringing in their second drummer, Rob Koritz. For the show they decided on two sets from the Dead's Dec. 2, 1973, concert from the Boston Music Hall. These sets along with the November 30, 1973 show in Boston can be found on *Dick's Picks 14*.

The show started with a strong rendition of "Cold Rain and Snow" that was followed by classic Dead songs such as "Brown Eyed Women," a lively "Jack Straw," "Ramble on Rose" and "Big River." Closing the first set was a strong



Courtesy of www.thedarkstarorchestra.net
John Kadlecik and Mike Maraas of Dark Star Orchestra kept the packed crowd at Ziggy's truckin' throughout the night for their Nov. 13 performance.

but slow performance of Weather Report Suite Prelude which segued beautifully into "Let it Grow," filling the crowd with enthusiasm.

They came back for the for a second set that was so frighteningly Dead you were taken back to '73 by closing your eyes. Filled with jams like "Mississippi Half-Step," "Playing in the Band" and "Truckin'" the room was filled with high energy music that kept the crowd excitedly interested. The most impressive aspect of this ensemble is its sound when playing Dead songs many other bands would back down from given their especially "Jerry Gracia-characteristic" nature. Tunes like "Stella

Blue" exemplify this, but the band executed it with meticulous precision.

The set ended with an excellently played version of Sugar Magnolia that left the crowd screaming for more. Fans were pleased with a "Morning Dew" encore and even happier with a rendition of "Here Comes Sunshine," which was used to fill the time from the end of the second set until the 2 a.m. cut off.

With the Dark Star Orchestra maintaining a rigorous touring schedule throughout the year, fans of the Dead's music would do well to try to catch the band in action. They may very well be the closest sound to the real thing.