

Baritone belts melodies during Robeson tribute

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Capital Times Staff

Though fighting a cold, nationally known baritone Edward Pierson still managed to entertain a crowd of about 25 students and faculty, during his Feb. 5 performance in the Gallery Lounge.

Pierson's performance was part of Penn State Harrisburg's Heritage Series, with this month's focus being on black culture.

Pierson's "Black Culture in America" tour featured a musical narrative celebrating the life of Paul Robeson. A renowned athlete, activist, lawyer, singer and actor; Robeson is also one of New Jersey's much-respected "Citizens of the World."

Pierson's tribute, entitled "Paul, We Hardly Knew Ye: Robeson Remembered," not only outlined the many academic and theatrical accomplishments of Paul Robeson, but also the trials and tribulations he endured.

Pierson's rich baritone voice wafted through the Gallery Lounge, flourishing the melodies of Daniel, Deep River, Ballad

For Americans, Let My People Go and several other songs which highlighted African American Ancestry as well as Robeson's life.

During the diverse program, Pierson also performed various pieces from operas, spirituals, show tunes and art songs.

Pierson, currently a voice professor at Montclair State College, has performed in productions such as "Don Carlo," "Showboat," "Tosca" and "Porgy and Bess." He has also performed with such well-known orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops and the Los Angeles Symphony

Upcoming events scheduled for Black History Month include African-American Health Issues, Intergenerational Round Table, Harlem Renaissance, Think Tank Symposium: The Role of the African-American in the Context of Multi-Culturalism, and Soul Food Sampler. Contact the Student Assistance Center, 948-6260, for more information about these events.



Photo by Mike Starkey

Baritone Edward Pierson, Jr. performs a song from his show entitled, "Paul, We Hardly Knew Ye: Robeson Remembered," which made its stop in the Gallery Lounge on Feb. 5.

WPSH radio gets cranked up for spring semester

WPSH, the voice of Penn State Harrisburg, is ready for another semester of bringing music and information to the campus.

"We are going to continue providing free public service spots to the clubs and other organizations on campus," said Terry Wolf, general manager. "We want to get people involved by letting them know what's going on."

According to Wolf, WPSH has become one of the highest profile, and the loudest, clubs on campus thanks to disc jockey equipment purchased by the club last year.

They have provided music for many clubs and organizations such as XGI's, the

Black Student Union, the Student Government Association and the 25th Anniversary committee, said Wolf.

He added that WPSH offers a wide range of musical styles and disc jockeys to go with them. Their repertoire includes everything from alternative to rap, classic rock to heavy metal, and according to Wolf, they're "the least expensive operation around."

The WPSH officers for the spring '92 semester are Terry Wolf, general manager; Hilary Zeiders, assistant manager; Jeff Hildebrand, program director; Kay Stohler, personnel director; Larry Bates, business manager; Karen Simons, sales manager;

Barb Turk, news director; John Tinney, chief engineer and Rich Howarth, music director.

Any club or organization interested in

hiring WPSH should contact Terry Wolf or Karen Simons by leaving a letter in the WPSH mailbox located in student activities or by calling 948-6396.

Eastgate, from page 1

Penn State Harrisburg will share the first floor of the center with the Pennsylvania Securities Commission, while other tenants, like the United States Postal Service, occupy the top floor.

"It was just an empty shell when we first purchased it," South recalled. He said more than \$40,000 has been spent to install walls, doors, carpeting, lighting and other fixtures during recent months.

Since most classes will be offered during evening hours, South doesn't foresee a parking problem.

"Day classes with large enrollments might be a challenge," he acknowledged, but added that there is public parking across the street.

"Within the building itself, we have 145 parking spaces on the ground floor," South said. "The area is served by public transportation, and for many people, it's a short walk from downtown or residential neighborhoods."

Turning to another possible concern, South explained that a complex security system has been put into place for the exterior of the building. One person at a central location inside can easily monitor

activities, he said.

South said he believes the issue of security may have been a more serious concern 10 years ago than it is now. He said the area is greatly improved over what it once was, and pointed out other developments in the neighborhood.

"Adjacent to the north of us is the new, 350,000 square-foot Pennsylvania Higher

Education Assistance Agency Building," he noted. "Behind us is the Harrisburg School District Central Administration Building, and to the south is a bank."

Inside, the Penn State Harrisburg area will include an information center with a small library, a microcomputer lab that hooks up with the mainframe at University Park, two rooms for

workshops, two areas for conferences and a lounge, South said.

If you're interested in learning more about course offerings or programs available at the Eastgate Center, contact Annette Cremo or Mark Borger, area representatives, at 772-3590, or Penn State Harrisburg's Rhonda Stump at 948-6508.

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