WILEY & THE HAIRY MAN

BY JACK STOKES

A PLAY PRESENTED BY
WPCC'S DRAMA 120 CLASS
April 22, 23, 24 at 8:00 pm
April 25 at 2:30 pm
WPCC Auditorium

SPECIAL THANKS GO TO:

Carolyn West
Stephanie Spilker
Joe Brannon
Buddy Noles
Phil Scarboro
Karen Barnes
Burke Arts Council

Wiley and the Hairy Man is produced by special arrangement with The Coach House Press, Inc.

WILEY AND THE HAIRY MAN

Narrator 1	Linda Anne Old-Payne
Narrator 2	David H. McGee
Narrator 3	Richard Epley
Wiley	Kathy Braswell
Mammy	Edward Max III
Hairy Man	Dennis Jones
Director	Cheryl Oxford
Choreographer/ Percussionist	Catherine Wheeler
Pianist	Louise White
Lighting	Robert A. Payne
Crew	Kelly M. Maloy
	Jean Hardy
	Kevin Hayden

WILEY & THE HAIRY MAN

BY JACK STOKES

A PLAY PRESENTED BY

WPCC'S DRAMA 120 CLASS

April 22, 23, 24 at 8:00 pm

April 25 at 2:30 pm

WPCC Auditorium

Admission: Adults $1.00 Children .50

College class presents play

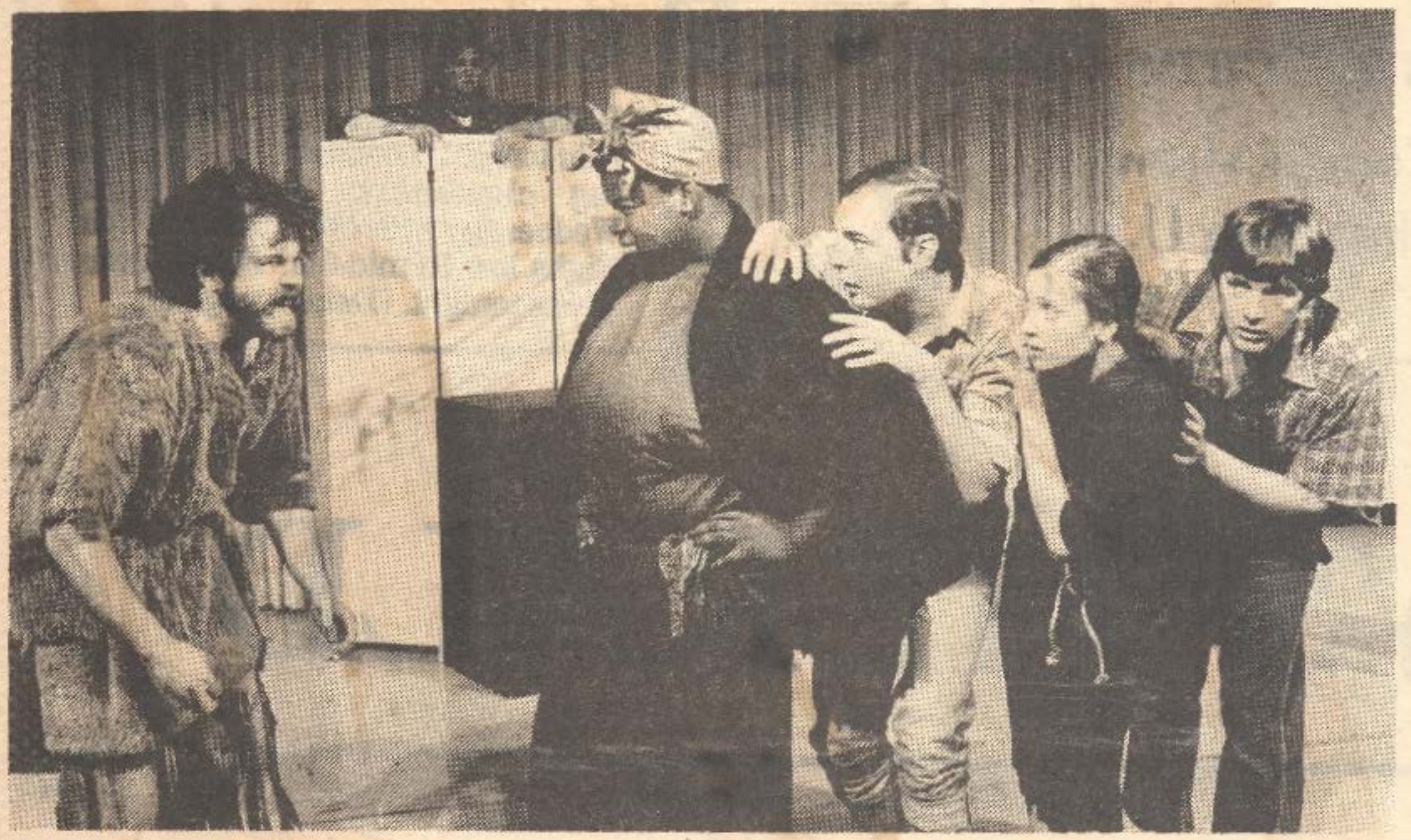
Western Piedmont Community College's acting class will present Jack Stoke's *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, a play for children of all ages, in the college auditorium April 22 to 24 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 25, at 2:30 p.m.

The 1977 recipient of the Joseph Jefferson Award for outstanding children's play, *Wiley and the Hairy Man* portrays a young boy's encounter with the swamp creature which haunts his days and nights. "Outwit the Hairy Man three times," explains Wiley's conjuring Mammy, "and he'll have to leave you alone." A "skepatickle" Wiley and Chorus set out for the swamp to trick the Hairy Man. Their adventures are related in lyric poetry and mime.

The cast listing for this energetic, 35 minute production includes Katherine Braswell as Wiley, Dennis Jones as the Hairy Man, Edward Max as Mammy, and Linda Old-Payne, David McGee and Richard Epley as the Chorus. Technical assistance is provided by Kelly Maloy, Jean Hardy, and Kevin Hayden. Cheryl Oxford is the director.

Admission for *Wiley and the Hairy Man* is $1 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12. The performance on Thursday evening, April 22, will be interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Wiley and the Hairy Man is performed with the permission of The Coach House Press.



WPCC acting class rehearses "Wiley and the Hairy Man."

Play set at Western Piedmont

Western Piedmont Community College's acting class will present "Wiley and the Hairy Man" Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the college auditorium.

The 35-minute production was written by Jack Stokes and portrays a boy's encounters with swamp creatures.

The cast includes Katherine Braswell as Wiley, Dennis Jones as the Hairy Man, Edward Max as Mammy, Linda Payne, David McGee and Richard Epley as the chorus.

Technical assistance is provided by Kelly Maloy, Jean Hardy and Kevin Hayden. Cheryl Oxford is the director.

Admission is $1 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12. The Thursday performance will be signed for the deaf.

The News-Herald
Thurs., April 22, 1982

WPCC play is delightful

Reviewing the Arts

"Wiley and the Hairy Man," presented by the acting class of Western Piedmont Community College, is delightful. The play is exciting, suspenseful, humorous and clever. The producion is skillful, artistic and witty.

In a style and rhythm reminiscent of James Whitcomb Riley's "Little Orphant Annie" ("The goggle-uns'll git ye
Ef you
Don't
Watch
Out!").
a chorus, composed of Linda Anne Old-Payne, David McGee and Richard Epley, narrates and participates in the tale. The three narrators provide tone, build suspense, comment, dance and even serve as a tree and a sack for holding a 'possum. With the aid of musical accompaniment, they maintain the rhythm of the story. They also reflect Wiley's fear of the Hairy Man and then celebrate with laughter as the young protagonist outwits his opponent.

Wiley, played by Kathy Braswell (no sex-role stereotypes in this play), at first expresses trepidation in the face of the Hairy Man, who is portrayed quite believably by Dennis Jones. But Wiley and his Mammy, Edward Max, connive to outsmart the dreadful swamp creature. And they do trick him, not once but three times, reminding the spectator of Brer Rabbit's encounters with Brer Fox.

In the mode of readers' theater, the scenery doesn't even pretend realism, but the characters make us believe that black boxes are trees and beds and that a folding screen is a house.

We also see imaginary axes and dogs. Characters enter and exit from all passageways, helping the audience to feel involved in the action. Eerie, suspenseful music, provided by Louise White on piano and Catherine Wheeler playing various percussion instruments, contributes to the atmosphere of a dark, frightening swamp. At the end of the play, the music has a bluegrass flavor, bringing us to the revelery of a hoedown.

Cheryl Oxford, the director of the production, has shaped a class of students, amateurs at playmaking, into an excellent cast. Dennis Jones is quite frightening as the Hairy Man (I jumped more than once). Although once or twice I missed a couple of her lines, Kathy Braswell uses an amusing accent — "Eb'm ropes that ties dawgs up?"

Linda Anne Old-Payne keeps the chorus in rhythm, and her wide-eyed expression contributes to the audience's fear of the Hairy Man. Edward Max is good in his role, although I was disappointed that Jack Stokes, who wrote the play, made the Mammy even more stereotypical than Scarlett O'Hara's: black, large and unbelievably buxom. The players never step out of character, and they act rather than merely recite lines.

Everyone, especially families with elementary school children, should attend this play. Children will be enthralled by the suspense and excitment; adults will appreciate the wit, skill and artistry.

"Wiley and the Hairy Man" should not be Western Piedmont's last production.

— Katherine Grimes

WPCC's 'Wiley' opens tonight

WILEY AND THE HAIRY MAN **cast prepare for the production scheduled to begin tonight at WPCC teaching theater. Mammy (Edward Max III) and Wiley (Kathy Braswell) try to "think up" a way to trick the Hairy Man.**

Western Piedmont Community College's acting class will present Jack Stoke's *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, a play for children of all ages, in the college auditorium April 22-24 at 8 p.m., and on Sunday, April 25, at 2:30 p.m.

The 1977 recipient of the Joseph Jefferson Award for outstanding children's play, *Wiley and the Hairy Man* portrays a young boy's encounters with the swamp creature which haunts his days and nights. "Outwit the Hairy Man three times," explains Wiley's conjuring Mammy, "and he'll have to leave you alone." A "skepatickle" Wiley and Chorus set out for the swamp to trick the Hairy Man. Their adventures are related in lyric poetry and mime.

The cast listing for this energetic, 35 minute production includes Katherine Braswell as Wiley, Dennis Jones as the Hairy Man, Edward Max as Mammy, and Linda Old-Payne, David McGee and Richard Epley as the Chorus. Technical assistance is provided by Kelly Maloy, Jean Hardy and Kevin Hayden. Cheryl Oxford is the director.

Admission for the 35 minute production is $1 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12. The Thursday evening performance will have sign language available for the hearing impaired.

THE HAIRY MAN (Dennis Jones) was outsmarted again by Mammy and Wiley. Curtain time is 8 p.m. tonight at WPCC teaching theater.

"Wiley" played by Kathy Braswell, and "Mammy" played by Edward Max.

"The Hairy Man" played by Dennis Jones.

"Wiley and The Hairy Man" Review

Jack Stokes' award winning children's play, "Wiley and the Hairy Man," was successfully performed at Western Piedmont Community College last week. The actors, all members of WPCC's Drama 120 class obviously spent many long hours rehearsing their roles based upon the fine performance observed on Friday evening. The degree of confidence and apparent ease with which the actors delivered their lines and acted their roles was indeed amazing.

The play basically revovled around the comic efforts of Wiley, played by Kathy Braswell, and Mammy, played by Edward Max, to outwit the rather menacing Hairy man, who was well played by Dennis Jones. As the suspense was allowed to build, the audience could feel the fear that Wiley felt but hoped that Mammy could somehow save him. Finally, near the plays end, Mammy and Wiley, acting in concert, finally managed to outsmart the Hairy Man for the third time and drive him away. Ms. Braswell and Messers Max and Jones turned in fine performances. All three actors injected energy, animation and humor into their respective roles and gave a good accounting of themselves.

A three member chorus was also on stage much of the time. Linda Anne Old-Payne, Richard Epley and David McGee provided commentary and helped to set the suspense levels during various portions of the play. The chorus was very active throughout the duration of the play and in addition to fulfilling the traditional chorus role they also participated in some of the action as well. The chorus was a vital and sustaining group that greatly assisted in the overall enjoyment of the presentation.

Music and sound affects were provided by the talented Louise White and Catherine Wheeler. The piano and percussion music and affects coupled with the work of the chorus was very well coordinated and added significantly to the play.

The director, Ms. Cheryl Orford is to be commended for the fine job that she did in transforming a group of student actors into such a polished and coordinted group of playmakers. It is greatly hoped that this will not be the last offering from ...e Drama 120 class. Perhaps another play can be presented over the summer months or a more complex, multiple act drama can be readied for the fall quarter? If you saw this particular play and enjoyed it as much as the audience on Friday evening apparently did please voice your opinion to the administration or curriculum committee. Let's make an effort to keep drama on campus.

Probably one of the best indicators of a particular play's degree of success or failure rests with the reactions of the audience. Based upon the many smiling and happy faces that exited the auditorium last week, "Wiley and the Hairy Man," was a first class winner.