

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Photos by Mitchell Webson/Story by Siegfried Leyh



NCCU alum Thomas Robinson (center), one of four founders of NCCU's dance team, Underground Legendz, gets the crowd hype as he attempts to pass off his "energy ball" to other dance contestants.



Salah traveled from Paris, France to the United States for the first time ever to perform and judge the dance competition, "Brang It".

The "Brang It" dance battle rolled through N.C. Central University McLendon-McDougal Gymnasium on Saturday, April 18.

The event was being filmed for a TV pilot featuring dancers from small-town America.

The sun came down, the lights came up and the music started to rumble.

The judges ran out to the middle of the floor and posed everyone.

"I was very excited to see a different type of performance. It had my attention to where I was in a state of shock," said Martha Butler,

history junior.

"Everything was put together well and it look like a story line, clean, like it was start from a Hollywood studio set," she said.

McLendon-McDougal Gymnasium was set up to capture the feel of an eye-catching arena

Cameras were set to record action from all angles.

"It looked like a movie," said Dominique Holiday, physical education senior.

"It really looks better than ABDC, where the judges get involved with the show," Holiday said.

Judges included Roland "Ro Ro" Tabor, international

b-boy/breakdancer Jacob "Krazy Kujo" Lyons, popping and locking artist Salah from France and street dancer Prozak, aka John Gillette.

Host Prozak started the show with the solo males.

Then came solo females, solo youth, and the big event: dance crew and step team.

Dancers came from area middle and high schools and colleges from as far away as Chicago and New Jersey.

There was a live musical performance, with Brandon Broadway Robinson and Dev Dixon doing the songs they made famous.

A highlight was Salah's signature performance.

Salah is a star on the French version of "So You Think You Can Dance."

He creates his performances out of his dreams.

The audience reacted with "ooooos" and "aaahhs." "How did he do that?" they asked.

After head-to-head battles, the winners were Ashsia from Wakefield High School as female solo, Josh, aka Skatz, from Southern High School as male solo, Little Rockstar from Neal Junior High as youth solo, and Underground Legendz from NCCU as dance crew.

On Sunday the Brang It



Phuong Nguyen holding a one-hand stand in the solo male category.



Brandon "No Cents" McCerrimmon from Southern High School posing in a B-Boy stance.