Rockin’ to the Rhythm

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Photos by Mitchell Webson/Story by Siegfried Leyh

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

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 looked like a story line, clean like it was start from a Hollywood studio set,” she said.

McLendon-McDougald 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.

The audience reacted with “oooos” 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 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 traveled from Paris, France to the United States for the first time ever to perform and judge the dance competition, “Brang It.”

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

He creates his performances out of his dreams.

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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 battle rolled through N.C. Central University.

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