

January 12, 2000 • the Seahawk

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CAMPUS ENTERTAINMENT
PRESENTS

"Love Lifted Me"

Tommy
Moore

LIVE IN CONCERT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2000

WARWICK CENTER BALLROOM AT 7:00 PM

"COME AND BE BLESSED BY THE WONDEROUS SOUNDS OF THIS SPECTACTULAR GOSPEL CHOIR"

ADMISSION IS FREE PLEASE BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

University of North Carolina at Wilmington • Division of Student Affairs • University Union
Brought to you by the Association for Campus Entertainment. ACE is a service of the Student Government Association.
UNCW complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
If you have special needs and would like to participate in this program,
please contact the UNCW Activities & Leadership Center at 962-3827.

WALK TO SCHOOL!

COLLEGE GREEN APTS.

Affordable, Convenient & Secluded

1 & 2 Bedroom Apts.

Energy Efficient

Pool & Tennis

Excellent Study Environment

820 McMillan Av
Wilmington, NC

910-392-0303

Fax: 910-392-2968

**Williams, from page 15:**

them to write about how a particular landscape has shaped their lives. Basically, they will explore the nature of story through personal narratives."

Phil Furia, professor of creative writing tried to help make her transition from Utah to North Carolina easier. His efforts were aided by Williams' personality. "She exudes warmth, energy, and enthusiasm. I'm sure she's like that in class," Furia said.

Williams is extremely excited about the reading on Friday and hopes there will be a big turnout. "This is my first reading I've given in North Carolina and I have enormous respect for the faculty here at UNCW."

Newsweek identified Williams as someone likely to make "a considerable impact on the political, economic and environmental issues facing the western states in this decade."

Williams said she is interested in how society can breath life back into universities. "I want to know what is the nature of obsession and passion," she said.

Although she grew up out west, Williams said she is very fond of the south. "There are great similarities between the south and west. There's a deep sense of family and tradition that is tied to the land and both areas choose to live in these places of heart."

Controversial "Dogma" satirizes trappings, not faith

by MEGAN O'BRIEN

A&E editor

Kevin Smith, independent director of cult favorites like "Clerks," "Mallrats" and "Chasing Amy" recently released "Dogma," his most ambitious film to date. The film played January 3-6 at Thalian Hall's Cinematique series, and will be shown at the end of March as part of ACE's Screening Room series. The film will be followed by a lecture from Kevin Smith on March 30.

Smith's other films focus on relationships between human beings, "Dogma" looks at the relationships between more ethereal beings, from the relationship between supernatural beings, humans, the dead and God.

Loki (Matt Damon) was the Angel of Death for God, flooding the world for Noah and his menagerie and destroying Sodom and Gomorrah. His friend Bartelby (Ben Affleck) got him drunk and convinced him that maybe mass genocide was not necessarily a good thing, so Loki tells God that he quits. God expels them from Heaven until the end of the world, and then they will sit outside the gates of Paradise. They hang out in Wisconsin until the end of the twentieth century, when they receive a newspaper article about a small Catholic church in New Jersey. Cardinal Glick (George Carlin) has decided to revamp the Church's image for the one-



File Photo/The Seahawk

Matt Damon and Ben Affleck star in *Dogma*, a movie which takes an off-hand look at modern religious beliefs.

hundredth anniversary of his parish. As a part of this publicity, Glick re-institutes "plenary indulgence," a little known church law that says all who walk through the church doors are cleansed of sin. Bartelby and Loki see this as a loophole, a way to prove God wrong and "go home."

The plotline then shifts from the angels to an abortion clinic in Illinois, where Bethany (Linda Fiorentino), a Catholic, is having a crisis of faith.

That all changes when the Metatron (Alan Rickman) visits her, an angel who speaks for God since God's voice will kill any human who hears it. The Metatron tells Bethany that she must stop Bartelby and Loki from entering the church since proving God wrong would negate all existence. Bethany begins her quest when she meets the "prophets" Jay (Jason Mewes) and Silent Bob (Kevin Smith), the well-loved characters from Smith's earlier movies. They begin the

trip to New Jersey, and meet various incarnations, spirits and demons on the way.

The film satirizes dogma, hypocrisy and self-righteousness that often accompany extreme religious feelings. While parts are silly and unnecessary, like the Golgothan monster made out of excrement that pops out of a toilet in a strip club, and the use of profanity seems excessive, other scenes are funny and even moving at times. While this film has the participation of famous actors like Rickman, Fiorentino and Damon, I enjoyed Smith's portrayal of Silent Bob particularly. Bob really lives up to his name, speaking only once in each of the films, and must show his emotions through facial expressions, which are as character-building as Jay's profuse swearing and Bethany's "Why me?" monologues. Affleck and Damon play best friends as they did in their first major film "Good Will Hunting," but they are psycho, and it is really enjoyable to watch the transformation of logical Bartelby to a raving lunatic, and homicidal Loki into a resigned on-looker. Chris Rock makes an appearance as the thirteenth apostle and Rickman's performance as the Metatron was one of the best in the film.

While the film could be seen as blasphemous or even heretical, I found that it affirmed more than it mocked. Smith satirizes only the trappings of faith, not faith itself.