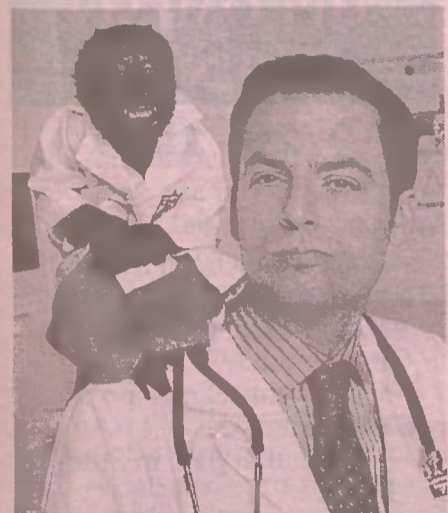


Fall Television Sees Return of Popular Shows and Eclectic New Offerings

Elizabeth Craig, staff writer



Kirk and Crystal of Animal Practice
image via imdb.com

Upcoming Premieres:

Animal Practice: Justin Kirk (Uncle Andy from Weeds) stars in NBC's newest comedy Animal Practice, premiering tonight at 8 p.m. Kirk, who plays veterinarian Dr. George Coleman, is accompanied by his capuchin monkey sidekick "Dr. Rizzo" (Crystal the monkey from The Hangover II). Reviews describe it as "Scrubs meets Animal Planet."

666 Park Avenue: The supernatural, dark elements of Fringe meet Gossip Girl's Upper East Side glitz and glamour in 666 Park Avenue, premiering Sunday, September 30 at 10 p.m. on ABC. Stars Vanessa Williams and Terry O'Quinn (John Locke from Lost) are sure to make it worthwhile.

Going Strong:

Gossip Girl: Gossip Girl returns Monday, October 8. Watch it for the clothes, the drama and Chuck Bass. If nothing else, tune in to see newlywed Blake Lively interact with her real-life ex and onscreen boyfriend Penn Badgley.

NCIS: Always in reruns on USA, NCIS is back now for a brand new season. Tune in Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on CBS for a brand new episode with the popular gang.

The Voice: Christina, Blake, Adam, and Cee Lo are back for a new round of The Voice. The blind auditions are over, so now it's time for the stars to start training their teams. Watch Mondays at 8 p.m. on NBC to see who's got the Voice this season.

Breaking Amish: TLC's latest reality show follows a group of five Amish young adults as they leave their communities and move to New York City. Catch it Sunday nights at 10 p.m. for one of the most interesting shows TLC has produced since Honey Boo Boo.

Meredith Students Compete in Intercollegiate Powderpuff Game to Foster Comradery

Senttra Snowden, staff writer

On Saturday, Sept. 15 women from North Carolina State University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, East Carolina University, Campbell University and Meredith College proved the proverbial notion that women can't play football wrong in a game of powder puff flag football. Campus Outreach of Raleigh gathered the Triangle-area campuses for an intense, fun-filled day of powder puff flag football as a chance for women from the respective schools

to build competitive and sports(wo)man-like relationships.

The Meredith team was self-named the Meredith Ponies because of the phrase "long hair, don't care" and was coached by male students from N.C. State. The Ponies competed against UNC's Toddies' Hotties and Campbell's Meow or Never teams, but did not advance in the competition as they were defeated by Toddies' Hotties 28-0 and tied with Meow or Never in overtime. The winning powder puff

team was Campbell's No Punt Intended.

Despite their defeat, the Ponies cited the opportunity to bond with surrounding colleges as sufficient success in the games. As Meredith defensive player Jolean Brann reported, "It was so fun and an awesome experience. I got to know all the girls that played on the team with me, and I got to hang out with a lot of friends from Campus Outreach that do not attend Meredith."

DIALOGUES

When coming out of my classes, I often hear students lament that a class they're taking is a waste of time because, I quote, "I'll never need to know this in the real world." The strength of a liberal arts education is the nurturing of a broad base of knowledge from which to approach specialized or professional study, but the peril is that the relevance of liberal arts requirements may be lost in translation between the professor, the course material, and the student. In an effort to help better translate the relevance of the liberal arts, this year the Herald staff is conducting faculty interviews across campus. Focusing on the humanities in the fall and the sciences in the spring, we hope to establish a dialogue between and among faculty and students that illustrates how knowledge in all fields is useful in the "real world." Our goal is to foster an interdisciplinary dialogics that puts all aspects of a liberal arts education in dialogue, continually informing and influencing each other.

The first installment in the series is an interview with Dr. Robin Colby by Sarah Haseeb and Vicky Pivitsiripakde.
-Amy Hruby, Editor in Chief

Dr. Robin Colby is the head of Meredith's English Department. She spent currently teaches English 111, Literature Research and Critical Theory and a seminar in European Literature. Her research interests are in nineteenth-century British literature.

Q: What's your background in English literature?

A: I graduated from Meredith with a B.A. in English and French, and I also got certified to teach. I went on to get a master's degree and finally a PhD from Duke University, and my areas were the novel and nineteenth-century British literature and composition theory and rhetoric.

Q: What sparked your original interest in this field?

A: As far as English in general, I have

always adored reading. I was a precocious reader, and I knew I wanted to be a teacher by the time I was about six years old. It was a natural combination, I knew I loved English and I knew I wanted to teach so I had a sense of career direction from the time I was a small child.

Q: What's your favorite literary period?

A: I have to say the 19th century is my favorite period. I think the Victorians were dealing with a lot of issues that are still lively and relevant.

Q: A favorite piece from this period?

A: That is going to be really hard to answer. I can tell you that I do love Jane Austen; I love everything by Jane Austen. I also love Elizabeth Gaskell, another Victorian author, living a little bit later -- she died in the 1860s. Then there's Charles Dickens and Tennyson and Browning. It's impossible for me to choose just one.

Q: How do you see this period or a piece from this period to be relevant today?

A: Ok, I'll use Jane Austen as an example because I think she's a very familiar author. She was someone who understood class issues very, very well. Her family had some economic struggles, and she definitely writes about families trying to advance themselves and manage the best they can within the established class system. She certainly captures important things for a lot of women readers because she addresses the question of marriage in a very interesting way. And I think her female influence is so evident from all the movies and the books -- you can go to any bookstore and find a whole shelf full of Jane Austen books and knock-offs, people who are imitating or who are inspired by her themes and her characters. I think that she's created very memorable characters -- spunky characters, characters who want to take charge of their own lives and who want to make the world work for them. And she did it all with some humor and a sense everyone really could make her life what she wanted it to be. I think that's a very satisfying thing that a lot of readers enjoy in any era.

Q: Who's your favorite contemporary artist?

A: I really like A.S. Byatt, a British writer who's won the Booker Prize. She's written short stories; she's written novels; I guess her most famous one might be Possession, which was made into a movie with Gwyneth Paltrow, so there again we have movie-inspired treatments coming from literature.

Q: What contributions do you think they're making to your field?

A: Byatt is a very interesting writer. She's written, for example in one of her short stories collections a few feminist fairytales. There's one story in particular titled "The Tale of the Eldest Princess" where a young woman is sent off to complete a task that people sort of thrust upon her because she is the only one who can do it; she is the eldest and is expected to do it. And at one point when she's deep in the forest and a little bit discouraged, she says "I could just walk out of this inconvenient story" and she does. She takes it in a whole new direction, and this post-modern fairytale is not at all expected by the reader. I think this kind of playfulness with old genres, with creating new characters who do new things, is one of my favorite aspects of contemporary literature.

Q: Looking at more unexpected contemporary literature that's also inspired movie treatments, how do you feel about the Twilight series?

A: I have not read Twilight, so I'll be a bit cautious to make really specific comments about it. I can see that it appeals, from what I understand, to a young audience. It seems to be keying into something pretty important to the audience that it's getting.

Q: If you haven't read Twilight, did you read its more critically-acclaimed, fantasy series predecessor, Harry Potter?

A: I did read Harry Potter, yes, and I enjoyed Harry Potter! I think Harry Potter is, again, a work that has some very serious points to make. It does so in the early books in particular in a kind of compelling way. There is some humor; Harry is a very likable character; and his buddies are very likable. Yeah, I kind of enjoyed the whole Harry Potter thing.