



Annual dance performance showcases students, staff

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From freshmen students to alumna with 27 years of experience, dancers of every caliber busted a move for the UNC Asheville dance department's 10th Annual Everybody Can-Can Performance.

"Performance is the big game. That's why dancers perform; they look forward to it. That's the finish line. That's the Conference game," said participant and UNCA alumna Pam Reed. "You get energy from the audience. It's exciting — an unbelievable high."

The annual show, which includes every level of dance classes, allows dancers to become accustomed to the stage.

"Dance training is leading up to performance for all dancers. For students to get an opportunity to perform is important, so they know where their training is leading," said Kathy Meyers, a health and wellness instructor who specializes in dance training.

Junior Garth Grimball encouraged other students to attend in order to support their peers and see the eclectic ensemble of dance styles.

"Not everyone that comes is going to be interested in everything, so if you're not interested in ballet, you'll enjoy hip-hop or modern, or if you don't like jazz, you'll enjoy belly dancing and African," Grimball said. "And maybe with such a variety of pieces, it will introduce people to new forms of dancing movement that they wouldn't normally see."

Grimball performed in four of the 13 pieces in addition to choreographing an original dance titled "Isolations."

"It's one of the first pieces I ever choreographed by myself," Grimball said. "I thought it would be really cool if the audience saw one body, but it was made up of multiple bodies. They all move in different ways, isolated from each other, and, eventually, it separates."

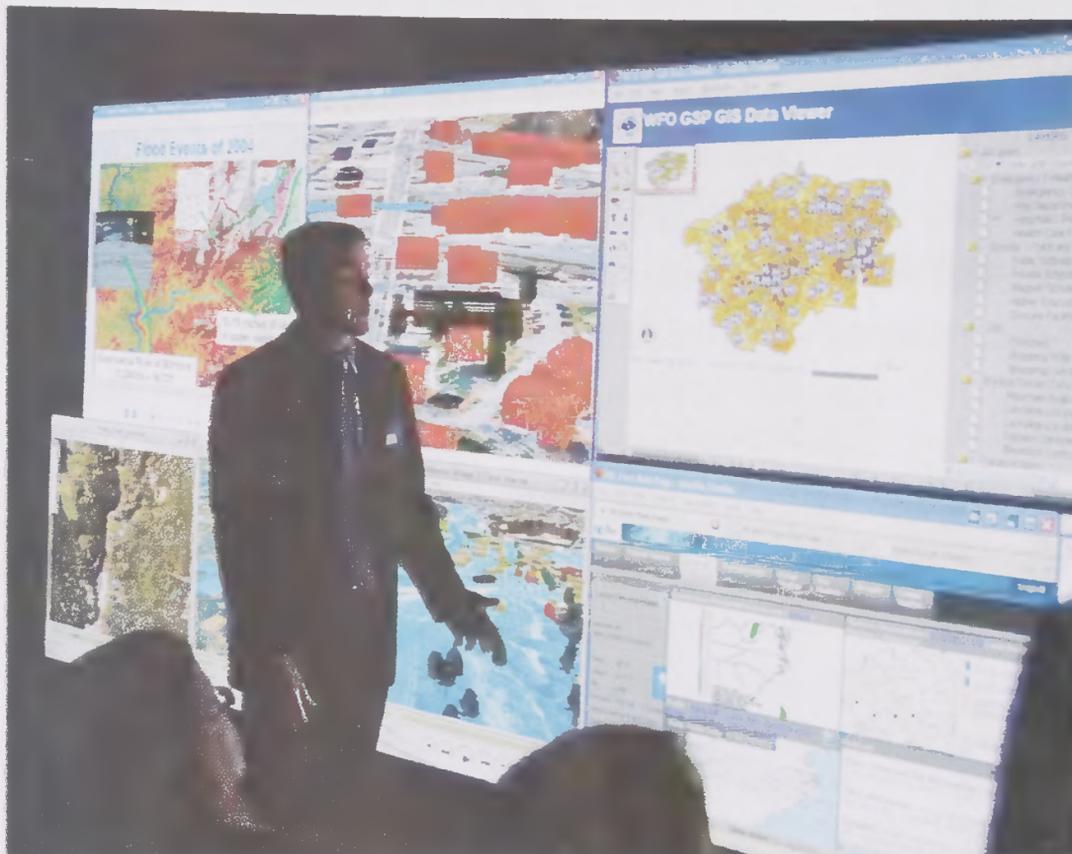
The annual production showcases all the fall dance classes except for a few of the lower level courses, such as Ballet I. Ballet's training structure makes the initial level difficult to perform, according to Meyers, instructor for the Ballet I class.

"People have an opportunity to see a wide range of dance, even within one genre, like within modern dance or within jazz," Meyers said. "Seeing the diversity of dance that can come out of this is one of the strong points."

Meyers founded the local dance studio Moving

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Organization plans to better environment



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEMAC



NEMAC research associate Greg Dobson speaks on the center's research. A flood plain map, below, created by NEMAC earlier this year, shows what area of the Biltmore Village neighborhood would be submerged in a 100-year flood. Such a flood occurred in 2004 after tropical rains.

NEMAC

What: The National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center, known as NEMAC.

Where: NEMAC's office is located in 201 Rhoades Hall.

On-campus national science center illuminates environmental issues

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Despite being located in an aging office suite and an overheated computer room, UNC Asheville-based National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center, known as NEMAC, managed more than 8 million dollars in funding during the last five years.

They also met with Sen. Elizabeth Dole and collaborated with the Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Energy.

"I think you see a passion for what we're working on," NEMAC Director James Fox said about the attitudes NEMAC's staff shares. "This is not research in a lab. It's research we're passionate about."

NEMAC gathers data about the natural world and helps turn it into products and applications that protect, educate and serve the people of the Southeast. According

to Fox, NEMAC also seeds 25 percent of its grant money back into the region and local community by employing area workers in technology and science.

Later this month, the organization takes on climate change and water scarcity as politics, business and the environment intersect at the Tennessee Valley Corridor Southeast Partnership Event. A \$100-a-head regional economic summit hosted at the Grove Park Inn, the event includes opening remarks from Congressman Heath Shuler.

NEMAC's contribution is "Drought and Power," the latest in its series of educational short films about how water issues directly affect the economic and environmental health of Western North Carolina and nearby Tennessee.

Animated by Asheville CGI artists, written by a local screenwriting team and shown in a custom-made cinema created by an Asheville new me-

dia company with clients all over the globe, "Drought and Power" is an all-local production. It's meant to educate area residents about how "old realities," as Fox termed them, are changing.

Old realities are long-held sets of beliefs being challenged, Fox said. As examples, he offered the belief that the climate will stay the same, that drinking water is limitless, and that the cost and availability of cheap energy sources like oil and coal won't affect the way people live.

He pointed out that "new realities" coming into play are complex and at times surprising, he cited as an example a recent Scientific American article showing the water-use impact of different kinds of cars.

Gasoline-powered cars, the graphic showed, use the least water. Ethanol-powered cars, generally regarded as more environmentally friendly, use far more of an increasingly

scarce and valuable resource.

According to Fox, in light of the changing understanding of the natural world, NEMAC's job is to seek and provide trusted data, turn the data into graphical information and communicate the story of "new realities" like water scarcity. NEMAC uses media like its "Drought and Power" film to help ordinary people and powerful decision-makers alike make educated, supported decisions based on the best and newest information science has to offer, he said.

"How do we tell these stories effectively and efficiently?" Fox asked. "How can we leverage the talent set of our group to help people make the decisions that need to be made?"

Part of NEMAC's talent set is its 13 paid interns, all UNCA students. Current interns work on projects ranging from glob-

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Rugby club attracts UNCA students

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The Asheville Rugby Football Club offers UNC Asheville students and staff with an opportunity to play a contact sport.

Three students and one faculty member play for the Iguanas, a team that was started in 1983 by two UNCA students and two Warren Wilson students, according to Eric Bryan, who handles public relations for the club.

"UNCA is the only university in the North Carolina school system without a rugby team or club," Bryan said.

Ryan Moton, the resident coordinator of Founder's residence hall, has been on the team since June. Rugby is a good stress reliever according to Moton.

"I have a very frustrating job," Moton said. "A lot of time there are a lot of things outside of my control that I have to do that I don't want to do. But rugby is the one thing that I don't have to do, but want to do. And I like it because it's a full contact sport."

Alex Holston, a sophomore political science major, has been playing rugby since elementary school.

"I'm South Africa originally," Holston said. "I've been playing the sport my entire life. That's what got me into it. I played Rugby for my elementary school, middle school and my high school."

Playing for the ARFC is a great way to meet new people and experience different cultures. The games and practices should even be counted as a Humanities cultural event, according to Holston, who rotates between fullback, wing and center.

"It's like a culture club right now," Holston said. "Our captain is straight out of Germany. We've got two New Zealanders on the team. We've got a Spaniard playing. And our coach is as British as they come."

Rugby requires 15 players for each team. The lack of interest and conflicts in scheduling make practice difficult, Holston said.

"We only have about 18 players that show up to practice so we don't get to play against each other at practice," Holston said. "It's hard getting the same amount of players every weekend because people have jobs and kids. One game we had one of our players yelling at his kids because they were climb-

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Holocaust survivor lectures on Kristallnacht.

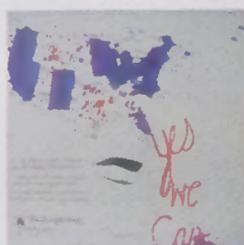
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Original commemorative Obama poster.

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