

# 'The Crucible' comes to campus this weekend

Kaitlyn North

Assistant A&E Editor

"A person is either with this court or he must be counted against it; there be no road between." This statement sounds eerily like a presidential decree on the war on terrorism, but it is actually a line from Arthur Miller's "The Crucible," which opens tonight at 7:30 p.m. Director Fred Rubeck said that he chose to do this play, which was written as a reaction to the McCarthy hearings of the 1950s, because of the resonance it has with today's post-Sept. 11 audiences.

The play deals with the Salem witch hunts of the 17 century and how the characters were involved in the hysteria of the time. Rubeck said that there were definitely ethnic groups and nationalities that were suspected of evil in that time and today. "We have all had to face that demon," Rubeck said. "There are definite parallels of mass accusation and hysteria."

Rubeck said that in the 15 years he has been at Elon, the theater department has never done a Miller play, and it was decided



Tim Rosner / Photo Editor

Students rehearse a scene from "The Crucible," which opens tonight at 7:30 p.m. in McCrary Theatre

that now was "a good time to tackle the piece." This show will feature a different kind of performer than what Elon audiences are used to seeing on the stage. "There are people in leading roles that have never been before, and there are people who are in supporting roles that have had leads

in other shows, and it is great to see the actors rise to the challenge," Rubeck said.

John Proctor will be played by Nick Burr, Katie Hilliard will play Abigail Williams, Brian Murray will be Reverend Hale, Kendra Goehring will be Elizabeth Proctor and John

Kernodle will play Reverend Parris.

"['The Crucible'] is not just a dry, dusty thing that everyone had to read in high school," Rubeck said. This performance will "make it come alive and allow the audience to understand why it was so exciting." Rubeck decided

**What:** "The Crucible"  
**When:** Thurs-Sat 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.  
**Where:** McCrary Theatre  
**Admission:** \$10 or free w/Elon ID

to take a unique approach to the interpretation of the piece by using expressionistic elements to "tap into the emotional content to make it visible and audible." For example, the set will not be made up of traditional box pieces, but suggested through character reactions, distinct music and dramatic lighting.

"Miller saw an opportunity to use historic material to call attention to current events; to help his audiences see certain injustices of contemporary society," Rubeck said. "This is one of the more challenging plays that I have ever directed, and working on it has revealed why it's so relevant today."

Contact Kaitlyn North at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or 278-7247.

## Ensemble jazzes up McKinnon Saturday



Tim Rosner / Photo Editor

The Elon jazz ensemble played a two-hour set Saturday night in McKinnon Hall. The group performed selections from Cole Porter to Milt Jackson. Stand-out solo performances were by Dave Kasper, who played the flute and tenor and alto saxophones, and Eric Chaiken on trumpet. Director Jon Metzger joined the group on the xylophone for a Milt Jackson tune.

## Album review

### Reliant K 'Makes a Right'

Kaitlyn North

Assistant A&E Editor

the listener (a lesson the guys from Creed could really use.)

Did you wear a pink tux to the prom? If you (or your date) did, then punk-pop group Reliant K's new album "Two Lefts Don't Make a Right...But Three Do" is definitely for you.

The group sounds like a Good Charlotte/Dashboard Confessional hybrid, and looks like the guys from your old church youth group got together and started a band. In fact, the album's seemingly-romantic track "Getting Into You" is actually a Christian affirmation. Unlike its contemporaries in the Christian pop arena, however, it takes quite a bit of reading between the lines (and the liner notes) to pick up on the pro-God message. The overwhelming themes of the album are fun, youth and silliness, leaving any interpretations up to

The track "In Love with the '80s (Pink Tux to the Prom)" is stylistically similar to the early alternative classics of that decade, and is the most fun song on the album. "College Kids" is just as silly and it is hard to not smile and nod when lyrics like "I'll take calligraphy and then I'll make a fake degree" are sung. Yet there are more serious moments that deal with the doubt and confusion of dating and growing up like in "Over Thinking" and "Forward Motion." The only things that are missing are references to suicide, sex or drugs. They're not TRL favorites, they don't cuss and they love the '80s, but in the end it feels "Right."

Contact Kaitlyn North at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or 278-7247.