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## Singer-humorist to perform

by Carolyn Morton

Mike Cross, musician and humorist, will be performing at Meredith's Continuing Education Auditorium on Sunday, January 30, at 8:00.

The native Carolinian has received praise from local critics. Bill Morrison of The Raleigh News and Observer said, "Michael Cross writes novelty songs that would make Jim Stafford green with envy." He is, as the Raleigh

critic noted, a "master storyteller, master musician."

The Chapel Hill Newspaper described Mike Cross as "a delightfully funny man. The audience keeps coming back for more."

As a child in Lenoir, N.C., Cross was asked to leave the church choir because he could not carry a tune. Since then, he has proven himself not only a talented singer, but a talented guitarist and fiddler as well.

Cross learned to play the guitar while attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He soon began writing songs and performing them to receptive, Chapel Hill audiences. His music has taken him as far as New York City and Nashville.

In 1974, Cross and his wife, Laurie, moved to Atlanta where he began his first year of law school. He later decided to delay his law career and try his luck at a music career.

"Child Prodigy," his first album, was released in the summer of 1976 and has been received well.

Mike Corss is sponsored by the Concerts and Lectures Committee, and his concert is open to the public free of charge.



Mike Cross, a Carolinian singer-humorist, will perform Sunday at 8 p.m. in the CEA.

## Rush week brings fewer Phis, Astros

by Rosie Bowers

As a result of Rush Week for Phi and Astro service clubs, 50 to 75 girls picked up applications for Astro membership, while 54 filed for Phi membership.

Last year's totals were: 150 Astro and 105 Phi pledges.

Martha Claybrook, Phi president, felt that "a great deal of apathy toward the societies had been present all week, even at the Phi-sponsored entertainment."

Astro president Cheryl Koob believes that the present application system will result in a stronger organization. New Astros will be announced later as applications are evaluated, she said.

Both the Phis and Astros had approached Rush Week with the main interest of gaining active members in contrast to previous objectives of acquiring the greater number of new members.

Until this year, rush

activities of both societies were designed to encourage all freshmen and transfer students to make a choice between the societies on Decision Day.

This year, however, the emphasis has been placed more on maintaining active membership in the two societies.

The Phis have moved to a point system whereby a member must maintain a balance of four points per year. Credit is awarded for participation in fund raising, service projects, and other means of involvement.

Astros, on the other hand, have chosen to use a selective system whereby any Meredith student may apply for membership. Applicants are selected on the basis of interest by the approval of a committee consisting of officers and class representatives. Members are reviewed at intervals by a committee to determine active contribution to the club.

## RSW awards funds to 6 groups

by Miriam Victorian

The Raising the Sights of Women Executive Committee (RSW) headed by Dr. Sarah Lemmon, has announced the approval of six requests made for funds by various Meredith organizations and departments.

First, the National Association of Art Education was awarded \$470 to attend a national conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Also, twelve psychology students were given \$860 to enable them to go to an Eastern Psychology

Association meeting in Boston, Massachusetts.

A third group, the Meredith gymnastic team, was able to attend a clinic held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, over the Christmas holidays through a grant by RSW of \$948.

Other organizations whose requests were granted included the Renaissance Singers who were allotted \$125. They will have composer Alice Parker come to train and conduct the Singers in one of her original pieces.

In addition, the voice department was granted the

sum of \$125 for a demonstration and lecture on creative accompanying.

Lastly, the mathematics department was given \$180 to have an outstanding woman mathematician come to the campus.

Student reaction to the effectiveness of RSW has been varied. One senior music major said she had "good experiences" with RSW programs, particularly with the program which brought Miss Parker to Meredith last year.

Another student felt that the organization was "a great source of money for various campus groups."

However, she felt that RSW had a "negative stigma" because it focused "too much on the past, and not on what women, especially Meredith women, can do in the future."

Some other student reactions included the comment from many girls that they were "sick and tired of hearing of women in this and women in that."

One sophomore related that she felt the idea behind the organization was good, but that it "had not raised her awareness." Another second year student felt that the RSW programs were "not publicized enough on campus."

Dr. Sarah Lemmon agreed that there probably was not enough publicity for RSW's special programs. She added, nevertheless, that "RSW is in charge of the Life Directions Seminars, and various courses focusing on women, and faculty workshops."

The purpose of the organization, she stated, was to "reach out to both students and faculty." She expressed hopes that it will be effective in both of these areas.

## New group enlivens childrens' rhymes

by Kim Farlow

"Cottleston, cottleston, cottleston pie  
A fly can't bird but a bird can fly  
Ask me a riddle and I'll reply  
Cottleston, cottleston, cottleston pie."

Pooh Bear

The above is an excerpt from the script of the newly formed Meredith Children's Theatre Company. And should you be wandering through Jones Hall on any given afternoon, you're likely to hear this and many more equally bizarre rhymes.

The 12-member company, which is headed by junior, Sharon Holder, debuts February 13. They hope to perform seven or eight times, including productions at area churches, for the children of the faculty, and on Parent's Day. The group is sponsored by Alpha Psi Omega, the honorary dramatic sorority. On campus, Drama instructor Nancy Truesdale serves as faculty advisor.

Although a similar idea was tried and failed three years ago, a new addition of

one hour's speech credit has been an incentive this year. Company members include Beth Cobb, Kim Dale, Lynn Dyson, Rita Blevins, Andra Knott, Beth Leavel, Kim Hewlett, Karen Mangum, Beth Wicker, Shonta Horton, and Suzanne Matton.

The company has recently begun practice on their jointly written script. Drawing from all forms of children's literature, the players in-

corporated short stories, songs, poetry, and Dr. Seuss into "A Surprise Party for Eeyore." The story, which revolves around donkey, Eeyore's forgotten birthday stresses friendship as the principal theme.

"The story is basically about Eeyore's birthday party where each animal tells a little story for entertainment," says Sharon. "Some animals bring gifts

and others don't; when Eeyore complains of his lack of presents, the story climaxes in a 'bag dance' where his friends are wrapped as gifts."

The performance ends with company members sponsoring a birthday party for the audience, complete with candy and cake.

Of the mechanics of the production, Sharon says each member will invent their own costume and props. Brightly colored leotards and tights will serve as a basic costume, complemented with exotic make-up. Lighting, sound, and setting will be taken care of by Sharon, who also serves as technical director.

The performance includes a "story within a story" where each animal assumes yet another role during the telling of various tales.

The production runs approximately 60 minutes and includes works such as Dr. Seuss' Horton Hatches the Egg, various Silvester poems including "Double Tailed Dog" and "Flying Festoon," and Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky.



The newly formed Children's Theater Company plans to debut February 13.