

# Journey Proud Stands Tall

by Amity Brown

Journey Proud premiered in a half-full Studio Theatre Sept. 26. Hopefully, upcoming performances of this play directed by Dr. Nan Stephenson and written by Tom Cope will be to larger crowds, because Journey Proud is a wonderful example of the quality theatre Meredith Performs offers.

Journey Proud follows the life of Judith Wilde from her childhood bout with polio, her education at Meredith College, and her days as a doctor in the 1940's and 50's. The play's strength lies in its fine acting and writing.

First, Cope's writing cleverly weaves episodes from Judith's life in with narration from not her ghost, but what her grandson calls a "theatrical device." This and other bits of humor, like Miss Ruby, a Meredith administrator, who welcomes new freshmen "thirsting for knowledge" to an "oasis,"

complement of moments of both happiness and sadness to render a complete picture of real life.

Additionally, the acting in Journey Proud is first rate. Dr. Rebecca Murray is Judith, the "theatrical device," while Quincy Beard is the young Judith, acting out her life. Both actresses give excellent performances as the strong-willed Judith.

Sissy Winfree plays Maude Barrow, Judith's best friend from childhood, and she strengthens her portrayal by playing up the contrast between her character and Judith's. Also Karla Mitchell gives an excellent performance as Sarah, especially when she becomes outraged that she can't attend Meredith because of her race.

In addition to the larger roles, Truly Ager, Heather Thomasson, Becky Bradshaw, Tarsha Garland, and Katherine Jenkins are

just a few of the actors that add a great deal to Journey Proud in their smaller roles.

Overall, Journey Proud is an entertaining and enlightening chronicle of a woman's life and ends with Judith commissioning the audience that they can do anything, because "there are no limits."

Journey Proud will continue its run at Meredith through Oct. 5, hopefully to standing room only audiences.

*Please come and support Meredith Performs. Journey Proud continues in the Studio Theatre October 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. and October 5 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.*

Meredith Performs Proudly Presents...

## Journey Proud

by Tom Cope

In Studio Theatre of Jones Hall

September 26-28 at 8 p.m. & 29 at 3 p.m.

October 3-4 at 8 p.m. & 5 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Admission:

Individual \$6

Students & Senior Citizens \$4

An award will be given to the club with the most members present

