

# Two students attend theatre competition

by Frances Pate

Two Meredith students represented the College at the American College Theater Festival (ACTF) last week. Heather Hollowell and S. Quincy Beard traveled to Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, to compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship. The two were nominated for the award as a result of their parts in last semester's *Ladyhouse Blues*.

The ACTF is an annual competition that was created by Irene Ryan several years ago. (Ryan is remembered as Granny on *The Beverly Hillbillies*.) Schools across the nation apply for a competition entry and submit their plays to compete in district competition entry and submit their plays to compete in district ACTF competitions. This

year's district competition was held at Catawba College. Meredith students presented *Ladyhouse Blues*. Although the play itself did not advance, Hollowell and Beard were nominated to go on to the southeastern regional competition.

To compete in Auburn, Hollowell and Beard had to each choose one partner and a monologue to present to the judges. Both students said choosing an appropriate monologue was the hardest part of preparing for the competition. Hollowell said, "You only have five minutes to present yourself. That is what is so frustrating." Beard agreed and said, "Choosing pieces is the hardest part--definitely."

Although the conference is labeled as a competition, Billy Murray, director of *Ladyhouse Blues*, said that it is not just about competing. He

said, "It is more instructive than anything else." Students learn from critiques and learn from what they see other students doing. Murray added, "It gives students exposure in performing in other settings and allows them to see what other schools are doing. It is a real good way for them to judge themselves." Students can also attend workshops dealing with different topics. "The most important thing that the actors go for," said Murray, "is to watch the other people--the extreme talent in the professions. It is invaluable to them, to learn."

Hollowell said she met a lot of very supportive people at the competition. She said, "They all wanted you to excel." This was Beard's second year competing, and she said she is again thankful

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like issuing them squirt guns for a four alarm blaze."

A third result of sex before marriage is pregnancy outside of marriage. I do not know of one unmarried college student who wants to have a baby. Of course the common response to pregnancy outside of marriage is abortion. However, the controversy over abortion is sharply dividing our country. The majority of the need for abortions would be eliminated if sex before marriage were eliminated, and therefore the majority of the controversy over abortion would also be eliminated.

In addition to these three physical effects of sex before marriage, there are also several emotional effects of sex before marriage. In a study conducted by *Redbook*, it was found that men and women who engage in sex before marriage are more likely to engage in sex with someone other than their spouse during their marriage. Premarital sex increases the odds of extramarital sex. I think we can all imagine the emotional effects of finding your husband is having an affair.

A second emotional effect of premarital sex is inhibited communication. Most of us seem to think having sex with someone with whom we are romantically involved will bring us closer to that person, but that is just not the case. According to national author Rusty Wright, sex without the commitment of marriage results in partners' becoming less open, causing communication to dwindle. For women, closeness comes with communication, and sex before marriage hinders it rather than inspires it.

A third emotional aspect involved with premarital sex is self-esteem. A woman's self-esteem is based on love and affection. When a woman has sex without the commitment of marriage, without

already having a man promise lifelong fidelity, she may question whether her partner really loves her or just wants to have sex. Any time a woman even questions her source of love, her self-esteem is lowered.

At this point, you are probably wondering why these dangers are limited to sex outside of marriage. The risk with the physical dangers is having more than one partner or a partner who has had a sexual history. The only way to guard against STD's and AIDS is to have one sexual partner for life, and the only way to insure that is to have sex exclusively within the confines of marriage. It is not safe to know that you are in love with someone or even that you will marry them. According to a study conducted by Paul Popenoe, one-third to one-half of all engagements are broken. The only

way to completely protect yourself against the physical dangers of sex is to wait to have sex during marriage and to marry a man who has done the same. Even in the case of divorce and remarriage, if this principle of confining sexual activity to marriage is followed, chances of being victimized by these physical dangers result when a female gives an intimate, vulnerable part of herself in sex without the commitment of marriage.

It is now obvious that sex outside of marriage is dangerous to physical health because of sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS and pregnancy, and sex outside of marriage is dangerous to emotional health because of increased probability of extramarital sex, inhibited communication and lowered self-esteem. As I said earlier, I hope this information causes you to question seriously and re-evaluate your sexual practices.

## Looney Tunes Little Friends Weekend '93

Every year the Meredith community sets a weekend aside to invite "little friends" ( children between the ages of four and 12) to participate in activities that focus on fun and fellowship. The Meredith Recreation Association would like to invite you and your "little friend" to come to Little Friend's Weekend which will be held at Meredith, March 19-21. This weekend will be packed with great activities for your "little friend." These activities will include t-shirt painting, Looney Olympics, a masquerade party and much, much more! We are all very excited about this special annual Meredith event, and we hope you and your favorite "little friend" will join us.

The registration fee for this weekend is \$20 per child. This fee covers the cost of the child's meals in Belk Dining Hall on Saturday, snacks, activity supplies and a t-shirt. You may purchase a t-shirt for yourself for an extra \$5.

If you would like to join in the fun of the 1993 Little Friend's Weekend, please register during lunch and dinner in Belk Dining Hall, Feb. 22 - Mar. 10.

Any further questions? Call Janine Russell (X7685) or Lori Little (X7664).