

## Dance professor uses sabbatical to expand art

by Clarky Lucas

Alyson Colwell-Waber danced a Solo Flight at Meredith College on Friday and Saturday night.

She presented the dances Journey, Tightrope, Dialect and Dove' Sei Tu Romeo.

The performance is the result of an intensive sabbatical leave in which Colwell-Waber spent many months working with various choreographers to develop new pieces.

Her goals for the sabbatical were to explore

movement material, create choreographic structure, and rehearse and perform the finished dances.

Dialect by Mark Taylor and Dove' Sei Tu Romeo by Jack Arnold were specifically created for Colwell-Waber.

"In creating Dialect, there was more experimentation and exploration of ideas," said Colwell-Waber.

When working with a choreographer there is a nice give and take, a more of an exchange of ideas, but ultimately the choreographer makes

the final decision about what the dance includes.

Colwell-Waber had worked with each of the choreographers for this show in the past. Liz Lerman, Taylor

and Arnold had all performed as guest artists at Meredith. Some were even guest teachers and worked with students.

She said she was motivated to begin this project because she was starting to feel pulled away from dancing. Colwell-Waber has spent nine years working with the dance program at Meredith which has been rapidly expanding. During this time, she developed new curriculum, wrote proposals for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance and hired

new faculty. She said her involvement was time consuming, and she was drained. The leave allowed her to concentrate on putting together a solo performance to continue refining her craft. She spent time working in Pittsburgh, Penn. and Washington DC.

Colwell-Waber teaches classes on all levels of modern ballet and jazz technique, dance history and dance production. She also organizes con-

certs, the fall dance gathering and choreographs dances.

"Meredith is a very rewarding place to teach. I get to know my students and my interaction with them is significant," said Colwell-Waber.

One of her future goals, she said, is to keep performing this concert. She will be present it again at the UNCG on May 4.

"I fully support the idea of always being a student and to continue learning," said Colwell-Waber.



Alyson Colwell-Waber performs her dance "Tightrope" and displays her trained muscle control.

photo by Steve Wilson

## BDH director looks for new twist on dining

by Melissa Ray  
SGA reporter

As director of food services, Thad O'Briant is the man in charge of providing meals for the Meredith population. Much of his time is spent performing the tasks necessary to keep Belk Dining hall running smoothly. As director, O'Briant is in charge of handling all food service jobs. He is responsible for the hiring, training and scheduling of dining hall employees as well as planning the daily menus. In addition to these jobs, he supervises the ordering and the production of food.

O'Briant was born and raised in Raleigh with two brothers and three step-sisters. In 1990, he married Paula O'Briant, director of residence life.

O'Briant earned his undergraduate degree from North Carolina State University, majoring in political science with a concentration in criminal justice. His first experience with food service was at Camp Seagull outside New Bern. He then worked as manager at a Bojangles restaurant for two years.

After working with fast food, O'Briant decided he needed a greater challenge. He said he wanted "More responsibility and experience" in the area of food service. For this purpose he said he came to Meredith.

He trained for two years in Meredith's Belk Dining Hall before leaving Meredith to become assistant director of food services at Elon College. After two years of gaining experience at Elon College, O'Briant left to fill the

position of director of food services at Meredith.

When deciding whether or not to take the director's position at Meredith, O'Briant considered the fact that he knew most of the faculty and staff as well as how friendly the students and atmosphere were. As Meredith's charm convinced many prospective students, likewise it convinced O'Briant to make Meredith his home.

He says he enjoys his position in food service. He says college food service in general is "never routine." There

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## Career Connections

### Events Schedule:

- Seniors! Registration Workshop Mon., Jan. 23, 10-10:30 a.m. (Kresge)
- Graduate Students! Registration Workshop Wed., Jan. 25, 5:30-6:00 p.m. (CS)
- How to Write an Effective Resume Thurs., Jan. 26, 5:30-6:15 p.m. (Kresge)
- How to Sell Yourself in the Job Interview Mon., Jan. 30, 10-10:50 a.m. (CS)
- Career Planning Seminar for Juniors and Seniors (CPS 301B) A six-week, 12 session, 1 credit course—MW 3-3:50 p.m., Mar. 6-Apr. 24

### Internship Update:

- Institute of Government Summer Intern Program Jan. 23
- North Carolina Summer Internship Program Jan. 27

### On-Campus Recruiting:

Sign-up today for these companies:

- Hit or Miss
  - "Lucky 32"
  - Omni Business Machines
  - First Citizens Bank
  - People's Security Life
- Employer Resume Review:

- NationsBank
  - Central Carolina Bank
- Sign-up today for these companies:
- Wachovia Bank—Jan. 25
  - Cacique—Jan. 26
  - RTI—Jan. 27