



MEREDITH HERALD

Volume XV, Issue 15

We attract bright, talented, ambitious students. Naturally we're a women's college.

January 20, 1999

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Special Olympics are coming to Triangle

□ ALLTEL announces its sponsorship of the '99 summer games.

CHRISTINA HOLDER
Staff Reporter

Papathanasiou's "Chariots of Fire" springs to mind as an appropriate soundtrack for the athletes to preparing for this summer's festivities.

From June 26-July 4, only 165 days away, athletes from over 150 countries will converge in Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill to take part in the 1999 Special Olympic World Summer Games.

In a press conference on Jan. 12 in the Johnson Hall Rotunda, ALLTEL Communications, a wireless and long-distance carrier, announced its gold sponsorship of the Games and extended its invitation as their official communications provider.

"In ALLTEL's 45 retail locations posters are being put up to hopefully inspire our customers to support the '99

Olympics with us," says Dan Lohr, the president of North Carolina's ALLTEL markets.

In addition, ALLTEL is showing their support to the athletes and the events they will compete in by offering "eight hours of paid time off for each ALLTEL employee" who volunteers her time to the Games.

Charles Taylor, Meredith's interim President spoke for the

campus as he noted "we are proud that the Special Olympic athletes are here," as he looked over to three athletes attending the press conference to represent the approximately 7,000 that will compete in the events this summer.

Meredith College will serve as a central point for the Games by providing the facilities for the Olympic Festival. The 2,000 coaches,

400,000 spectators, 35,000 volunteers, as well as the athletes, are invited to visit the Olympic Festival between events for refreshments and relaxation. ALLTEL will host the World Games Festival and sponsor an interactive booth where visitors can learn more about ALLTEL's services.

Professional NASCAR race driver Phil Parsons was also in

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Special Olympics athlete Ashley Pittman tries out the driver's seat of the ALLTEL-sponsored car as driver Phil Parsons and Meredith College's interim president Charles Taylor pose for a quick photo.

PHOTO BY
STEVE WILSON

Professor, alumna art exhibits break new ground

□ The two new ideas come from months of collaborative effort.

LISA GILLIAM
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The College is an art-lover's paradise, but never was its commitment to the arts as clear as it was on Sunday, when the openings of two exhibits shared audience attention.

If you were on the Meredith campus on that day, Jan. 17, you may have noticed that the campus was overflowing with the visitors who were lucky enough to get a double dose of culture.

The two new exhibits that opened up on Sunday: one in the Johnson Hall Rotunda and the other in the Gaddy-Hamrick Art Center. While the exhibits are different in content, Gallery Director Maureen Banker said that people who came to one exhibit generally

visited the other and all-around had "a nice day on campus."

The Johnson Hall exhibit is part of the Meredith College alumna series and is titled "Virginia Owen paintings." Owen's work is the second in the annual series of art exhibitions which will feature Meredith alumna.

Owen graduated from Meredith in 1994 with a BA in Studio Art and a concentration in painting. While at Meredith in 1993, Owen received the Meredith College Department of Art award for Outstanding Student of Art. Owen also studied Liberal Arts at NCSU from 1976 to 1978.

Owen's other awards and honors include the 1997 United Arts Regional Artist Project Grant and the 1992 PEO Sisterhood Grant.

Owen's resume shows that she has used her art experience in many fields, including mar-

keting coordinator, graphic designer, artist and visual designer.

The centerpiece of Owen's paintings which are on display now is her series titled "Continuum." The series consists of 36 oil and graphite on paper paintings that measure 26"(h) x 12"(w) each. The total series spans 26" x 36" feet.

The series represents a year and comes from her own documentation of her life. Banker said that Owen had "received a grant to do that one large piece."

The alumna series will appear again next year at around the same time and will feature an alumna photographer, Mary Moore. Banker says that Meredith College has "such fine graduates in the art department" and that we should praise these "wonderful alumnae who are happy to share" with the public.

Owen's exhibit will be open

for public viewing through March 28. More information is available about Owen and her exhibit in the Rotunda.

About 250 people attended "7-Bit Dialogue," the multimedia art exhibit which opened in the Frankie G. Weems Gallery at the Gaddy-Hamrick Art Center at 2:30 p.m.

"7-Bit Dialogue" is an interactive video and installation show, designed by Regina Rowland, who is a professor of art at Meredith, and Scott Townsend, who works with the School of Design at NC State.

The exhibit opening included representatives from many different departments at Meredith, including those of dance, science, English, and music because the exhibit involves pieces from each of those areas.

The idea was originally Townsend's. He and Rowland decided to work together.

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