

Meredith student is put to the test on NBC's *Fear Factor*

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If you've ever seen the NBC reality show *Fear Factor*, you know that it's not for the weak of heart -- or stomach. This summer, a Meredith student appeared on the show and found out firsthand what a frightening experience it could be.

Meredith Senior Shannon Godfrey got to discover her own *Fear Factor* when she taped her episode of the show in July. The episode aired Tuesday, November 5, at 8 p.m. on NBC.

According to Godfrey, it was her competitive nature and strong will that made her want to tackle the show. "I would watch all these different types of shows and always think that I could win them. One day I said: you know what? I'm tired of sitting around saying I could win it. Let me go ahead and try," Godfrey said.

So, she did. Godfrey sent a video of herself to *Fear Factor's* producers and was called to meet with them in New York City. After she was selected for the show, she traveled to Los Angeles for the taping.

Contestants on the show are faced with a series of stunts that they must complete to advance to the next round, and the winner of

each episode receives \$50,000. Stunts on previous episodes have included various tasks involving roaches, worms, animal blood and spiders. Six contestants competed on Godfrey's episode.

Godfrey was not allowed to discuss many of the details about her episode before its airing. However, she did provide some information about two of the stunts she had to face.

"What I can tell you about the show is that the first stunt was the toughest," Godfrey said. "We had to be firefighters and go into a burning, smoke-filled building, find our way through it, and put out a fire."

Fire must not be one of Godfrey's fears because she completed that task successfully. "I kicked butt in that stunt," she said.

However, the second stunt, the scorpion pit, was more challenging. "Now that was bad," Godfrey said. "Three stings, and I still get chills from that experience."

Commercials for the episode, as well as the *Fear Factor* Web site, featured Godfrey screaming in horror while in the scorpion pit.

In an interview posted on the *Fear Factor* Web site on

NBC.com, Godfrey said that the scorpion pit "was the sickest thing I've ever seen in my life."

Godfrey transferred to Meredith from North Carolina A&T State University. She previously lived in New York City, where she worked in the fashion industry. However, the events of 9-11 changed her perspective on life and led her to return to college in May. She is now pursuing a degree in English

through Meredith's 23+ program.

Despite her competitive spirit, Godfrey has had enough of reality shows for awhile.

"It was a frightening experience," said Godfrey. "It was fun, but really frightening. I would not like to go through that again."

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Community Events

The Laramie UK, a band featuring current Meredith student Tracy Sumner and Meredith alumna Holly Lowman, will return for its second show at Chapel Hill's Cavern Tavern on November 7th, with fellow locals *Ester* opening. Admission is \$3, and the show starts at 9:30.

Campus Events

The Career Center will sponsor a workshop on how to write effective graduate school essays. The workshop will take place Monday, November 11th at 10 a.m. in the Career Center. Dr. Jean Jackson will be the presenter.

The Colton English Club will be meeting Tuesday, November 12th at 5 p.m. in Joyner 111.

Holocaust survivor David Faber will speak at the Chapel Service on Wednesday, November 13th.

