

Meredith to host speaker on Islamic faith

SAM CAROTHERS
Campus Minister

The campus community is invited to a presentation on Islam at 10 am on Friday, November 15, in Kresge Auditorium. The Imam E. Abdulmalik Mohammed of the American Society of Muslims will return to the Meredith campus. The Imam was on our campus last November, and his presence following the tragic events of September 11 was instrumental in helping many of us gain a deeper understanding of Islam. During his speech, he will address several aspects of

Islam, including the religion's contributions to science and the role of women within Islam.

The Imam is a leader in the American Society of Muslims and serves as the official national and international representative for Imam W. Deen Mohammed, the leader of this branch of Islam. He has represented the Society on numerous college and university campuses, in interviews with the media, and in interfaith meetings.

In addition, he has traveled extensively representing Imam W. Deen Mohammed and the Society in Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Egypt, Italy and Syria. He

aided in arranging a meeting between Imam Mohammed and Pope John Paul II.

At the national convention of the American Society of Muslims in September of 2001, Imam W. Deen Mohammed said in his annual message: "Imam E. Abdulmalik Mohammed has done more to get our message out and to improve the image of Islam than any other..."

This event is sponsored by the Office of the Campus Minister, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and several academic departments.

Charles Baxter, award-

Charles Baxter to visit Meredith

SUZANNE NEWTON
Contributing Writer

winning novelist and short story writer, will be on campus November 20-22 for a series of workshops, class visits and a reading.

Mimi Herman, Durham writer and a former student of Baxter's says he is "a snappy dresser and the inventor and undisputed world champion dancer of 'The Subway,' a dance which bears an astonishing resemblance to the movements made by passengers riding subways daily throughout the world."

Herman says that Baxter, who has taught in the MFA

Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College, "is a writer who can teach as well as he can write." That would make him a very good teacher indeed, since he is the author of three novels, four collections of short stories, a collection of poetry, and a book of essays on the philosophy and craft of writing entitled *Burning Down the House*. Baxter's novel *The Feast of Love* was a National Book Award finalist. He is on the faculty of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

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SGA Corner

RHB

*Nov. 15- Breezeway Party
Hot cocoa will be served!

AMC

*Nov. 15-Commuter Appreciation Day! Enjoy hot cocoa, chair massages, and door prizes!
*Nov.15-19- Commuter Tshirts on Sale!! 2 different tshirt designs to choose from. \$15 per shirt. M,W, F: 10am -2pm

WINGS

*Nov. 25- General Meeting
moved to Nov. 25 instead
of Nov. 18

Steinway Tour of Pianos stops at Meredith

HASSIE HUGHES
Copy Editor

The Meredith College School of Music played host to four pianos from the Steinway & Sons Legendary Tour of Pianos Nov. 6-10, thanks to an invitation from Hopper Piano Company, the official Steinway dealer for the Raleigh area.

The four pianos on the tour are Vladimir Horowitz's concert grand, which was crafted in the early 1940s; a concert grand owned and played by Van Cliburn; a seven-foot blue Rhapsody piano designed by furniture designer Frank

Pollaro in 1998 in American art-deco style to commemorate what would have been composer

George Gershwin's 100th birthday; and a 500,000 serial number grand piano created in 1988 by furniture designer Wendell Castle to celebrate Steinway & Sons' 135th anniversary.

These pianos have been touring around the country since November 2001.

To celebrate the tour's stop at Meredith, Meredith faculty and students performed on the pianos each of the five nights the pianos were on campus.

Dr. Kent Lyman, a music professor and coordinator of piano instruction at

Meredith, helped organize the event and performed on two of the nights. Lyman said the event was held as part of an ongoing effort to acquire Steinways for the music department.

"It also brought visibility and high profile to the piano area," Lyman said. "We were able to highlight the talents of almost every single member of the music faculty."

In addition to the faculty performances, several students also had a chance to play the legendary pianos during an all-student performance Saturday night.

Graduate student Chrissy Cain, who is seeking her Master of Music in Piano

Performance and Pedagogy at Meredith, played Johannes Brahms' "Ballade in B Major, Op. 10 No. 4."

"All of our teachers really encouraged us to perform on the Steinways because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play on the same pianos as Horowitz and Van Cliburn," Cain said.

Cain also complimented the other students' performances and said the experience was a lot of fun for everyone involved.

"Several people came up to me afterward and said they really enjoyed seeing the pianos in person and hearing the people play them," she said.

Lyman said all five of the publicized events were extremely well attended. "We had to bring out extra chairs for three of them," he said.

Lyman said those in attendance appeared to enjoy the instruments so much that many pre-ordered a CD of selections from the pianos' five-night stay at Meredith. The CD will be available for \$15 within the next few weeks.

Lyman added that the tour brought the visibility the music department was hoping for and that Meredith is now much closer to getting Steinways of its own.