



MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women To Excel

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Meredith's Weekly Weather

WEDNESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 72/ Low 46

THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 74/ Low 54

FRIDAY
Isolated Thunderstorms
High 76/ Low 60

SATURDAY
Scattered
Thunderstorms
High 80/ Low 54

SUNDAY
Thunderstorms
High 73/ Low 51

MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 74/ Low 49

TUESDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 74/ Low 53

Renee Montagne of NPR to address Class of 2005 at Commencement

ROBIN GARY
Staff Writer

This year's commencement speaker may not be a familiar face to many, but she is a familiar voice to most. Renee Montagne is a correspondent for NPR where she co-hosts the Morning Edition show. She has covered a wide range of topics from WWII, to the history of the Hollywood sign, to how troops in Iraq celebrate the holidays. Montagne has traveled the world in pursuit of stories and has been to South Africa, Afghanistan, and most recently to Rome where she covered the death of Pope John Paul II. Her next stop is Meredith College where she will address the graduates of the Class of 2005.

Montagne said, "I was honored to be invited to speak at the graduation. I'm also

excited by thinking through what I'm going to say. The world these graduates are entering is quite different from when I graduated."

While she is still working on the content of her message, Montagne wants to stress to graduates, "the world in which they are emerging is so ethnically and culturally mixed, dramatically more so than in the past. There is a transforming of society due to the large number of immigrants to this country that is equal to the turn of the 20th century. There is enormous potential for doing good work by serving this new aspect of society and have interesting work in the process. Graduates should be comfortable with other cultures and languages." Her message ties in nicely with Meredith's mission to create community-oriented citi-



zens.

Montagne also wants to point out, "the reality and beauty of other cultures and [how] this large influx of immigrants is helping to change and reinforce basic American values. Close family ties and hard work are

two values that immigrants always bring with them to America."

Montagne admits that when she graduated she wasn't sure what she was going to do. Her advice to graduates is "follow your heart."

Coffeehouse finale with Fargo

GENEVIEVE BOISVERT
Contributing Writer

Hey Angels! Have you heard of Fargo? Perhaps in the past few weeks, you've

seen e-news, posters, or flyers advertising this mysterious band. If you attended the Meredith Coffeehouse this past Saturday, you experienced a real treat. At



Photo by Maria Santore

Dr. Daniel Fountain and Dr. Peter Volpe watch colleague Dr. Michael Novak perform with Fargo.

the final Coffeehouse of the season, Meredith hosted the first public performance of the band Fargo. Made up of Meredith and State professors, the band members include Georgia Schmidt from the music department, Dr. Bill Schmidt from biology, Dr. Novak from the history department, and Dr. Vincent from the history department at NCSU. Earlier last week, Dr. Novak described Fargo's music style as "eclectic acoustic confusion" and if you attended the Coffeehouse, you know exactly what that means—fun!

The Coffeehouse offered cake, cookies, and coffee, and as the band played, professors and students mingled

and listened while enjoying each other's company. Fargo played a series of down-to-earth folk tunes, Irish melodies, and their own renditions of the classics. Dr. Novak didn't bring his accordion, but instead played a series of smaller members of the string family such as a banjo, and a mandolin. Dr. Schmidt played several guitars from his reportedly vast collection. He played one particular classic rock piece for the crowd on his Stratocaster® guitar accompanied by Dr. Novak. The upbeat strains of Georgia Schmidt's violin had some

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