

Local Beat: WKNC's Local Lunch

Ashleigh Phillips,
staff writer

Sadly Meredith College has never had a radio station, but luckily right across Hillsborough Street 25,000 watts of power submits music into the airwaves making sure the Triangle is covered twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. WKNC 88.1 "the Revolution" is North Carolina State's student run, non-commercial radio station. Not only can WKNC boast about it's crazy wattage, making it one of the most powerful college radio stations in the country, but it has been voted "Best in the Triangle" by the Independent Weekly's annual reader's survey and is currently in the running to win MTV University's College Radio Woodie. With all this hype does WKNC have the backing to support its bravado? Check WKNC's schedule. This is not your average college radio station.

WKNC offers such a variety of formats and shows that no genre gets the cold shoulder. Reggae, Techno, Americana, Blues, and A Capella are all featured among a list of others. There's even the "Geet Bazaar," two hours of music from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, every Sunday morning. But from 12 to 1 each weekday during the "Local Lunch," WKNC establishes its authority as the Triangle's premier source of local music.

As home to the independent record

label Merge, many awesome venues, and even better artists and musicians, the Triangle has one of the best up and coming music scenes in the country. WKNC's "Local Lunch" takes advantage of these known truths to deliver an hour of discovery, delving into the Triangle's rich honey pot of music. DJ Shorty Shorts, a.k.a. Sean Anglin is one of the hosts of "Local Lunch." His passion for music is shared by the rest of the creative WKNC team that run it. Everyone involved knows the priority: to provide music that doesn't suck. And as Anglin honestly puts it, in regards to local music: "When a community has something that should be appreciated, you've gotta do it." It's simple, if something should be appreciated, then it doesn't suck, therefore it's going to be enjoyable.

Given the awesome music being made and played in the area, listen to the "Local Lunch" for an education, or take some of Anglin's suggestions; for some non-traditional Bluegrass: Carrboro's Mandolin Orange, for some Hip-Hop: Raleigh's King Mez and Commissioner Gordon, for some Beatles on a bad day: Raleigh's Bright Young Things, and for some minimalist Pop: Carrboro's Veelee. "These bands are just a sampling of all the great music here," Anglin made sure to point out. And because of WKNC's "Local Lunch," all the great music here is recognized. Listen and appreciate.

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Emery Lai, Staff Writer

As I walked into Jones Auditorium last Tuesday night to see The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, I must admit I was a little excited but wasn't expecting much. However, what I got out of the musical in the end was something I wanted to hold on to forever--a plethora of overwhelming emotions. Boy was I wrong to judge a musical merely because it's a musical. The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee was fun, hysterical and entertaining. It touched upon the awkwardness of being a preteen, but the viewer didn't have to be living through those awkward years to enjoy it. In fact, the musical took pleasure in reminding its audience about how we were all at the age of its characters. I myself took a liking to Marcy Park, played by Rose Turchi, who was an uptight little girl living up to everyone's expectations but getting tired of doing so.

The musical began with one of the helpers of the spelling bee, Rona Lisa Perretti, played by Stephanie Thurm, reliving the glory days of winning her own spelling bee when she was younger. Immediately she captured the audience's attention by spelling a word that probably less than 0.5% of the human population actually knows, much less uses. From there the musical shot off like a rocket. Characters were coming out of the woodwork to partake in the spelling bee. What was even better was the vast amount of audience participation. Four members of the audience were chosen to come up and compete if they wished to volunteer themselves. From that point on, I could not stop laughing. To have the audience participate in a musical where they had no idea what was going on was obviously going to induce much entertainment. Perretti caused the audience even more

fits of laughter as she introduced each spelling bee member.

Firstly, there was Meredith Davis' Logainne Schwartzandgrubenniere--an adorable little girl with a speech impediment who was the president of the gay/straight alliance at her elementary school. She also tried to pass a bill that would make the voting age ten. Her main goal in life was to be a winner and have America and God love her. Chip Tolentino, played by Justin Mann, was a boy scout who unfortunately lost first due to auspicious events.. Leaf Coneybear, played by Mark Olexik, made his own clothes and the fact that he even made it to the spelling bee made him happy. William Barfee, played by Jeff Vizcaino, was that boy you knew from PE who never did anything physical because he had asthma and a glandular condition and many other health related problems. He spelled each word with his foot in order to "see it." Olive Ostrovsky, played by Kate Brittain, was also an adorable little girl who just wished her mom and dad were in the audience. Perretti introduced Vice Principal Dolores Panch, played by Kiran Subramaniam, who was a fellow judge at the spelling bee and had a bit of an anxiety issue. Last, but certainly not least was Mitch Mahoney, played by Matt Gromlich, who was finishing up his community service acting as the "comfort counselor" by giving the children who lost a hug and a juice box.

Overall, the musical was amazing. If I wasn't laughing, I was smiling and if I wasn't smiling, I was cheering. In the end I was most appeased by the fact that the musical closed with a happy ending for all. There were a good number of losses, but the moral of the story was quite clear. We may not all be winners on the outside, but we're still unique individuals who are all winners on the inside.

What's Up in Raleigh

collected by
Ashleigh Phillips

February 23-March 9:

Feb 23-27: The Man Who Came To Dinner @ Raleigh Little Theater

23: NC State vs. UNC @ RBC Center

25-26: Drumline @ Memorial Auditorium

25-27: Carolina Ballet's The Ugly Duckling @ Fletcher Auditorium

25: Hurricanes vs. Penguins

26: NC State vs. Georgia Tech @ RBC Center

Birds of Avalon and Lonnie Walker @ Kings

27: Royal Comedy Tour @ RBC Center

As I Lay Dying @ Lincoln Theater

Mar 1: Hurricanes vs. Panthers @ RBC Center

Marnie Stern and Tera Melos @ Kings

2: Leon Russell @ Lincoln Theater

3-4: Future Islands @ Kings

3: Hurricanes vs. Sabres @ RBC Center

4-5: Pink Martini @ Meymandi Concert Hall

4: First Friday @ Downtown

5-6: Carolina Ballet's The Ugly Duckling @ Fletcher Auditorium

5: Harlem Globetrotters @ RBC Center

Redress Raleigh Benefit Show with I Was Totally Destroying It and Bright

Young Things @ Kings

6: NC State vs. Florida State @ RBC Center

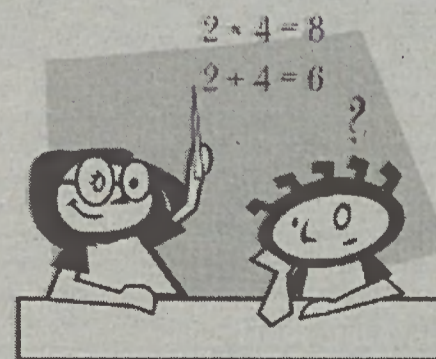
Ty Segall @ Kings

9: Hurricanes vs. Thrashers @ RBC Center

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