

CAMPUS LIFE

Ensemble Theatre Performs Sondheim

Avery Dubuque, contributing writer

Beginning last night and continuing through February 16, Meredith Ensemble Theatre is performing the Stephen Sondheim classic, *A Little Night Music*. The musical will be held every night at 8pm and with an additional 3pm matinee on Saturday. The musical is directed by Cathy Rodgers and designed by Lex Van Blommestein for set, LeGrande Smith for costumes, Brian Hunt for sound, Jim Frick for lighting, music directed by Dr. Jim Waddelow, choreographed by Cindy Hoban and accompanied by Dr. Kent Lyman.

In addressing the plot of *A Little Night Music* -- Fredrik Egerman (played by Jon Skinner)

is very happy, for the most part, in his marriage to a seventeen-year-old child, Anne (Rose Turchi). Being a bit restless from the lack of activity in the bedroom, Fredrik goes to see an old flame, the famous actress Desiree Armfeldt (Meredith Davis). Desiree is getting tired of her life and is thinking of settling down, and sets her sights on Fredrik, despite his marriage, and her own married lover, Count Carl-Magnus (John Adams). She gets her mother (alum Stacey Whitley)

to invite the Egermans to her country estate for the weekend, but when Carl-Magnus and his wife Charlotte (Kat Myers) appear, too, things begin to get farcical. Rounding out the cast

are Taylor Pearce, Karyn Raynor, Elaina Mittleman, Mary Beth Cameron, Haley Attix, Brent Blakesley, Brent Simpson, Teia Coley, and Katy Koop.

When asked about her work with the musical, director Cathy Rodgers explained, "This is definitely the most challenging musical we have done since 1999 with *Sunday in the Park with George*. This musical is very smart and sophisticated with a beautiful score. The cast has been wonderful and worked very hard every night for

a month and rehearsing every day. I've been very proud of the Meredith students because after the first few rehearsals that one of the men in the cast posted on Facebook that he would have to step up in his game to reach the high standard and work ethic that Meredith students have put up."

The show is free to Meredith students, faculty, and staff. Reservations may be made by calling 919-760-2840 or emailing boxoffice@meredith.edu.



Meredith Juniors Meredith Davis, as Desiree, and Jon Skinner, as Fredrik
Image via Cathy Rodgers

Ethics Bowl Team Performs Well in NCICU Competition

Marlena Brown, contributing writer

Meredith College's Ethics Bowl team competed last weekend in the 2nd Annual NCICU Ethics Bowl, held at Campbell University Law School in downtown Raleigh. The team won all four of their competing rounds, coming in third overall in the competition behind Wake Forest University and Methodist University. This year the students who made up our competition team were Roxanne McPherson '16, Marlena Brown '15, Ashley Hall '15, Alissa Jording '15, Sydney Maxwell '15, Mollie Schrull '14, Amy Hruby '13 and Mary Rawls '14. Leading the Meredith Ethics Bowl Team were Dr. Steven Benko and Cheryl Jenkins. Throughout the competition the students debated ethical dilemmas with other university teams to see who could best address the pertinent morally relevant factors. This year's theme was "Ethics in Communication."

At the end of the first day, Mollie Schrull, a Meredith team participant had a few remarks to make on the team's early victories: "We started on a positive note by winning both rounds. We increased our confidence, recognizing our full potential as a team, and learned a lot that will help us through tomorrow." Unique Staggers from Shaw University also had positive commentary on her team's performance and the competition overall, saying, "Undergraduate students having the opportunity to see business ethics in action is fascinating and invaluable to the college experience." A

students from Johnson C. College then seconded her opinion: "This process goes a long way in sharpening skills when evaluating business ethics and reality," explained Lerato Montag, "It is really invaluable to use later in real life experiences."

The NCICU (North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities) Ethics Bowl began in February 2012 as an initiative to foster growth and scholarship amongst independent universities in North Carolina. The competition has since become an annual event where colleges in North Carolina come together for ethical debates on various case issues pertaining to real-world ethical dilemmas. During its first year, the following colleges participated: Campbell University, Gardner-Webb University, High Point University, Livingstone College, Mars Hill College, Meredith College, Methodist University, Montreat College, Mount Olive College, St. Andrews University, Salem College, Shaw University, Wake Forest University and Wingate University.

We ran out of space to post the campus election results in this week's issue! Check our Facebook page for the complete list: facebook.com/meredithherald

DIALOGICS

In an effort to help better translate the relevance of the liberal arts, this year the Herald staff is conducting faculty interviews across campus. Focusing on the humanities in the fall and the sciences in the spring, we hope to establish a dialogue between faculty and students that illustrates how knowledge in all fields is useful in the "real world." Our goal is to foster an interdisciplinary dialogics that puts all aspects of a liberal arts education in dialogue, continually informing and influencing each other.

This installment in the series is an interview with Dr. Barrett Koster by Sarah Haseeb.

-Amy Hruby, Editor in Chief

Q: What is your computer background?

A: I have extensive experience with computers, math and science. I

started doing math when I was 2, and science not long after. Even by middle school I was clearly THE math and science geek. I started programming in the 8th grade (41 years ago) and made a few games in high school. In college I programmed simulations for physics, economics and my major, engineering. After college I worked 2 years as a programmer/analyst at a large computer maker. I also bought my first computer, an Apple II, and I programmed fractals and walking bass and all sorts of things. I went to grad school at Duke for a Master's degree in CS and got my PhD in CS at NCSU in 1995. I am teaching at my 3rd college since then. Meanwhile I have run the schools' computer labs. I have taught 22 different courses so far, covering programming, networking, operating systems, graphics, theory, hardware, ethics and software engineering. I am also working on several research programs. I have written at least one commercial website.

Q: What got you interested in this field?

A: I love to figure out how things work, and I love to make things. The computer is the ultimate fabric, capable of creating just about anything. When I was 13 my dad brought home from work a small hand-held computer (HP-400) and I would stay up all night programming it. I learned logic and process as a native language.

Q: What is your favorite computer company?

A: Apple has long been my favorite. I am on my 6th Mac, not counting ones for work. Mac's excel at function and aesthetics. It astounds me that Macs are still considered odd, but they are catching up. Macs are the current standard in most CS teaching. I could worry that as it gets big, Apple could become arrogant and greedy like Microsoft. But I'm not a worrier.

Q: In what ways do you think technol-

ogy is good for us?

A: Technology is allowing solutions to problems that were not possible even 10 years ago. It brings a form of democracy to the masses that anyone can publish, organize, criticize, and do business. We are much more productive (overall) with technology.

Q: In what ways do you think technology is bad for us?

A: Technology brings any number of possible pitfalls. We have the potential to entertain ourselves to death, watch TV or plays games and never produce anything. It's a new avenue for theft, bullying, sabotage, election fraud and other problems. It produces toxins and waste and user weirdness we never knew could exist. It also can make use lazy -- we are not used to pounding on a problem the way we used to. And before too long robots will put everyone out of a job and we'll need a new paradigm of how to earn your keep or else we will all starve.