

Meredith Theatre Department's Production of *Roe*

By Cecilia Thompson, Contributing Writer

This fall, Meredith College's Department of Theatre invites you to see *Roe*, running Sept. 28 through Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 1 and 2 at 2:00 p.m. An important reminder of how the fight for abortion rights began, "*Roe* tells the story of how Sarah Weddington came to argue the case [of *Roe v. Wade*] at the age of 26, how Norma McCorvey (*Roe*) became involved and what transpired in both their lives after the landmark ruling," Director Lormarev Jones explained. "The story is told from the perspective of these two women from very different backgrounds whose lives intersect at a flashpoint moment and then are forever intertwined."

McCorvey was twenty-two years old when she discovered she was pregnant for a second time. She was unmarried at the time with no stable income and

no support system. She wanted to terminate the pregnancy, but she lived in Texas where abortions were prohibited unless they were to save the mother's life. She went to two unlikely Dallas attorneys, Linda Coffee and Sarah Weddington, recent graduates of the University of Texas Law School, who were looking for a case to challenge the law.

Weddington didn't seem like the right person to argue this case. She was the daughter of a Methodist minister and headed her highschool chapter of the Future Homemakers of America. Despite having had an abortion herself, she hadn't planned to join the movement for abortion rights. She only began to look into the Texan law related to it when a few of her college friends, who would refer expecting women to doctors willing to perform abortions,

asked her if they were considered accomplices. That question piqued her interest, and she began looking into Texan law regarding abortion. Her research led her to Linda Coffee, and the rest is history.

As of June 2022, the right to have an abortion in the United States is no longer guaranteed. When the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, women, men and those who don't fit into gender binaries mourned its loss nationwide. This monumental decision serves as an important reminder of why *Roe* is important for students to go see.

Despite the grave historical context of the play, it offers a safe place to contemplate the rights that were established and the rights that have been lost. Jones hopes to facilitate more healthy and civil conversations about it. "[*Roe*] will always be relevant to

anyone who has a uterus, regardless of where they fall on the issue," Jones stated. "It is also irrelevant to anyone queer, in an interracial relationship or anyone who utilizes birth control... The Dobbs ruling affects so much more than reproductive health."

Many of our rights hang in balance due to the Right of Privacy Statute. But despite the feeling of hopelessness many feel when thinking about the Dobbs decision, there is still hope. There is always hope. That's what *Roe* represents.



Photo by Kayla Dunn

Best Thrift Stores Near Meredith

By Abigail Ruehle, Contributing Writer

Sustainable and ethical fashion is growing more and more important. In my experience, the best way to boycott the fast fashion industry without spending a fortune on American-made clothes is to shop secondhand.

#1 Plato's Closet

Number one on the list is Plato's Closet, located in the Crossroads shopping center in Cary. It's about 10 minutes away from campus and always has great deals and quality clothes. Plato's Closet buys clothes and jewelry directly from people in the community, which could be an easy way to make some money. They're open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Satur-

day and from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

#2 Cause for Paws

Cause for Paws is located on S. Saunders Street about 10 minutes away from Meredith. In addition to affordable clothing and other items, they also have cats in the store that you can play with and even adopt! They're open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

#3 Thrift2Gift

Thrift2Gift is a Christian thrift store about five minutes away from Meredith. What makes this thrift store unique is that they have

prayer cards that you can write a prayer on, along with free bibles that are given to every customer. Thrift2Gift also supports a variety of charities and ministries in the community. They're open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

#4 Uptown Cheapskate

Uptown Cheapskate buys and sells clothes from local people, so they're directly putting money back into the community. They are located less than five minutes away. Students without cars can also use the Wolfline to check it out. You can also make some quick money by selling clothes there, but Uptown Cheap-

skate is picky about what they'll take.

#5 Guardian Angel Thrift

Guardian Angel Thrift is a store with great finds, great deals, a friendly atmosphere and a good range of sizes for everyone. The only reason I ranked this store lower on the list is because the two locations are over 20 minutes away from campus. They're usually open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. I would recommend checking it out especially if you can drive or are a commuter.

Read the full article on our website.

Meredith Dance Students Work with the American Dance Festival

By Evelyn Summers, Senior Copy Editor

The American Dance Festival (ADF) is an internationally known program in the Triangle that seeks to promote modern dance through educational programs and performances. The ADF hosts summer dance courses, including the Summer Dance Intensive and Dance Professional Workshops. Two Meredith Dance students attended the Summer Dance Intensive in Durham this year. *The Herald* spoke to Madelyn James, Class of 2023, and Anabel Ines Lopez, Class of 2022, to touch on their experiences working with ADF.

James began this summer by working as a Production Apprentice. Over the two-month intensive, James explained, "I

was able to advance from an apprentice to an intern and work in Duke University's theaters." James is now working with the ADF production team on their fall performances that will be held at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA).

When asked about her experience working with the production team during the festival, James replied, "I was a part of the amazing eleven-person production crew that was putting together all of the performance concerts that the festival students were seeing and were a part of." James also said, "Throughout this summer, I was able to gain knowledge and have hands-on experiences that bettered me as a human,

dancer and stage technician." James strongly recommends this program for any Meredith student: "If you have the opportunity to ever attend an ADF performance or their annual summer festival intensive, I encourage you to do so. It is no less than life-changing."

Lopez was a full-time student at ADF. "I took technique classes where we focused on building a unique jazz ethos and supporting each artist's individual practice," Lopez explained. "I was also cast to be in Monique Haley's repertory piece, which consisted of learning choreography and performing that piece for the community."

For both Lopez and James, dance is an essential and vulner-

able mode of creative expression. "[Dance] simply makes me feel good," James said. "Dance is such a vulnerable art form, and having the facilities to create and perform the movement is a blessing that I cherish every day." Lopez said that dance allows her to "learn something new about [herself]." Lopez also wants to find her own "authentic expressions" through dance.

Lopez shared that working with ADF was a fantastic experience and that she was able to "grow as an artist and expand [her] connections." Lopez concluded, "I am so thankful for being able to experience the American Dance Festival. It has made me a better dancer and a better person."