



May 13, 2009
Montreat, NC 28757

The Whetstone

Montreat College's Student Voice

"Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten"

Amy Lauren Scoggin

I laughed, I cried, I reconsidered the meaning of life, love, and joy. "Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" moved me and the other audience members in ways I'm sure most of us never expected when we walked into Gaither Chapel on that fateful Saturday night. From the truly excellent acting and direction, to the moving story line and the inventive and beautiful music, the entire production was truly a feast for theatre fans and newcomers alike.

The piece consisted of multiple scenes of heart-warming delight,



including a fantastically hilarious "song" called "Uh-oh!" in which the cast, in choir robes,

rhythmically chanted the random "oops", "yikes", and "uh-oh's" that accompany life. This scene brought a lot of laughter from the crowd, myself included.

Continuing with the theme of Kindergarten hilarity, the well-arranged ensemble of characters offered what I found to be the most amusing scene, involving the portrayal of the play "Cinderella." In the scene,

one child who stands out from the rest learns what it means to be yourself, and to live life to the fullest without fear of judgment or repercussions. The performance by Chad Britts in this scene was especially funny and heartwarming, and his commitment to the part was apparent, as he demonstrated a hilarious amount of gymnastic ability, leaping and jumping around the stage in a particular moment

of theatrical wonder.

While each scene was moving and wonderful, the more serious and somber scenes were especially well acted and directed. During one scene I remember espe-



cially well, actor Stephanie Routh portrayed a woman fully devoted to her Alzheimer's-ridden husband played by Jordan Karr. She shared her story of caring and struggle with a sense of joy and love that pulled on the heartstrings of even this hard-nosed critic. The entire cast worked together to make scenes like that bring tears to many a viewer's eye, and warmth to our hearts.

The final scene of the

play was, in my opinion, the most masterful. Each actor came together to bring the existence of God and our place in this world to light in the simplest of ways. With absolute commitment

to their roles, the ensemble captivated this viewer, causing me to leave asking my own questions and feeling a renewed sense of appreciation for God, the little

things, and everything my teacher, Miss Leonard, taught me in Kindergarten.

The truth is, the play's title is accurate. We do learn so many basic essentials to life in those first years of school, interacting with each other in the most basic ways. Learning to share, no hitting, always tell the truth. These things carry us through to our final years, and instill in us the basic moral prin-

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ciples of life. If nothing else, "Everything I Need To Know I Learned in Kindergarten" taught me this: Miss Leonard deserves a hug the next time I see her, because she's the reason I know that it's okay to make a mistake as long as you fix it, that you won't die if you swallow a watermelon seed, and corn is for eating, not shoving into boys' noses.



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13

Cast:	Crew:
Artie Adkins	Savanna Biggs
Chad Britts	Caitlin DeBoer
Ashley Craig	Spencer Dobrolski
Krystal Jones	Amanda King
Jordan Karr	Cami Routh
Stephanie Routh	
Megan Russ	
Nathan Adams	
Buck Hinman	Directed by Callan White-Hinman