

Through
THE
Looking
Glass

The NEW BERN

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It will be a happy homecoming for James (Jimmy) Meredith, when he is presented in concert at the New Bern Golf and Country Club on Monday evening, Sept. 26, sponsored by New Bern's St. Cecilia Music Club.

The young pianist, a rising senior at the University of North Carolina, lives in Chapel Hill now with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Meredith, but is a New Bern High school graduate.

He is pleasantly remembered here as an easy going, soft spoken teenager who displayed none of the temperament that musicians are accused of. Aside from exceptional talent in his chosen field, he was outstanding as a scholar.

Jimmy was hardly a child prodigy. The truth of the matter is he didn't start his study of the piano until he was an eighth grader in Junior High. Once the urge struck him, however, he made rapid progress under the tutelage of Nara Snornieks, who was his instructor for six years.

By the time he reached High school, he had become so proficient that Donald Smith singled him out as the accompanist for the a capella choir. Despite limited training at that point in his budding career, the constantly smiling youngster handled the assignment with ease.

While in New Bern, he served as organist for the Lutheran Church for three years. An Episcopalian, he used to rush down to Sunday school at Christ church, and then back to the Lutheran church in time to take over at the console there.

Deadlines and crowded schedules never seemed to worry him. Somehow he found time to devote a great deal of time and effort to North Carolina Music Federation work, and proved he was a born leader.

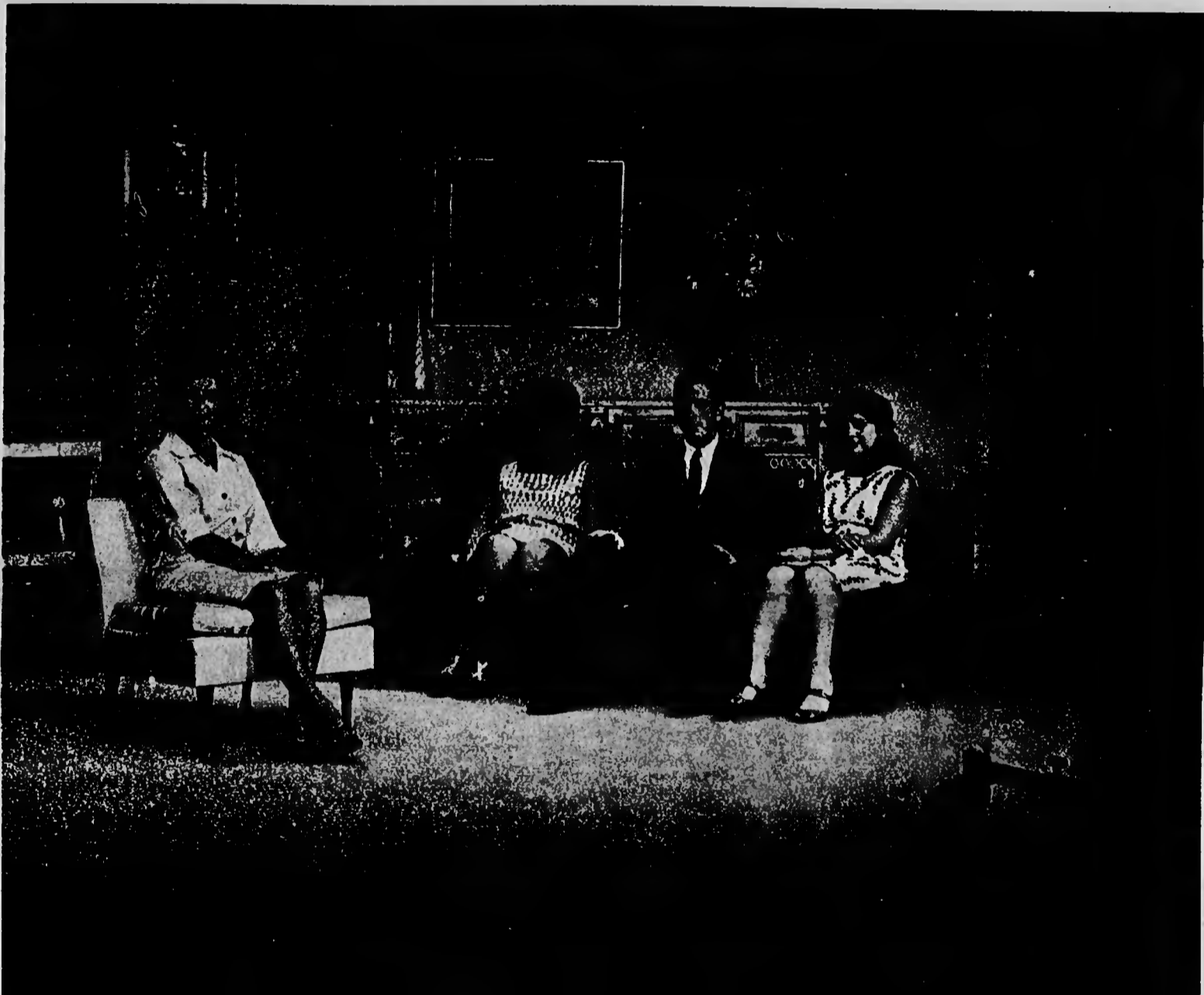
In quick succession he became president of the West New Bern Junior Music Club, the Southeastern Junior Music Club for two years, and finally president of the State Junior Music Club. He presided at the State Convention in Statesville, and for three or four years was District "King" of Music in the annual competition for that title conducted by the Federation of Music Clubs.

As a New Bern High school freshman, he was runner-up for the State "King" of Music crown. While attending NBHS, he performed for State Junior Music Federation conventions at NagsHead, Asheville, Statesville and New Bern.

For five years he played for District Festivals for the Federation of Music Clubs, competed in High school piano contests, and received Superior plus ratings annually in Guild auditions. Nara Snornieks presented him in Senior Recital before he graduated from New Bern High.

At the University of North Carolina, young Meredith holds a Blanchard Academic Scholarship in the Bachelor of Arts program, and studies piano with Dr. William Newman.

He has remained active in Music Federation work, is State Student President, and
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SMALL WORLD—When these three youngsters appeared on Jo Ann Frank's popular WNBE-TV program, Open House, thousands of Eastern Carolina viewers heard an interesting story. Just a year ago, when Nelson McDaniel enrolled with 30 other selected UNC students at the University of Lyon, these two French girls, Genevieve Weltert, left, and Helene Perroud, right, befriended him and he was entertained frequently in their homes. During the intervening months they became interested in coming to America to continue their own studies, and arrived early enough to visit Nelson and his family for several days before heading for the University of North Carolina and Oberlin College in Ohio respectively. Genevieve, 19, will be an observer at UNC, and hopes during her year's stay in Chapel Hill to perfect her English, which isn't bad now. Helene, 22, is so youthful looking she could pass for 14 or 15. It surprises everyone to learn that she is a Fulbright Scholar, and will teach French to undergraduates and post graduates at

Oberlin while studying American literature. She dances well (her specialty is the Charleston) and can do an imitation of Donald Duck (vocally and visibly) that is fantastic. Genevieve skis often in the French Alps, and didn't have a moment's trouble becoming proficient on water skis the first time she tried skimming for miles on the Trent. Both girls were delighted with the warmth of the ocean along Atlantic Beach, compared with the surf they are used to back home. Still loyal to the famed dishes of their native land, they are enthusiastic about American hamburgers. Genevieve found collards delightful, and Helene was intrigued by the hush nuppies served with seafood. They said that the hospitality shown them by Southerners surpassed anything they had ever encountered at home or abroad. Incidentally, Genevieve has already learned to sing "Hark The Sound of Tarnel Voices" as perfectly as any Carolina student possibly could.—Photo by Ted Carey.