The JSU Department of Drama is pleased to announce the roster of plays for the 2005-2006 theatre season.

Opening the season on October 20th will be the comedy, *ARMS AND THE MAN*, by George Bernard Shaw. Following in November will be Carson McCullers’ drama, *THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING*.

The season’s musical will feature the music and lyrics of two of America’s greatest composers, George Gershwin and his brother Ira Gershwin. The story for this delightful show is by Ken Ludwig, another great comedic writer. The show, *CRAZY FOR YOU*, will open on February 16th.

The winner of the 2005 Southern Playwright’s Competition will premiere May 18th. The play is *WAS*, written by Barry Bradford.

Rounding out the season is a new comedic farce, *THE CURSE OF THE PORCUPINE’S EAR*, by our very own Wayne H. Claeren which will open on June 22nd.

Season brochures are being printed now and will be in the mail soon.

Call 782-5648
To Order Your Season Passes Now!

JSU Drama suffered a tragic loss on July 4th. Junior Drama major, Brian J. Roberson, Jr., drowned at a family outing at Smith Lake.

Brian had appeared in the mainstage JSU Drama productions of *You Can’t Take It With You* (fall 2003), *West Side Story* (spring 2004), *As You Like It* (fall 2004), and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (spring 2005).

Brian was a bright young man who had been awarded drama scholarships since entering JSU as a freshman in 2003. The junior level academic scholarship award has been named in his memory. Contributions to this fund may be made in his name to the Drama Department’s Theatre Angel Fund through the JSU Foundation/Institutional Development Office, 700 Pelham Rd N, Jacksonville, AL 36265.

Visitation was held at Riverchase Presbyterian in Birmingham on July 6th from 5-7 p.m. Services were held on the 7th at the church.

Brian will be much missed by students, faculty, and staff of the drama department and the JSU Community.

Photo by Freddy Clements
This year’s Alphie Award ceremony was held on April 17th at Remington Hall at McClellan. Awards were made to the following actors and technicians for their contributions to the 2004-2005 JSU Theatre season. Both students and faculty were able to place their votes for the awards.

The award for Best Student Costume Design went to Teri Ulm for *Towards Zero*; Best Student Set Design was presented to Amanda Kirker Elkin for *Towards Zero*; Best Student Light Design went to Wil Robinson for his design for the productions of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *The Venetian Way*. Best Overall Costume Technician was awarded to Dustin Stilwell; Best Overall Scenic Technician was presented to Daryl Pauley; and Best Properties went to Stephen Williams for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Lindsay Jacks was awarded the Alphie for Best Stage Manager for her work on the productions of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *As You Like It*.

The award for Best Male Cameo went to Andy Cayse for his role in *As You Like It*. Best Female Cameo was awarded to Ashley McDonald for her role in *Towards Zero*. The Most Improved Actor Award was received by Jason Skinner and the Most Improved Actress Award was received by Lora Roberts.

Best Supporting Actor in a non-musical role went Ben Whitehead for *As You Like It*. Best Supporting Actress was presented to Amanda Kirker Elkin, also for *As You Like It*. Best Actor in a non-musical role went to Stephen Williams for his work in *A Doll’s House*. And, Best Actress in a non-musical role went to Jessica Sanborn for her work in *As You Like It*.

Acting awards for the musical, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* were: Best Supporting Actor, Jason Skinner; Best Supporting Actress, Heather Norton; Best Actor, Russell Reeps; and Best Actress, Judy Holt.

This year’s Blue and Gold award, which is always decided strictly by student vote, was presented to Alpha Psi President, Casey Campbell.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented posthumously to long-time JSU Theatre supporter, Paulene Murray.

This year’s award for Patron of the Arts was presented to Dr. and Mrs. William A. Meehan.

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### SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Three outstanding drama students were awarded academic scholarships for the Fall 2005 term. Amy Richter received the Janet LeFevre academic award for outstanding senior. Russell Reeps received the Brian Roberson academic award, and Dustin Stilwell received the Gene Ericson academic award. Incoming and transfer students receiving scholarships are: Amanda O’Hern, Gatlin Alldredge, Ronnie Gordon, James Ebert, Eden Riddlespur, Lura Logan, Beth Stanford, and Leesa Tucker.

The department is pleased to have been able to make these awards as well as to award scholarships to 20 other majors.

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### JSU STUDENTS HIT THE BOARDS

JSU Drama students and graduates are “hitting the boards” across the nation in regional theatres and outdoor festivals.

Trey Butler, Jason Skinner and Joe Carter joined graduate Cris Morrise in Chillicothe, Ohio for *TECUMSEH*. Dustin Stilwell is working with *Heritage* in Charlotteville, Virginia. Sandy Knight and Josh Mayfield are with *Brevard Music* in Brevard, North Carolina.

Stephen Williams will be joining the *Pennsylvania Renaissance Festival* later in the summer and will be returning to JSU in the Spring of 2006. Jessica Sanborn is appearing in productions with *Theatre West Virginia* and will be working with graduate, Candice Carter. Technician, Daryl Pauley, is working with *Forrestburg Playhouse* in New York. Scott Merrill and graduate, Sharon McCoy Morgan, are both in costume with the *Utah Shakespeare Festival*.

Lindsay Jacks, graduate, has just accepted a stage manager apprenticeship with the *Orlando Shakespeare Festival*. She will be leaving soon to begin her work there in September.

Casey Campbell will be heading to Newport, Kentucky in September to begin work with the Shadowbox Cabaret.

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO SPRING 2005 GRADUATES

_Lindsay Jacks, Magna Cum Laude and honors_  
_And_  
_JonathanAaron Thomas_
Where are they?

We continue our column on graduates of the program. We’re glad you like to keep up with them too! For a complete listing of these and many others, please check out our web site at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/drama/alumni.html

Jose Alba (‘99) let us know that his film The Call of the River (Panaghay sa Saba) won seven major awards at the Manila Film Festival: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Supporting Actress, Best Screenplay, Best Musical Score, and Best Song. As if that wasn’t exciting enough, his movie was an official selection to Cannes Film Festival in May under the category, Cinema of the World. Another movie, Another Deep Breath, is still in pre-production. After shooting this film, Jose will be directing Hiwaga (mystery). Jose’s info may also be found at www.lafilm.com.

Jessica Duke-Cantu (‘00) and her husband, James, are now located in central New York. They moved to Auburn in the Fall of 2002 to tour on the Merry-Go-Round Youth Theatre’s educational tour. They have since bought a house and have each acted in several shows in the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse. James was promoted to Company Manager and Jessica is now the Box Office Manager.

Candice Carter (‘03) recently Stage Managed Hedwig and the Angry Inch with Virginia Stage Company where she has been working as the Education Stage Manager (her 2nd season). She stage managed two tour shows The Garden of Rikki Tikki Tavi and Danny, King of the Basement; Goodly Creatures (VSC) and Assistant Stage Managed The Christmas Carol and Treasure Island. She has an internship with the Majestic Theatre for Stage Management in NYC where Phantom is currently running. She will return to Virginia Stage Company as the Education Associate in the fall.

Stephanie Crossman (Cum Laude & Honors ’00) is working for a CPA firm in Tacoma, WA. When we last heard from Stephanie, she was planning a July 24th wedding to Jerod Nace. Her recent theatre work includes playing Sister Mary Leo in Nunsense for six weeks in February and March at the Auburn Avenue Dinner Theatre. She has since gone on to play Sister Mary Leo in Nunsense II for an additional four weeks.

Joe Fuselli (‘03) just completed another semester with the Actor’s Studio. According to him, it may be the last. Recently, the New School University chose not to renew their contract with the Actors’ Studio. So, he’s not sure what’s happening there yet. On the happy front, he is working with the Brooklyn Playwrights again where he is starring in an original piece called Dreams ‘n’ Dust. It is his second opportunity to work with Will Cordero, an extremely promising new writer. He plays a recently fired college professor who struggles with marriage to a smothering wife.

Michelle Johnson, (‘02) just finished a yearlong tour with Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh on Stage. She has been working as Assistant Stage Manager as well as Props Assistant. The show toured New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, Singapore, Europe and the United Kingdom. She will continue another year with the show as it does a United States, Mexican, and Canadian tour followed by a three month tour of Japan.

Sharon McCoy-Morgan (‘03) is completing her third year at Utah Shakespeare Festival. This year she will be Senior Costume Technician and will get to apprentice first hand this summer and again in the fall. She recently designed the costumes for Lunatics and Lovers for the JSU Music Department. She just finished draping two Kennesaw State operas The Old Maid and the Thief and Gianni Schicchi. Her corset business is booming. You may visit Sharon’s web-site business, Altered Tyme Corsets at www.altered-tyme.com

Chris Mueller (‘03) has “closed” his kiltmaking business to pursue graduate school. He has been accepted to Virginia Commonwealth University’s Graduate program for Costume Design and will begin classes soon. He is currently completing his second season with Alabama Shakespeare Festival as a costume crafts assistant.

Phil Pyle (‘93) is still in LA working at Sony Pictures. He recently landed a role in the Odyssey Theatre/Circus Theatricals co-production of The Misanthrope. He also completed a Shakespeare Workshop hosted by the brilliant Alfred Molina, a member of Circus Theatricals, who comes in every few years to teach the workshop. He also says that the “droll guy from the Geico commercials” is also in the group. (www.circustheatricals.com for further information).

Jeff Roper (‘03) is now preparing to begin teaching at Paulding County High School in Dallas, Georgia. He will teach three blocks of Drama: beginning, intermediate, and advanced, and one block of 11th grade English.

Todd Shumpert (‘93) marks his seventh year in ordained ministry. For the past three of those years he has served as College Chaplain for Bloomfield College in Bloomfield, New Jersey. (www.bloomfield.edu). He says, “It’s great to be back in a college atmosphere again where there is so much energy and discovery…” and, in my case, only 12 miles from Broadway and New York City!” He tells us that the college has recently launched its first campus radio station and that he is in discussions with “the powers that be” about the possibility of creating a student radio theatre group here.

Jayme Thomas (‘01 Magna Cum Laude) is still located in Louisville, Kentucky where she works for Humana Insurance. She recently performed as Ysabel in Louisville Repertory Theatre’s production of Killing the Coyote and has done extra work on East Lane Picture’s How You Look to Me.

Micheal Waid (‘01) is just finishing up his first year in grad school at the University of Alabama where he is working on an MFA in costume design. He designed his first show as a grad student in January called THE HYPochondriac, a musical adaptation of Moliere’s THE IMAGINARY INVALID. He is spending his summer working in Mesa, Arizona.

Jeremy West (‘03) is still in Staunton, Virginia where he continues to work at the Blackfriars in Staunton, Virginia. He recently let us know that he is engaged to a wonderful young woman, Phoebe Schweizer. He also informs us that they plan to “spend the rest of our lives never growing up together.”

...’til next time
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THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING
November 17-20

CRAZY FOR YOU
February 16-19 & 23-26, 2006

WAS
May 18-21

THE CURSE OF THE PORCUPINE’S EAR
June 22-25

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