

MONTHLY REPORT
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1993

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT OF RELEASE</u>	<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>
9-8-93	Mystery Writer's Symposium	91
9-8-93	Poet Alan Shapiro	67
9-10-93	Player Family Makes \$100,000 Gift	56
9-21-93	Play - A Midsummer Night's Dream	62



5400 Ramsey Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28311-1420
Phone (919) 630-7042; FAX (919) 630-7119

PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bill Billings

September 10, 1993

Public Relations Director

METHODIST COLLEGE TO HONOR MYSTERY WRITERS McCRUMB AND MARON

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Mystery writers Sharyn McCrumb and Margaret Maron will be honored at Methodist College's 11th Southern Writer's Symposium October 22-23. Both authors will be present to hear their works discussed and to see them dramatized.

"These women are both excellent writers and they have the awards to prove it," noted Dr. Sue Kimball, professor of English at Methodist and symposium director.

Margaret Maron lives in Willow Springs, NC in Johnston County. Her novel *Bootlegger's Daughter*, featuring the colorful character Deborah Knott, won the Edger Allan Poe Award as Best Novel of 1992 and the Agatha Award for Best Traditional Mystery Novel of 1992. She attended UNC-G and UNC-Chapel Hill.

The author of ten mystery novels and numerous short stories, Mrs. Maron has written a sequel to *Bootlegger's Daughter* entitled *Southern Discomfort*. Seven of her earlier mysteries were set in New York and featured NYPD Lt. Sigrid Harald.

Sharyn McCrumb is a North Carolina native now living in Shawsville, VA. She is a member of the Appalachian Studies faculty at Virginia Tech and holds degrees from UNC-Chapel Hill and Virginia Tech. Her *Bimbos of the Death Sun* won the Edger Award for Best Paperback Mystery in 1988. *If Ever I Return Peggy-O* won the Macavity for Best Novel in 1990. Her short story "A Wee Doch & Doris" won the Agatha Award for Best Short Story in 1990. *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter* was the New York Times Notable Book of the Year in 1992.

Sixteen mystery fans are slated to present papers about the works of Mrs. Maron and Mrs. McCrumb at the two-day symposium. Elizabeth Daniels Squire, president-elect of the North Carolina Writers, will give a luncheon address Saturday entitled "How Margaret and Sharyn Have Helped Other Mystery Writers."

—More—

The Cape Fear Regional Theatre will present stage adaptations of Sharyn McCrumb's novel *MacPherson's Lament* and Margaret Maron's short story "Fruitcake, Mercy, and Blackeyed Peas" at 8 p.m. Saturday night and 2 p.m. Sunday at the CFRT Theater in Haymount.

"A Bus Trip to Murder" (limited to 27 persons) will take patrons to the scenes of local murders Friday and Saturday evenings. Paul Wilson will serve as narrator, giving synopses of cases furnished by Pat Reese, reporter for the *Fayetteville Observer-Times*.

There is a \$25 registration fee for the symposium; meals, the bus trip, and the stage performances are separately priced. For registration forms or additional information, contact Dr. Sue Kimball at 630-7025 or Mrs. Lynda Beard at 630-7032.

Date 9/8/93

Methodist College News Bureau

91

Topic Mystery Writers' Symposium

630-7043

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 1993

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Bill Billings

Public Relations Director

PLAYER FAMILY MAKES \$100,000 GIFT TO METHODIST COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The family of Richard L. Player, Sr. has pledged \$100,000 to Methodist College for construction of the Richard L. Player, Sr. Golf and Tennis Learning Center.

The new building will honor one of Fayetteville's pioneer real estate developers and one of its finest golfers.

"My dad never went to college," noted Richard Player, Jr., "but he was valedictorian of his high school class and built a very successful business. He has always been an avid golfer and sports fan, so we feel it's very appropriate to honor him in this way."

"The Player family has been very supportive of Methodist College since its inception," noted Dr. Elton Hendricks, college president. "We are deeply indebted to Dick and Margaret Ann and their children Molly and Richard, III for this generous gift."

Mr. Player founded Player Realty and Construction Co. in 1938, co-founded Highland Country Club in 1945, and helped organize the Fayetteville Quarterback Club (in support of Fayetteville H.S.) and the Fayetteville Highlanders Baseball Club. When Richard, Jr. attended Duke University in the 1950's, Mr. Player became an ardent Blue Devil fan as well.

"I began playing golf in my teens, on a municipal course in Wilmington," said Mr. Player. "I later joined Cape Fear Country Club. When my family moved to Fayetteville, the only golf course in existence was Fayetteville Country Club, a nine-hole course later known as Green Valley. My friends and I had to drive to Pinehurst to play an 18-hole course."

Mr. Player said he was a three handicapper who generally shot in the 70's or 80's. Although he has not played golf in about 10 years, he still remembers the foursomes he was part of at Highland Country Club. "I enjoyed the fellowship--the talking and joking," he said.

Mr. Player also said "I am proud and touched that my family has chosen to honor me in this fashion.

—More—

Methodist College is a wonderful asset. The golf and tennis program associated with their business school is exciting. Business development and sports have been important to my life.”

The Richard L. Player, Sr. Golf and Tennis Learning Center is still in the planning stages, but the college’s board of visitors launched a capital fund drive for the building in the spring. Approximately \$150,000 has been raised toward an estimated cost of \$500,000. The projected completion date is summer, 1994.

The new building will be located near the college golf course and tennis complex. It will house the professional golf and tennis management staff and will contain classrooms and professional shops. Methodist’s business administration programs, with concentrations in professional golf or tennis management, have a current enrollment of 160 students, and are growing rapidly. The new building will enable these programs to serve 300 students by the year 2000.

Date 1/10/93

Methodist College News Bureau

Topic Plager Family Makes \$100,000 Gift

630-7043

56

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7:30pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bill Billings

September 10, 1993

Public Relations Director

SHAPIRO TO READ POETRY AT METHODIST COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Alan Shapiro, the author of four collections of poetry, will give a public reading of his works Friday, October 29 in Methodist College's Hensdale Chapel. Admission is free.

Mr. Shapiro is currently professor of English and creative writing at UNC-Greensboro. He is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation and his third book, *Happy Hour*, received the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America.

Mr. Shapiro's appearance is being underwritten through a grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund to the North Carolina Humanities Council. His reading will be followed by a brief reception and an informal discussion on the topic "The Relationship of Form and Content in Contemporary Poetry."

A native of Boston, Shapiro taught for 10 years at Northwestern University before moving to Chapel Hill in 1990. His fourth and most highly acclaimed book of poems is entitled *Covenant*.

Mr. Shapiro's poems cover a wide range of subjects and human emotions. "The Sweepers" deals with the fall of Carthage and also evokes images of the 20th century Holocaust. "Mud Dancing" describes his experience at Woodstock in 1969.

Alan Shapiro began writing poetry in his teens, after injuries kept him off the basketball court for an entire season. His earliest poems grew out of a state of depression. He entered Brandeis University with a basketball scholarship, but abandoned the sport and began to seriously study and write poetry. He holds a B.A. in English from Brandeis.

Date 7/8/93

Topic Poet Alan Shapiro

Methodist College News Bureau

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6A

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 1993

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Public Relations Director

**MONARCH PLAYMAKERS TO PRESENT 'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM' AT
METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—O'Hanlon Amphitheater at Methodist College will come alive with music, dance, and comedy October 7 - 10, as Monarch Playmakers present *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Set in a forest outside Athens, the Shakespearean comedy chronicles the misadventures of four lovestruck couples who are briefly mismatched through the errors of mischievous sprites.

One of the highlights of the play is a hilarious version of *Pyramus and Thisbe*—a play within the play—prepared by Athenian tradesmen for a wedding celebration at the court of Theseus, Duke of Athens.

The large cast includes college students, area youths, and well-known local actors Libby Seymour (*Titania*, Queen of the Forest) and Bob Bloodworth (Oberon, King of the Night). Dr. Jack Peyrouse is the director and Mr. Paul Wilson is set designer.

Performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, October 8 and Saturday, October 9 and 3 p.m. Sunday, October 10. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children and senior citizens.

^{School} Special matinees are slated for 9 a.m. and noon October 7 and 8 for an admission charge of \$1. Teachers who wish to bring classes must make reservations by calling 630-7483.

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Date Sept. 31, 1995

Methodist College News Bureau

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Topic Play - A Midsummer Night's Dream

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