

'Soldier's Tale' blends dance, music

■ **CONCERT:** Stravinsky's piece will bring together the schools of music and dance for the first time in years

By Laura Cadiz

Higher Education Editor

For the past month and a half, Jennifer Harmer has been learning how to act like a male.

During the performance of *The Soldier's Tale*, by Igor Stravinsky, Harmer will be playing the lead — a male soldier.

"It's been pretty crazy," said Harmer, a dance major.

The Soldier's Tale, directed by Brian McWhorter and choreographed by Angela Demmel, will be performed on Friday for one night only. For the first time in years, the Music School and the School of Dance will join together to perform this student production.

"No faculty member remembers a time that there was a big concert between the two schools," McWhorter said. "I felt there was a need to incorporate both of the artistic groups in the school."

The highlight of the production is the music director. Miguel Harth-Bedoya is the newly appointed music director and also the conductor of the Eugene Symphony, McWhorter said.

"He's been very, very famous," McWhorter said.

Stravinsky has described his piece as "a piece to be read, played and danced," McWhorter said.

McWhorter took those words to heart as he started to put the production together.

"I wanted to do it to perform the piece," he said. "It's a fantastic piece."

The cast consists of three actresses who also dance, one narrator and the 18th Street Chamber Ensemble.

Joining Harmer on the stage will be Steven Tristano as the part of the devil, Jackie Conrad as the princess and Jon Nagel as the narrator.

Harmer wasn't expecting to be cast as the soldier; she wasn't even planning on trying out for it.

"It was exciting, but I knew it would be really challenging," she said.

Since Harmer secured the part, she has had to learn how to lower her voice and dance with and lift Conrad.

"It's been difficult," she said. "But [Conrad] and I are both into sharing weight [while dancing and lifting]."

Having Harmer play the lead is not an attempt to make some kind of political statement, McWhorter said.

"She went through and auditioned and seemed to do the

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Brian McWhorter
Director

best job for the soldier," he said.

McWhorter described the performance as a dramatic piece showing the "battle between good and evil" as a soldier sells his soul to a devil after a two week leave from the Army.

Before the performance, Richard Trombley, associate professor for the School of Music, will give a lecture about the background of the piece.

"It should make it a complete product," McWhorter said. "It will let people know the history."

The performance will take place on Friday at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall. Tickets will go on sale at 6:45 p.m. Friday and are \$4 to \$7. Trombley's lecture will be at 7 p.m. in room 198 of the Music School.

Sports physician to talk about overtraining issues

■ **SPEECH:** P.Z. Pearce, a doctor with the U.S. Track and Field team, is making a visit sponsored by Gatorade

By Laura Cadiz

Higher Education Editor

Dr. P.Z. Pearce, former team physician for the Seattle Supersonics and the Seattle Seahawks, will give a presentation on the topic of overtraining on Friday.

Sponsored by Gatorade Sports Science Institute, Pearce will be the first speaker brought to campus by the Northwest American College of Sports Medicine (NWACSM).

"Gatorade does a lot of research of exercise performance," said John Mercer, NWACSM student representative and the person responsible for bringing Pearce to campus.

Mercer said he wanted to bring Pearce to campus to help uphold the mission statement of the NWACSM.

"Part of the mission statement of the NWACSM is to provide educational opportunities for members and the public ... to keep the message that exercise is important for health," Mercer said. "By bringing an outside speaker it helps with that message."

Pearce's speech will involve in-

formation about training programs and tips to avoid doing too much exercise.

"Part of the problem of exercise is that we tend to overdo it," Mercer said.

Pearce is currently a Family and Sports Medicine physician at the Rockwood Clinic in Spokane, Wash. He is also a physician for U.S. Track and Field.

"He's a very charismatic speaker," Mercer said. "His message is easy to understand; he's enjoyable and easy to sit through and listen to," Mercer said.

Mercer is expecting about 100 to 200 people to attend the speech.

"I'm hoping that there will be a lot of people to hear his message that exercise is necessary in our daily lives," he said.

Mercer said he has enjoyed being the first person to bring a speaker to the University through the NWACSM and hopes to bring another speaker to campus in the fall.

"It's been exciting to be a part of that process, to try to bring [Pearce's] message to people for an opportunity for them to gain knowledge," he said.

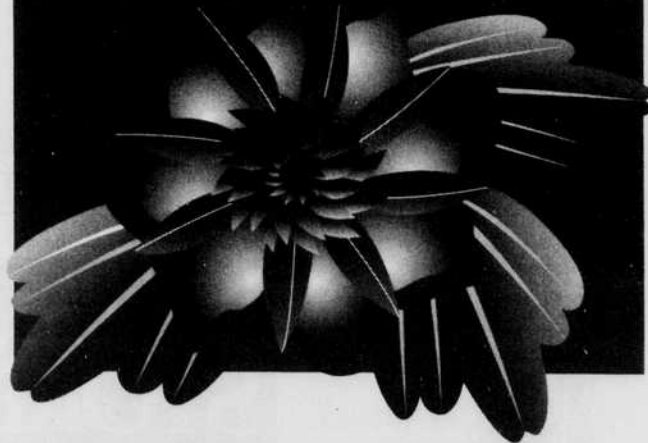
Pearce's speech will be Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. in room 177 in Lawrence Hall. There is no charge, and it is open to the public.

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