

# Degrees & Majors

## English

### Shakespeare Festival

By Kathryn Brackett

Are you in the mood for a comedy with an attitude? Then prepare yourself for William Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*. The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, a nationally known Shakespearean troupe, will perform the play at Converse's first annual Shakespeare Festival. Funded in part by The Humanities Council of South Carolina, the two-day event will take place March 12-13, 2003 and give the Converse community, local high schools and colleges, as well as the general public an opportunity to expand their understanding of and appreciation for the humanities.



*Taming of the Shrew* raises important issues about the evolution of marriage and women's roles and function in Shakespeare's time. Regional humanities scholars from Converse, Wofford, and universities in Georgia and Kentucky will lead two intellectual and stimulating pre-performance panel discussions for all that attend. Actors from the Shenandoah Shakespeare Express will lead a free workshop for local high school teachers and college professors to discuss Shakespeare, active learning, and the humanities.

The event also seeks to heighten collaboration among teachers at high school, college, and university levels. Performances are designed to encourage dialogue

among groups of people who want to share their thoughts openly in an environment with other scholars. Audiences will also be encouraged to participate in the discussions.

The workshop is free to all high school and college teachers who pre-register. Tickets for evening and morning performances are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students with identification. Teachers who attend a workshop or bring a class of at least ten students to a performance will receive a complimentary ticket.