

Editorial

Elections Reveal Students' Apathy

Banners, posters, speeches - yes, it is time for student elections again. Candidates for first slate offices appear in this edition of *The Twig*. Unfortunately, only three offices are contested - the rest of the candidates run unopposed. And some offices even have no students filing for them.

Meredith students should feel embarrassed that so few people have shown interest in elections. It seems that every year, the responsibilities of leadership fall on the same group of people who, although are well-qualified, are already involved in several other committees and projects. As these students can tell you, the rewards of meeting new people and making positive changes on campus outweigh the costs of time.

Understandably, there are many who were not born to lead. But Meredith is composed of many fine women who were active in high school, yet became just another face on campus at college. There is so much talent and energy out there that could be channeled in such positive directions.

Second and third slate elections are next on the agenda. Consider these offices - there may be one just right for you! Remember, one day Meredith will be just a dim memory and only a few things will stand out in your mind. Will you remember the two hours a day you spent lying in the sun - or the two hours you spent helping students and improving campus life? It is up to you.

MLS

Letter to students

Diagramming: A Real Pain

To the Editor:

Someone once told me that what I got from college I would take with me throughout the rest of my life. I had Freshman English last semester. It gave me a headache and a pain in my neck (and elsewhere). All I have to say is that if this statement is true, I'm in for a rough life.

It wasn't Freshman English as a whole that caused these problems, just a part of it. They call it diagramming. I call it a waste of time. Don't get me wrong, I'm not against learning grammar, it's just I've been taught it the past twelve years and it is losing its interest. I feel that we, as Americans, should use correct grammar, but diagramming sentences, Meredith English Department, is not the answer. If the English professors want to draw, teach and grade lines, let

them teach geometry. The English Department here is difficult and Freshmen English is one reason it has received this infamous reputation among students. I feel diagramming is a stumbling block among students and causes students to either pass or fail. We can blame the teachers for poor grades and we can blame the students for not learning but I feel the major blame belongs on the diagramming system and it alone.

There are other ways of teaching grammar than by diagramming. This method is not used by the majority of universities and colleges and hasn't been for several years. Yet, maybe this is the reason Meredith uses this method because it keeps with the tradition of being old fashioned.

I feel that two Freshman English courses should be available. One could be the traditional course and the other could be Expository Writing. The students could be given the opportunity to decide which one they felt would benefit them more instead of coming out of

English III, like me, knowing as much now, as I did when I entered the first class. Because I made a "D", for diagramming, last semester, I am presently taking Expository Writing. In there I learned more in one week than I did in one semester of grammar.

If creativity was brought into the teaching guide, this would benefit the students more in the long run. When applying for jobs, the chances of the employers asking you to diagram a sentence is little to none, but the chances of them looking for creativity is great. Instead of helping us in areas we need knowledge in, such as: the ability to exercise our minds creatively, writing impressive resumes and learning to express ourselves in writing as we do in speaking, we are held prisoners behind bars of diagramming meaningless sentences.

I feel, the diagramming system at Meredith is not worth the thirty-five cents paid for the diagramming sheets last semester, and I would like to see it changed.

Cynthia L. Church

American dance festival offers new jazz workshop at Duke

For the first time a Jazz Workshop - directed by Buzz Miller, who has danced with Carol Haney and Gwen Verdon, worked with Jerome Robbins and Bob Fosse - will be offered by the American Dance Festival school at Duke University in Durham, N.C., this summer. The Jazz Workshop will be held June 12-24.

Participants will take a two-hour theatre dance technique class in the morning and a two-and-a-half hour repertory class in the afternoon, Monday

through Friday. (Participants will have the option of continuing at the Festival, either as full-time or part-time students.)

The workshop is a two-week intensive program for intermediate-advanced dancers under the direction of Miller, who has danced extensively as a soloist and as a partner to Judy Holliday, Marilyn Monroe, Zizi Jeanmaire and Nora Kaye. During his 20 years on Broadway, he's taken to do several films, innumerable television shows, a season with

Les Ballets de Paris, and concerts with Carmen Lavallade, including the Spoleto Festival in 1958 and 1971. Most recently he has taught at Harvard University, City College of New York and Southern Methodist University.

Enrollment in the Jazz Workshop is limited. For further information write the School Coordinator, The American Dance Festival, P.O. Box 6097, College Station, Durham, NC 27708. Telephone: (919) 684-6402.

ATTENTION STUDENTS!

"Under Milk Wood" has been originally scheduled for February 11, 12, 18, and 19. Due to popular demand, performances have been added for February 10 and 17 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.

also

Auditions for Walter Gibson's "The Miracle Worker" will be held on February 14-15 at 7:00 p.m. in Jones Auditorium.

Rules for Submitting Twig Articles

If your club or organization is interested in submitting an article to *The Twig*, please follow the directions below:

- 1) Either type double-space OR print on lined notebook paper, skipping every other line. Do not write on the back of a page.
- 2) Count every word in the article and place at the top of the page.
- 3) Leave a phone number of a person who can be contacted if there are any questions.
- 4) Put in a TWIG drop envelope. These are located outside the doors of 107 Barefoot, 223 Faircloth, and *The Twig* office, 2nd floor Cate Center.

The Twig appreciates any articles of interest to the college community.

FEBRUARY

Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. *Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*, by Douglas Adams. (Pocket, \$2.95.) Companion to the PBS TV series.
2. *A Few Minutes With Andy Rooney*, by Andy Rooney. (Warner, \$2.95.) Humorous essays by the TV personality.
3. *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe*, by Douglas Adams. (Pocket, \$2.95.) Successor to "Hitchhikers Guide."
4. *Items from our Catalogue*, by Alfred Gingold. (Avon, \$4.95.) Spoof of the L. L. Bean catalogue.
5. *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*, by Bruce Feirstein. (Pocket, \$3.95.) A hilarious guide to masculinity.
6. *The Legacy*, by Howard Fast. (Dell, \$3.95.) The saga of the San Francisco Lavette family reaches the 80's.
7. *Enchanted Broccoli Forest*, by Mollie Katzen. (Ten Speed Press, \$11.95.) Vegetarian recipes.
8. *An Indecent Obsession*, by Colleen McCullough. (Avon, \$3.95.) Ms. McCullough's latest work of fiction.
9. *The Valley Girls' Guide to Life*, by Mimi Pond. (Dell, \$2.95.) How to live San Fernando Valley style.
10. *Garfield Takes The Cake*, by Jim Davis. (Ballantine, \$4.95.) Fifth book on the famous cartoon cat.

THE TWIG

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