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National tragedy turns into personal loss

by Casey Bass, Features Editor

On Tuesday, Jan. 28, the nation watched in disbelief as the Space Shuttle Challenger exploded in mid-air. This tragedy took the lives of seven astronauts, one of which was Michael J. Smith, of Beaufort, N.C.

Mr. John Whitehurst, a member of Meredith's part-time faculty in the Chemistry Department has been personally affected by this accident. Whitehurst and Smith grew up on neighboring farms in Beaufort.

Whitehurst reminisced about Smith's

lifelong dream of flying. Growing up so close to each other, the two boys spent many hours fishing and talking.

"We had been out in the pond waiting all day for the fish to bite, and they finally were complying. No sooner did Mike get a bite on his pole, when a few jet flew above from the nearby base, Cherry Point. Mike dropped his pole and said, 'John, that's going to be me someday,' Whitehurst remembers.

"I even remember times when Mike would call time-out from football games to watch the jets fly overhead," Whitehurst said. "He was that serious about flying, it was his dream."

The two men hadn't seen each other for

about fifteen years. However, Smith was in Raleigh last November, to address a group of science teachers. Whitehurst recalled how excited Smith was about his upcoming shuttle flight.

"He was achieving his ultimate dream."

There was to have been a celebration in Beaufort this spring. Smith had taken a Beaufort County flag onto the shuttle with him. He was going to have the other astronauts sign it, and then take it back to Beaufort this spring.

"It was going to be a very joyous occasion," Whitehurst added. "I am very glad to have known him. He was lucky in a way; he was doing what made him happy when he died."



Mr. John Whitehurst teaches in Meredith's Chemistry Department.

'Itza Pizza' takes bite out of Domino's sales

by Julie Bell, Features Reporter

Last semester a new pizza business, Itza Pizza, was created by ARA Food Service on Meredith's campus with the novelty idea of delivering pizzas straight to the students' dorm room. This gimmick gave Itza Pizza instant popularity with students.

"Sales were up to 30-40 pizzas a night when we first opened, and we even cut into Domino's sales!" said Mike Tuttle, ARA Food Service Manager. Tuttle had been working closely with the creation of Itza Pizza last semester.

Problems occurred from students complaining of crusts being too chewy. The crust was chewy because it was pre-cooked and refrigerated to cut down on the overall time of taking the order to

delivering the pizza to the dorm room.

These complaints have changed the way the pizza is cooked. "The dough of the crust is made fresh daily and the sauce has been improved," said Donna Cress, a student worker employed at Itza Pizza. Another student worker who delivers for Itza Pizza, Charlotte Kinnard, said, "I have seen great improvements this semester over last. Not only is the pizza better but it takes only 7½ minutes to deliver to the senior dorms!"

The students are pleased with these changes. "It was good and I don't have to go down to Johnson Hall. I love hot pizza," said Stephanie Gaye, a student at Meredith.

Itza Pizza plans to continue its services to Meredith students as long as the demand stays high.

'Jazz Age' world premiere haunts Meredith's stage

by Cathy Manning, News Reporter

"Meredith Performs" has opened the curtain in studio theatre to its first world premiere production, "Tales of the Jazz Age."

"The production has never been done anywhere... it's original, but at the same time it's not," Director John Creagh said. "Tales of the Jazz Age" dramatically portrays the non-dramatic literature of the 1920's in "an anthology carefully arranged to tell a story," Creagh explained.

"Tales of the Jazz Age" is a type of chamber theatre that is gaining popularity in the dramatic world. "There aren't any stage directions," said Creagh. "It allows more creativity."

"You're able to do more with the character... I have a lot of freedom to interpret my character," said Lisa Robie, who plays Zelda Fitzgerald in the play.

Some of the literature the cast is using to recreate the 20's includes: *The Great Gatsby* and *This Side of Paradise* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway. Creagh and his staff are trying to revive what Gertrude

Stein called a "Lost Generation" by portraying the characters of these works as ghosts who haunt the stage.

Members of the cast have had to research their characters so that they could portray their "ghosts" more thoroughly.

"I'm impressed with this cast's preparation and research," said Creagh.

Tim Kattermann who portrays Ernest Hemingway discovered that Hemingway carried a rabbit's foot for good luck, and "he refuses to go on stage without it," Creagh added.

The ghostly cast and the haunting grey stage lights will try "to manipulate the mood of the audience, taking them up high and then crashing down at the end... I don't want the audience to have any expectations," Creagh said.

The production is one act lasting an hour and a half of 1920 literature, jazz music and dance. "Tales of the Jazz Age" is performed nightly at 8:00 p.m. in Studio Theatre on February 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15, and a matinee on February 16 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students.

Fee charged to instill responsibility in students

by Kim Allen, News Editor

In an effort to stop what the Dean of Students Office calls random moving in the dormitories, a \$25 fee will now be charged to students who move for no "legitimate" reason, according to Janice McClendon of the Office of the Dean of Students.

McClendon said the fee instated by the Dean of Students Office was initiated in the fall of 1985.

"If there is a legitimate reason, no fee is charged," said McClendon. McClendon cited very different lifestyles, such as: messy vs. neat, smoker vs. non-smoker, and loud vs. quiet, as examples of legitimate reasons.

So far, McClendon said, there have been no fees collected, because "For the last semester and this semester the new rule was not used at all. We have had very few charges and they have all been very legitimate."



Security assists student with room lock.