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(Photo by Stephanie Bennett)

Le Greenhouse: More than just a good place to eat

by Julie Bell, Features Reporter

It's upstairs in Cate Center. Many students find its brightly colored wall hangings and plants appealing. It also has a relaxing atmosphere in which to study, talk quietly or listen to music. The place *Le Greenhouse*, is filled with day students during the hour of lunch.

"About 30-60 students come in each day to eat, enjoy conversation or study," said Thelma Watkins, an employee in *Le Greenhouse*. "Many students will come in here to have a cup of coffee or tea and study for about 30-40 minutes."

ARA took over the snack bar in January of 1984, changing the name from Meredith's snack bar to *Le Greenhouse*. It enhanced the traditional menu of cheeseburgers and french fries

by adding new, popular items of chicken salad, grilled cheese sandwiches and a mini-salad. It also included healthy snacks of raisin and nut mixers. And, when it's cold out, "the soup is usually a popular item," said Watkins.

Not only do day students come to eat at *Le Greenhouse* but students like Sherri Ellis and Kay Peebles eat there as well. "Some times when dinner is not so appealing, I will come over to enjoy a sandwich like pimento cheese," said Kay Peebles.

"It's better sometimes to come over to Cate Center to get something to eat and watch T.V. because it can be boring in the dorms," said Sherri Ellis.

There is a 25" T.V. in the lounge next to *Le Greenhouse* which is an incentive to some students to hang-out upstairs.

"It is just a great place to come, sit down, and talk," said Watkins.

Franks presents tribute to Tubman during Convocation

by Casey Bass, Features Editor

Sandra Dunson Franks — her makeup, gait and speech very much like that of a very elderly black woman from the Deep South — entered the stage in Jones

Auditorium, Feb. 10, for the Black Emphasis Week Convocation. She mesmerized the audience for the next 45 minutes with her portrayal of Harriet Tubman, a leader of the Underground Railroad system during the Civil War.

The stage was simply set: a rocking

chair, an old truck, two plants on a simple porch which had curtains open only halfway. The lights were extinguished as music filled the auditorium. Slides portraying images of slaves, slave notices, and scenes of what a slave's life must have been like were shown.

Harriet Tubman, born a slave, became one of the most admired figures in Black History. She conducted over 19 trips of the famous Underground Railroad, into the Deep South, leading over 300 slaves to freedom. Her "train" never lost a passenger.

Equitation program provides entertainment for students

by Amy Hamilton, Features Reporter

While many students and faculty members are in class or in bed at eight o'clock a.m., Mr. Luke Huggins, the full-time riding instructor and stable caretaker at Meredith is going through his morning routine of feeding the horses.

Huggins joined the Meredith staff 17 years ago not only teaching students to ride, but also working with the horse shows the women would participate in. Huggins felt that showing the horses was a good idea but there were problems.

"The only problems were that it (the program) only catered to a few students and the cost of transporting the horses and the girls became expensive," Huggins said.

Now Meredith offers three levels of equitation. The beginning level is for students that have not ridden at all or very little. It also helps get the students acquainted with being around horses and teaches them the basics of riding. The second level is for those students who have ridden before, and are familiar with horses. The instructor teaches the proper way to ride and work the horses. Methods of posting with and without the stirrups are also practiced. The advanced level is similar to the

second level but it goes in more detail.

Meredith doesn't buy the horses, but receives them through donations. The college only accepts mares and geldings.

"It could get a little rough trying to teach with a mare and a stallion in the ring," said Huggins.

Most of the horses in the Meredith stables can't be resold on the market. This is one reason patrons of the college donate them for use in teaching. The horses are thoroughly checked by a veterinarian prior to accepting them to make sure they are in good health. However, health is not the only factor as to whether the horses stay. There are two major determinants.

"One is — can the girls get along with the horses — and the other is — can I teach them to ride on them?," said Huggins.

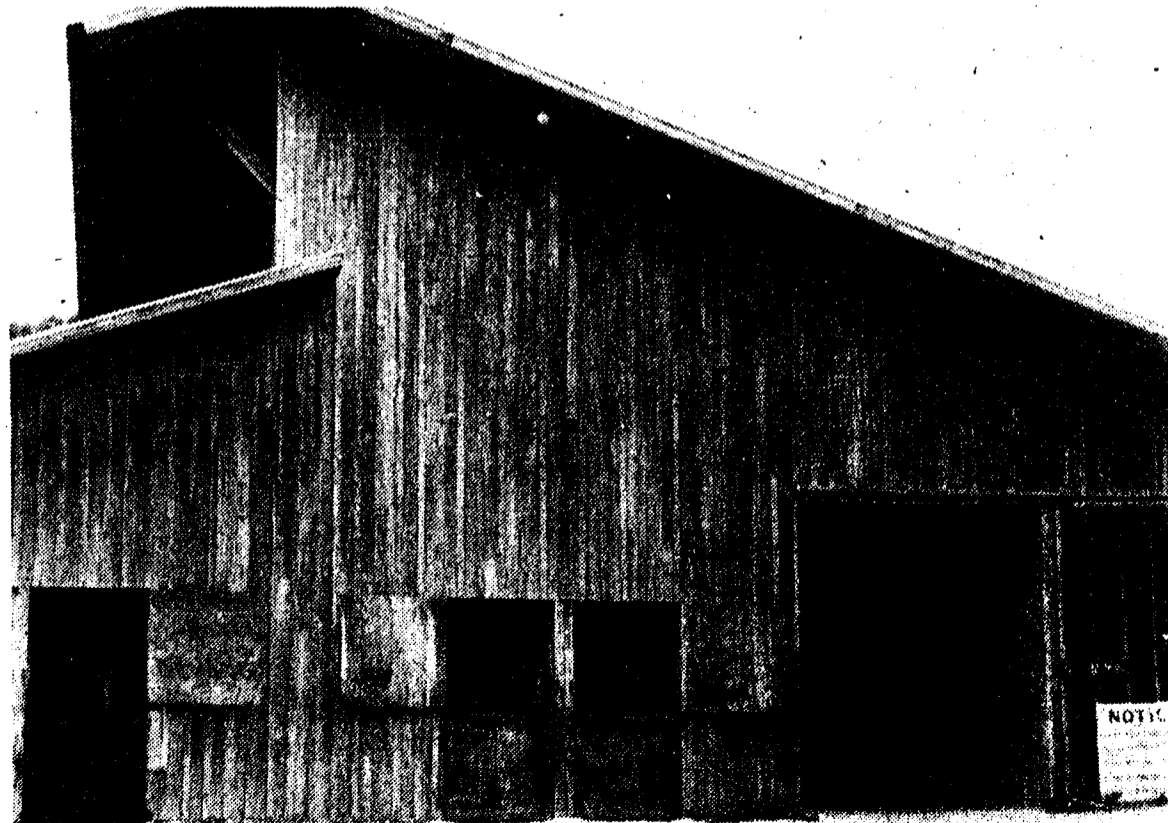
When the equitation program began, students and horses were both in abundance. Yet in the past few years the number of students has dwindled. In 1983, the program was revised by President John Weems, Vice President Joe Baker, and Vice President of Business Finances Charles Taylor. The stables gained seven new horses; however, since then it has let go of twelve to fifteen.

"When the horses are let go, they are donated to North Carolina State University for breeding," Huggins said.

"Then the foals can be bought by any student within the CRC program.

Because the interest in the program has not been overwhelming, Huggins feels an expansion will not be seen anytime soon. This decision to expand would come from President Weems and his committee.

"The only way for it to grow is for us to begin showing horses again. This isn't feasible because the program has been designed to teach the women of Meredith how to handle and ride a horse," said Huggins. "The equitation program is purely recreational."



Meredith's equitation program is strictly recreational. (Photo by Stephanie Bennett)