

editorial

To Vote or Not to Vote

November 8, 1988. Election day. Casting a vote for the future. Bush and Quayle. Dukakis and Bentsen. Martin or Jordan. To vote or not to vote; that is the question.

I've had my absentee ballot for almost two weeks. I realize that it has to be returned by 5 p.m. the eve of the election. I also realize I have to vote for someone, a person or persons to lead the country, to lead the state. I have to exercise my rights as a citizen of the United States of America.

Rights. Rights to what? So what if I mark the democratic candidate's box? What if I go right-wing? That's my right, right?

Confusion is exactly what I feel. Campaign 88 has not left me with much hope for the leadership of our country. Low blows and negative commercials, nervous debaters and cutting remarks. Although debates have never been my thing, this year's display of candidates in presidential debates has been just that — a display.

We cannot pick a president on appearances alone. Although Bush stands six inches or so above Dukakis, why should I let that influence my vote? The Democratic Convention offered the slogan "Our shrimp or their wimp." Who are we putting down, Bush or Dukakis?

Look at the issues and the experience being offered. Good advice, but how many Americans actually do that? Bush may have been smart to pick handsome Dan Quayle if he thinks that will get him the female vote. Think again, George. Remember, looks can be deceiving.

After all the hoopla and partying at the conventions, I tried to understand the issues. I never have been one for politics. Confusion set in again.

I marked my ballot after long consideration. I knew that I wanted to cast my vote because this is my first big election to exercise my right. I also know that my say is important. As an American, I have such rights. I am glad that I get to vote for my president. I don't have to live in a dictatorship or other society where I have no choice.

I encourage everyone to mark the ballot on or before November 8. It's okay if my candidate doesn't win; at least I know that I live in a country where I have a chance to express my opinions and to cast my vote.

I challenge the Meredith community to cast their vote and to exercise the rights of all citizens.

—Deanna Harris
Editor-in-chief

The Tradition Lives On

Once again it's Cornhuskin'. No one has ever been able to effectively explain this annual event to anyone who has not lived through it, but this tradition continues to unite Meredith students of the past and present (and into the future). But this one event has many different meanings for everyone.

For some, Cornhuskin' is a welcome release from the daily routine of classes and studying. Where else can you put on your raincoat and galoshes, arm yourself with a plastic trashcan full of water, and drench other students on a cold November night? Early morning or late night runs through the dorms release tension through high levels of noise.

Others take the competition between

classes very seriously. To win on Thursday night is the ultimate goal. Prank phone calls and other such unsports-womanship seem to become necessary to reach that goal. But somehow all the fun seems to get lost in the desire to win.

For still others, Cornhuskin' is a time for their class to pull together and grow closer. Laughter is plentiful as students race to clear their side of the courtyard of toilet paper. Exuberance fills Jones Auditorium as students yell and cheer for their class's part in Cornhuskin'. Cornhuskin' becomes an initiation to welcome us all into the sisterhood of Meredith.

—Kay Jernigan

Meredith Herald

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