



MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women to Excel

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Senate to make changes next year

Students should understand processes

LORA TILLMAN
Staff Writer

According to its members, SGA Senate had an exciting yet hectic 2000-01 year. Along with the regimented duty of approving organizational constitutions, Senate also worked in conjunction with the SGA Student Life Committee to address several campus concerns, such as the Napster issue, smoking in the dorms and the open house policy.

This year's Senate Chair and SGA President-elect, Hope Parrish, commented, "Senate had a great year and accomplished a lot."

Next year's Senate has already begun plans for a more streamlined and inclusive system. During the last Senate meeting of the year, an amendment to Senate's constitution passed that lays out a specific

constitution approval process. This is a process used at every Senate meeting that, in the past, has taken up much of Senate's time, leaving little time for addressing organizational or student concerns.

"We have tried several different methods to expedite the constitution process this year. However, the improvements were not as successful as we had hoped. I believe it will improve much more next year," said Parrish.

Speeding up the constitution process frees a lot of Senate time for student and organizational concerns.

Organizational concerns go directly to Senate. However, student concerns go through a more involved process. First, a student may express a concern through one of the many student concerns boxes maintained by the Student Life Committee around campus, or the student may attend a Student Life sponsored forum and voice her concern there.

At the forum, faculty and

administration hear concerns and address some of their own. After concerns are expressed, the Student Life Committee researches the concern and streamlines it, a tedious but important process. Finally, after the concern is properly addressed by Student Life, it is sent to Senate if the need arises.

Once the issue is sent to Senate, the group does whatever is necessary to address the concern, be it vote on a proposal, streamline the concern even more to propose to the administration or board of trustees, or even develop it into a campus vote.

Next year, if students have anything to say about a concern that is before Senate, they need look no further than the *Herald*. All concerns coming

before Senate will be publicized at least one week in advance of the Senate meeting in the paper.

As many students learned this year, Senate is also responsible for hearing and deciding on the proposal of potential Meredith organizations.

This new addition is in response to the recent proposal of Campus Crusade for Christ. Because Senate will begin publishing notification of its meetings in the *Herald*, any student who wishes to attend the meeting whether for or against the proposed organization will have prior knowledge of the proposal and the meeting.

Sophomore senator and

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Juniors capture victory at Stunt

JAMIE TUNNELL
Staff Writer

Once again, Stunt has come around and given us a break from the deadlines and future exam panic that shows on every student's face. Last Thursday, Meredith students were united in the courtyard for an afternoon of friendly competition.

Events began around 4:30 p.m. when classes participated in relay races, obstacle courses, and other field day activities. Sophomores took first place in the three-legged race and bat spin. Juniors came out on top in tug-of-war, the balloon toss, and limbo. Then, there were the seniors who dominated the obstacle course.

At 6:30 p.m., the area in front of Belk Dining Hall was

transformed into a stage where class members, families, boyfriends, and pets gathered to see what each class had come up with for Lip Sync. The class of '04 performed to a medley of jungle songs. The audience saw scenes from *The Lion King*, heard from the *Rocky* movies and had an appearance from Tarzana, queen of the jungle. Their theme was "It's a Jungle Out There."

The sophomores were "Dancin' Through the Decades" with popular hits from the 1920s until today. Sock hops, an Elvis concert, and a special appearance from Disco Divas were some of the

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Summer reading book chosen

LESLIE MAXWELL
Editor in chief

For the past two summers, Meredith College has sponsored the Summer Reading Program for incoming freshmen. Now, for the first time since the program's inception, the Summer Reading Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Rebecca Duncan, English professor, and Chrissie Bumgardner, co-director of the First Year Experience, has announced the title of next year's book before summer.

This summer, incoming freshmen will be asked to read *In the Time of Butterflies*, a novel by Julia Alvarez. This is the first year a fiction book has been chosen.

After sponsoring a book nomination campaign, the committee received 40 nominations for the summer reading program selection. Bumgardner said that each committee member received a list of all 40 books and were asked to select their top five choices. The most common top five choices were sent back to the committee

members to then select their top three.

Bumgardner said the committee selected *In the Time of Butterflies* because of some of its main themes, which include women, sisterhood, change and diversity.

The novel offers a fictional account of the legendary Mirabel sisters, the women who helped lead the resistance movement against the dictator Trujillo in the Dominican Republic in the 1950s and 60s.

Duncan noted the importance of these themes, saying, "As the Hispanic population in this area and nationwide surpasses that of African Americans, we would do well to understand some of the political and cultural forces that contribute to the heritage of Latin American immigrants."

Bumgardner hopes that all Meredith community members will read *In the Time of Butterflies* over the summer.

"The more people who read it, the more meaning it has to the Meredith community," she said.