

## A. A. Sponsors Palio and Stunt Festivities



Through the years Palio has played an important part in the life of Meredith students. Each year the celebration is full of surprises. Even a little elephant takes part in the campus-wide festivities which are sponsored by the Athletic Association.

## Celebration is Unique Custom Among American Colleges

By ALLEN HART

The day of March 8 is rapidly approaching, when the Meredith campus will once again show its annual touch of Sienna, Italy. This day, is the day Palio celebration is held every year. It is a unique custom among American colleges.

In 1835 the idea was introduced to the students by Miss Ida Poteat of the art department and Miss Marian Warner of the physical education department, who had seen the original festival in Italy. Under the sponsorship of the Athletic Association, the proposal was tried and soon became a tradition. Every year the event was presided over by Miss Meredith until last year, when the president of the A. A. replaced her. A member of the junior class serves as her only attendant.

The Italian festival was accompanied by much color and spirit. It celebrated the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin and was held on July 2. The religious feast was associated with the founding of the city. It took on its spectacular form because, in the days of its beginning, plays were connected with religious festivals.

The city of Sienna was divided into cantons, each of which had

its own flag and customs. Each group wore in the parade its own dress and carried its banner. The important event was the horse race. A horse was chosen from each canton and was blessed in a chapel before the competition. The canton whose horse won the race was awarded a banner. This giving of the banner caused the name Palio to be given to the festival, because in Italian, Palio means banner.

Next to horse racing, the most interesting feature of the two-day celebration was the flag tossing in the procession. This feat was difficult and spectacular, because the Middle Ages abounded with colorful banners, and the spirit involved in them ran high.

The Meredith Palio is a modified version of the Sienna festival, but, nevertheless, is a striking parallel. The classes represent the cantons and are the competitors. Their "horse race" is composed of a runner from each class. The race takes place around the oval before Johnson Hall. The flag tossing is retained in the form of a dance.

The classes each choose a theme, and dressed in costumes, march up the drive to form their  
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## CLASSES FINISH COMMITTEE PLANS TO COMPETE FOR STUNT HONORS

Committees for Stunt Night to be held March 8 have been chosen by the four classes. Freshmen committee chairmen are: Betty Ball, properties; "Cookie" Cook, costumes; Ruby Wiggins, make-up; Gretchen Gutherlein, lighting and staging; and Sally Drake, programs.

Lorette Oglesby heads the script committee for the Sophomores; "Potsy" Avere, lighting; Fay Walker, set; Shirley West, staging and properties; Doris McMillan, costumes; Mary Ann Chandler, programs; Jean Batten, music; Dot Briggs, make-up; and Melissa Matthew and Bobbie Addy, co-directors.

Junior class chairmen are: Dot Stell and Kitty Barbehenn, programs; Celia Wood and Jeanette Leopard, costumes; Shirley Cliatt, properties; Betsy Cannady, lighting; and Ann McGugan, set.

Barbara Harper is directing the Senior stunt with the following committee chairmen working: Julia Presson and Sally Massey, scrip; Francene Barber, lighting; Lynette Adcock, programs; Barbara Ballenger, properties; and Dot Hart, music.

Mrs. Elizabeth Shelton Smith

## CAMPAIGN OPENS FOR W.S.S.F.

The World Student Service Fund campaign, which started on our campus February 27, and runs through March 7, is being sponsored by the three major organizations, the B.S.U., A.A., and S.G. Three representatives from each organization, including the president, are acting as the steering committee. They are  
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### AUDUBON LECTURE

Saturday, March 15, is the date scheduled for the next Audubon lecture to be held at Meredith College. This nature study, sponsored by the Raleigh Bird Club, will be presented by Bert Harwell who will speak on "Canada North." The lecture will begin at 8:00 p.m. The public is invited.

## RALEIGH DISTRICT MUSIC CONTEST WILL BE HELD MARCH 12 AND 13

On March 12 and 13 Meredith College will again play the role of host for the 1952 Raleigh District Music Contest. At that time many students from schools in this district will be here to participate and be rated.

Miss Forestine Whitaker, head of the public school music department, is in charge of the contest. Student music majors will also help and serve as guides, pages, adjudicator's assistants and event chairmen.

Students from both junior and senior high schools will participate. Included in the program will be solos, small ensembles, junior and senior high choral groups, girls' and boys' glee clubs, instrumental solos and bands. The contests will begin at

8:30 a.m. and run until about 8:30 p.m.

Judges for the vocal and choral work will be Donald Plott from Davidson College, Dr. Alpha Mayfield of Greensboro College, and Paul Peterson of Salem College.

Judging the instrumental groups will be Paul Bryan from Duke, Kenneth Moore from Davidson, and Dr. Joseph Wilson of High Point College. Robert Carter of Greenville will serve as judge for the piano work.

Ratings which range from superior to poor will be given those participating.

There are seventeen counties included in the Raleigh District. The schools which will represent these counties in the contest are: Hugh Morson, Needham Broughton, Oxford, Carr Junior High, Jonesboro, Oxford Orphanage, Seventy-First, Roxboro, Goldsboro, Cary, Greensboro, Nashville, Burlington, Chapel Hill, Fayetteville, Pinehurst, Franklinton, Spring Hope, Coopers, Smithfield, Erwin, and Whitakers. The deadline for entering the contest was February 27 and many schools had to be turned down because they did not file their applications before that date.

### COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

Margaret Mead, anthropologist and author of "From the South Seas" will deliver the Baccalaureate address here June 2, announced Dr. Campbell this week.

Dr. Sydnor L. Stealey, president of the Southeastern Theological Seminary will deliver the baccalaureate sermon on June 1.

## Smathers, Stallings, and Francis Will Hold Major Campus Offices

The '52-'53 elections for the top campus offices were held February 28. Pat Smathers, Janet Stallings, and Bess Francis will hold the three major offices of Student Government president, Baptist Student Union president, and president of the Athletic Association, respectively. Betty Jo

Welch will act as Chief Counselor, and the day students will have Charlotte Taylor as their president.

The "Oak Leaves" will be headed by Kitty Barbehenn, the TWIG by Doris Perry, and the "Acorn" by Phyllis Nottingham.

Melrose Canaday and Emma Jean Maddrey will be the new presidents of Vann and Stringfield dormitories.

## DEAN'S LIST INCLUDES FIFTY-THREE NAMES

Mrs. Vera Tart Marsh, Registrar, has released the names of fifty-five girls who have attained Dean's List standing for the '52 spring semester. These students registered for at least twelve hours and completed and passed all courses with a number of quality points equal to twice the number of semester hours taken plus three.

Those honored are: Ruth Jeanne Allen, Betty Joan Ball, Katherine Anna Barbehenn, Nellie Ruth Barnes, Patricia Setzer Bland, Jettie Rea Bradshaw, Nancy Franklin Brown, Elizabeth Ann Cannady, Ruth Jeannette Cole, Jane Luther Compton, Ruth Ernestine Cottrell, Jean Bradley Dula, Mary Rebecca Edge, Marie Louise Edwards, Dolly Florence Getzen, Mary Jocile Griffin, Lou Griffin Hale, Elizabeth Ann Hamrick, Allen Wilkinson Hart, Betty Ann Highsmith, Martha Jean Hol  
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## Jane Slate Presents Senior Voice Recital

Miss Betty Jane Slate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Slate of Burlington, will present her senior voice recital in the main auditorium, Saturday, March 22, at 8:00 p.m. Accompanying her is Miss Marjorie Barnes. Following the recital, a reception will be held in the blue parlor. Miss Patsy Spiers will head the receiving line. Marshals for Miss Slate will be Miss Barbara Bone, Miss Betty Jo Smith, Miss Murphy Alexander, and Miss Charleen Swansay.

Horseback riding, swimming, and oil painting are Miss Slate's main hobbies. While at Meredith College, Miss Slate has been a member of the Monogram Club, treasurer of Sigma Alpha Iota National Professional Music Fraternity, a member of Alpha Psi Omega National Dramatics Fraternity, and editor of the "Oak Leaves." She is a member of the Silver Shield honorary leadership society and, this year, was honored in "Who's Who in Amer-  
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