

# THIRTY-FOUR YEARS' TRADITIONS PRECEDE TOMORROW'S MAY DAY

By LINDA KIRBY

As the sophomore voices pealing, "O, May Queen, we greet you . . ." break the early morning quiet tomorrow morning, the thirty-fourth annual May Day festivities will be under way. The serenade will be followed by a May Day breakfast in the dining hall, the tables being decorated with gay May poles and frilly dolls. Immediately after breakfast the sophomores will again serenade their "Big Sisters" and the day of the May will have officially begun. The afternoon festivities will begin with a horse show and will culminate in the coronation of our queen.

## Field Day Became May Day

May Day has been an annual event at Meredith since 1926, when the college moved to its present location. Prior to this first May Day, the physical education department had annually presented a Field Day, consisting of contests which, as Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson states in her *History of Meredith College*, resembled "a three-ring circus." Field Day was primarily a way of displaying the students' skills learned in physical education classes and included exhibitions on teeter ladders, flying rings, and ropes. There were folk dances, drills with dumbbells, Indian clubs, and wands in addition to contests in high and low jumping and chinning bars. The dress for Field Day consisted of a pair of great bloomers and a blouse.

## Tucker Was First Queen

Because of the relocation of the college at a larger site in 1926, it was possible to present a May Day like those celebrated by other colleges. The first May Day at Meredith witnessed Margaret Cone Tucker, wearing a train made of a lace curtain, as Queen of the May. The home-made costume, however, did not detract from the entertainment provided by Sleeping Beauty, Rip Van Winkle, and Mother Goose's family, for the students and guests enjoyed "a May from dawn till sunset, an Elizabethan masque," as Dr. Johnson states.

## MARILYN BURRIS TO PRESENT VOICE RECITAL

On May 3, Mrs. William C. Burris, the former Marilyn Greene, will be presented in a voice recital in Jones Auditorium on the Meredith campus. Mrs. Burris is a native of Albemarle, North Carolina, and studied voice in that city with Mr. Paul Fry for several years.

## Burris Is Meredith Graduate

After her graduation from Albemarle High School, Mrs. Burris entered Meredith. While here, she was a pupil of Miss Beatrice Donley. She graduated in 1957 with the bachelor of arts degree in voice. Among the honors she held at Meredith were membership in the Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity, and in the college chorus, president of the Philaretian Society, a senior superlative, Who's Who, and Dean's list.

## Vocalist Continues Study

She married Lt. William C. Burris in June of 1957. After a two-year residence in Charleston, South Carolina, filled with teaching and guest appearances, Mrs. Burris began

## Grove Was Original Site

As to the site of the May Day procession, the 1927 TWIG states that it was held in a "spot down among the trees where we are hoping some day to behold a magnificent amphitheater." Well, it seems that the writer was referring to the grove, but her "magnificent amphitheater" had to give way to our present parking lot, and the festivities later moved to the court.

## Hospitality Week End, May Day Combined

In 1941 Hospitality Week End and May Day were combined. The afternoon was begun with a father-daughter baseball game, followed by the May Day procession. The theme of that year was "Health." The characters consisted of Every Girl, who was seeking for health; Bad Taste and Self-Indulgence; and Enlightenment with her aids Knowledge, Recreation, and Grace. Does the plot sound familiar to anyone?

The coming of spring brings with its fever thoughts of pretty girls in pastel dresses, flowers, and the dancers around the May pole. As the years have passed, May Day, which embodies these thoughts, has become a beloved tradition at Meredith.

## SCIENCE ACADEMY WILL CONVENE

The North Carolina Academy of Sciences will meet May 6-7 at Woman's College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. Original material in mathematics and science will be presented at the meeting.

## Yarbrough, Canaday Attend

This year much of the program has been arranged through the efforts of Dr. John A. Yarbrough of the Meredith College faculty, who has served as secretary-treasurer of the Academy for the last eight years. Also, on May 7, Dr. E. F. Canaday, Meredith mathematics professor, will present a paper on original research in the field of mathematics.

The Collegiate Academy, which is a special section for undergraduates, will meet on the afternoon of May 6. At this time, fif-

teen original papers in science will be presented.

## Varied Program Planned

The program presented by Mrs. Burris will include two arias from "Cosi Fan Tutti," by Mozart; "Frauenbiles Und Leben," by Schumann; "On This Island," by Britten; "Cocardes," by Boulenc; "Chanson De Bilitis," By Debussy; and an Aria, "L'Amoro, Saro," from "El Repastore," by Mozart, with a violin obligato played by Mrs. Philip Garis of the Meredith faculty.

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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## FRESHMEN HONOR JUNIORS

On Friday, May 13, the freshman class will entertain their big sisters. This traditional event will be a breakfast held on the lawn near the site of the old chimney.

## Wood Is Chairman

Mackie Wood, chairman of the breakfast, and her committees are co-operating with the dining hall and are busy with plans. Invitations will be sent next week.

## Upperclassmen Adopt Freshmen

The tradition of big and little sisters began many years ago when Meredith was located in downtown Raleigh. At that time, upper classmen went to the local train stations each year to welcome incoming students. Each girl adopted a little sister. During the school year these big sisters were the only advisers which the new students had.

## Tradition Continues

Gradually the counseling system became more complicated with the addition of faculty advisers and counselors. Now, however, as tradition has destined, the big sister still welcomes her little sister into the Meredith family.

## ULLMAN RECEIVES HONOR

Dr. B. L. Ullman, who delivered the Kappa Nu Sigma lecture on the

Meredith campus March 16, has recently received one of the highest honors bestowed at the University of North Carolina.

At the spring induction of new members the Order of the Golden Fleece, an honorary organization, included Dr. Ullman among its initiates. The Order is composed of both students and faculty members at the University.

## CHURCH INVITES STUDENTS

The First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh has announced its program for two worship services through the month of May. Dr. Albert G. Edwards, minister of the church, invites Meredith students to attend the nine o'clock service as well as the eleven o'clock morning worship hour.

The Sunday school groups will continue to meet at nine forty-five. A fellowship period for the college group will remain a part of the Sunday school session.

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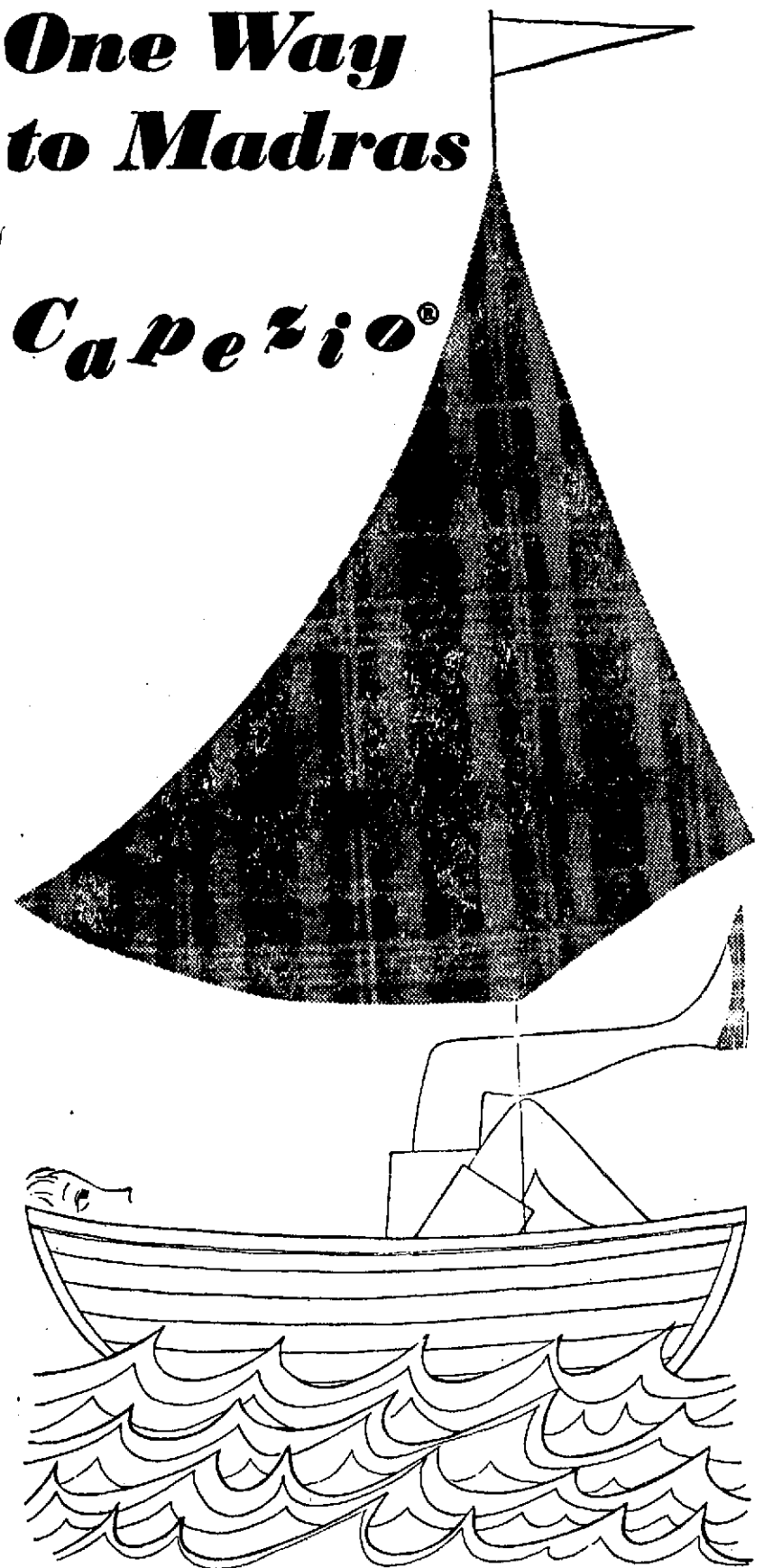
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