

A Look At Ourselves

In the past few weeks quite a furor has arisen on the Meredith campus as a result of a recent decision by the Student Government Council and the Faculty Committee concerning two cases involving students who were drinking while under the jurisdiction of the College. Some members of the student body feel that the penalty given to one of the persons involved was too light. Others feel that there are persons on the Council who are guilty of offenses similar to those for which they are condemning other people.

Regarding these two schools of opinion, several observations seem in order. First, the student body at large needs to remember that all evidence which is brought to bear in the Council sessions is not general knowledge. It is easy for people outside the Council to come to conclusions without knowing all facts relevant to the situation.

Second, the drinking of intoxicants is an offense for which the Student Government Council, subject to the approval of the Faculty Committee on Student Government and the President of the College, determines the penalty. Probation, suspension, and expulsion are the alternatives open to the Council as penalties for serious offenses. Drinking does not automatically merit one particular penalty. There are always circumstances and concomitant factors to be considered.

Third, the members of the Council are elected by the entire student body. Such election does not remove them from the status of students or from living under the honor code. If other students know of offenses for which Council members should be reported, they are under obligation to report such offenses. There is no logic in failure to report persons for offenses one knows they have committed and then becoming incensed when these same persons do not discharge their duties with justice.

The members of the Student Government Council should be reminded of several things. First, with election to the offices they hold they assume tremendous responsibility. The Council should be overly conscious of its own position and its responsibilities in living in a community under the honor code.

Second, if the Council with its faculty guidance takes an action for a stated reason, the action should be in accord with the reason. In other words, if the student body is informed that a student is being punished for drinking, the penalty imposed should be for that offense. If no other charge is or can be levied, the penalty should not be for some unmentionable charge.

Third, the Council should be careful when it judges cases on a comparative basis. A student should not receive a lighter penalty because her case is appearing with that of a student whose offense is worse than she would receive if her case appeared alone.

It seems that the Meredith student body needs clarification and education on certain features of its student government. The student body should be better informed concerning actions taken by the Council. If sufficient correct information concerning council actions were given with discretion and good taste by proper sources, much confusion, misunderstanding, and false rumors would be eliminated.

We need to remember that each year the composition of the Council changes; thus, different interpretations and different decisions result. We need to remember that in any just system of law and government, first offenders do not receive the extreme penalties. We need to remember that dishonesty concerning guilt is often equal to or worse than the original offense.

We need to reconsider, to examine, to evaluate. We are a community. We live under an agreement of honor. What does this mean for our individual lives? What are our responsibilities?

S. L.

The Spirit Of The Angels

I Remember Meredith - Arriving, Fearing, Learning, Discovering, Loving - Leaving

By SUSAN SELF

The trunk is packed with flat, faded towels, sheets well-worn; the water colored pictures, the Kennedy poster, the bulletin board, and curtains have come down. You sit on the floor . . . like dreams from your childhood, you can't take them with you, yet you can't quite throw them away.

You know, the football program from the Carolina-State game your freshman year when you had the blind date that was a loser . . . a dance program, can't recall exactly if your date was a Sig Ep, but do remember that Count Basie played . . . or, a pressed flower from a walk in Umstead Park one spring . . .

You look at the court, and you realize that this is it — you are graduating, you are leaving Meredith. There should be fanfare . . . yet admit it, you're sad. Where did the days go . . .

Arriving—Emptiness, Heat, Pain

I can remember the day I arrived . . . that bare, ugly room on 2nd Stringfield, all the fathers struggling with extension cords and trunks — and that pang of hurt when the familiar car with Mother and Dad disappeared down the drive.

After that the memories are individual and special. I know that 3½ years later I have forgotten the circulatory system of the frog, the atomic weight of copper, the names of the Canterbury pilgrims, and the route of Moses' flight . . . but, there are some things that I shall never forget . . .

Remembering—Tests, Hot Tea, Chats

Academically, I'll always remember, "Now books of this kind have been written in all ages . . ." the fear, the panic of *Never* knowing the first question on Dr. Johnson's quiz when I first looked at it . . . the blue books at exams . . . the term papers . . . and at Book Teas, with hot tea in china cups at 5 o'clock, quiet tones, and the silver sugar scoops from England

. . . Dr. Wallace answering questions after class . . . Dr. Tilley behind a cluttered desk swatting flies . . . Dr. Mac pulling on the cord of the venetian blinds, leaning back in his chair, discussing life . . . Dr. Syron asking what else is true . . . Dr. John in his blue lab coat, and outlines on the blackboard . . .

I'll remember the conferences where no professor is too busy to talk, and where the topics will wander from your last quiz, to the sit-in strikes, to the state of the nation, to the meaning of God, to your current dating status, to who will win the World Series. And you are glad you went to that conference, you are glad this is part of Meredith.

Back When . . .

I'll remember that as a member of the class of '61 I knew the old science building — and I will remember when it was 3 call downs for wearing sox up town, when the drives around school were not paved and freshmen double dated all first semester; the post office was in Johnson Hall, and a rotunda greeted you when you walked in.

I'll remember the events at the Angel Farm from required concerts to riding to church on buses. Not to be forgotten would be the long hours spent on Stunt . . . "The Day the Fairies Smiled" shines forth as unforgettable . . . the beauty of May Day under blue skies . . . white dresses and the sophomores holding a Daisy Chain . . . Play Day and the faculty in casual clothes . . . the required chapels, where all the speakers seemed to run together, all the jokes had been told, yet a few stood out . . .

Bee Hive, Post Office, Breezeways

Casual little events — but a part of being an Angel at Meredith, therefore they will not be forgotten — calendars with days marked off, trips to the Bee Hive, the crowded post office at 4, sitting on the floor playing bridge, cigarettes and coke bottles, phones that never stop ringing — a name called

down the hall, meeting a blind date on the breezeway . . . the breezeways at 11:55 p.m., Saturday night . . . fraternity parties and collegiate fun at nearby schools.

I'll remember the seasons at Meredith . . . the trees along the drive, fluffy, pink and white in spring — the smell of warm bread from the bakery . . . the warm sunshine and sunbathing on the breezeways — starched shirts, music in the distance, people strolling after dinner . . . fall, and brown, wet leaves on the sidewalks — rain on Mondays . . . the austerity of the buildings as snow falls in the court, and the ice bends the trees along the drive . . . the setting of the court, beautiful regardless of the season, the fountain splashing late at night, lights in the dorms across court, in the daytime well-worn, sandy paths — this is Meredith.

Sisterhood, Sharing, Graduation

Most of all I shall remember the girls at Meredith. The endless parties from pizza to popcorn, the discussions from what to wear, to U. S. foreign policy, to how to plan a wedding, to how to write a book review. That indescribable characteristic of a Meredith girl, happy eyes, always friendly, always interested, always a friend — the girls in my own class, my little sister class, in the other classes. Sharing of tears, laughs, packages from home, bad grades, and good times with a roommate — this will linger long after I shall attend P.T.A. meetings.

The fact that each girl at Meredith is unique, each is outstanding in her own way — this I'll remember, this I'll miss, although friendships have been made that will last a lifetime, long after we are miles apart, busy with our careers of rearing a family of our own.

There's a knock on 205 F.'s door; Mr. Simmons will take your trunk down . . . where's my s.p. slip? . . . one last hug from my roommate . . . Oh, yes, I'll tuck those things on the floor in . . . I'll write . . . see you graduation.

Music Notes

By SUSAN LEATHERS

Returning from Christmas holidays somewhat refreshed, Meredith students were faced with the arduous tasks of preparing for and taking exams. Music students had to "brush up" on pieces not seen since the pre-holiday era, and others had to correct mistakes learned during holiday practice. Either case often seems a losing battle.

Professors Give Recitals

Miss Swanson of the Meredith music faculty presented an organ recital on January 9 at Christ Church. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the selections chosen for the recital. Good reports have also come back from Columbia, S. C., where Mr. Clyburn gave a piano concert on January 15.

The programs of both the organ and piano classes have lately been occupied by students playing their exam pieces before an audience. This experience is a vital part of the training.

S. A. I.'s Are Active

As one of their projects for this year, the S.A.I.'s have given out information cards for the news bureau. The profit will be used for fraternity projects in the spring. Seen around the music building: frantic practicing . . . efforts to catch up back theory assignments . . . an orderly record library . . . the annual bafflement of sophomores over seventh chords and figured basses . . . grim faces after piano practicals . . . longed-for nature trips by the sophomores on Thursday afternoon.

MERE DITHER

By RACHEL DAILEY

"What did you get for Christmas?" How often does this question touch one's ears? What feelings does it raise?

A small box of delicate stationery from a lavender-and-lace aunt who lives alone in a Midwestern state — unconscious pleading for a word, a line from a young girl not different from another young girl in a different age.

A large box gaudily wrapped which enclosed a tiny jar of peanut butter — an awkward and hilarious rendition of "I think you're a great sport, Sis" from a kid brother.

A book, massive and exciting, in which many great words await growing minds — a hope from a wistful neighbor who never quite made it to college.

Flannel pajamas, warm and well-made — a message from a practical older sister who knows how long dainty things last in college.

A watch, all silver and sparkling and clean — a thought explained only in the eyes of a doting father and a proud mother which says, "We're glad you're ours."

A ring, small, with perfect diamond — with every rainbow color dancing in it — a token from that one whose life will soon be merged with yours and whose very presence breathes love everlasting.

News From The AA

By CRIS KRESS

The Athletic Association has, for the past weeks, been sponsoring a basketball tournament. In the game which was played on Tuesday, January 10, the freshmen defeated the Juniors. On Thursday the 12th, the sophomores defeated the seniors. On January 17 the final game of the tournament was played between the winners of the two previous games, and the freshmen won.

The Monogram Awards dinner was held in the Meredith cafeteria on Wednesday evening, January 18. At that time monograms were given to the girls who had accumulated a thousand points; stars were given to girls who already had monograms and had earned five hundred extra points.

Freshman awards were presented to the two freshmen who had been outstanding in volleyball and had participated most in the A. A. sponsored programs. These awards were given to Nicky Childrey and Nancy Evans, respectively.

During this dinner the honorary members of the basketball and volleyball varsity teams were also announced. Those girls on the basketball varsity are Kathleen Simmons, Kathy Roberts, Nancy Wade, Diane Simmons, Mary Lou Morgan, Nancy Jones, Margaret Raines, Anne Britton, Bookie Ellis, and Betty Gray. The volleyball varsity is Kathleen Simmons, Anita Everette, Kathy Roberts, Carroll Hicks, Margaret Raines, Nancy Wade, Mary Lou Morgan, Toula Bellios, and Anne Britton.



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Since 1921 the institution has been a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The college holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and the North Carolina College Conference. Graduates of Meredith College are eligible for membership in the American Association of University Women. The institution is a liberal arts member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

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