



# The End and the Beginning

Tomorrow could be both the end and the beginning.

Finally a proposal to change the drinking and bachelors' quarters policies has reached the student body, but this is only the half-way mark. The legislative board devised the statement; the faculty committee accepted it; now, if the revision is to be made, the student body needs to support its resolution to the president and the board of trustees. Only a strong vote in the student body can show enough strength to move the statement forward.

For years the loudest complaints of Meredith girls have been concerning the negativism of these two rules — *no drinking* and *no visiting bachelors' apartments*. The new proposal suggests changing the *Handbook* statement on alcohol (page 13) to:

The College strongly discourages the use of alcoholic beverages by Meredith students. Students shall not possess or consume intoxicants on the campus, or at college-sponsored functions. Meredith students are expected to represent the College with dignity at all times. MOC

## Needed: Student Pay Improvements

Elated with hourly wage increases from \$1.15 to \$1.30, student part-time workers are anticipating fattened pay checks. While the monetary increase is guaranteed in compliance with the Federal Wage and Hour Law, the specific payment date is less certain. With student workers in varying capacities from waitresses to skilled faculty assistants becoming an increasingly important sector of the Meredith payroll, it is wise to examine critically the present student payment system.

By providing a comprehensive program of student financial aid and a more efficient means of recording student working hours, the system has become more efficient. Improvements are needed, however, in the areas of payment scheduling and payment scaling.

When signing a work contract, a student worker accepts certain responsibilities and like other college employees expects a definite pay date in return for services. At present, such a schedule of payment dates is vague. Students have received two pay checks, one in the beginning of November and a second during the third week of January. While perhaps not fully cognizant of the work load involved in payment scheduling the present payment plan has proved unsatisfactory to students for several reasons. It is true that most students work only a few hours weekly, using additional money for luxuries; yet others, working several hours daily, count on the income for payment of educational needs or personal debts. Secondly, students recognize that other Raleigh colleges and universities pay on a consistent basis, St. Augustine's paying on the tenth of each month and N.C.S.U. paying either monthly or biweekly, depending upon the job.

A second area of needed improvement, that of pay scaling, has received far less student attention, yet merits examination. At present, all campus jobs, despite degree of training or particular skill involved, receive a flat rate of \$1.30 per hour. It seems that students assisting a faculty member by typing or in some case taking dictation, should receive a wage commensurate with the skill and training involved. However, a waitress, both regular and substitute, a post office, infirmary, and Dean of Student's worker, a switchboard operator, a grader, a lab assistant, and all department aids receive the same payment.

A student work program operates on a symbiotic basis. The students benefit from a chance to earn money while studying, while the school takes advantage of a supply of labor at lower pay rates. Since the system is of mutual benefit, it is to the advantage of both to focus on needed improvements in the areas of student pay scheduling and payment scaling to aid effectiveness.

Then the statement of violation of the drinking policy (page 23) would be changed to:

- a. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the campus or at a college-sponsored function.
- b. Returning to the campus in a state of intoxication.

Also under the new proposal the *Handbook* reference to the bachelors' quarters restriction (page 15) would be deleted; therefore, visitation would become permissible.

Reasons for accepting these two changes have been discussed over and over—legal age, responsibility and experience. With a revolution so close it is easy to become intoxicated with even the thought of such a freedom of choice, but it is here that we must be careful. With the proposal comes a clear charge "... to represent the College with dignity at all times."

A vote of "no" defeats change and would be easier. A "yes" opens new experiences and carries a challenge. The end of restriction brings the beginning of greater responsibility. SAJ

I DECIDED TO USE MY BOOK MONEY FOR SOMETHING I'D REALLY USE.



## Letters to the Editor

### Chapel Lament

Dear Editor:

I've had it!

This is not a hasty decision. I've been attending chapel for two and a half years and in all that time I've never been so aware of so many students talking and snickering aloud, studying, squirming and generally acting like high school students at a weekly assembly as I have this year. The situation has never been this bad before, and this sudden increase in the noise level at chapel, corresponding as it does with the entrance of the Class of '72, leads me to venture that the cause of much of the disturbance is due to the Freshman Class.

I do not know who taught the freshmen their company manners but obviously it was not my mother. For as long as I can remember I have known enough consideration and fair play to make me keep my own big mouth shut or to close my books when confronted by a speaker. I even have the audacity to try to keep my eyes open and at least pretend to listen, even though my mind may be, and often is, a million miles away.

But not so many of the students here. In fact, I often think that the freshmen have received a distorted picture of the purpose of chapel at Meredith; many seem to feel that this tri-weekly hour has been scheduled strictly for their talking or studying pleasure. For instance, at only the second convocation this semester, I had the misfortune to be seated near several freshmen who felt obliged not only to comment loudly on the film being shown but also to inform everyone within four rows about their assignments for the day and their weekend ac-

tivities. Even after I had twice asked them to be quiet, they insisted on continuing their performances — chattering and giggling. Finally one had the nerve to comment, "This is a good film." At that moment, I wanted desperately to turn around and ask, "How do you know?"

I am not the only one who has noticed the misconduct in chapel — I am not the only one who is often forced to "Shhh" loudly in order to hear the speaker — and something has to be done. I am not saying that the entire Freshmen Class is to blame nor is it entirely the fault of the freshmen. But whoever is to blame must realize that they are ruining chapel for those who would like to give it a chance. What's that? It's so bad that it can't be ruined any more? Maybe not; but they wouldn't know anyway — they've never listened. Chapel has been better this year than I have ever known it; and if they would only shut up one day and listen for a change, they might be surprised. And for once, if they could restrain themselves from giggling at something just because it's new and strange — I'm sure the painter Mr. Thomas would find some of their studying positions just as amusing as many apparently found his working positions — they might learn something.

Well, I've had my say now, and I'm glad I've had it. I'm sure those who are guilty will just shrug it off and maybe call me a "stick-in-the-mud" or a "sourpuss." I just hope that someday when they speak before a group somewhere, they will never be faced with a giggling, talking, heads-lowered group like the one they have presented to speakers at Meredith. Thank you, Brooks McGirt

## Lady in Cement

### Movie Review

By DONNA WILLIAMS

Tony Rome and a friend, sprawled lazily on the deck of a cabin cruiser, were finishing a poker hand as "Lady In Cement" opened. This relaxing scene, and the incredibly beautiful turquoise color of the water in which the boat floated, seemed to belie the grisliness of the title. I, who generally hate "detective stories," remained braced for the unmitigated violence which I was certain would come eventually.

By the time any violence occurred, the intricate plot had so thoroughly involved the entire audience that we were all prepared for it. We winced as those whom we had as yet been unable to classify as friend or foe to "our hero" received their blows, but we needn't have worried; only once did a friend take the worst of it. He was Tony Rome's co-worker, and a mobster's frame-up had forced upon him the painful duty of arresting his friend for murder. Tony knew he had to remain free to clear himself, so he planted a few strategic punches.

I thoroughly enjoyed "Lady In Cement;" there's something for everyone. Action and suspense were tempered with humor. (The movie took especial advantage of the imposing presence of Dan Blocker to create some hilarious situations.) And certainly not the least of the appeal of "Lady In Cement" lay in its stars. Leaving the theater, I raved about Frank Sinatra. A gleam appeared in my escort's eye, and he effectively silenced me with a simple sentence; "I like Raquel Welch."

## Jane Sullivan Presents Recital at Chapel Hill

By JANE HOLT

Our own Mrs. Jane Sullivan gave an outstanding song recital Sunday night, February 2, at The Carolina Union in Chapel Hill. The concert was submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Music.

Smiling broadly and wearing a stunning floor-length blue gown, Mrs. Sullivan expertly entertained the large audience consisting of many Meredith students and faculty and other vocal enthusiasts. Mrs. Sullivan began her performance with Sullivan began her performance with *Les Muits d'Ere*, Opus 7 (T. Gautier) by Hector Berlioz, which consisted of "Villanelle," "Lespectre do la rose," "Sur les legunes," "L'absence," "Au cimenter," "L'ile inconneue."

After two encores, Mrs. Sullivan was allowed to pause for a brief intermission. Beginning the second portion of the program, Mrs. Sullivan sang *Fauf Gedichte* (Wesendonk-Lieder) by Richard Wagner which included "Der Engel," "Steche Still," "Im Treibhaus," "Schmerzer," and "Traume." Throughout the performance, Mrs. Sullivan displayed the professional assurance and control of a prima donna. A collection of Sacred Songs for Pantheists by Robert Ward concluded the program.

Clapping enthusiastically, the audience encored Mrs. Sullivan three times, hoping for an additional rendition. A large crowd flocked backstage after the performance for congratulations and even autographs. There was talk that Mrs. Sullivan should be with the Metropolitan. I wonder what Charlie would think of that?

Try-outs for the play "Xingu" will be held on Tuesday February 11 from 1-5 p.m. in 202 Jones. "Xingu" will be presented March 22 for an alumna association meeting, according to Mrs. Ruth Phillips, who announced the try-outs for the comedy.

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