

But Only for Visits

"School Sick" Miss North Carolina Returns

By Brooks McGirt

Being Miss North Carolina isn't easy! It's having to worry about how you look, how you sound, how you feel in everything you do. It's not having very much time to "let go", to really relax and know you're not on display, and don't have to watch everything you say or do.

Patsy Johnson has found a place where she can do just that — here at Meredith.

Patsy, who would have been a junior here this year were it not for her winning the state title, has made Meredith her "second home." In fact, with all the traveling she has been doing recently, it may seem that she has spent more time at Meredith than she has at home.

Two Visits Already

In the short time since school began, Patsy has already paid two visits to the Meredith campus, most recently to sing at the Board of Trustees dinner, September 26. Later visits are also being planned — the closest one for an appearance at the N. C. State Fair.

The reason for all these visits? Quite simply, Patsy misses school.

Those who find it difficult to understand how anyone could actually miss school must take into account Patsy's unique situation and realize that if they too were suddenly prevented from returning to campus they too might find themselves pinning for life there.

And most probably, they would miss it for the same reason Patsy expresses, to wit: "The thing I miss most is being with my friends," adding that as Miss North Carolina she rarely has the opportunity to speak with or meet people of her own age.

That's why, when she can return to the dormitory for a few hour's respite from her busy Miss N. C. world, she has to make up for lost time.

She's Still Patsy

Being hailed as a beauty queen has not really changed Patsy, unless to make her crazier than ever when she can finally "let down her hair." There is never a dull moment, as Patsy relates some of the less well-known problems of having to be pleasing to the eye all the time. She jokes, she laughs, she blows soap bubbles with the girls on the hall, she eats and eats and eats, she clowns — she does everything but act like a Miss North Carolina — perhaps because at Meredith she once again can become just another student.

No Real Escape

But it is impossible for her to escape completely the Miss N. C. world, when there are always people asking questions for articles like this one. And Patsy is always gracious, although it is easy to understand how tired she must get of interviews. But the interviews keep coming and she keeps answering the questions — questions like "What's it like to be Miss North Carolina?" to which Patsy replies thoughtfully, "It's a combination of fun, opportunities, disappointments, tired feet — and a certain kind of love."

Any discussion of her duties as the State queen leads naturally to the area of the Miss America pageant. Says Patsy, "It was wonderful!" and adds, "The most fun was generally getting to know the girls!" But she adds there was also much work mainly in the form of 8:00-5:00 rehearsals each day.

Of the girls she met she says, "There were many wonderful congenial and Christian girls there."

At the national pageant, Patsy had her own cheering section from Meredith (see Sept. 25, 1969 TWIG), of which she says, "That was really neat. In fact, one of the

best things about the pageant was knowing that so many of my friends were behind me!"

Although Patsy may feel "homesick" for school, as she reports she was at first, it seems almost impossible for her to escape completely from it, she notes. In fact, she reports, "Most everywhere I've gone, I've either met a Meredith alumna or a relative of one."

Double Representative

Also, Patsy is not unaware of her role as a representative of her school as well as her state.

The dual role doesn't bother her too much, however. She says, "If I live up to all the rules I have as Miss North Carolina, I don't think I'll have to worry about being a representative of Meredith!"

The life of a Miss North Carolina

is not an easy one to live, even if you are Patsy Johnson. It takes a goal and some basic ideals.

Says Patsy, "I really have no profound goals. I know everyone always says 'A Good-Will ambassador,' but my personal goal is for me to get to know the people as people all over the state and for them to get to know me, not just as Miss North Carolina, but as Patsy Johnson."

For Meredith girls who themselves have aspirations for beauty contests, she advises, "Be sure of what you want for your life before you start, because it's awfully easy to stray from the really important things in life."

And for all her Meredith College friends at this, her home away from home, she adds an emphatic, "I miss ya'!"

The feeling is mutual.



Patsy Johnson, Miss North Carolina, talks over old times with her "would-have-been" roommate, Fair Merriman, during a recent campus visit.

Pupil Personnel Services Workshop Underway at Meredith Through Friday

A workshop on Pupil Personnel Services sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is being held on the Meredith campus today (Thursday) and Friday, October 9-10.

Students are invited to attend the general meetings, says Miss Kathryn Ray, state supervisor of pupil personnel services, to hear speakers "well-known in their fields."

Friday speakers will include Miss Barbara Brown, school social worker from Rockdale County Schools in Georgia speaking on "School Social Services" at 10:30 a.m. and Dr. Paul W. Fitzgerald, director of pupil personnel services in Florida, who will conclude the workshop at 2:15 p.m.

Speakers during Thursday's program discussed topics such as "Psychological Services" and "Testing and Pupil Appraisal." Among those appearing were Dr. Gordon H. Rettke, director of psychological services for Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools and Dr. Hugh I. Peck from the Learning Institute of N. C.

All meetings are being held in Jones Auditorium.

Advertisement for John Vassilion's North Hills Steak House & Tavern, specializing in charcoal steaks.

Transfer Forum Held

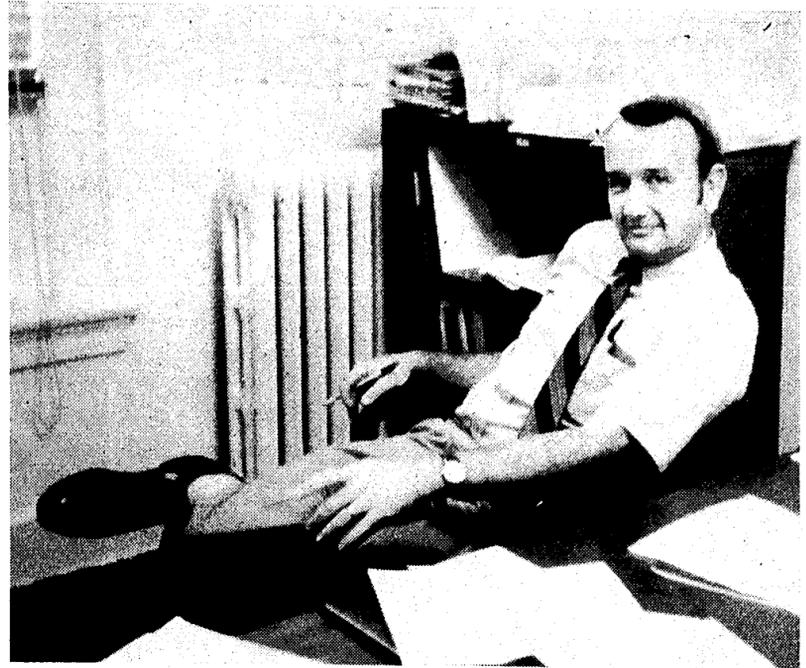
The Meredith Transfer Forum was held on campus October 8 for counseling personnel from private junior colleges in the state.

The Admissions Office is making a concerted effort to attract graduates from junior colleges, note officials.

Representatives from Brevard, Chowan, Lees-McRae, Louisburg, Montreat - Anderson, Peace, St. Mary's and Wingate were expected to attend Wednesday's forum.

October 16, a second forum will be held for counseling personnel from Community Colleges in the state.

Advertisement for Coca-Cola featuring the slogan "things go better with Coke" and a list of participating locations.



Dean Allen Burris takes a break from daily routine in his paper-strewn office.

Dean Burris Stresses Action In Role as Meredith Dean

By Jane Holt

History majors — Prepare yourselves to welcome a guest lecturer who will soon speak on his pet subject, "British History." He is Dr. Allen Burris, the new academic dean who professes to be an avid history fan and admirer of Arthur J. Balfore.

Dean Burris is a graduate of Wingate College where his father was President for several years. He also graduated from Wake Forest University and received his doctorate from Duke University. Majoring in history, he concentrated on political theory and British and Constitutional History. Before accepting the deanship at Meredith, he was a history professor at St. Andrews College at Laurinburg.

When asked why he accepted his new position as Dean, Dr. Burris replied, "I feel Meredith has potential to which I can contribute." He added, "I must admit that my father's active role in the development of Wingate College influenced my decision." Dean Burris regards his new office as a "suspended state" between administration and faculty. The faculty is his primary concern, however, and he will attempt to be-

come its sounding board. New developments in the Raleigh College Cooperation Program are underway as well as future team teaching which Dean Burris plans to instigate this spring.

Dean Burris is a family man as well as a college administrator, and shares his interests with his wife Jane and their two children. Dr. Burris, who has been "singing all his life" plans to seek out the male choral group here at Meredith. Besides tentatively planning a book, the title of which he would not reveal, he enjoys reading the comic strip, especially Orphan Annie and the Wizard of Id.

His "new challenge" is striving to become an efficient dean at Meredith, although he admits that he finds it difficult to not know students personally and misses the exchange of philosophical ideas. Learning is a "mutual obligation between students and professor," he says, and both must work at understanding each other. He reminds all Meredith students to keep the quality of gentility Meredith girls are known for.

With President Heilman, Dean Burris shares the desire to make Meredith College "one of the finest in the South."

Advertisement for Burton's wool clothing, featuring a coat and the slogan "HOW TO PACK YOUR BAG".