

# Syron Tours Africa

by Joy Seaborn

Am I teaching my students the truth? This was the question foremost in Dr. Leslie Syron's mind, as she departed for a three-week seminar-tour of Africa under the auspices of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Leaving America August 12, Dr. Syron, under the leadership of Dr. Deborah Wolfe of Queens College in New York, visited the major cities of six West African nations: Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, and Ghana. Her hostesses in these countries were chiefly African executives who had visited the United States under cultural exchange programs.

Visiting with these women in their homes, as well as visiting with the staffs of American embassies, the Peace Corps, and the United States Information Agency (USIA), Dr. Syron said she was most

impressed by the African's strong national pride. Examples of this pride were most striking when juxtaposed with the West, as in the home where ultramodern furniture was set against the motif of tribal masks and in the Presbyterian services which began in English and ended in three African dialects.

In reflecting over the "surprise ending" of her own trip, a forty-eight hour delay because she could get no plane, Dr. Syron's advice to girls desiring to visit Africa is to get with a reliable tour group and to get a guide who knows Africa well. Dr. Wolfe has one person whom she recommended.

Are you teaching the truth? Dr. Syron's answer was a resounding "yes!" though she added in her final comment on the trip, which ended September 5, "I still feel there is much to be learned."

College seniors preparing to teach school may take the National Teacher Examinations on any of the four different test dates announced today by Educational Testing Service, a nonprofit, educational organization which prepares and administers this testing program.

New dates for the testing of prospective teachers are: November 11, 1972, and January 27, April 7, and July 21, 1973. The tests will be given at nearly 500 locations throughout the United States, ETS said.

Results of the National Teacher Examinations are used by many large school districts as one of several factors in the selection of new teachers and by several states for certification or licensing of teachers. Some colleges also require all seniors preparing to teach to take the examinations. The school systems and state departments of education which

use the examination results are listed in an NTE leaflet entitled SCORE USERS which may be obtained by writing to ETS.

On each full day of testing, prospective teachers may take the Common Examinations which measure their professional preparation and general educational background and a Teaching Area Examination which measures their mastery of the subject they expect to teach.

Prospective teachers should contact the school systems in which they seek employment, or their colleges, for specific advice on which examinations to take and on which dates they should be taken.

The BULLETIN OF INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES contains a list of test centers, and information about the examinations, as well as a Registration Form. Copies may be obtained from college placement officers,

school personnel departments, or directly from National Teacher Examinations, Box 911, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.

## VOLUNTEERS BEGIN TUTORING

Last week twenty Meredith girls volunteered to work with the tutorial program at the Methodist Home. In two one-hour sessions, Mrs. Mary Ann Powell, the home's tutorial coordinator, provided a two-fold orientation. Tuesday's meeting dealt with the basic set-up and purpose of the program. Thursday's session involved the individual matching of students with tutors.

On Tuesday evening, Mrs. Powell greeted six tutors returning from last year's program. Each "old" tutor elected to continue tutoring the student previously aided. These girls realize the importance of building on established relationships. During the second year, the tutor can extend the tutor-child bond. In this stage, participation in additional activities on and off the home's campus is encouraged.

Later on Tuesday evening, Mrs. Powell met with sixteen new and enthusiastic girls. The girls listened as Mrs. Powell described the program's purpose. She explained that this program was intended to supply the unique academic needs of each student. Due to size of classes in school, these needs are not personally filled. By providing the one-to-one relationship, a sense of singular worth as well as educational improvement is supplied.

Continuing on Thursday night, Mrs. Powell matched each Meredith girl with a child. The academic need of the child was matched with the interest of the tutors. This careful union of interest and need established a foundation between tutor and student.

Each Monday and Thursday night at seven-thirty, twenty unselfish girls give an hour and a half to this program. Transportation is provided by the home. If anyone is still interested in tutoring, please contact Ruth Ann Stephenson at 834-4546. YOU ARE NEEDED!

## MEREDITH'S McGOVERN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS TO PLAN CAMPUS EVENTS FOR CANDIDATE

The McGovern Steering Committee for the Meredith campus met twice last week. The student committee, whose purpose is to inform the Meredith population of Senator

George McGovern's candidacy, spent last Tuesday afternoon planning a campus canvas intended to show student attitudes and an informative coffeehouse scheduled

for Friday, September 8.

The planned canvas was successfully completed on Wednesday and Thursday. This survey contacted every dormitory student. It reflect-

ed opinions concerning the North Carolina senatorial and gubernatorial, as well as national, political races.

Plans for the coffeehouse continued on Wednesday evening. Mary Susan Parnell, Chairwoman of the coffeehouse committee, took the "donkey by the ears" and pulled the details in shape. It was decided that the "Hut" was the place for the "politically social" event. A unanimous vote added food and music to the event's agenda.

In addition to the coffeehouse, interaction with the Young Democrats Club was discussed at both meetings. Extensive voter registration was decided to be a common goal of the YDS and the SSC. Future plans for the McGovern campus campaign were also made. The success of the Buck Nixon Club boosted the committee's spirits.

The core committee consists of Cathy Murph, Woody Dicus, Lyn Irving, Mary Rogers, Denise Almond, and Ruth Anne Stephenson, Ann Wall and Cathy Rodenberg, who are the co-coordinators of the McGovern campaign on campus, aided the committee's organization.

## IRC HOLDS MEETING

Linda Weeks, President of the International Relations Club, was pleased by the large number of students who appeared at the club's first meeting on September 5. The guest speaker for the meeting was Dr. Gates, who recently returned from a six-months' sojourn in India. Dr. Gates' talk about the culture of India was not only interesting and informative but spiced with amusing anecdotes. She displayed several articles she brought from India, such as clothing, jewelry, and rugs; she was even attired in the native garment of India. In her concluding statements, Dr. Gates encouraged the club members to learn about other peoples and cultures.

Although traveling is one of the best ways to learn about other cultures, a person can stay in America and still become acquainted with other cultures. How? By joining a club, such as IRC, which strives to familiarize its members with foreign cultures. The IRC has planned trips and special activities

which are fun as well as educational. For this fall, the IRC has planned a week-end trip to Washington, D.C., to tour Embassies; for the spring, the club has planned a trip to a model United Nations held in Philadelphia or St. Louis.

If you are interested in other countries and peoples, the IRC is your kind of club! The club meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Blue Parlor in Johnson Hall. New members are welcome!

## CONCERT

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Most of this type of music. A lot of the works for chamber music follow the principles of the sonata form. However, the style is something like a friendly conversation among equals, with each instrument asserting itself fully. The total result is an atmosphere of intimacy and refinement for the audience of a chamber ensemble.

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