

# THE TWIG

Newspaper of the Students of Meredith College

VOL. XLIX NO. 20

MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N.C.

MARCH 27, 1975

## New major introduced as history department revamps

by Maggie Odell

History is decreasing in popularity on college campuses, says Sarah Lemmon, chairwoman of the Meredith history department. Why, then, is it one of the more popular majors at Meredith?

One reason is that the department believes people can use history as a tool all their lives. This belief is perhaps one stimulus behind the department's continuing curriculum revisions that maintain relevance in the face of changing attitudes. The newest innovations are the establishment of a political studies major. The one hour modular courses, a new freshman introductory course to be tried out next fall, and the new museums track.

The political studies major is patterned after the American Civilization major. Eighteen to twenty of thirty-six hours will be political science courses, while the remaining hours will be comprised of courses related to political science, such as economics. Assistant professor Erika Fairchild, will be the adviser for political studies majors.

According to Dr. Lemmon, the modular courses introduced this spring have been successful and she expects to see them continue to be offered. A variation of

modular scheduling will be used in the new one-semester freshmen introduction to the major forces in world history taught by Dr. Lemmon and Mrs. Grubbs, the first three months will be a general introduction for the last month. The student may choose one or two modules that are of special interest to her. In this way she may earn three or four hours of semester credit. If the course works next fall, it will be offered again in the spring and then be included in the catalog as an alternative to the Western Civilization course.

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Mordecai House. The student, who does not necessarily have to be a history major, is encouraged to take any available drafting, furniture, or design courses, for all of these disciplines will be helpful in a museum career.

That the history department has welcomed change can be seen in its established programs. Such as the Capital City Seminar, the junior year archives course, and the internships downtown. It is resourceful, using its location to full advantage. The innovations it continues to make are proof of its commitment to relevance and reasons for its popularity on Meredith's campus.



Dr. Samuel D. Proctor

## Staley lectures slated for April

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, Professor of Education at Rutgers University in New Jersey (Martin Luther King Memorial Chair in the Graduate School of Education), and Senior Minister of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, will be the Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Lecturer April 7-8. This lecture series at Meredith is being made possible through funds provided by the Thomas F.

Staley Foundation.

The Staley Foundation was established in 1969 by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Staley of New York in memory of their parents. It is a private, non-profit organization which seeks to bring to the college communities across the nation distinguished scholars who will challenge the minds of the youth of American colleges and universities. The Foundation has sponsored theologians on college and university campuses across the country, and this is the second year Meredith has received a Staley Foundation grant to conduct a distinguished scholar lecture series.

High quality requirements are placed on

Staley lecturers by the Foundation, and Dr. Proctor well meets all possible expectations. He is a native of Virginia, an alumnus of Virginia Union University, Crozer Seminary and Boston University, where he earned his doctorate in ethics. He has done other graduate study in sociology, at the University of Pennsylvania, in social ethics, at Yale University, and as a participant in the Harvard Institute for University Administration.

He began his career as a minister in 1945 in the Pond Street Baptist Church, Providence, Rhode Island, and as a teacher and dean at Virginia Union University in 1949.

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## Twig newsbriefs

### Political science entries.

Two essays by Meredith College students have been submitted to the North Carolina Political Science Association contest for best undergraduate research paper. Emily Johnson's paper "The Gubernatorial Veto and North Carolina" and Beth Dickie's paper "Knocking the No-Knock" are the two entries. Both papers were written while the authors were participating in the Capital City Semester.

The papers will be judged by a panel of political science professors from North Carolina colleges. The winners of the competition will be announced at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Political Science Association in Charlotte during April, 1975.

### BSU Conference

The annual BSU Spring Conference is set for the weekend of April 11-13, 1975, at Ridgecrest. The theme is "Communication: Bridging the Gap" and will focus particularly on the essentials of meaningful dialogue and interaction. Qualified leaders will be on hand to develop the theme in various ways, and Gene Cotton will be around the entire weekend, singing in concert, leading in worship and "MC'ing" the coffeehouse on Saturday night. The use of

small groups, a coffeehouse, annual election of state officers, commissioning of summer service workers, and some timely interest groups (such as graduating senior and vocational decision-making sessions) will be important, informative parts of the weekend.

The conference will begin with registration at 4:00 Friday afternoon, and will end with lunch on Sunday. Please come by the Campus Minister's Office in Johnson Hall for more information and to sign up. (Or, contact the Baptist Chaplain, BSU Center at N... Deadline for pre-regis... March 31.

### "Aspen" — more than a trip

by Lynn McArthur

On March 7, 1975 at 5:30 13 students and one sponsor left the parking lot in front of Johnson Hall to embark on a three day journey that would take us three quarters of the way across our country to a snowy, sunny little resort town in the Rocky Mountains... Aspen, Colorado. The original idea behind the trip was to go Cross-Country skiing but it turned out to be more than "just a ski trip." It was an educational experience somewhat beyond words. Everyone who went

seemed to be reaching out and taking advantage of all the experiences they could. There was a lot to experience in Aspen... downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, ice skating, snow shoeing... and I think we experienced them all. Doing these things opened up doors, however, for experiencing even more exciting things... getting to know the people in Aspen, getting to know and love the others in our group, and getting to know and becoming at ease with ourselves. Aspen... a "Rocky Mountain high" that 14 people will never forget.

### Movie schedule

The Saturday night at the movies schedule for April is as follows:

April 5 - "Rachel Rachel"  
April 12 - "Fail Safe"  
April 26 - "Fahrenheit 451"

The movies will all be shown at 1:00 and are free.

### "At the World"

"Wednesday night at the World" sessions are held weekly in 3rd Barefoot at 7:00.

The April schedule is:  
April 2 - "Why You Need Insurance"-  
Harry Brown  
New York Life

## Sample revised class first, register later

Have you a yen to write — poetry, fiction, newspaper stories?

Then plan to stop by a sample session of next fall's Creative Writing course (Eng 236), to be held next Wednesday, April 2, from 3:30 to 4:30 in Cate Center's Faculty Lounge.

The agenda will include informal discussion of contemporary poems and a short-short story, as well as a look at the feminine-oriented text, *BY AND ABOUT WOMEN*, a collection of modern short fiction.

For those interested in journalism, information will be available about a new aspect of the course, the writing of newspaper feature stories. Ms. Helen Jones, discussion leader, plans to invite local women editors during the fall semester to discuss the similarities between good feature-writing and any other effective writing.

Such information will serve the interests of pre-law

students, who most graduate schools advise to take extra courses in English, specifically writing.

The course is urged also for those who plan to work on campus publications in the future.

Writing-class students receive a tangible memento of their semester's work: 25 copies of a published booklet of their poems or stories, ideal for Christmas giving to their relatives. (Some of last year's booklets have been on display outside the English office.)

Students interested in scheduling English 236 in the fall may point out to their advisors that, since it is not a literature course, there is no prerequisite involved; students on any level may sign up.

The course is highly informal, allowing each student to follow her own interests, whether prose, poetry, or newspaper work.