

THE TWIG

MEREDITH COLLEGE



RSW and sports

"Women in Sports" was chosen to be the topic of emphasis by the Program for Raising the Sights of Women. Surely women's athletics is a timely issue. It hasn't been long since Billie Jean King opened the question with her defeat of Bobby Riggs, the most celebrated male chauvinist pig in America.



The question of athletics is a timely issue for Meredith College as well. Last spring many of Meredith's athletes expressed a desire for greater support from the student body and administration in order that the quality of the teams be improved.

As the TWIG article of page 6 of this issue indicates, RSW planning so far has been to bring sportswomen as speakers to the entire student body. These speakers supposedly will act as role models, those wonderful sociological beings designed for imitation, emulation, and adoration.

There is a basic fallacy, however, behind an exclusive use of role models: People we know for as short as an hour usually entertain us only and rarely change our lives.

The role model fallacy is even more glaring with the category of women in sports for a basic reason. Bringing sportswomen as speakers merely recreates the "sideline syndrome". We women seem always to be sitting on the sidelines watching others play. Thousands of armchair Olympiennes sat entranced by the performance of Nadia Comaneci, but not many of us ventured to try a few forward rolls on the living room rug.

If RSW is to be serious about raising our sights in sports, it will have to do something about our daily participation. We might, in fact, learn from the sportswomen RSW was not able to secure for speaking engagements. We may facetiously imagine they were too busy practicing their sport to come talk to us about it.

RSW could help raise the sights of our intercollegiate teams by bringing in outstanding coaches from the area to work with teams for the duration of the season. Our competing sportswomen are talented and eager to win; demanding coaches could create a challenging competitive atmosphere.

RSW could also raise the sights of us athletic incompetents by working with the Meredith Recreation Association to strengthen the intramural program and also possibly to create continuous competition as opposed to the rather sporadic intramurals events. Bike clubs, swim clubs, and tennis clubs could have as their goals a minimum amount of practice per week.

RSW, by having chosen sports for its emphasis, is in a prime position to change a general apathy in sports at Meredith by making athletic recreation the fun thing to do. Introduction to the possibility of success with role models is fine, but let us hope that RSW planning reaches to the specifics of sports at Meredith.

MSO

TWIG editorial policy

The TWIG once again is underway for another year and again it seems necessary to outline the editorial policy.

First, the TWIG is a weekly "newspaper of the students of Meredith College." News, features, and articles of opinion will be written to inform students of campus, local, and national events.

Second, it is hoped that a beat system will be instituted this year and that reporters will be digging out the campus news themselves. However, if faculty, campus leaders, or individuals would like to ensure that certain events will be covered, they should contact the editor a few days in advance of the event.

Third, since letters to the editor are vital means of expressing opinion and promoting campus dialogue, we hope that many such letters will be written in the course of the year. Letters should be turned in to the TWIG office (2nd floor Cate Center, next to Faculty Lounge) by Friday noon to ensure publication the following Thursday. Letters should be signed, although names will be withheld on request. The TWIG reserves the right to edit all letters for matters of style; content will not be changed.

Last, campus support is solicited. This is your newspaper. It needs your input, suggestions, and readership. The TWIG staff is confident that this will be a fruitful year if we have the support of our readers.

MSO

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As we begin the fall semester, we have many thoughts running through our minds. It is with a great deal of excitement that we look at SGA's hopes and plans for the year. Executive Committee began meeting last spring to plan some activities and areas of emphasis. We will continue to support past projects such as the Health Awareness Program with clinics and other activities. We also plan to get actively involved in the November elections and hope that the student body will become interested from a voter's standpoint. This will be carried out in conjunction with other organizations, bringing candidates and their supporters to the campus for speeches and informal get-togethers.

Last year there were many changes made in the Honor Code, regulations, and procedures. This year will involve much evaluation of these changes to make them practical, working aspects of our life at Meredith. Only through student input and support will this be possible, for students are the ones that are most affected by these changes. Faculty and administrative input will also be a valuable part of the coming year.

Our ultimate goal is to help life at Meredith become

more meaningful for each community member. We urge individual expression of talents and abilities in the varied aspects of student life. This will be especially valuable to us in our SGA meetings, and in planning activities of interest. We look forward to your ideas and suggestions in making the year successful.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Smith
President of SGA
Kathy Frazier
Executive Vice President of SGA

Dear Editor,

As president of the Philaretian Service Club, I would like to bring an upcoming rededication service to the attention of the members.

Many of the Meredith Community have been questioning the purpose of the Phi Service Club as it now exists. Starting as a literary organization, the service club has passed through many stages. Although we have changed from a society to a service club we still need some redirecting in order to survive.

What was the Phi Society?
A service organization and a sisterhood.

What is the Phi Service Club now?

It is still a service organization, but it is now trying to be a true sisterhood. Fellowship and involvement will be the goals of our club.

Who are the present members?

About half of the Meredith students, a minority of which participates in rush and a smaller minority of which participates in the service projects.

Who will be the members?

Only those who are truly interested in the club. In the past students have felt an obligation to join a society. Now we want active members whose ideas and participation will make the service clubs on this campus more relevant. On Sept. 8 and Sept. 9 you "old" Phi's will be given the opportunity to recommit yourselves by signing a list in Cate Center. In order to maintain your membership in the Philaretian Service Club, it will be necessary for you to rejoin. It is my hope that each of you will seriously consider the purpose and goals of the Philaretian Service Club. If you are concerned and feel that the Phi Service Club is an important and meaningful part of Meredith and that you can be an active member, please rededicate yourself on September 8 or September 9.

Martha Claybrook, President
Philaretian Service Club

Will America recall Ford?

by Phyllis Burnett

After a long, hot summer of political haggling over delegates, the Republicans met in Kansas City and selected incumbent President Gerald Ford to carry the GOP banner in the November Presidential election. Ford ran a close race with challenger Ronald Reagan and the outcome was uncertain even up to the convention week.

Ford is generally classified as a moderately conservative Republican. Many Republicans feel Ford is too liberal. This attitude sparked the Reagan candidacy and resulted in a split in the party. After the Ford nomination, Reagan endorsed Ford in an attempt to reunite the party.

Whether Reagan's endorsement will have a unifying effect is still uncertain. Some ultra-conservatives are considering breaking with the GOP and starting a third party. A third party would stand little chance of winning and would only take votes away from Ford thus helping Democratic nominee Jimmy Carter—a moderate liberal. Conservatives would be wise, therefore, to back Ford.

Ford chose for his running mate Robert Dole of Kansas, whose ideology is very similar to Ford's. Since Ford has been in office for two years, his past record is probably the best indicator of what he will do if elected. Coupled with the Republican platform which is basically a Ford document, the voter has a fairly clear picture of what a vote for Ford entails.

Ford's foreign policy would be a continuation of detente. The negotiations with Panama over the Canal Zone

would also continue. Whether Kissinger would continue in office if Ford is re-elected is anyone's guess, but due to Kissinger's loss of popularity, the Ford forces will undoubtedly play down Kissinger's role.

The GOP platform included planks which advocated Constitutional amendments allowing prayer in the public schools and banning busing to obtain racial balance. Also advocated was the banning of abortions except in the case of rape or health reasons.

The Republicans also oppose a national health insurance, Federal registration of fire arms and the Humphrey-Hawkins full-employment bill. They did, however, come out in support of ERA.

Ford is currently trailing in the polls. This is an unusual position for an incumbent President with a rising economy and a country at peace. Many Americans feel, however, that we are in a

stalemate. Domestic and foreign affairs are not deteriorating, but they are not improving either. Americans feel that after 8 years of conservative leadership, it is time for a change.

The GOP is also still bearing the taint of Watergate. Even though Ford had no direct involvement other than his pardon of Nixon, he must overcome the new American superstition that all Republicans are crooked. Ford must overcome what the polls indicate to be a substantial Carter lead.

All in all, this fall promises to be politically exciting with the first debate between Presidential candidates since Nixon debated John Kennedy in 1960. This debate will undoubtedly clear up some rather vague stands on issues. In any case, the American people must decide in the next two months whether this model Ford is a lemon or not.

THE
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