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Gerry Jimmy host show

Merits of forum

Cheers are in order for the fall community forum series which began Monday with Saul Mendlovitz's speech on world community. These forums, sponsored by the Junior League of Raleigh in conjunction with Meredith College, will benefit the college in several ways apart from the knowledge they will provide.

First, the forums will meet the need for a frequent gathering of the academic community. For all the complaints about weekly required convocations, there has not been the observation that the college has suffered from not providing a time in which many different kinds of speakers could express themselves. The forums are a far cry from required convocations but they will supply that need for many students and faculty members.

Second, the forums will bring in important speakers from the community and state. One of the complaints about the weekly convocations was that not enough "biggies" could be sponsored when money had to be spread over 30 weeks. Now the complaint is that large sums are virtually squandered on speakers who share their wisdom with us for only an hour.

While the planners of the forums made a conscious attempt to bring in well-known authorities from afar, they have recognized that wise men do not always have to come from New York City and Harvard University.

Well-known academic figures have been invited from Duke University, Wake Forest University, and Davidson College. Local people involved in community service, such as Mayor Jyles Coggins, Mrs. Elizabeth Cofield, County Commissioner; W.W. Finlator, pastor and chairman of Civil Rights Commission; and Mrs. Betty Wiser, president, N.C. Council of Women's Organizations, have been invited. And, of course, the forums will lean heavily on the expertise of many of Meredith's own faculty and members.

Add to these benefits the opportunity of participating in discussions with concerned persons of the community, you have an ideal situation in which a college joins forces with the outside world to promote learning. If Meredith students take advantage of the weekly programs, perhaps forums covering other topics of interest will be sponsored in the future.

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by Phyllis Burnett
The first of the Great Bicentennial Presidential Debates is over. The American people were treated last Thursday night to two hours minus 27 minutes of technical trouble of political haggling in the first of the part "Jimmy and Gerry Show".

Who won? Who knows? Certainly not the American people who were undoubtedly bored by both candidates. The great debaters of the past—Webster, Douglas, and even John Kennedy—probably turned over in their graves after last week's performance.

The debate took place on a virtually barren stage in a historical Philadelphia theater. The staffs of both candidates had succeeded in their efforts to remove anything that might make their man the underdog.

Carter's staff had succeeded in removing Presidential seals and similar articles that might remind Americans that Ford was already President.

Ford's people had won the stage back-drop issue in

getting a dark blue background that would emphasize Ford's receding hairline I suppose it is un-American to have a bald President. The debate over these sundry preliminaries may well have been more interesting than the actual debate.

Both candidates stood behind their respective podiums, looking stern, serious, and scared. Only once or twice did a half-grin break on Ford's countenance. Carter, of course, intermingled on occasional smile in his facial expressions lest he lose his toothy image.

Both men spoke slowly, carefully, without a great deal of gusto. They were obviously scared of making a blunder. The feeling was prevalent that the debates would not necessarily make a candidate, but they could definitely break one.

Carter hoped the debate would stop the accusations that he was vague and took no real stand on issues. But after his first answer, Ford blasted Carter's hopes by saying he didn't think Carter had been

"any more specific in this case than he has been in many other instances."

Ford accused Carter of wanting everything - unemployment, an end to inflation and an overwhelming number of federally funded public services. Ford proclaimed, "He (Carter) can't have it both ways."

Carter accused Ford of being a poor leader, being out of touch with human beings and having a welfare administration instead of a work administration.

Ford said in his closing speech, "I think the real issue in this campaign "...is whether you should vote for his policies or for my performance..." The problem arises when one must decide which is worse—Carter's policies or Ford's performance.

Will the debates settle this question? If the first one is any indication, I seriously doubt it.

The next debates are October 6 and 27 on foreign policy and general issues. So stay tuned for part two of the "Jimmy and Gerry Show."

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In light of our experience on September 1, we would like to express our thanks to the

Meredith security system.

After the attempted break-in occurred, the security system immediately

responded to our call for help by sending guards to check the back fence, the dorm area, the tennis court area, and all possible escape routes for the intruder. Within a short while, Mr. E.B. Lawrence came on the hall to insure our personal safety. Moments after Mr. Lawrence left to help in the search, Mr. Claude Suggs came to check on us and inform us that the Raleigh Police Department would be called in on the matter. All of this time, the other guards were patrolling the campus in search of our intruder.

In any situation such as this, a minute can seem like an hour when help is anxiously awaited. We are sure the guards responded promptly and did a thorough job of investigation. The two guards that we saw that morning were a very welcome and consoling sight, and just knowing that they were there to help us when we needed them made the whole incident more bearable.

We would sincerely like to thank the Meredith security and commend them on a job extremely well done.

Alix L. Willcox
Mary C. Lane

Cabaret cast in rehearsal...



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