

THE
MEREDITH



TWIG
COLLEGE

Campaign wrap-up

The peanut farmer made it

Health care needed

A lunch conversation brought up the suggestion last week that Meredith hire a gynecologist to visit the campus once a month to tend to feminine health care.

It was a good suggestion, as it reflects the concern for health awareness that has been prevalent on the campus for the last few years. While our two nurses and doctor treat many problems, including vaginitis and cystitis, they are not specifically trained in feminine health care. Perhaps a part-time nurse practitioner could fill that need.

I must frankly admit that I am sometimes bored by demands for added emphasis on sex education and so on. But every now and then I am surprised by the overwhelming need at Meredith for such things.

During last spring's SGA health symposium, I was surprised to hear that many Meredith students were ignorant of very basic physiological facts about themselves. Even more appalling was the espousal by some students of assorted varieties of "cabbage patch gynecology," points of view about life and love which should have been abandoned in kindergarten.

Well, ignorance is bliss many times, but not on the subject of sex and not in the city of Raleigh. A few weeks ago in the Technician it was reported that NCSU doctors were treating from four to five cases of gonorrhea a week.

Not wishing to make implications about the character of Meredith women or about their infinite bad luck, I would only wish to affirm that we would be foolish to ignore the sexual behavior present in most college communities. Meredith may be a different kind of college community, but we should still take measures to maintain optimum health. If there is a need at Meredith for trained personnel in feminine health care, I also think there would be a good response to any program which made pelvic examinations, pap smears, tests for vaginal infections, and counseling on birth control available. The SGA expects favorable student participation, for example, in the pap smear clinic being held later this month.

Perhaps continued student support of SGA health programs will convince the administration that money is available for an added specialist in the infirmary.

MSO

Invitation to respond

Write to me! In the last few weeks I have touched on problems which have to do with the way you and I function in this community. I have stated my point of view partly because I like to hear myself talk but also in order that you may start thinking about the problems yourself.

Editors get lonely sometimes. They like to know that people respond to their ideas, hate their opinions, love their efforts, or simply see things differently. Let me - and the rest of the community - know what you are thinking.

In this issue we've left you a blank in which to state your opinions. This space is designed to make you see how easy it is to write a letter to the editor or to anything that has been bothering you lately. Tear the blank out of the paper, deliver it to 318 Barefoot (where I live) or to the TWIG office in Cate Center.

Now the TWIG office is hard to find, but that shouldn't stop you. It's located in the snack bar area. One door is next to the faculty lounge, and another is next to the large window.

All letters should be in the TWIG office or my room by 5 p.m. on Fridays. You need to sign your name to the letter, but you may request that we withhold your name from print. Write today.

MSO

by Phyllis Burnett

On last Wednesday morning a peanut farmer from plains, Georgia, realized his dream and became the first President elected from the Old South in over 100 years.

What will this mean for the nation and for the South? Will Jimmy Carter lead the nation into a new age of prosperity and glory or will he fail in his goal to provide new leadership and insight for America?

The answers to these questions are impossible to find at this point but I hope to provide a degree of insight on what basic policy directions I believe Carter will try to follow.

Once a candidate is elected to office he is thrown from the utopian world of what would be nice for the nation into the cold, cruel world of reality. Many of the candidates' pre-election

aspirations fall by the wayside or become virtually unrecognizable by the necessity of compromise. This will undoubtedly happen to Carter.

Carter will have the advantage of a Congress controlled by his party, but this Congress sees Carter as an outsider. They are accustomed to working with a President who came from their midst and may well be hostile and resentful toward the Carter administration.

Carter will also have to deal with the great number of factions within the party. The American people—with a great deal of justification—expect more from Carter. The vote for Carter was undoubtedly partially a vote for progressiveness and change in government. If Carter fails to come through with an active administration he will be a failure as president.

We can therefore expect Carter to push a large number

of new programs and changes in old programs. I believe the next four years will be very different from the past eight. I believe the next four years will be better but if you are a conservative - Democrat or Republican - you probably won't agree and I'm sure that many of Carter's new programs will be upsetting.

Carter will be less hesitant to tamper with the free enterprise system and the economy. He will be more likely than Gerald Ford to impose wage and price controls and strict energy conservation measures.

We can expect a change in the Federal Reserve Board. The Board at this time is basically conservative. Under Carter it will probably become moderately liberal.

In the area of foreign policy there will be little change except for the replacement of Henry Kissinger.

Carter will probably change the welfare system. He will try to enlarge the Social Security system. Carter will also push for a mandatory national health insurance by 1980.

All this obviously is going to cost more - both monetarily and in sacrificed personal freedoms. But it is simply a matter of priorities. It is a matter of equality and justice for everyone in society over personal freedom and economic gain.

The Republicans who have controlled the White House for the past eight years have opted for the latter while Carter will choose the former. For those who supported Ford it may be a tough four years. They fought the good fight and the victory was not easy for Carter.

At this point however it is to be hoped that all Americans will have the good sportsmanship and patriotism to give Carter a chance.

Letter Letters Letters

Dear Editor,

In response to the editorial, "Are we racist?", I can never forget the past. Traditional inhibitions about blacks cannot be totally dispelled from your minds by promoting black participation on campus, although it is a start.

I as a black at Meredith feel that I can never forget the harsh bondage of my people in the past and the amiable bondage that still exists.

Frankly, there is some bias here and my first year was spent trying to shake loose those emotions that wished to fight against it. It was not worth the energy I put into it. It wasted my time and it gave the people I lashed out at a negative view of me. I lost out in the end because I wanted so much to be a part of this thriving community.

Occasionally, I still explode into those defensive emotions but I've come to the conclusion that we are all

individuals and must be dealt with in that context.

Still, I will never forget the wrongs against my people that the white race, as a whole, contributed to. I cannot fully express my feelings but I can say that Meredith's dominant members have not accepted us.

Also, I don't think a panel of faculty and administrators, even with our token professor, can really discuss the real needs of the black students here.

Those inhibitions are in part what gives me the "guts to stick it out here." The other reason is that I worked so hard to get here to become something that those in my family who never had a chance can be proud of and the younger members can look up to and say "I want what she has" and strive for it. I want them to know more than the alienation I have felt.

Priscilla Chadwick

Write your "Letter to the editor" here

Comment on any topic.

Return to Maggie Odell, 318 Barefoot or TWIG Office, Cate Center, by Friday, 5 p.m.

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