

Dr. Wagner speaks on Biblical Women

by Maggie Odell

Dr. Gunter Wagner, New Testament scholar, professor at the Ruschlikon Baptist Theological Seminary in Switzerland, and visiting Harvard professor for this year, presented a re-interpretation of New Testament women in an effort to help Christians come to a more positive attitude toward the role of women in the churches today.

By way of introduction, Wagner observed the Baptists as a group are more conservative than individual Baptists. He called for more personal courage and for people to speak their minds openly on the question of women in the church in order to correct this difference of attitudes between the group and individuals.

Wagner also noted that Baptists as a group tend to follow their host culture, and that as society grants more rights to women, Baptists will follow. While he regretted this sign that change seems to be coming regardless of any influencing ideology, he maintained that an un-

derstanding of the position of the New Testament woman would be helpful.

Wagner traced three major periods of New Testament life. The first such period was the time when Jesus was teaching. In his relationships to women, Jesus revolutionized the common conception of the worth of women, Wagner said.

In a society which felt that women were not worth educating, Jesus had the theological conversations with women. Wagner cited Jesus' meeting with the Samaritan women at the well as an example.

Furthermore, in a culture which expected women to find fulfillment in the management of a home, Jesus set aside the model of the homemaker in favor of the model of the woman as a disciple. Wagner said that the significance of the Mary-Martha story is that Jesus disregarded societal norms that put a woman in her place.

Finally, Wagner noted that technical terms indicating discipleship are used in relationship to women in

the gospels of Mark and Luke. These women, having been followers during Jesus' life and witnesses of his death and resurrection, were qualified to be called apostles of Christ.

The time of the church before Paul is the second major period of investigation. During this period, such women as Lydia, and Priscilla were active workers in the new church. Wagner added that there is no reason to think the women did not do things the men in the church were

doing.

The third period of investigation is the time of Paul's writing and ministry. Wagner noted that Paul derived his doctrine from the church as he found it. His doctrine, therefore emphasizes a unity of believers and a social levelling power of such oneness in Christ. Thus, there is neither male nor female as Galatians 3:27 records.

The problem with Paul's teaching, Wagner said, is that

they are not entirely consistent with one another. Passages in the Pauline letters which call for the complete submission of women may be viewed either as later additions or as Paul's efforts to meet specific situations with practical advice.

Wagner attributed the loss of the revolutionary ideal of equality of men and women in the churches to the prevailing social attitudes in the early centuries of the church.

Retirement dinner held

by Debbie Doss

Three members of the Meredith faculty were honored at a retirement dinner Friday night, April 22.

Dr. Helen Daniell, Dr. Ralph McLain, and Mrs. Jane Deese will all be leaving their positions at the semester's end.

Dr. Daniell, who came to Meredith in 1968, is a professor of French and Spanish. According to her associate, Dr. William Ledford, she is a "skilled master" of these two languages and has more than a passing acquaintance with several others. Dr. Ledford who gave a short talk honoring Dr. Daniell, called her "an eager student as well as a genial professor" and said, "She is ever gracious and pleasant, and always has something worthwhile to say."

A world traveller, Dr. Daniell also has a love for gardening and a strong in-

terest in physical activities which she will pursue after her retirement.

The Department of Foreign Languages presented Dr. Daniell a corsage for her decade of service to Meredith.

Professor of religion Dr. Ralph McLain was also honored at the banquet for his 32 years of devotion to the college. Since he came to Meredith in 1945, Dr. McLain has seen the department of religion double in size and for many years, according to department chairman, Dr. Roger Crook, "Dr. Mac" was the most popular teacher on campus.

A person "who devotes himself fully," Dr. McLain has over the years, built his own home at the beach, become an avid fisherman, camper, and traveller, and has more recently become an expert in organic gardening.

Dr. Crook speculated that perhaps the thing Dr. McLain

has enjoyed most about Meredith is entertaining students in his home.

As a gift of remembrance, the Religion Department presented Dr. McLain a bound volume of letters from his former students entitled, "Dear Dr. Mac..."

Also a member of the Meredith faculty since 1945, Mrs. Jane Deese has served the college library in many capacities, at times as acting head librarian; according to her fellow staff members, she knows the library "totally." Mrs. Deese came to Meredith from Duke University when the library was still in Johnson Hall. "She loves people, her library work, and Meredith," say her associates. Mrs. Deese is a Meredith alumna.

The library staff will be honoring Mrs. Deese for her "efficient, energetic" service at a coffee on Friday, April 29.

Trailer adds offices

by Kristy Beattie

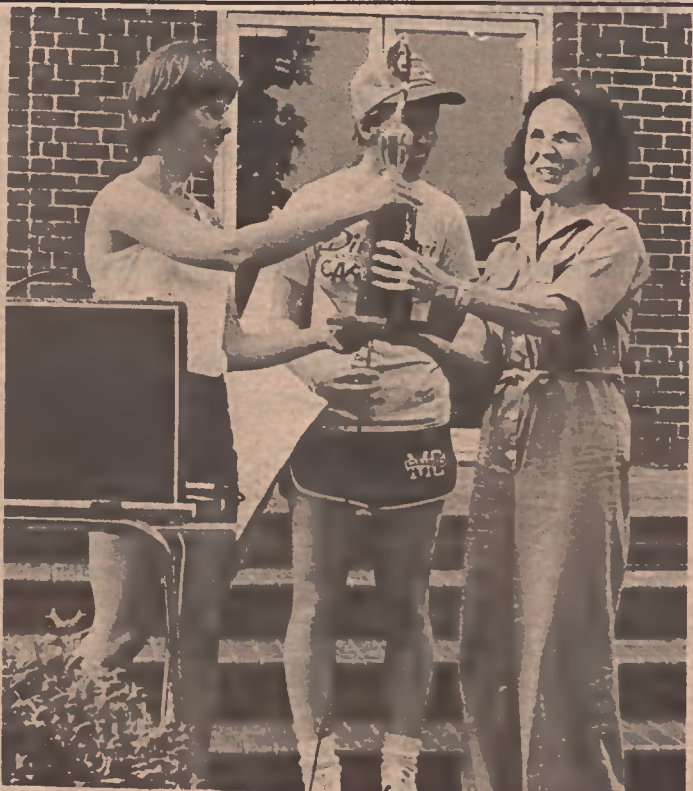
Contrary to popular suspicions, Joe Baker, vice president of student finances, explains that the building being constructed behind Carroll infirmary will not be temporary housing for students. The building is a trailer bought last year in preparation for an overflow of students. ut, as the housing problem was able to be handled sufficiently, it was unnecessary to use it.

The trailer is being erected and will be used to provide office facilities for various programs of the College.

Mr. Baker comments on the large amount of outside activities the College is in-

involved in; there are dinners, luncheons, lectures, and other meetings held throughout the entire week. Dr. Sarah Lemmon has been selected to coordinate all of these special activities with the College calendar. She will have an office in the trailer. The Continuing Education program is another program growing at the college. Its director, Mrs. Dahl, will also have an office in the trailer. Other offices may be relocated in the trailer after its completion, but there is nothing definite at this time.

Mr. Baker also assures those who feel unhappy about a trailer on campus that every effort will be made to make it as attractive as possible.



Mrs. Teetsell accepts the first-place Play Day trophy for Vann dormitory.

Two added to library staff

by Nancy Newton

The Carlyle Campbell Library has two new members joining the staff. Dr. John Lindsey will replace Mr. Michael Dodge as head librarian and Dr. Herbert Williams will be in charge of cataloging. Dr. Lindsey, who has a degree in theology, will

fill his position on July 1. Dr. Williams, who has his doctorate in English from Princeton University and his masters in Library Science from UNC-Chapel Hill, has already joined the staff.

Dr. Williams has worked in a library situation since his undergraduate years at Duke

University; he has also taught English. Dr. Williams feels that his training in English and teaching will prove very beneficial in his work on the Meredith campus. He enjoys his opportunity to work with people, helping them find needed information in the library. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Williams stated that he was "very happy to be at Meredith" and was impressed with the "friendly informality" of the campus. "I am excited about the library staff, the chance to work in such a fine new building, and the opportunity to serve the students and faculty."

Practitioners counsel

by Maggie Odell

As of fall, 1977, the Meredith infirmary will be staffed with one or two part-time nurse practitioners skilled in the treatment of gynecological illnesses.

While the nurse practitioners are medically qualified to treat any common illness, they will be authorized to treat only typically female or sex-related disorders in the Meredith infirmary. Available services will include counseling, pelvic and breast examinations, PAP smears, and treatment for vaginitis and cystitis. Dr. Sidney Martin, college physician, will continue to treat all other ailments.

The tentative schedule for the nurse practitioners will be Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, days when Dr. Martin does not hold office hours.

Cheryl Koob, Astro

Service Club president and initiator of the request for such a service, said that the nurse practitioners are especially interested in providing counseling service.

Should counseling reveal a student's need for help not available through the Meredith infirmary, such as a reliable birth control method, the nurse practitioner will refer the student to Wake Health Services.

Miss Koob, who received assistance from Dr. Marie Mason in having the service approved and funded by the administration, believes that students will find the availability of sex counseling and gynecological examinations a great benefit. She observed that this additional service will be at no extra cost to students.

The nurse practitioners will be provided to the college by Wake Health Services.

News News

In Finals

The Meredith team competing with other Eastern Carolina area schools in a computer simulation game of business strategy will enter the state finals April 29 and 30.

Meredith representatives Nancy Boyette, Beth Cobb, and Donna Douglas rank in the top eight teams.

The contest exercises the contestants' knowledge of marketing, production and finance and is being sponsored by the North Carolina Educational Computing Service at the Research Triangle Park.