

THE TWIG

Newspaper of the Students of Meredith College

VOL. LII NO. 3

MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N.C.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1977

New Telephone system comes to campus, system said to be more efficient, cheaper

by Jacque Lawrence

The telephone man seems to be a regular at Meredith College this year. At a time when most of the private telephones have been installed in dormitory rooms, students still see the telephone man with his belt of tools bustling around campus. Why is he still here?

Meredith College is installing a new telephone system with several advantages over the one presently used. Not only will the new system be more efficient, it will also be cheaper.

The extensions presently used in Johnson Hall and several other offices at Meredith are known as six button sets. Each of these telephones has several lines and a hold button. The operational fee charged by Southern Bell for each of these units is \$20 per month.

The new telephone will be touchtone. At \$1.90 per month, the operational fee for these will be approximately ten percent of the cost of the other.

According to Dr. Marie Mason, who supervises Meredith's telephone system,

"The whole purpose is to get rid of six button sets." Presently, calls cannot be transferred from one extension to another. The new system allows for the transfer of calls.

Also conference calls within the campus community can be arranged. This is not possible with the present system.

The new system will make the "outside world" more available to the Meredith community. There will be more outside lines. But more important is the fact that the campus will have power failure lines which, as Dr. Mason says, will assure that "we're not isolated here" in case of an emergency.

Students are only slightly effected by the new system. The private telephones in dormitory rooms will not be involved in any way. However, all hall telephones will be changed.

Unlike faculty and staff, students will not have to attend classes on the operation of the new telephones. An information booklet will be placed on each hall so

students can perform the necessary operations.

Students will not be effected by the cost of the new system. Even though the operational fee is considerably less, Meredith will be purchasing the new equipment. The fee for installation is \$3800. According

to Joe Baker, vice-president for business and finance, at present, "The monthly bill won't be affected but by a few dollars. There's not enough difference in cost now to talk about." However, in seven years, Meredith will own the equipment and the bill will be lowered some \$600 to \$700.

The monthly operational

fee of the new system is considerably less. The advantages are many. And as Dr. Mason says, "It will be more efficient and give better service, too."

The switch-over date for the new system is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 16 and 17.

Nondiscriminatory policy may bring housing change

by Nancy Newton

In Meredith's attempt to fulfill the nondiscriminatory policy towards the handicapped, under the guidance of the department of Health, Education, and Welfare, accommodations may have to be made in the academic and housing policies of the campus. Dr. Allen Burris, vice-president and dean of the college, in considering the new legislation, stated that the ruling will not create any great changes in the academic policy of the campus. Dean Burris pointed out that the college matriculated handicapped students and has made the needed adjustments to aid the students when the need was expressed.

According to the written legislation, certain requirements may have to be altered or substituted, as well as the length of time needed to complete a course or degree program modified, if

necessary, to aid in the completion of the student's college program. As stated in the ruling, learning aides such as tape recorders could not be prohibited nor could the use of guide dogs or other necessary equipment be limited. Course examinations which require the use of the student's impairment would also have to be altered.

Dean Burris suggested that the manner in which classes were conducted may have to be adjusted. He also expressed that as a part of the Meredith policy towards all students, the administration is "committed to meeting the needs of students and will continue to do so. The handicapped legislation is no change in the Meredith policy of being sensitive to the student's needs. I do not foresee any problems, but if we do, we will meet it individually as we meet all others."

In addition to the academic adjustments,

housing renovations may result. Mrs. Joyce White, Dean of Students expressed a view similar to that of Dr. Burris that many of the requirements have already been met voluntarily by the college before the legislation.

Dean White explained that a part of Meredith's policy in the past has been to locate a student who needed a room convenient to her classes, the dining hall and the library. Upper classmen who have special needs are given the opportunity to select a room prior to her class's drawing for rooms. Dean White did sight the repair of the elevators in the dorms as a project to aid all students. She suggested that renovations may have to be made to provide hand rails in the halls, rooms, and bathrooms, to adjust the height of the lavatories and to provide air conditioning when needed. All adjustments will be handled as the individual needs arises as has been done in the past.

Circle K Club meets service projects planned

by Carolyn Morton

The Meredith Circle K Club hosted a night of fun and food, Sept. 5, to introduce Meredith students to the service club. Forty interested persons met in the first floor parlor of Vann dormitory to enjoy punch and cookies while the club's officers acted out an original skit entitled "Showdown at The Circle K Corral."

The club received its charter last year and is participating in a vigorous membership campaign. Last year the club worked with such projects as Haven House

for boys, March of Dimes, Parents Anonymous, and attended the State Convention.

This year the club plans to work with special children in connection with Project Enlightenment. Meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. each Monday night in the first floor parlor of Poteat dormitory. "Anyone interested is invited to join us at the Monday meetings. We're looking forward to a good year and hope to get more girls involved in Circle K," commented club treasurer Janet Surles.

Honorary history society meets; activities planned for new year

by Miriam Victorian

The Phi Omicron chapter of Phi Alpha Theta held their first meeting, Monday evening, September 5th in 103 Joyner. The main purpose of the meeting was to plan the society's activities for the upcoming year.

According to President Tonya Jones, Phi Omicron will invite Mr. Charles Dunn, former director of the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to give a guest lecture. Mr. Dunn is currently employed by Channel Five News here in Raleigh.

The honorary history society also plans to acquire films of interest to the Meredith community including: "An Occurance at Owl Creek Bridge" and "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman." Discussions would follow each film presentation.

Another activity suggested by the members was a Student Forum at which a controversial topic would be debated. Advisor, Dr. Thomas Parramore suggested the Panama canal treaty as a possibility.

In addition to planning a trip to historic old Salem in Winston-Salem and a trip to a convention in Dallas, fund raising activities were discussed.

It was suggested that a fall initiation be started so that seniors could obtain membership in the society at least one year prior to graduation.

The chapter's next meeting will be held September 29th at 6 p.m. in 103 Joyner.

NewsNews

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed to be "Big Sisters" to girls from age 6-15 in the Wake County area. If you are interested and have 10-12 hours per month to give, please call Bridges to Hope at 821-0300 for more information.

Yearbook Help Wanted

If you are interested in working on the yearbook, there are still openings on the staff. Just come to a meeting, held every Wednesday 6:00 p.m. in the Oak Leave Office, 2nd Floor, Cate Center or drop by and leave a note.