

THE
MEREDITH



TWIG
COLLEGE

World affairs headlines reviewed from the summer

Guest Editorial

Honor ceremony comprises honor

Last Friday's honour code ceremony left me with mixed feelings. To say the least, it left a bitter aftertaste in my mouth.

Re-signing the honour code, being asked to please come and enhance the commitment to honour, and, in the same breath, hearing that attendance was required, otherwise call-downs and reports to faculty were to follow; that reminded me strongly of practices usually reserved to less democratic institutions.

Nothing against the honour code per se, it is the procedure of the event that was so unhappily chosen. It downgraded honour. Honour can't be institutionalized and thus forced on people. Honour, true honour, is very different. It is a spiritual value, developed through and within our upbringing in God. It grew in us; we freely developed it. Those who may not believe in practicing this honour will only be converted by example, never by force possibly executed by the Judicial Board acting as some sort of "Meredith College Pupil's Police Force"! Surely that is not in the nature of Judicial Board!

No, such procedure is too narrow. It bears within it forebodings of an atmosphere of abuse, mistrust, and indifference. I would rather have seen five students attend the ceremony voluntarily as students than one thousand students in this way, as pupils. Maybe there are grounds for thinking over our commitment to honour, but in personal, academic, and spiritual freedom.

Regine Nickel

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor:

We have just a few comments to make concerning last Friday's honor code ceremony.

In the first place, it was rather upsetting to many of us that we had to resign the honor code. It was never explained to us why this resigning was necessary. Is our word only good for one or two years? Had the honor code been changed somehow, necessitating a new pledge? Or was it all just a way to impress the importance of the honor code upon new students? For whatever reason, it would have left a better taste in everyone's mouth if we had known why we had to attend the ceremony.

Secondly, we were all thanked at the ceremony for voluntarily coming to resign the honor code. Not understanding why the resigning was necessary, many of us would probably not have attended the ceremony if not for the fear of retribution faithfully instilled in us by our hall proctors. We were threatened with call downs, being brought before the Judicial Board, and having our name sent to all our teachers for not signing. Given those odds, whether we agreed or disagreed, understood or not, we all went to the ceremony and dutifully resigned the honor code. Hardly voluntary.

Our last question is simply whether or not this event is going to be repeated each year. If it is, we think the students deserve an explanation as to why.

Kristy Beattie,
Martha Lewis,
and others

by Regine Nickel

In this semester's first edition of the column I would like to briefly recall this summer's main headlines in world affairs.

The first big event was the meeting between President Jimmy Carter and the ailing Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev in Vienna last June. This led to the signing of SALT II and the President's report on atheist Brezhnev's historic remark that God would never forgive the two nations a failure of this important and consequential treaty. An emotional atmosphere prevailed, at least in the public displays, of the meeting.

Shortly afterwards the president went into his "conclave" at Camp David to emerge with his refocused energy policy. The resignation of the entire cabinet and the publication of the circumstances which led to this resignation were commented on with surprise and consternation.

This summer several European and American

leaders, great and small, felt the urge to leave their mark on history by solving the Middle East problem. West German ex-chancellor Brandt and Austrian chancellor Kreisky met with PLO chief Arafat in Vienna. The plight of the Palestinian people and their right to a homeland was voiced leading to a great strain on Israeli - West German and Israeli - Austrian relations.

The unofficial meeting of a West German congressman and a PLO representative, followed by a statement of the latter that West Germany had thereby de facto recognized the PLO, brought about an unprecedentedly chilled atmosphere between Israel and Germany.

Requests concerning a restatement of UN resolution 242 to the effect of recognizing the right to existence of both a Palestinian and an Israeli state in the Near East induced the Israeli government to use the highest possible amount of diplomatic pressure on its allies. Talk of Arab oil as the sole factor in these decisions flared up. Thus far, the final

headline in that turmoil is the fall of the US ambassador to the UN, Andrew Young.

Finally Pope John Paul II's visit to communist Poland was another of this summer's most impressive events. The fact that a communist country allowed a pope to visit at all, (a few years ago Poland twice rejected Pope Paul VI's wish to visit the country) the fact that Polish government televised the entire event directly, and the fact that literally millions of people participated in unprecedented. Even if one takes into consideration that Polish national TV never really showed the millions of people of all backgrounds and all ages who came to see the pope, but focussed their shots on the pontiff or else featured elderly people to officially play the overwhelming appeal in the event, the visit could have been used to attack the Polish government openly and seriously. That this did not happen was due to the extraordinary diplomatic skills and caution exercised by both the Vatican and the Polish government.

The Meadowline Tales

by Ann Stringfield

"Well, well, boobie dolls, here we are again at Meredith College where another nerve-racking semester has started. And who have we here?"

"My name is John Weems."

"Well, John, you look troubled. Too much caffeine? Roaches in your kitchen? Dissatisfied with your mouth-wash?"

"Uh, no. Well I... You see, this reporter wants to see a Nan Meadowline, and she simply does not exist."

"Ah, but John, this is the mythological fantasy land of Meredith, and if you'll just imagine with me, you'll find yourself in..."

"218 Faircloth?" I asked the fair-skinned girl.

"Yes."

"Does Nan Meadowline live here?"

"Yes, just a minute."

I looked around the room, noting especially the multi-colored carpet.

"Like that? I laid it myself, which may explain why it's coming apart."

"Nan! How have you been? How was your summer?"

"Fine to both questions."

"Well, what did you do?"

"I went to Buckingham Palace and had audience with the queen. I had spinach with the queen too, and that was much better."

"Seriously..."

"But seriously, folks, I spent my vacation at 3-Mile-Island and got the most wonderful tan."

"Well, I can see I'll get nowhere about your summer. So how long have you been here?"

"19 years today."

"NO! I mean at school."

"I came a week ago to advise the freshmen."

"And?"

"I advised them to become sophomores."

"Be serious!"

"Serious? How could I not be serious after this morning's honor assembly?"

"A solemn occasion?"

"A surrealistic occasion. There I was at this gigantic lawn party with Glen Miller playing in the background and then Dean Burris walks up in

his Oxfords, prompting me to say, 'May I have this dance?'"

"And then?"

"Well, we all were disappointed that there wasn't any mint julep, but we satisfied ourselves with righteousness, solemnly swore not to steal aspirin articles and rode off into the sunset, hand in hand."

"And did you ever dance with Dean Burris?"

"No, I had forgotten my loafers."

Campus Paperback Bestsellers

- The World According to Garp**, by John Irving. (Pocket, \$2.75.) Hilarious adventures of a son of a famous mother.
- Evergreen**, by Belva Plain. (Dell, \$2.75.) Jewish immigrant woman's climb from poverty on lower Manhattan.
- Wifey**, by Judy Blume. (Pocket, \$2.50.) Housewife's experiences on road to emotional maturity: fiction.
- The Women's Room**, by Marilyn French. (Jove/HBJ, \$2.50.) Perspective on women's role in society: fiction.
- My Mother/Myself**, by Nancy Friday. (Dell, \$2.50.) An examination of the mother-daughter relationship.
- Bloodline**, by Sidney Sheldon. (Warner, \$2.75.) Woman inherits power and international intrigue: fiction.
- Scruples**, by Judith Krantz. (Warner, \$2.75.) Rags to riches in the fashion world: fiction.
- The Amityville Horror**, by Jay Anson. (Bantam, \$2.75.) True story of terror in a house possessed.
- Alien**, by Alan Dean Foster. (Warner, \$2.25.) Space travelers encounter horrifying creature: fiction.
- Illusions**, by Richard Bach. (Dell, \$2.50.) Messiah's adventures in the Midwest: fiction.

Compiled by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* from information supplied by college stores throughout the country. September 3, 1979.

THE
MEREDITH



TWIG
COLLEGE

Editor
Assistant Editors
Managing Editor

Mary Katherine Pittman
Dawn Hall, Darla Stephenson
Kristy Beattie

Reporters

Valerie Ray, Regine Nickel,
Ginny Porter, Dana Warren,
Carmen Warren, Mariene Debo
(Others to be listed later)

Sports Editor
Photographer
Cartoonist
Business Manager
Advertising Manager
Circulation Editor
Layout Editors

Darla Stephenson
Susan Kellum
Geri Deines
Leslie Landis
Leigh Stirewalt
Geri Deines
Suzanne Barr, Deborah Bartlett,
Sonya Ammons, Susan Jones

Faculty Advisors

Dr. Tom Parramore,
Mr. Bill Norton