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"Good News" -- Fall musical to be presented

by Marlene Debo Barnett

Football season is a special time on a college campus. Excitement and fun fill the air. There are pep rallies, school rivalries, players in training, and cheerleaders and supporters spurring the team on to victory. Do you ever miss that kind of excitement here at Meredith? Have you ever

wished we had our own football season to take part in? Well for a few magic hours on October 4, 5, and 6 that dream will come true in Jones Auditorium when the Department of Music and the Performing Arts presents the fall musical *Good News*.

Good News is about a college similar to Meredith in many ways, but Tait College

is co-educational. The whole campus is gearing up for the biggest football game of the season when the star player flunks an exam. Unless he passes a make-up test he won't be able to play and the team will surely lose to the school's most hated rivals. This crisis pulls the student body together -- they must find a way to assure a Tait victory.

An added twist is the time period. It's 1926 -- the era of the flapper, raccoon coats, and bath-tub gin. We see the Tait students demonstrating the hottest dance on campus, the "Varsity Drag." Freshmen had to wear their beanies and address upperclassmen as "sir" and "ma'am."

The clothes, dances, and customs were different, but many links exist between Meredith students today and Tait students in the '20's. Tait students have their share of romance, pranks, studying, and worrying about the future. We hear the familiar student problem in the song "After Commencement What Are We Gonna Commence?"

Good News has this romance, comedy, dancing, as well as lots of music. Some of the more familiar tunes are "The Best Things in Life Are Free," "Varsity Drag," and "Lucky In Love."

Melody Frazier portrays Connie, the intelligent and beautiful girl who falls in love with the football hero. Juana Ruble plays Pat, the busy sorority president who is going with the Football hero. And Joy Johnson appears as Babe, the headstrong independent girl who isn't afraid to go after the man she wants. Other female roles are taken by Lillian Dickson, Lynn Dyson, Ella Plyler, Wendy Stanley, Beverly Taylor, Dana Warren, and Marlene Debo Barnett.

The performances are Thursday, October 4 through Saturday, October 6 at 8 p.m. in Jones Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased in advance from any member of the cast or at the Drama office (243 Jones). Advance tickets are \$1.00 for students and \$2.50 for adults. At the door student tickets will be \$1.50 and adult tickets will be \$3.00.

Associate Minister appointed

Meredith Neill has been appointed Contract-Associate in Campus Ministry here at Meredith. Not only is she an addition to Meredith's campus, but an exciting one.

The eldest of two children, Ms. Neill was born into a Christian environment peopled by active Christian parents and grandparents. At the age of 12, she made her second journey overseas and was deeply impressed by her stay in Jordan and Israel.

Her father took it as his responsibility to teach her about the "age of accountability" during that stay. Some two months later, Ms. Neill made her profession of faith in a revival service. Throughout her early adolescence she participated in the usual church activities, including a heavy involvement in folk musicals and camping.

Her Sophomore year at Meredith, Ms. Neill declared majors in religion and history. During these Meredith years came some solid faith and a call into hospital ministries. She entered Southern Seminary in the fall of 1974 with a deep interest in pastoral care. During her three years of study, Ms. Neill began to grasp what it meant to be a pastor and what it meant to be a woman in ministry.

She graduated from Southern with her M. Div. degree in December 1977. Believing that she had some unique gifts for ministry, Ms.



Meredith Neill

Neill sought ordination to the full gospel ministry from her home church in 1978. She was ordained at First Baptist Church, Gastonia, that January.

Ms. Neill thinks that by becoming Contract Associate in campus ministry at Meredith, she will have the unique experience of ministering to young women in an academic context. She

will be primarily concerned with physically and emotionally healthy persons in a specific age bracket. Ms. Neill's training in ministry with supervised pastoral experience and skills in forming durable relationships, in pastoral counseling, worship, and in organization will enable her to help young women on Meredith's campus.

Board of Trustees approves vision program

Meredith College trustees approved a \$20 million Vision Program, the largest in the history of the women's college, to provide for current and future needs, Seby B. Jones, trustee chairman, announced following the semi-annual meeting Friday.

The program calls for \$14 million to be used for the general endowment and faculty development and \$6 million over a 10-year period for new construction.

"We hope to raise \$10-\$15 million in three to five years and the balance in deferred

giving and annuities," Jones said.

Meredith, the largest private women's college in the Southeastern United States, has been cited twice by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education as being one of the most financially sound institutions in the U.S.

"This program is designed to insure Meredith's financial future," Meredith President John E. Weems said. "It will enable us to continually meet the needs of

our students, faculty, and community through the addition of resources that will help us remain strong in the future."

The main thrust of the Vision Program is for endowment and faculty development.

"Most of our great institutions have large unrestricted endowments," President Weems said. "The time is now right for Meredith to make a major move in this area."

In the past eight years, Meredith's endowment has grown from \$1.5 million to \$7.5 million. The endowment is invested resources with interest being used to underwrite various programs at the college.

SGA promotes fitness

by Darla Stephenson

As a result of S.G.A.'s interest in and promotion of physical fitness on the Meredith campus, a New Games Festival was held in Weatherspoon Gymnasium on Monday, September 24th, at 8:00 p.m.

The New Games Festival is a nation-wide movement -- a group gathers and plays games just for fun! The competition element is left out of the games and according to Lynn Moss, the Resident Advisor for Carroll and Chairperson of Meredith's New Games Festival, "It's wonderful! I had a wonderful time."

Not only are the games for fun, but there is a lot of physical activity involved. One such of the games is body bumping. There was also a hug tag where someone was "it" and chased the others, trying to tag someone. In order to be safe, the chased had to hug someone else. Miss Moss described this as "wild," because there were times when she found herself

hugging someone she did not know.

Other games which were played at Meredith's New Games Festival included Kangaroo (a guessing game at how messages are mentally exchanged by two people who know the "trick"), rock-paper-scissors, a well-known game but was slightly modified and played in teams Monday night, and one-on-one volleyball was played, but the volleyball was replaced by a balloon which heightened the physical activity.

Miss Moss summed up the event as a "success" and worth the planning and time even though attendance and participation was sparse. She also extends an invitation to help anyone who is interested in working with New Games.

S.G.A. is planning various other activities throughout the year to promote physical fitness according to S.G.A. President Cathy Clapp.

The Meredith Marathon which will be held on Friday, October 19th at 10:00 a.m. is one of S.G.A.'s projects to advance physical fitness.

Tentative plans include a speaker on aerobics, a roller skating party, a square dance, an attempt to increase participation at Play Day (April 17th), and perhaps an October New Games Festival in the spring.

Buy roasted peanuts - help the disabled

The Exchange Clubs of Sanford are promoting a fund-raising effort to provide wheelchairs and other expensive equipment for the disabled or physically handicapped of North Carolina. To raise this needed money, Houston's Roasted Peanuts, salted in the shell, are being sold for \$1.00 per 12 oz. bag. If you wish to help out a good cause while enjoying delicious fresh roasted peanuts, please come by or call: Sandra Hancock, 308 Barefoot, Meredith College, 828-2051.

Senior art exhibit to open

Maureen Banker of Raleigh, a Meredith College student, will present her senior art exhibition in the art gallery on the lower level of

Jones Hall on the women's campus October 5-19. An opening reception will be held Friday, October 5, 4-6 p.m. The public is invited to attend.