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Parents Weekend activities prove successful

by Anne Earp

On Friday afternoon, the usual dorm evacuation was replaced by frantic dusting, vacuuming, and mopping as Meredith students prepared for arrival of parents, brothers, sisters, and boyfriends. Thoughts turned from frat parties and studying to Mom and Dad and childhood friends who would be visiting during Parents Weekend.

After a few hugs and joyful greetings, members of the Granddaughter's Club, along with their mothers and grandmothers, commenced their weekend with a luncheon in the Alumnae House. Mrs. Mae Grimmer, for whom the club and Alumnae House are named, attended.

"Meet Me At Meredith," a program in Cate Center, was the perfect enlightening experience for all visitors who had ever been confused by attempted explanations of Cornhuskin' and Stunt. After registration, parents were entertained by a videotape of their daughters' antics during the parades, apple bobbing, and class songs of Cornhuskin'. As students relived these memories of a few weeks ago, they interjected their personal experiences and explanations to help guests understand the traditions.

Other visitors determined when their next bad mood would occur, through the use of a computer that plotted biorhythms or tested their emotional responses to various word associations. These were only a few of the unusual exhibits presented by Meredith clubs and organizations as they attempted to portray their purposes and activities.

Next, guests received a preview of what the well-dressed Meredith student will

be wearing this fall in the home economics club fashion show, narrated by Mary Sanderson. The garments, all created by students, included plaid skirts, qiana dresses, wool suits, and long skirts with blazers.

As a part of "Meredith Update," Dr. Charles Davis explained some of the purposes, goals, and hopes shared by those who are involved in the college today and who will be involved in her future. He discussed the importance of helping the Meredith woman "to reach for her full potential" and of "the Christian attitude toward the whole of life." Some plans for achieving these aspirations include expansion of the library, home economics and art departments, student center, gym, and outdoor

physical education facilities.

The visual presentation "Meredith Heritage" helped viewers to understand the personal sacrifices and dreams that have formed the patterns of the college's past.

The feast, entertainment, and fellowship of Parents Banquet, with the largest attendance in its history, were the highlights of the evening. After an invocation by Larry Williams, Mr. Wayne Beachum, chairman of the Parents Association, welcomed students and their families. Dr. Weems expressed his confidence in Meredith's future as he said, "I've never seen a place where the students care about each other as much as at Meredith."

Diane Bacon, chairman of Parents Weekend activities,

received flowers and gave thanks to everyone who had helped her with preparations. The Ensemble, directed by Mrs. Beatrice Donley sang arrangements of "Let Us Entertain You," "We Can't Smile Without You," "I Got Love," and other popular songs.

A medley of Broadway tunes, selections by the Bathtub Ring, original musical compositions, and two tall-tales from Cornhuskin' were among the entertainment of "Meredith Showcase" hosted by Debbie Gault.

Sunday morning the Board of Directors of Parents Association met for breakfast to discuss plans for the upcoming year. Members decided to continue to help with financing of the dorm

elevators and to try to increase parental involvement. They also commented favorably on the students who had helped make the weekend a success.

The student-led worship service included praise through song, prayer, and responsive reading. Kristy Beattie and Mary Katherine Pittman discussed the ways both traditional beliefs and doubts can be used to build faith in a "Dialogue on Faith."

A pig-pickin' in the courtyard, with pork, barbecue, baked beans, slaw, and brownies, ended Parents Weekend 1979-80. Students, saddened by goodbyes, but happier for the experiences of the weekend, parted with their families and friends.

College Republicans busy

With the 1980 elections fast approaching, College Republicans is one of the most active organizations at Meredith. Under the leadership of senior Nancy Clendenin, the group offers and encourages campus involvement in the political scene.

Apathy is a challenge to President Nancy Clendenin and her officers, Vice-president Geri Lancaster and Secretary Vickie Toole. Their determination and hard work at the beginning of the semester more than quadrupled the club membership. A vigorous drive in early September generated enthusiasm as it built up the membership, almost depleted after graduation last May.

Now, with an enthusiastic group to support her, Nancy followed the dictates of her business-like mind: a joint effort is more effective when

the numbers are small. Thus, in September the Meredith College Republicans (CR's) joined with CR's from Duke, N.C. State, and UNC-Chapel Hill to hold a reception for Jack Lee, Chairman of the Republican Party in N.C. Involvement in an active political organization can provide contacts with the people who affect govern-

mental policies.

Participation also provides contact with the political leaders of tomorrow. In late October the CR's attended the annual CR convention at UNC-Greensboro. Along with fellow Republicans, they resolved to oppose further aid to Chrysler Corporation, to oppose the signing of SALT II as it

stands, and to register 18-year-olds for the draft.

This semester has been a full one for Meredith's CR's, going places, doing things. Next semester promises to be even busier. Political awareness on the campus will be stressed. Along with the Young Democrats and the North Carolina Student Legislature (NCSL), CR's will sponsor Political Awareness Week. At this time information on each candidate will be made available, and voter registration will be strongly encouraged. To ensure complete coverage, the members of CR will divide into groups and compile information about each of the Republican candidates running for major offices in the state and national government, each group covering a different candidate. Then, right before the primaries, YD, CR and NCSL will hold a mock election on campus.

With the election year just around the corner, the campus political organizations provide an excellent opportunity to get involved, to have a voice in determining the leaders, and thus the fate, of the nation.

The Young Democrats will be featured in an upcoming issue.



Nancy Clendenin is president of one of the busiest organizations on campus - College Republicans. (Photo by Susan Kellum)

CROP Worship Service held

by Jill Allen

Emphasizing the needs of the hungry and poor, a CROP Service was held Wednesday, November 7 at 10:00 in Cate Center. To start the Service, scriptures were read from the Bible. One was a story about a poor man who asked of a rich man if he could eat the crumbs that fell from the table. The rich man sent him away. Later he burned in hell. He asked God why he was there. The Lord said, "When I was hungry you sent me away." The rich man said, "But I do not remember sending you away." The Lord said, "If you have done it to the least of my brethren, then you have done it to me."

Carla Parker sang a solo with the repeating phrase, "Teach me Lord, teach me to care."

The service was only one of the ways Meredith students recognized the needs of the poor. Thursday, students had the opportunity to fast for one

or more meals and the money that the meal cost went to a food service called CROP. Sunday, a ten mile CROP Walk was held from Meredith to Capitol Square and back. The money from sponsors was used to feed starving people all over the world.

Concluding the service, Carmen Warren explained that caring was a practical form of loving. "We know God has bestowed on us to care for each other - to give love, thoughts, prayers, and money." She suggested that sometimes we forget there are other people living in the world and are only concerned with ourselves - our own needs. "We try to be the fairest one of all. Other people made the world in which we live. It's other people who challenge us to be something."

She encouraged people to say a prayer, offer help and just be aware of the problems of hunger and poverty.

Campus performances slated

Saturday, November 17 - Graduation piano recital: Rebecca Gibbs, 3 p.m., Clara Carswell Concert Hall, admission free. For further information call 833-6461, ext. 236.

Sunday, November 18 - Guest Piano Recital; Susan Black, 8 p.m., Clara Carswell Concert Hall, admission free. For information call 833-6461, ext. 236.

Wednesday, November 28 - "The Hobbit" performed by the Hutsah Puppet Theater 6 - 10 p.m., Jones Hall auditorium, admission free. Sponsored by the Cate Center Association 833-6461, ext. 338 or 339.

Thursday - Friday,

November 29-30 - "The Chambermaid," an eighteenth century ballad opera, 8 p.m., Jones Rehearsal Hall. For information call 833-6461, ext. 228m

Friday, November 30 - Sonata recital for piano and

Parramore presents paper

Dr. T.C. Parramore of the Meredith History Department attended the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History in New York on the weekend of October 26-28. Dr. Parramore, who appeared on the program with Dr.

violin by Stuart Pratt, former Meredith College faculty member, and Theodore Russell, instructor in music at Meredith, 8 p.m., Clara Carswell Concert Hall, admission free. For further information call 833-6461, ext. 236.

Raymond Gavins of Duke, presented a paper entitled "Conspiracy and Revivalism in 1802: A Direful Symbiosis." He is Treasurer of the North Carolina Chapter of the Association, which publishes Journal of Negro History and other scholarly periodicals.