

THE**TWIG**

MEREDITH

COLLEGE

Editor	Mary Katherine Pittman
Assistant Editors	Darla Stephenson
Managing Editor	Kristy Beattie
Reporters	Kathy O'Brien,
	Carmen Warren, Marlene Barnett,
	Beth Giles, Ann Earp, Kelley
	Stone, Jill Allen, Jackie Duong
Columnists	Regine Nickel, Ann Stringfield
Sports Editor	Darla Stephenson
Photographers	Paula Douglas,
	Lorri Whittemore,
	Peggy Willifrd
Business Manager	Leslie Landis
Circulation Editor	Margie Snell
Layout Editors	Suzanne Barr, Deborah Bartlett,
	Sonya Ammons, Susan Jones
Cartoonist	Ann Beamon
Proofreading	Ann Earp
Faculty Advisors	Dr. Tom Parramore,
	Mr. Bill Norton

Condemnation lacks support

by Regine Nickel
World reaction to the Soviet-propelled, so-called Afghan revolution was surprisingly unanimous. The best proof for this the reaction in the United Nations in New York. After the Soviets had predictably vetoed a resolution of condemnation in the Security Council the resolution was sent to the floor, where it was passed with overwhelming majority. one-hundred and four countries voted for the denunciation of the Soviet move, with only 18 to counter the measure, and 30 abstentions.

But this condemnation of the action is as far as a common, coordinated action goes. The State Department had to realize this in quite an unexpected way. When Undersecretary of State Warren Christopher toured Europe early this year every government in the European Community and NATO was sympathetic, but no government, except for the British, readily, instantly, and - most importantly - publicly backed all United States' proposals,

namely economic sanctions and the boycott of the Olympics.

Even today, three weeks further into the Afghan crisis, the situation has changed little. Britain's Margaret Thatcher remains this country's only unquestioning European ally. Explicably, her emphasis on the so overwhelmingly bleak situation in the field of international affairs gives her government the opportunity to make a strong foreign policy stand, thus belittling its difficulties at home, where the powerful steel workers' union is crippling the national economy.

America's leaders calling for the United States to resume the leadership of the free Western nations, once again, have hit some sensitive nerves on the continent. Most members of the European Community want to work with the United States, but not under the United States. France is the bluntest, frankly adhering to a foreign policy of its own. West Germany, the Benelux countries, Italy, and

Spain are more compromising, but still adamant.

This 'lack of cooperation' has two reasons. Firstly, Europe has many more social, economic, and cultural ties to communist Europe. Secondly, President Carter's foreign policy has been so flexible that some leaders still prefer to wait and see, and in the meantime do their own thing.

The Third World countries are in similar situation only in their reaction is Europe seen as a close ally to the U.S. The old prejudices of European and American imperialism resurface in their leaders' statements. Basically, Soviet aggression is condemned, but the United States' suggestions are not being adopted to any great extent.

World reaction to America's attempt to organize world support for punitive measures against the Soviet Union indicates mounting of distrust among the nations outside the Soviet camp, allied or block free. This is one aspect of the crisis which should be looked into.

Editorial

Will we be drafted?

We'll know by February 9. By that time Carter will have made his decision on whether to include women in the draft. If the present situation in Afghanistan doesn't alter significantly in the very near future, the draft will be reinstated and women can no longer expect to be excluded solely because of their sex.

According to a recent article in the News and Observer, Defense Secretary Harold B. Brown maintains that serious legal problems would arise if only one sex were registered. The equality women have demanded in the job market, educational systems, and domestic relations also extends to the battlefield. Or does it? The question to be considered is this: how "equal" do we want to be? Does the fact that women are wearing hard hats and using blow torches

necessarily mean they should put on helmets and carry machine guns? Where does the madness stop? Certainly, women who desire active military service should be granted the right to engage in combat alongside men, but enforcing a full-scale draft on the 16 million women in the registration age category would be a grave error. The majority of women would oppose such action and the internal conflicts arising over registering women for the draft would be far more serious to national stability than the Afghanistan conflict.

If, on February 9, we find that Uncle Sam wants us too, how will we face the draft? Will we accept it as a necessary means of procuring armies and military personnel, or will we rebel? It's our future.

MKP

Stringspeak

by Ann Stringfield
Whenever some left-winger breaches the subject of open dorms, someone on the upper rungs of administrative bureaucracy points out the possibility of rape. Not withstanding this highly justified moral position, the security guards have not troubled themselves over the flasher who has lately been visiting campus. Obviously, the guards have formed an alliance with administration in an endeavor to furnish Meredith with a learning experience. In Meredith's undying effort to provide a cultural atmosphere, they have brought to campus former prime ministers, schizophrenics and, now, flashers. And it is rumored that Charles Manson will be speaking "Religion and the Sociopath" next month.

Flashers are purported to be harmless sufferers of psychological disturbances. Any person with a psychology course under their belt can tell you that. So there's no need to worry if the flasher tries to chase you around the fountain or around the Alumnae House. He's just curious and you, too, should have an avid interest because now Meredith offers

credit for self-studies on the flasher. Psychology students will receive three hours credit for any reasonable hypothesis about behavioral motivation. Advanced biology students will receive only lab credit. A physical education credit will be given to any person who can prove she spent at least forty minutes per week running from the flasher. Since the flasher is relatively easy to spot, only pass-fail credit will be given.

For those who are interested, the flasher drives a burnt orange Pacer and can usually be seen between Johnson Hall and the Alumnae House after 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. Attired in a business suit, he is relatively harmless and probably works for state government.

In the event that the flasher gets overly curious or excited and accidentally harms someone, Meredith insurance will cover the damages.

Lost something?

Found something?

Got something to sell?

If so... this is YOUR space!

The TWIG is starting a CLASSIFIED SECTION.

To get your want-ad in the TWIG:
Call Darla Stephenson (818-9207) orMary Katherine Pittman (828-4544)
and give your request.Cost per line per week is \$40.
Billing will depend on length of time the ad is run.

Letters to the Editor: Careers and cherry trees

Dear Editor,

I would like to commend the Office of Career Services for the really wonderful job they do for Meredith students. The people in that office really care and really want to help you make your dream job come true. And the materials and publications they distribute us for free are really good ones. Today in the Fireside Lounge and I picked up two Black Collegian magazines - one issue on engineering and the other one on communications and sales

careers, and a Career Newsletter. I'd also like to thank The TWIG for always running the Career Information column. Anyone who is looking for a job without making use of Career Services is definitely doing it the hard way and missing out on lots of good possibilities.

Thanks again,
Marlene Debo Barnett

To the Editor:

Thank you for placing in the last Twig my proposal of the cherry tree project. A number of students, faculty, and staff have expressed interest in it, and to them and to those who have not yet spoken to me I am grateful.

For those who wish to take part in the project, I would like to provide some specific directions. Please get from my bulletin board (outside the door to my office, 110 Joyner) or from the receptionist in Cate Center a copy of the Trees for Meredith form to send to the person or persons you think might be sending you flowers for Valentine's Day. (If you are not sure they will be sending you flowers or some other expression of

affection, perhaps this form might serve as a hint.) The form provides information about the project, asks the names and addresses of the recipient and the sender, and indicates how to send payment for the tree(s). All you need to do is pick up one (or more) of these forms and send it as soon as possible to the persons who you think would like to give Meredith a Japanese cherry tree for you for Valentine's Day. I shall take care of everything else.

One other thing. I know that it is customary for females to receive such a gift on Valentine's Day; but it seems to me totally appropriate for a woman to send such a gift to a boyfriend, her parents, or any other friend.

Or perhaps a hall might wish to give Meredith a tree. Perhaps you just might want to give someone a present; I shall be giving my son Devon a tree. I hope others will join me in the project.

Cordially,
D. C. Samson

Food for thought

I saw a delicate flower had grown up two feet high, between the horse's path and the wheeltrack. An inch more to right or left had sealed its fate, or an inch higher; and yet it lived to flourish as much as if it had a thousand acres of untrodden space around it and never knew the danger it incurred. It did not borrow trouble, nor invite an evil fate by apprehending it.

Henry D. Thoreau

To recognize with delight all high and generous and beautiful actions; to find a joy in seeing the good qualities of your bitterest opponents, and to admire those qualities even in those with whom you have least sympathy, this is the only spirit which can heal the love of slander and of calumny.

F. W. Robertson