

THE TWIG

MEREDITH COLLEGE



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Editorial

Evaluation needed

The recent visit of the Southern Association accrediting team to the Meredith campus has reinforced the necessity for evaluation on a periodic basis. Checking on ourselves from time to time helps us to see progress made in particular areas, as well as to focus on areas needing change. In their evaluation of the college, the team challenged the Meredith community to make improvements in several areas, two of which will require careful student consideration.

The existing Honor Code was suggested as an area of student policy needing careful evaluation. With its effectiveness questioned by the team, the Honor Code tenets deserve careful study and possibly amendment. When student attitude and integrity can no longer be governed by an existing standard, perhaps the principles upon which the standard (i.e. the Honor Code) operates need to be changed to a more functional set of rules.

Intramural sporting events were also pointed to as an area for improvement in the future. Nonparticipation in intramurals has, in the past, proved a significant problem for MRA organizers. Perhaps a look at the particular types of activities offered, as well as the reasons for this non-involvement of students in athletic events can lead to a more effective and exciting campus-wide sporting program.

We have been challenged, and it is our duty to future Meredith students to evaluate and improve on our problem areas.

Dancing is a fairly recent innovation here at Meredith. The Junior-Senior just past brings to mind the beginning of Meredith-sponsored dances, the first one held just twenty-odd years ago. An article recently discovered in The TWIG archives details:

"For the first time in its 58 years of operation Meredith College was recently allowed to hold a dance on its campus.

During a meeting of the board of trustees held shortly after Christmas, approval was granted to hold a dance following the Junior-Senior banquet.

It is believed to be the first time a Baptist school in North Carolina has been permitted to hold a dance.

It is further approved that informal dancing could be held in the Student Union Building on weekends.

Mrs. Foy J. Farmer, a trustee, said the action by the board granted permission for the Junior-Senior Banquet dance for this year only. 'It is not a permanent change of policy and if the same type of dance is permitted next year, it will have to be approved by the board again,' she said.

Mrs. J.W. Bunn, another trustee, said that weekend dances were permitted for the spring term of school on a sort of "tentative basis."

Dr. Carlyle Campbell, president of Meredith College, said all the dances were being well chaperoned by the faculty."

MKP

Soviet aggression continues

by Regine Nickel

Afghanistan has by now become a major foreign policy fiasco for both the European Community and the United States of America. The Community's proposal of a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, sweetened with the bait of an internationally guaranteed neutrality of the country once the troops were evacuated, proved as ineffective as President Carter's various sanctions. Neither sweet-talk nor foot-stomping could alter the course of Soviet aggression. A withdrawal of any sort would have been just too embarrassing for the Soviet government's image at home.

The Afghanistan before the Communist take-over was an underdeveloped nation which was wooed by both Western and Eastern economic aides. In the early 1970's a clear trend became evident; the Western aides were losing the 'battle' for Afghanistan. There are many underdeveloped nations in which this 'economic battle' is still going on. Equatorial

Guinea, situated between Gabon and Cameroon on the West coast of Central Africa, is one such example.

The tiny country - in 1967 it had only 277,000 inhabitants - was colonized by the Portuguese in 1500, only to become a Spanish colony in 1778. Spanish Guinea, as it was then called, was a blessed agricultural country. Its rich soils proved especially fertile for cacao beans. By 1968 the country produced 45,000 tons per annum and thus was one of the richest African countries, outdone only by South Africa. The Spanish helped the country to improve the educational system and the people picked up on it. By 1968 90 percent of the population was literate, a higher ratio than the Spanish could muster at home!

1968 turned out to be an important year in the history of Spanish Guinea. The Spanish cabinet drafted a constitution for an independent Guinea, and this constitution was approved by the people of Guinea in a vote taken that same year. Upon

the withdrawal of the Spanish colonial administration Francisco Macias became President of the young country.

Evidently the Spanish had neglected to teach their colony's people how to defend their political freedom. Macias quickly became a bloody despot, worthy of his colleagues Bokassa and Idi Amin. Business and farm life in Guinea died. The per capita income of the country sank to the lowest in all Africa. Macias was convicted, tried, and executed only last year, after a ten-year reign of terror.

Guinea has asked Spain to support it and help lead it back on a safe way to democracy. Spain accepted the mission to help its former colony. The same duty is due to all former imperialistic powers. It is simply in their self-interest to prevent their former colonies from following the way along which Angola and now Afghanistan went. It's one peaceful way to contain Soviet aggression successfully.

Letters to the editor

Student behavior disappointing

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to comment on the behavior of the student body at a recent Fire Prevention program. This fireman gave up his evening to come and communicate with adults about fire hazards and safety measures. I am afraid he encountered mere children. Personally I was embarrassed at the talking, parading of large groups, and restlessness in general all during the program. Sandy Goltra spent her time and efforts planning for this program and the Residence Hall Board felt it was important enough to require it.

You had a choice of taking 2 call downs or coming to find out why this program was of importance. It seems to me that if you took the interest to work this into your busy schedule and walked all the way to the gym, you could have at least been considerate to Chief Fowler and your classmates present.

This complaint is not directed to those who left for a class or those who slipped out quietly. This, my friends, is

directed to the inconsiderate ones of you who do not know common courtesy.

Fire strikes in rainy weather, late at night, and on snowy afternoons. No matter how motherly this sounds, the Residence Hall Board wants you to be aware of the hazards of fire. We are concerned for your safety.

To the Editor:

I wish to thank you and the staff of The TWIG for your support of the Cherry-Tree Project, and I especially want to express my appreciation to the friends of students, parents of students, and faculty and staff of the college who took part in this project.

I am pleased to announce that 36 cherry trees, gifts to Meredith as part of this project, will be planted later this month along the drive in front of Johnson Hall. I shall keep in my office a diagram of the planting so that students and others who received a tree can find out which one is theirs.

I know that all of us at Meredith will enjoy these trees for many years. Next

year, when I again shall suggest the gift of a cherry tree rather than roses or candy on Valentine's Day, I hope that the students who were so fortunate to receive the lovely flowers I saw in Johnson Hall on Valentine's Day will remember how soon they faded and opt instead for the 20 or more years of beauty a cherry tree would provide them and all of us.

Cordially,
Donald C. Samson

Artists invited to Fair

All visual artists are being invited to reserve space before Monday, March 31, for the Raleigh Arts Plosure Arts and Crafts Fair to be held April 11-13.

Spaces are available on Fayetteville Street Mall, in Nash and Moore Squares and in Pullen Park.

Fees for space are \$10 for one day; \$15, two days; and \$18, three days.

Entry forms may be obtained in the City of Raleigh Arts Commission Office, second floor, 127 W. Hargett St., or by calling 755-6154.

Stringspeak

by Ann Stringfield

Well, well, booby dolls, it's springtime once again and spring fever has infected the Meredith campus. Some professors have gathered in Dean Burris' office to discuss class attendance:

Burris: I don't know what can be done really. Bernie, you say no one showed up for your 11:00 class?

Cochran: No one at all and here I was all ready to discuss the theatre of the absurd. Yet, I'm not really surprised - the temperature's already up to 64 degrees.

Holt: It's supposed to

reach 70 degrees by this afternoon.

Rose: There goes my 2:00 class.

Cochran: Mercy! You mean they're cutting your classes, too? This is serious.

Holt: Do you suppose I could go home and work in my garden?

Burris: We might as well all go home.

Bunn: Everyone's gone to Breezeway Beach.

(Heavy sigh by all.)

F. Grubbs: Hey-cheer up. Sigma Pi's having a pajama party - all is not lost.

Rose: Sounds great. Let's

go.

(Murmur of approval by all.)

Cochran: I don't have any clean pajamas - can I wear my tu-tu?

The Pajama Party

(Scene: The front porch of Sigma Pi. Loud music. People. Talk, etc.)

Bunn: Norma, I just love your baby dolls.

Rose: Thank you, Clara. Mary Lunch loaned them to me.

(Norma and Clara wander into the house.)

Grubbs: Bernie, straighten your tu-tu.

Cochran: Oh? Thanks,

Frank. Could I get you another beer?

Grubbs: Let me finish this one first. (Chugs beer)

(Meanwhile, in the house!)

Rose: Hey, there's Nan Meadowline and Khaki Pants. Nan! (She yells across the room.)

Nan hears her and makes her way across the crowded dance floor with a blond-haired boy.)

Nan: Hey, Dr. Rose. Glad you could make it.

Khaki Pants: Would you care to dance, Dr. Rose?

Rose: Love to! (They dance.)

(Dr. Bunn examines wind-sill.)

Bunn: Penicillin!

Nan: I beg your pardon?

Bunn: There's penicillin growing on the wind-sill.

(Dean Burris enters room.)

Nan: Where are Dr. Grubbs and Dr. Cochran?

Burris: Bernie's trying to discuss existentialism with a red-haired fellow, but Frank keeps interrupting with remarks about Iran.

Nan: They just can't get away from it, can they?

Burris: Guess not. Care to dance?

Nan: Love to.
The End