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## Modular unit provides unique housing for students

By Linda Sellers

Twenty-one Meredith College students are experiencing a unique housing situation this year.

They are the occupants of an eleven-bedroom modular unit erected this fall on the back edge of the campus.

According to Meredith Dean of Students, Dorothy Sizemore, the modular unit, known as Carroll Annex, was erected when it became clear that a larger percentage of applicants would enroll this fall than expected.

"There was concern all over

the United States that enrollment would be down," Sizemore said. She added that the Admissions Department accepted more students this year based on that prediction.

The modular unit was chosen to compensate for the shortage in housing.

"There was not time to build a residence hall," Sizemore said. "We felt a modular unit could be used for many kinds of college activities beyond using it for a residence hall."

Twenty freshmen and one junior moved into Carroll Annex on September 6 from their tem-

porary residence at the Crabtree Ramada Inn in Raleigh. The delay in moving was because of city regulations, including regulations for handicapped occupancy, which had to be met.

Besides the eleven dorm rooms, the air-conditioned unit has a large bathroom with a laundry area, a storage room, lounge and small foyer.

Marnie Stone, a freshman resident of Carroll Annex, said that although everyone felt isolated from the rest of the campus, the girls felt like a family. "Everyone knows when someone strange walks in," she said.

Mary Dixon, another freshman resident, agreed, but added, "It gets very noisy in the lounge." Most of the rooms open off of the lounge area.

Both girls said that they enjoy the air conditioning and the carpet, two things many of the older dorms do not have.

Several of the residents, however, question the security of the building. The unit has three dorms which open to the outside, all of which are locked at 1 a.m. on weeknights and 2 a.m. on weekends. Most of the dorms on the back of campus have doors that are locked at 7 p.m.

"If anybody wanted to get in (Carroll Annex) he probably could," Marnie said.

Dean Sizemore responded that the security at Carroll Annex is the same as other buildings. "If students keep the

responsibility, it's as secure as any building on campus," she said.

Sizemore said that future plans for Carroll Annex include adding a microwave to the lounge and expanding the foyer.

According to Sizemore, an investigation is underway into renovating the fourth floor of Heilman dorm for living space. This proposal is now in a committee of the Meredith Board of Trustees.

And what if Carroll Annex is no longer needed as a residence hall? "It could be used for a classroom, lab or offices," Sizemore said. Next year Carroll Annex will most likely be a dorm again.

She added that there are no plans to increase the overall enrollment at Meredith significantly in the next few years.

## Students' lives on Grenada went from 'bad to worse'

by Jose Ordonez

(CPS) - Jeffrey Hough was scared. He was away from home and his new wife back in Baltimore. Six days before, he'd seen the evidence of a bloody coup on the tiny Caribbean island on which he went to school. He was later to learn the deposed leader of the island had been murdered. The new government had ordered Hough and his med school classmates not to leave campus without permission, and to be in bed by a new curfew time. It threatened to shoot violators on sight.

And on October 25th, the

shooting did begin on and around St. George's Medical School's Grenada campuses.

The school itself is headquartered in New York, and caters generally to American students who cannot get into med schools here. St. George's maintains two campuses on the island, one called True Blue, the other Grand Anse, near the now-famous 10,000 foot airstrip built by the Cubans. Ninety-five percent of the students are American. None expected an invasion for midterms.

But life at the school had "just seemed to go from bad to worse" after the coup in which

Prime Minister Maurice Bishop lost his life, says Tom Fioretti, another American on the campus.

A week after the coup, "the local government instituted a martial law with curfew," he adds. "The order they issued was very severe. They said violators would be shot on sight. There was a lot of unrest on the island. As far as the school went, people were becoming very scared, scared to the point where half the school wanted to pack it up and go home."

Fioretti, who did his undergraduate work at the University of Maryland's main College Park campus before emigrating to St. George's, says the med school faculty decided "to see how things went" the week of October 24th before deciding whether to call the semester off.

Things did look brighter at the beginning of the week, when the government lifted the curfew.

President Reagan, in his subsequent explanation of the American invasion, said American troops had uncovered evidence on the island that the Grenadian government had been considering taking the med students as hostages.

Hough was asleep when it began, awakened by what he

thought was thunder.

"For a minute, I just sat there. I wasn't sure if it was just a Grenadian drill, but then some heavier guns opened up. Right after that, I could hear someone running into the building who had started banging on doors, and that's when I figured it was something real."

"At that point, a lot of people were getting up, and coming out to the hall. A guy announced that it was indeed an invasion, and that our government was trying to get us out, but it wasn't confirmed. But, he said for sure there was someone landing on the island."

The students knew it was probably an American force, which they'd seen stationed off the island, and even watched as a sort of grim recreation.

Hough says students began turning over beds and piling mattresses against the windows, peeking out to see an occasional American plane fly across searchlights' paths as it dropped paratroopers onto the island.

As the invasion unfolded and the American forces gained a foothold on the island during the next 48 hours, the students had only rice and popcorn to eat. Hough oversaw the gather-

ing of water in the event it was shut off -- it eventually was -- and the collecting of Americans who didn't reside on the campus.

"We had some tourists" in the building, he says, "and one of them was really freaking out. They were giving him Valium to calm him down. We also had a Grenadian student who wanted to get out of there. He was a diplomat's son under the old regime, so he figured he was very much at risk if they got him. There were also some students from Trinidad and Barbados and a couple of British people."

The U.S. Rangers stormed the campus Wednesday, October 26th, demanding that everyone freeze while they checked the nationalities of the frightened occupants. As soon as they finished, they began airlifting the students out.

Only two nights before, before curfew, Hough remembers walking up the beach from the school to make a call from the Spice Island Hotel because "it was impossible to call out from the campus."

Hough and Fioretti are both back in their native Baltimore now, unsure of their future schooling plans.

## History dept. hosts historical society

The Meredith Department of History and Politics on October 21 hosted the biennial meeting of the Historical Society of North Carolina. The organization is made up of scholars with a primary interest in the history of North Carolina.

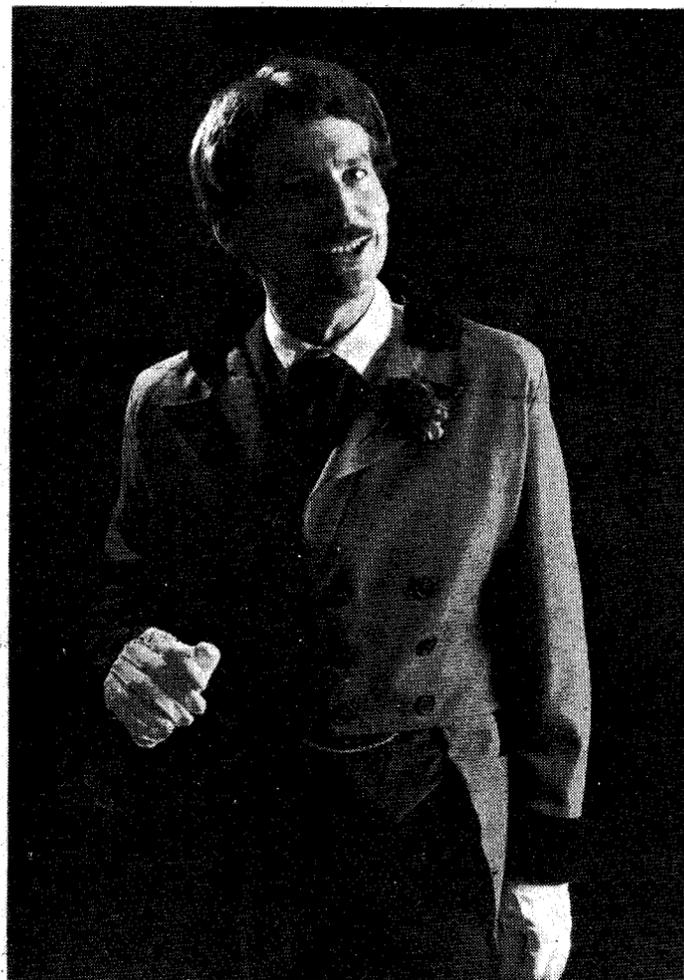
At an afternoon session, papers were delivered by Dr. Marvin L. Brown, Jr., professor emeritus at NCSU, on "Cardinal Gibbons in North Carolina, 1868-1872" and Dr. Lindley S. Butler of Rockingham Community College on "A Century

of Navigation on the Dan River, 1792-1892." The latter paper was illustrated by slides of the Dan River and its historical artifacts.

After dinner in the President's Dining Room at Belk Dining Hall, the group heard the presidential address of Dr. Wesley H. Wallace, emeritus professor at UNC-Chapel Hill. Dr. Wallace, son of former Meredith History Department head Dr. Lillian Parker Wallace, talked on "The Hillsborough Brass Band: or, facets of North

Carolina in the 1850's as Seen Through Newspaper Advertisements."

Members of Phi Omicron, the Meredith chapter of Phi Alpha Theta honor society in history, and the History Club served refreshments and helped with name-tags at an afternoon coffee hour in Joyner Lounge. Dr. Frank Grubbs, chairman of the Meredith Department of History and Politics, and Dr. T. C. Parramore attended the sessions.



Dr. Elliot Engel of N.C. State will perform in "A Dickens Christmas Sampler" which will be presented along with "A Christmas Concert" on December 3 and 4 at 2 p.m. and December 4 at 8 p.m. The performance is part of the Meredith Performs 83-84 series.