

EDITORIALS / LETTERS

EDITORIAL Committee deserves thanks

Something happened last fall at Meredith that shocked nearly everyone. Rooms on campus were searched for alcohol.

Students that lived in these rooms claimed that their rights had been violated and the search had been conducted unfairly. No definite set of guidelines had been established at the time for room searches.

Thanks to the complaints of those students and the diligent work of the SGA Executive Committee, guidelines now have been set for future room searches and were mailed out to students last week.

The Executive Committee should be praised for their efforts in these guidelines to insure that each room is searched fairly. Several good points have been set in the guidelines that deserve specific mention.

One good guideline is the document that must be signed by the room's searcher and occupant to verify that the room was searched according to the prepared checklist. This gives the occupant responsibility to make sure that the search was conducted fairly and to make additional comments on the sheet if necessary.

Another good procedure is the requirement that a resident advisor be present during the search of a room. This gives some authority to the search other than that of students and also is another check that the room is searched fairly.

A set of guidelines or rules is excellent to have for any procedure. It seems unnecessary that rooms be searched. However, students now have a source to go to in order to insure their fair treatment.

MLS

Rules For Submitting TWIG Articles

If your club or organization is interested in submitting an article to *THE TWIG*, please follow the directions below:

- 1) Either type double-space OR print on lined notebook paper, skipping every other line. Do not write on the back of a page.
- 2) Count every word in the article and place at the top of the page.
- 3) Leave a phone number of a person who can be contacted if there are any questions.
- 4) Put in a *TWIG* drop envelope. These are located outside the doors of 305 Barefoot, and *THE TWIG* office, 2nd floor Cate Center.

THE TWIG appreciates any articles of interest to the college community.

THE TWIG meredith college

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The *TWIG* welcomes comments and will give prompt consideration to any criticisms submitted in writing and signed by the writer.



Have you hugged your transfer today?

By Kim Croom

Transfer students at Meredith College struggle with everything from preparing their schedules to establishing new friends and a happy social life. As one transfer student said, "Transferring is tough. You feel you're being put on the spot everywhere you turn...and that doesn't make you feel at home." According to a recent survey of 40 transfer students which I informally conducted, I found that many Meredith transfers had a difficult time adjusting.

The first complaint Meredith transfers had concerned the August orientation schedule. These new students said they felt intimidated having to go through a seven-day orientation program with freshmen. The majority of transfers believed a separate two-day transfer program should be offered at Meredith. This program could consist of meeting faculty, touring the campus, and a handbook test. "We don't need a three-day seminar on learning college study habits," one junior transfer impatiently

said. "I've already had two years of college!"

The second complaint concerned new friendships. These complaints were startling if not down right disturbing. "The friends I have are the girls I transferred with," is a common reply. One transfer even said she lived on a hall with 50 girls in five months time she had only met three girls. This same transfer was an outstanding student at the college she had previously attended. So what went wrong? The answer that continued to arise was that Meredith is a very cliquish school. Yet as bitter as transfers may be, some were quick to take up for Meredith by saying, "Well if I'd been here since my freshman year I'm sure I'd stick with my own set of friends. It would seem unnatural not to!" But the fact still remains, these 40 transfer students have not been at Meredith since their freshman year, and after a five-month period the social struggle persists.

One solution suggested was for each hall on campus to adopt two transfers during the

first week of school. That was one transfer student would have made approximately 30-50 acquaintances during the first week of school. One transfer would then introduce her adopted hall to another transfer and vice versa. This would increase the ratio of acquaintances per transfer.

How else could the transfer adjustment be made easier? A surprising one-third of the responses concerned hall advisors. Transfers felt that hall advisors should be more outgoing and more willing to help transfers adjust. One junior transfer bluntly replied, "My hall advisor treats me as if I were supposed to feel completely at home from day one."

A small number of transfer students said planning their schedules was the toughest part of transferring. No one was there to tell them not to take two difficult English classes and a statistics class in the same semester. Discovering the do's and don'ts in the academic field takes time. Transfers could use advice from non-transfer peers concerning schedules.

Is it any wonder then, that transfer students struggle with their new lives at Meredith College? Faculty and students need to be aware of the problems of transfer students. The majority of transfers agreed that a special smile or extra show of kindness would make them feel more at home.

Student Leaders

[Continued from Page 1] porting" as the major irritants in their relationships with the papers.

"Interestingly enough," the report adds, "few student governments were willing to admit or hypothesize they could be as much to blame as the papers for any strain." Yet the "condescending tone" of many of the answers led Torgan to wonder if part of the blame could be assigned to the officers.

Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. 1984, by George Orwell. (NAL/Signet, \$2.95) Orwell's prediction come of age.
2. Megatrends, by John Naisbitt. (Warner, \$3.95) Forecasting America's future.
3. The Color Purple, by Alice Walker. (Washington Square Press, \$5.95) Winner of the 1983 American Book Award.
4. Blue Highways, by William Least Heat Moon. (Fawcett, \$3.95) A look at life at the back roads of America.
5. The One Minute Manager, by K. Blanchard & S. Johnson. (Berkley, \$6.95) How to increase your productivity.
6. Christine, by Stephen King. (NAL/Signet, \$3.95) A killer car is at large among a small town's high school set.
7. Growing up, by Russell Baker. (NAL/Plume, \$5.95) Baker recalls his boyhood and youth.
8. Foundation's Edge, by Isaac Asimov. (Ballantine/Del Rey, \$3.95) The struggle to keep civilization alive.
9. 2010: Odyssey Two, by Arthur C. Clark. (Ballantine, \$3.95) Stunning sequel to 2001: A Space Odyssey.
10. Once in a Lifetime, by Danielle Steel. (Dell, \$3.95) A young woman has to cope with widowhood and motherhood.

New & Recommended

- The River Why, by David James Duncan. (Bantam, \$5.95) Leaving behind a madcap, fishing-obsessed family, Gus embarks on an extraordinary voyage of self-discovery along his beloved Oregon rivers.
- From Socrates to Sartre, by T.Z. Lavind. (Bantam, \$3.95) A challenging new look at the great thinkers whose ideas have shaped our civilization.
- The American Almanac of Jobs and Salaries, by John W. Wright. (Avon, \$9.95) This indispensable resource provides hard information on job descriptions, salary ranges, and advancement changes about hundreds of occupations and professions.

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