

EDITORIALS

"Just what the doctor ordered"

The infirmary. Not necessarily the place to be on a Friday night. However, when you're sick (or think you are) it's a nice place to find yourself.

Being away from home when you're sick can be a traumatic experience, especially when you are used to being under the care of a loving family. Compared to the tender care you receive at home, the infirmary can come across as being impersonal.

Unfortunately, Meredith College can not supply every girl with her own personal doctor or nurse. But, the Meredith infirmary does have nurses Ruth Pearce, Fronia Thacker, and Georgia Stephens and doctors Patricia Broomhall and Sidney Martin.

The infirmary is not as up-to-date as all infirmaries. Being a private school, Meredith does not receive state funds for health care like North Carolina State University. Therefore, our facilities can not be compared to empires like NCSU.

"I feel our facilities are as up-to-date as can be for 1200 students. Every student gets very good medical care," Ruth Pearce said.

One thing Meredith does have that many state supported schools don't have is genuine concern from our doctors and nurses.

"We want to do anything for you girls," Pearce said, "You'll never suffer from lack of attention."

I think we all can agree that the

medical staff at Meredith does care, but there's only so much they can do.

"We can't make you well," Pearce said.

So true! We are the only ones who can make ourselves well. When we run around without shoes and coats on cool days and don't eat well, what do we expect. Many times when we're given medication we forget to take it or neglect it after two days. We can't (and shouldn't) expect the doctors to bop us on the heads and scream, "You're healed!"

During the months of September and October the Meredith infirmary will see about "800 students a month."

"It may be just for aspirin," Pearce said, "but that's a good number of students."

On campus students pay \$80.00 a year for our health services. This amount is included in our room and board in our tuition. If each student makes one trip to the infirmary a semester, she is financially breaking even with an average visit to the doctor. Students aren't charged for tests run or physicals administered.

I think we need to give credit where credit is due, and the Meredith infirmary deserves a great deal of credit for being there for us and having undying patience with us.

Thanks medical staff. Keep up the good work.

Cynthia L. Church
113 Heilman, 7881



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

With the installation of the new phone system, I was looking forward to the convenience of an advanced service that would save me time and money. Unfortunately, I have yet to see the benefits of such a system:

It's really frustrating to spend hours trying to make local calls. Long distance calls are out of the question! What's worse is the fact that calls being made to our phone haven't gotten through either.

But I guess it's pretty obvious to

everyone that the phone system has been anything but convenient. The entire campus has had these problems. It just seems that whoever was in charge of the installation could have alleviated the entire problem with a little more planning.

We are told that steps are now being taken to correct the line blockage, but who knows when it will be straightened out? Until then, I guess I'll just turn off my radio and listen to the busy signal on my phone!

Becky Fritz

I think they need to have more nurses on duty to care for students when they are in need. They ought to be able to give out more effective drugs than sudafed.

Sandra Dean

They ought to be able to dispense a wider variety of drugs instead of sudafed "the cure-all drug."

Susan Jones

I think the nurses have been helpful. I like them.

Jennifer Jackson

By the time you go to the infirmary you have tried all the 'home remedies,' and you are in hopes of getting some medical help besides friendly advice.

Beth Bunch

I think they need more than one nurse during the day, especially during the winter months.

Paula Wright

Generally they are pretty helpful.

Theresa Duffy

They try to be helpful, but they need more people on the staff.

Lisa Harris

The people are wonderful. The facilities are inadequate.

Tara Owen

"What do you think of the Infirmary?"

I think it's totally inadequate; not everything can be cured by sudafed and dimetap. The staff is nice.

Kimie Turman

I like the infirmary. They'll help if you have a problem. I don't think the doctors are here at convenient times.

Michelle Bell

I think they do a good job. I think they are pleasant over in the infirmary.

Lisa Taylor

When I went it was not taken seriously enough.

Martha Conway

I feel the nurses are qualified but they lack the facilities, such as medication, to do much. Sudafed and Dimetap cannot be used for everything. Also, there should be a nurse here, at Meredith, whenever the dorms are opened, regardless of a holiday such as Labor Day weekend.

Suzanne Griffin

I went one time and my problem was treated. I like it. I think it's good to know that we have an infirmary close to us, the students.

Lisa Duke

It's nice to have the infirmary available to us, but they need to upgrade their services.

Jill Hensdale

Everytime I've been there they've been real concerned.

Sandra Rackley

I like the infirmary. They've always been nice to me. They treat you good when you go over there.

Gina Ledbetter

THE TWIG

meredith college

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27607

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