

EDITORIALS

Think before you drink

How many times in the past week have you said, "Let's go get wasted" or "I'm gonna get drunk this weekend?" That many, huh?

How many times have you asked yourself why drinking, getting a buzz or getting drunk appeals to you?

The National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week was designed to make students ask themselves these questions.

In a college town like Raleigh, "drinking" is a common word. There are bars for every type of person. They are designed to meet the students' needs. If you like beach, hard rock, country-western, top 40 or any other kind of music, you can find a local bar that will play music that appeals to you.

But music isn't the only thing that lures students to bars. Happy hours and special discounts also entice students. If you are on a tight budget, you can usually find a place that has drinks two for the price of one. What a deal!

Advertisements for alcoholic beverages also promote drinking. These ads make drinking sensual, glamorous and romantic. If you want to be happy, drink. In how many ads for alcohol do you see people frowning?

These ads are misleading. They are all one-sided. Have you ever seen an ad that shows a grieving family at the scene of an accident where their child has just been killed by a drunk driver and the cutline says, "This Bud's for you"?

How many times before you go out, do you sit down and reminisce about what happened the last time you got drunk? I'm sure the memory would not be something you would like to think about, especially if you had a hangover the next day. Who likes to remember the headaches and recall the times they were on bended knee praying to the porcelain god? Who likes to have their ears burn when they remember themselves saying, "I'll never drink again."?

Feeling bad is only one part of getting drunk. Looking bad is another. Just the other night two of my friends and I saw a 40 year-old well-dressed woman so drunk she could barely walk. She was hanging all over one of the two men she was with. When she staggered to the bathroom, the two men started talking about how drunk she was. She made a fool of herself. It was really sad.

Unfortunately, this woman could have been one of many girls at Meredith that make a habit of getting too drunk. This woman, as well as others, could have saved herself a lot of embarrassment had she known when to turn down another drink.

I'm not preaching for anyone to stop drinking. That's not my place. I am merely asking that you think before you drink. Whether you are planning on drinking or not, there are several tips for you to remember before you go out.

1. Always take \$20 and names of two people you can call if you need a ride home.
2. Don't take too much money out with you so that you won't be tempted to buy more drinks.
3. Always tell your roommate, or some friend, about what time you'll be home so if you come in real late they won't worry.
4. Always have a sober person drive you home. (Have a designated driver).
5. If you can't drive home, call a cab or someone at Meredith to pick you up.
6. Remember the DWI laws and ask yourself if driving under the influence is worth a ticket and possible jail sentence.
7. Know your limit and don't drink more than you can handle.
8. Never get in a car with someone who has been drinking.
9. Never leave a drunk friend at a bar or frat without a ride home.
10. Be a friend and advise your friends to stop drinking if they've had too much.

Cynthia L. Church
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Focus on Cooperative Education

by Rene Folds

Cooperative Education is becoming more and more significant at Meredith College as the years go by and it could be an important addition to *your* college career!

Cooperative Education is a plan in which the student spends alternate periods of study at Meredith College and alternate periods of employment in a job related to her career goals. Girls that choose to "co-op," as it is often referred to work with agencies approved by the college and their employment is arranged by the college.

In order to co-op, a student must have completed at least 60 semester hours and have a cumulative quality point average of 2.50 or better. Co-op students are able to graduate in four years by attending summer school and carefully arranging their schedules, but it is suggested that a student look into the opportunity early in her college career.

Cooperative Education is considered to be an academic program, so students participating are considered full-time students whether working or in the classroom. Each period of employment carries from one to four credit hours.

"Cooperative education is a recruiting tool for employers," Beth Taylor, coordinator of Cooperative Education here at Meredith, said. It provides many advantages to the student as well as the employer. The program enables a student to explore a career possibility, broaden

education, receive specialized training, and to improve employment opportunities. It enables the employer to evaluate the potential of a student before employment, select and train temporary or permanent help, to give employers staff support, and to enhance a mutually beneficial industry-college relationship.

Meredith works very closely with employers to ensure a meaningful work experience for the student that is worthy of academic credit. Salaries vary according to the employer, the type of work, and the skills and techniques required for the job.

The Cooperative Education Department at Meredith feels that both education and work are important for anyone seeking a career. Through the Meredith College Cooperative Education Program a young woman can have both. Beth Taylor, a 1979 Meredith graduate, has recently been named as Coordinator of Cooperative Education. Beth received a master's degree in Student Personnel from North Texas State University in 1982 and previously worked with North Texas State in student activities. We would all like to welcome her to Meredith. She is anxious to talk to anyone interested in Cooperative Education.

The Cooperative Education Club will hold its second fall meeting Wednesday, October 10. It will be a dinner meeting at 5:30 pm, at Darryl's Restaurant on Hillsborough Street. They invite anyone

(Continued on Page 6)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

First of all, I am not writing this letter as a pitch for Jim Hunt for Senate. I am writing this letter because I was appalled by the letter from the College Republicans appearing in the October 1st copy of the newspaper.

Being a twenty-one-year-old female, I would never willingly admit that I had not watched the news or read a paper in a period of over two weeks. The Republicans stated that "The Meredith campus should not unknowingly be victim of the Hunt for Senate campaign follies." I am not saying that it should not have been announced that Ms. Franklin was here to endorse

Hunt.

Two weeks before she (Franklin) spoke at Meredith, the newspaper and radio and television media began publicizing her visit. Being in college and being busy is no excuse for not being aware of current events. I should think the College Republicans would be ashamed to admit that they had not been exposed to any type of news material concerning the nature of Ms. Franklin's visit. Maybe I should not be so upset, but I am disappointed in my fellow angels.

concerned,
Sara Whitley

Congratulations on your engagement

Ellen Henry to Mike Tatum
Tracy Page to Carl Cliche

Anyone with similar announcements who wishes to have them printed should contact Cynthia Church (7881).

THE TWIG

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