

P.O.ed with the P.O.

EDITORIALS

Last year I complained because I never got mail. Of course, I'd get occasional letters from my parents; however, we'd usually "reach out and touch." This year I've been getting more mail due to the rising costs of AT&T and the hassle of using Meredith's ridiculous phone system.

You'd think my problems were solved. My wish of getting mail has come true.

Wrong.

You see, the combination on my post office box is stripped. Therefore, I can't get my mail at my convenience. I paid \$7.50 for that box and not once have I opened it. If it weren't for our patient postmaster I'd never get my mail. When she sees me walk up she knows my first words will be, "Will you please open 113 Heilman?"

If I was the only person that was unable to get my mail, I wouldn't complain or care as much. It's just that this has happened to me and my roommate the past three years which means there are others who are experiencing this same problem.

I spoke with several employees at the United States Postal Office and Charles Taylor concerning the condition of the mailboxes. (See my article, page 1). At first nobody knew whose responsibility it was to repair or replace the boxes. Both kept saying the other was responsible. Only after several days of investigating did I find that it is Meredith's.

During one interview Taylor said when he arrived at Meredith two years ago he spoke with Joe Baker, Vice President of Administrative Affairs, about the post office, including the mailboxes. They agreed something needed to be done. Well, that was two years ago.

Yet, according to Taylor, the mailboxes will be either replaced or repaired early this semester. Let's see, Spring Break unofficially marks midterm; therefore, by March 1st some change will be seen.

I have a quirk with repairing the boxes though. It's a lot like a broken pencil. You can put tape around it and you can use it, but after a while it will break again.

I suggest that new mailboxes be installed and the same key that opens the box would be used to open the student's dorm room. This way only one key would be necessary. North Carolina State University's mailboxes are like that and according to administrators there, this system works best for the students.

The \$15 rental fee should also be terminated. Why isn't it included under "room and board" like it is at NCSU? I'm sure that we students are charged \$7.50 too much somewhere and I really don't think the school would go bankrupt, do you? Having the fee paid would take a lot of work off the postmaster and it would prevent the long lines at the beginning of the year. It would also guarantee that every student would have a mailbox.

If Meredith decides to purchase new mailboxes, it would take about six months for them to get here, according to a spokesman at NCSU. I don't know about you, but I think it would be worth the wait.

Since it is Meredith's responsibility to either replace or repair the mailboxes, I feel it is their responsibility to check on the boxes regularly to see if maintenance is needed. This would prevent them from being swamped with a major problem in the future. Like now.

Cynthia L. Church
113 Heilman, 7881

Getting to the point

by Tracey Cox

This column will focus on responses to feelings for and against Meredith's traditionalism. Any grievances or compliments towards Meredith's system will be appreciated.

4.0, 3.2, or 2.8.

At Meredith, do these numbers really mean anything? A GPA? Yes, but according to what department?

As a senior who is trying to put my resume together, I wonder if I should include an explanatory clause when I write down my GPA.

Wouldn't it be nice if I could explain to a prospective employer that the C I made in one class could be considered a B if I had taken the same class under a different teacher?

And I would love to tell them that the reason I have a B in Religion instead of an A is because I missed one class more than a certain teacher thought I should and that he decided on his own that one miss should be penalized by subtracting one full point from my final average!

Why can't all of the teachers at Meredith get together and decide on a grading scale that is campus wide? Is it really fair that a math major should make the Dean's List and a business major not, even though they've made the exact same numerical grades? The way the system is now, this is very likely.

Even within the business department alone there are discrepancies be-

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Letters to the editor

Dear editor,

As a day student at Meredith, I do not always have the opportunity to read the student newspaper. Frequently I do check the Cate Center but fail to find any copies.

I was unable to obtain a copy of the December 3rd issue, and I was quite appalled to find the advertisement for "Barbells" with a coupon for free beer. When referring to the student handbook concerning alcohol, I find the statement, "The college strongly discourages the use of alcohol beverages by Meredith students." I have tried to stop by your room to discuss this article with you, but I have failed to find you in. My question is this, if the college discourages alcohol, then why does the student paper carry advertisements for students to drink?

There was also an advertisement in a previous edition for the Christmas dance that read, "Let's Party" with a cocktail glass displayed. Again, I refer to the handbook which states, "Students shall not possess or consume intoxicants on the campus, or at College-sponsored functions." With such a statement that all students should know, such an advertisement condoning alcohol, especially at a College function, should not be presented.

The Campus Crusaders were chastised for their advertisements for Josh McDowell's speaking appearance on the topic of sex. Why should our own

community be allowed to present material which clearly goes against the College policies?

Sincerely,

Julia C. Wilk (junior, math major)

Dear editor,

Where is the Meredith spirit? Don't students who go here want to make an impression and leave their mark on the school? I'm talking about getting involved in an extra-curricular activity. There are so many good ones to choose from! But the one that really needs

support right now is the Acorn, Meredith's literary magazine. Contrary to myth, English majors are not the only people who can have something published in the Acorn. It will have artwork, poetry, short stories - but only if you get involved. And students, faculty, and staff are all invited to contribute. And since it is YOUR literary magazine, won't you please put part of yourself into it? It is one of the best ways to leave your mark on the school.

Contributions may be left in the drop box in the Twig office in Cate Center or 225 Heilman.

Marva Watkins
Acorn Editor

THE TWIG

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