

Staley Lecturer to speak February 25-27

by Malinda Britton
managing editor

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, Visiting Staley Lecturer, will speak February 25-27 at Meredith College.

Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church of New York City, Dr. Proctor has also held the King Memorial Chair in the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University, New Jersey. Upon his retirement from Rutgers in 1984, he was named Martin Luther King Professor Emeritus and received the Rutgers Medal for distinguished service.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Proctor attended Virginia State College, the Norfolk Naval Apprentice School and graduated from Virginia Union University. He received his Master of Divinity from Crozer Theological Seminary and his Doctor-

ate of Theology from Boston University.

Additional graduate study was done at the University of Pennsylvania and at Yale University. Dr. Proctor has also received honorary doctoral degrees from twenty-two different colleges and universities.

The distinguished lecturer is author of two books also. *The Young Negro in America 1960-80* was published in 1966, and *Sermons From the Black Pulpit* (with Dr. William D. Watley) in 1984.

Dr. Proctor's schedule for his time at Meredith is printed as follows:

"Education and the Pursuit of Genuine Community"
Monday, Feb. 25, 10:00 a.m.

Jones Chapel
Dinner with Association for Black Awareness

Monday, Feb. 25, 5:00 p.m.
President's Dining Room
Forum with Students

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 8:00 p.m.
Chapel Common Room
"The Recovery of Human Compassion"

Wednesday, Feb. 27, 10:00 a.m.
Jones Chapel
Special music-Meredith Chorale
Faculty/Staff Dialogue with Dr. Proctor

Wednesday Feb. 27, 12 noon
President's Dining Room
[reservations due by Wed., Feb. 20]



Dr. Samuel D. Proctor
Staley Lecturer
February 25-27

Hailey makes impact on Meredith

by Beth Blankenship
staff reporter

As he stands at the podium adjusting his gold wire-rim glasses, Alex Hailey waits for the laughter of the audience to subside before going onto another story about his family or his past.

As he speaks the audience can feel the intense warmth and respect he has for his family, especially his grandmother.

"Grandparents seem to sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children," he says with a smile.

Hailey recalls that it was his grandmother who actually got him started thinking about tracing his roots. His grandmother had invited her six sisters, whom she had not seen since their girlhood, for a visit. As the sisters sat on their rocking chairs after supper, they talked of their father, Tom, the blacksmith and his father, Chicken George.

They spoke of Miss Kizzie and her father, Kunta Kinte.

"I stood by my grandmother's chair and listened to these stories," Hailey said. "I remember after going to Sunday School and hearing about David and Goliath and about Moses I would get these stories confused with my grandmother's. I connected Moses and Kizzie and David and Chicken George."

It was while Alex Hailey was in the Coast Guard that he began to think of writing as a career.

Because he wrote so many letters while away to friends and family, he became known on the ship as a good letter writer. Subsequently, Hailey began to write love letters for his shipmates to send to their girlfriends.

"I had my own racket. I'd write down all the information about the girl - hair, eyes, lips - and then I'd write the letter."

"I got so that I was making more money writing letters than being in the

Coast Guard."

It was not long, however, that Alex Hailey began writing for himself.

"I could make words work," he said. "To be a writer you must...be serious. Writing is difficult...you need at least eight to ten years to start earning."

Writing has brought fame to Hailey, not only from *Roots* but from his articles in *Reader's Digest* and his interviews of Malcolm X and Dr. King in *Playboy*.

"Fame is both good and bad," explains Hailey. He admits that too much recognition makes his life somewhat hectic and sometimes painful.

"My family has become somewhat distant...but it's died down now."

Hailey stresses that the name of the game for the family of the 80's is survival.

"We live in a changing society," says Hailey, "There are new facets...new forms of family."

As he looks at his watch, he is reminded that he has several other appointments to keep.

Alex Hailey steps away from the podium leaving a certain impact on his listeners. They are not quite sure whether they go away with a delightful part of a history, a sobering piece of advice, or a hope for the future.

Most left with all three.

ABA's speaker makes impression

by Beth Blankenship
staff reporter

This is a thank-you to Wendetta Brown and all of the members of the Association for Black Awareness. Thank you for giving Meredith the opportunity on February 11 to hear such a gifted writer and speaker as Alex Hailey. I can say that I have never been so enthralled by any guest speaker on campus before as I was by Mr. Hailey. I could feel his warmth as he spoke of his family and their past generations who have become familiar to many of us through the television miniseries *Roots*. I was impressed by his sincere hope for the institution of the family and his faith in the youth of America.

On a technical level, he was poised and precise in his speech. His words were simple; his message was clear. The colorful language which he used in his anecdotes emanated from the colorful characters of his hometown. I could vividly picture each character and house in the little town of Henning, Tennessee: his grandmother in her wicker rocking chair telling about the past generations and the post office where a young Alex went with his grandmother sometimes.

Black Emphasis Week was a major success this year. Meredith College not only experienced a feeling of unity among all students, it experienced the ENERGY that is Alex Hailey.

Hubbel Award Contest announced

Suzanne Newton, visiting writer-in-residence, would like to encourage Meredith students to enter the Hubbel Award contest. Contrary to what some may believe, English majors are not the only people who are eligible to try for this cash award, presented each spring to a student who has demonstrated a sustained effort and interest in creative writing over a period of time.

Rules for submission of manuscripts may be found on the bulletin

board outside of Ms. Newton's office (201 Joyner), on the English bulletin board on first floor Joyner, and at THE ACORN office. Deadline for submission is March 29.

Students may select from poetry and-or fiction which they have written since coming to Meredith. Contestants are asked to include, along with their writing, a half-page autobiographical essay outlining the duration and intensity of their interest in creative writing.

SENATE NEWS

Freshman curfew update

by
Paula Tomlinson
Senate Member

The Senate met on February 5 and approved the following legislations:

1) the wording distinguishing the voting and non-voting members of Student Life Committee was revised for clarification.

2) the wording of the membership section of the Student Activities Board was clarified as to the voting status of its members.

3) the two freshman representatives currently in the Residence Hall Association were deleted from the membership section of the RHA.

Although the legislation of Self Determining Hours (SDH) for freshmen was not approved as proposed, there was a second proposal that was approved for SDH for second semester freshmen. This legislation was proposed to the Student Life Committee on Tuesday, February 12. It was briefly discussed and it was postponed until the SLC's next meeting. A vote will be taken then.

Elections turnout poor

by Kim Tansky
Election Board Chairman

Where is the enthusiasm about elections? Why did only 35 people show up for first slate speeches? Why did so many people run unopposed? Out of 1200 resident students, why did only 258 vote? Why did only 2 non-residents vote? the answers to all of these questions should concern all of us.

Every student at Meredith has the opportunity to choose the leaders she thinks will do the jobs best. However, the Meredith student body is neglecting this privilege by their lack of participating in voting. It is sad to think that only 260 students on this campus care enough about their Student Government to take the time to vote.

As chairperson of elections board, this matter concerns me deeply. Mere-

dith is lucky to have a government run by their students. Why aren't we taking advantage of this?

Please take the time to vote on Tuesday, February 19, for second slate elections. Let's all hope there will be a great increase in the number of votes. It is your school, and it is your government: Show your concern!

The TWIG would like to apologize to Sharon Knight for not recognizing her as Co-Chairman of Elections Board. Congratulations Pam Vann and Sharon Knight Co-Chairmen of Elections Board!