## **EDITORIALS** LIFE BEYOND MEREDITH: A CHALLENGE FOR SENIORS

"Now what year are you in school?" is a question often asked when I bump into people I haven't seen in years. What a joy it is to increase my college classification each year. Next year I'll finally be able to smile and answer "senior." Many of you are saying that now. Feels good, doesn't it? But is your smile accompanied with a distant look, glossy eyes?

I never thought my freshman year would end. Those two semesters seemed to last a lifetime. Now it seems like just a few days ago. You seniors must be feeling that way. Yesterday you were throwing on sweat pants, running from Vann, Stringfield, and Carol to get in your seat before the bell rang. Now, you're throwing on your caps and gowns, and running to secure place in the line. No more bells, no more evil eyes for being late.

Just the other night my suite was sitting around talking about our lives, next year, life after graduation. After a while, my suitemate, Cindy said something that really hit home. She said that in the next nine years we will be making more decisions, and accomplishing more than we will probably ever do within that time span for the rest of our lives. We started listing everything that we, as twenty-one year olds, will probably do. First, we mentioned graduating from Meredith, then getting a job, buying a car and maybe a house or condominium, get married, have at least one child and build a white picket fence in front of our house. We may even have to guit our job to tend to the kid(s) or arrange for someone to do that. All I could say was "wow."

That's a lot, friends. Just think about it. Juniors, we'll be facing this step next year. Sophomores, you've got a year. Freshmen, you've got two more years. But seniors - you're there. You've rolled the dice, you can pass, go and collect your \$50 damage deposit.

As yolu leave Meredith College you'll take part of the school with you. Mentally, you'll recall the academics, You'll hear something that will trigger your mind and you'll think. I remember studying that. Then you'll remember those all-nighters you pulled. Suddenly all the time you spent visiting Carlyle and studying in your room seem worthwhile.

Emotionally, you'll recall all the good times. You'll remember the times you laughed with your friends, the times you did stupid things to humor yourself. You'll remember the late nights on the town. The times you forgot your assignments and answered "the call of the wild," prowling around looking for a good catch, roaming around a tavern looking like a lost foal.

Physically, you'll see how you've grown. When looking at old pictures, a goofy looking girl will catch your eye and then you'll realize - "hey, that's me." You'll realize also how your clothes fit snug -- thanks to all those late night pizzas.

Growing up can be scary. It's something you've longed for all your life and now, seniors, you have almost reached that point. Well, you may not have grown up, but you'll be more independent. You'll have to fake the other part. Now you will be your own boss. Everything



ents lectured, preached and-or strongly your parents lectured, preached and-or strongly suggested will pay off. And everything Meredith taught, instructed and-or enforced will be put to the test. Yet, you're the one that is totally responsible for you now. You will decide what you will do and you'll base your decisions on your upbringing and education. As you say "good-bye" to your past,

don't forget to say "hello" to your future. Seniors, we wish you the best life can offer. Opportunity and success are out there, you just have to make the effort to find them. Don't ever give up. If you want it, get it or at least go for it. And if during the struggle you lose, at least you can say you tried. The world is yours. Make the best of it. We'll miss you. Cynthia L. Church 



The ultimate suite: [left to right] Cynthia Church, Stephanie Bennett, Jennifer Jackson, Cindy Patterson.

# **ULTIMATE FRIENDS**

#### Editor's Note:

Saying "thank you" comes easy for some people. Yet, for others, it doesn't. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the housing department for putting my suite together my freshman year. At first we did not get along; however, after three weeks--we became friends.

I'd like also to thank God for giving me time. Through the process of time, my suite has become best friends. We are so close and enjoy each other's company. We love to laugh, eat, study, talk, go out and vacation together. We share all our good times and bad together. Next year, we will have more time to share our friendship.

Thanks also goes to my suite. I could never ask for more. Thank you all for being the greatest friends anyone could ever ask for. I have truly been blessed. I'll miss you this summer.

Cynthia L. Church

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#### GOODBYE **FRIENDS**

"How do you say goodbye to someone you shared a love with -

To someone who brought so much joy and fulfillment -How do you say goodbye and let go of that which you once held, To comfort and nourish and to love? I don't think we can really

say goodbye, anymore than we can

say goodbye to our hearts --we will survive- we will

feel love again, but we will never forget each other."

Rhoda

### THE TWIG

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