

EDITORIALS

In Praise of Meredith

by Beth Blankenship
Co-editor

Cynthia and I recently gave out *Twig* questionnaires in order to gain more insight into what the students wanted out of their school newspaper. There was one response which I received that I would like to address. This response is surprisingly not in the paper's defense but in the defense of Meredith.

The respondent of this questionnaire said she had shown a copy of *The Twig* to someone outside of the campus to show them "The hypocrisy" of the Meredith campus. She further went on to say that Meredith College "is a Christian school only in name." Being a journalist of sorts, I wanted to investigate this claim before making a judgment. Her argument holds no water.

When your parents tell you that you cannot have a self-determining curfew, they are looking out for your best interest. Whether you choose to follow this rule is an option. If you choose not to follow this rule set down by your parents, does this make them bad parents? Of course not. Meredith promotes a Christian atmosphere through Wednesday morning chapel services, MCA activities, the honor code, and disciplinary measures. Whether the students choose to go to chapel, follow the honor code and rules, or join MCA is an individual's option. If they chose not to

participate, this does not make Meredith any less of a Christian-oriented campus.

Girls here know that there is a life outside the Meredith community. Meredith gives the students the freedom to participate in such activities; however, the school does discourage some activities. A case in point is found on page 17 of the Student Handbook. The line to which I refer is "The College strongly discourages the use of alcoholic beverages by Meredith Students." This particular line says nothing about alcohol on campus but alcohol in general. Would you see that in State's handbook or UNC's? I doubt it.

The school is founded on Christian traditions, being a Baptist college, and this is always prevalent during religious holidays. Prayers are said, and the spirit of God and goodwill always enter into the event. If a student doesn't feel it, is that Meredith's fault?

Christianity is based on free will and choice. Christ gives us choices and hopes that through his guidance we make the Christian decision. Meredith too gives us choices and hopes through their Christian influence we make the Christian choices. One cannot blame individual actions on the entire group. Nor can one say that Meredith is a Christian college in name only.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

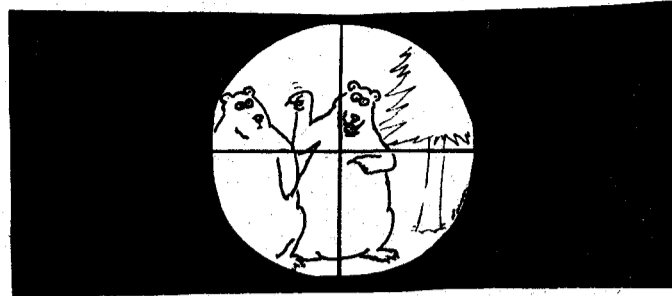
My reaction to Susan Goins' article in *The Twig*, "Being Concerned," was shock and anger at her accusing Meredith of having "an incredible lack of concern for world issues and social concerns." I personally resent such a slur greatly, and hope I am speaking for many others at Meredith. I agree with her about what an important purpose the CROP walk serves, but what I resent is her tactics in attempting to drum up participation. I refuse to believe, as she said, that Meredith students "don't care" or have a "Better them than us" attitude.

Personally, I believe people lean more toward the "I'm just one person — what can I do?" end of the spectrum. The only way to overcome this barrier is for masses of people to reject this atti-

tude and take action. I also resent her assertion that the Meredith campus is not socially aware. Anyone with the intelligence to be in college is socially aware, to some extent. The issue at hand is to take advantage of community opportunities to make a difference in society, not to insult the Meredith community as "embarrassing."

I'm sick of hearing Meredith policies being vaguely criticized with no solutions being proposed, it really saddens me to see one Meredith student so openly attempt to enlist its help in a noble cause like the CROP walk. In my opinion, low participation in one event does not create a campus-wide trend. Thank you.

Lisa Piercy
214 Barefoot



Is Meredith's Christian reputation a target for hypocrisy?

MRA is Ready

by Beth Kennedy
Contributing reporter

Meredith Recreation Association is ready for you — Meredith. Are you ready to get involved? We are expecting you to be ready and waiting for a lot of great things to happen. To plan for these great things MRA had an exciting retreat. The retreat was held at Camp

Caswell on September 6-8. The weekend consisted of planning for Cornhuskin, Intramurals, and the other events that MRA sponsors. MRA has got things in motion. We just want you to know that we are truly excited and ready for the events, and all that is needed is you. Help MRA make this year a great one!

Students' Rights Under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is a Federal law which states (a) that a written institutional policy must be established and (b) that a statement of adopted procedures covering the privacy rights of students be made available. The law provides that the institution will maintain the confidentiality of student education records.

MEREDITH COLLEGE accords all the rights under the law to students who are declared independent. No one outside the institution shall have access to nor will the institution disclose any information from students' except to personnel within the institution, to officials of other institutions in which students seek to enroll, to persons or organizations providing students financial aid, to accrediting agencies carrying out their accreditation function, to persons in compliance with a judicial order, and to persons in an emergency in order to protect the health or safety of students or other persons. All these exceptions are permitted under the Act.

Within the MEREDITH COLLEGE community, only those members, individually or collectively, acting in the students' educational interest are allowed access to student education records. These members include personnel in the Offices of the Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions, and the Dean of Students, and academic personnel within the limitations of their need to know.

At its discretion the institution may provide Directory Information in accordance with the provisions of the Act to include: student name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, religious affiliation, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, and weight and height of members of athletic teams. Students may withhold Directory Information by notifying the Registrar in writing within two weeks after the first day of class for the

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The TWIG

Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C. 27607

Co-editors

Beth Blankenship Cynthia Church

Managing Editors

Business Manager
Advertising Manager
Public Relations Manager
Public Relations Staff
Proofreader

Photographer
Circulation Managers

Circulation Staff

Layout Managers

Freshman Seminar Reporter
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Caroline Powell
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— Editorial Policy —

The TWIG is published weekly by the students of Meredith College during the academic year. The paper is funded by the College and through advertising. The TWIG will not print material containing personal attacks, insults, ridicule or libelous statements. All letters to the editor must be signed unless discussed with the editor.

The opinions expressed on the editorial page do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

The TWIG welcomes criticism and will respond promptly to any submitted in writing and signed by the writer.

The office is located on the second floor in Cate Center. The address for correspondence or advertising rates is The TWIG, Box X133, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC 27607-5298.