

# MEREDITH HERALD

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## Demonstration expresses student, faculty, alumnae discontent

by Betsy Short, Editor

Students, faculty and alumnae gathered in Johnson Hall Friday, Feb. 28 to express their discontent at being excluded from the Board of Trustees decision either to admit men into the graduate program or drop the graduate programs entirely.

An investigation by the board's executive committee into the Educational Amendments Act, Title IX (sex discrimination) prompted the board's scheduled vote. The Board of Trustees voted Friday to delay the vote on this issue until more information has been gathered.

The demonstration began at 1 p.m. as students lined the stairs leading to President Weems' office where the Board of Trustees was to meet and vote on the issue.

As the trustees returned from lunch and began to ascend the stairs, they were bombarded with students asking them to "keep us (the students) in mind" at the meeting and consider postponing the vote.

Gail Sharpe, a vocal senior at the rally, said, "A lot of the trustees had already made their decision; some just walked on

by and some said 'we're on your side'."

After the meeting convened at 1:30 p.m., those gathered in Johnson Hall continued to sing Meredith's Alma Mater and Dedication Hymn and chant "no men." Many of the women wore buttons saying "preserve the purpose" which, according to Becky Auman, junior student leader, referred to Meredith's purpose founded on educating women.

Some students held posters reading "Meredith College, where old traditions never die." Kathleen Folger, junior, explained her poster which said "Meredith College, grow or die" by saying, "Meredith has got to change and grow or it will die."

In the midst of the commotion, a baby slept peacefully beside its mother, Carolyn Carter, alumna and former SGA president from the class of 1973. Carter who opposes the admittance of men to Meredith's graduate programs had pinned a sign to her baby's stroller which said "Class of 2009???"

Dr. Betty W. Brewer, alumna and head of the English department, attended the demonstration. Brewer said she was disturbed that the faculty was excluded from the decision.

In a letter to Seby B. Jones, chairman of the board of trustees, Brewer said she hoped the board would opt for a better decision.

"A better decision is not necessarily a different one. A better decision can simply

be one that is made in cognizance of — and with respect for — the perspectives of all who are affected by that decision," Brewer wrote.

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Students gather in Johnson Hall Rotunda to demonstrate against the proposed admittance of men to Meredith College.

## Dining services expenses rise

The funds allocated to dining services out of each student's room and board tuition expense has risen five percent annually over the past two years, according to Charles Taylor, vice president for business and finance.

Mike Bellefeuil, director of food services, explained that ARA, which provides Meredith's food, increased its rates by four percent last year. That increase was passed along to the students. Bellefeuil said Meredith buys "top quality food" for the amount of money provided.

When Meredith's current meal plan originated, the school determined the type of menu: three entrees, two vegetables, one bread, one dessert, Bellefeuil said. The menu includes a product from each of the food groups: meat, dairy, starch.

Students often complain about the amount of starch in the menu. Bellefeuil emphasized that students do not have to eat the food the way it is served. For example, students may choose to eat Chinese beef and peppers without the

noodles or chili con carne without the rice.

Another common complaint of the students is the predictability of the menu. Theresa Ward, senior, said, "I always know what we'll be having on certain days of the week." Meredith operates on a three week cycle. Every three weeks the same menu is offered on the same day, Bellefeuil said.

This cycle aids in quality and inventory control which reduces waste and "helps keep the price down," according to Bellefeuil.

Even with the five percent increase in the students' dining tuition, each meal costs \$1.22.

Since Bellefeuil assumed Connie Branch's position as director of food services in January, he has noticed that changes need to be made in the menu as well as other aspects of the dining services.

Most of these changes will be gradual; however, Bellefeuil plans to take shrimp newburg off the menu this spring since it

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## Statement of Dr. John E. Weems

Statement of Dr. John E. Weems, President, Meredith College



The Board of Trustees of Meredith College delayed the decision relating to the admission of males to the graduate studies program. This matter was referred to the

Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees with the request that they study the matter further, seeking input from faculty, students, and alumnae.

When the members of the Executive Committee have satisfied themselves that their study is complete, and they have a recommendation to make, a special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be called to take action on the matter in the best interest of Meredith College.

February 28, 1986

## Teacher slots available

by Beth Taylor, Contributor

Meredith's Teacher Network, sponsored by the Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education, is a day-long event for teacher candidates to contact many school systems at one location.

The Network will be held Monday, March 24, 1986. It will start at 8:30 a.m. with a short meeting in Cate Center Auditorium followed by individual interviews with school system representatives. Interviewing opportunities are open to all teacher candidates, if space is available.

Listed below are the school systems to be represented and the number of interviewing slots currently available. If the school system you are interested in has no open interview slots, you may want to be available to submit your resume or meet informally with the representative.

Alamance County — 9  
Brunswick County — 6

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