

## MEREDITH HERALD

### Editorial Policy

The *Meredith Herald* is published weekly by the students of Meredith College during the academic year. The paper is funded by the college and through advertising. The *Herald* 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 *Herald* welcomes criticism and will respond promptly to any submitted in writing and signed by the writer.

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### Submission Policy

The *Meredith Herald* welcomes articles and letters to the editors from any student, faculty member or administrator. We will print articles and letters, but we adhere to these guidelines.

1. We require all articles/letters to be in one of the *Herald* drop boxes by 8:00 p.m. on Sundays.
2. We require all articles/letters to be signed by the writer and to include his/her title, if representing an organization. This should be in the upper right hand corner of the first page.
3. We require all articles/letters to be neatly written or typed and double-spaced.
4. We require all writers to count the number of words in the article/letter and place it on the first page.
5. We reserve the right not to print material that:
  - (a) functions as advertisement;
  - (b) does not follow the Editorial Policy;
  - (c) does not meet the above requirements; and
  - (d) lists minutes to meetings held.

## 'A foundation is laid': Church resigns

Taking a stand on student concerns and issues has been my goal for three and a half years in hopes that our voices would be heard. Yet, not just heard but also in hope that actions would take place to improve the Meredith community. I have always urged everyone to be willing to take stands, voice opinions — for silence is rarely heard and if it is, it is often misinterpreted.

While discussing the *Meredith Herald* constitution with the Student Life Committee, many members opposed the name change. When asked why they didn't speak up or fill out one of the questionnaires in *The Twig*, they answered that their silence meant they wanted the paper's name to remain the way it was.

Silence misinterpreted.

As editor of *The Twig* for 3½ semesters and editor of the *Meredith Herald*, I have continued to run into walls of apathy built by students, student leaders, faculty members and administrators. No one has actively worked with the paper to recruit and few have submitted articles and generated enthusiasm. And it was those who did not, would not, help who were first to ridicule.

Few realize the time it takes to put out the paper. On a weekly basis I have

poured a minimum of 25 hours on the paper. This time has taken away from my studies and time for myself — both which are important to any college student. But what's worse is having to accept active responsibility for all the unfilled jobs.

At the end of last semester, I, as co-editor, was told that the newspaper would have improved office facilities and that my load would be lifted slightly and would continue to get lighter as the semester continued.

Over Christmas I realized I would be unable to continue running the paper the way things were and take 23 hours at the same time. I also realized that if things didn't get better I'd have to resign. I had planned to do this the night our constitution got passed. However, with Beth Blankenship's resignation, I realized I couldn't. Two weeks later I tried again, but was again advised not to. Again I was told things would get easier. So, with a grin, I tried to bear it.

Unfortunately, things never have gotten better, but increasingly worse. Promises were again broken.

For over 3½ years I have worked in the best interest of the paper. I have made many sacrifices and haven't minded. When there was a good cause I didn't

mind fighting for it. I never minded taking a stand.

Unfortunately, the stand I'm taking now hurts a lot. I'm having to give up something I love and care for to make sure the problems with the position of editor are recognized. It would be hypocritical of me to sit back and remain silent, thus inferring things are o.k. and should remain the same.

If I did not feel this move was in the best interest of the *Meredith Herald* I wouldn't do it; however, I want to make sure future editors never have to go through all that I have. I have the faith the Publications Board will go forward and see to it that these problems be resolved. They are working toward that now. I just hope they don't let me and the paper down as the majority of you have.

I am glad I have had the opportunity to be your long-time editor and co-editor of *The Twig* and your first editor of the *Meredith Herald*. I can't say it was all fun; however, I never had a dull moment.

So, I now resign as your editor. I have tried to lay a foundation for the paper and now I hope that others will pave a solid road for the *Meredith Herald* so it will always be a great newspaper, a student's newspaper. *Cynthia L. Church*

## LETTERS

Dear Editor,

The week of February 24-28 definitely deserves "insert status" in *A History of Meredith College*, by Mary Lynch Johnson. What a week! Monday evening in your hall meetings you were briefly introduced to the decision made by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees to admit males to Meredith's graduate programs. I apologize for the unofficial information you received; but, due to our time limit, I decided the best way to reach you with this important information was through the resident assistants.

Throughout the week, as phone calls and letters from concerned alumnae and past SGA Presidents began coming in, I knew that we as students needed to take a stand. As your elected leader, I gathered all the information available and began forming my opinion on the matter.

Tuesday I wrote the following letter to the members of the Board of Trustees on behalf of the student body:

February 25, 1986

Mr. Seby B. Jones, Chairman  
Meredith College Board of Trustees  
3936 Blue Ridge Road  
Raleigh, NC 27612

Dear Mr. Jones:

As President of the Student Government Association and a firm believer in Meredith College and its mission to educate women, I am disappointed to learn

of the decision made by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees to recommend to the full board that males be admitted to Meredith's graduate program as degree candidates.

I am disappointed for several reasons, one being that the students of Meredith College were excluded from the decision-making process in regard to this matter. Our Student Government Association stands strong because of its long-standing history of making responsible decisions. Although we realize and appreciate that our decisions are subject to the approval of the Vice President for Student Development and ultimately the Board of Trustees, we have until now felt that our input in the College's decision-making process was of value.

I am also disappointed because this decision implies that Meredith's history of dedication solely to the education of women is at stake. By allowing men to receive degrees from this institution, we are making a statement which at least implies that the education of men is as much Meredith's responsibility as is the education of women.

Finally, the Student Life Committee recently discussed whether or not the students of the MBA program, a viable part of our population, ought to be represented on the Student Life Committee since their views were not represented elsewhere on campus. Although it has been argued that the undergraduate and graduate programs would be separate entities and have no effect on one another, the Student Life Committee's mere con-

sideration of their representation signifies to me that the presence of graduate students, both males and females, will have effect on our undergraduate program.

In closing I would like to quote from Mary Lynch Johnson's *A History of Meredith College* which refers to Meredith's founding father's undying dedication to the establishment of a women's seminary in spite of the seemingly unbeatable odds they faced.

Yet the flame never became quite invisible for the courageous trustees, who steadfastly refused to acknowledge defeat even when it seemed inevitable. (p. 37)

Since there is little case law on relevant points of Title IX, should Meredith College consider challenging the law and protecting its unique identity? The correspondence you have received from many concerned Meredith alumnae, faculty, and students indicates that further research is needed before a vote is taken. If that research indicates that Meredith must either comply to the implications of Title IX and admit males or close the doors of its graduate programs, I urge you also to be courageous and to do whatever is necessary to ensure that Meredith's mission of educating women remains strong and uncompromised.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

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