

# Meredith Herald

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## 1987 Woodrow Wilson visiting fellow Dorothy Ridings enlightens the Meredith community

by Jo Hodges

Journalist and political activist Dorothy Ridings was the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow for Meredith's 1987 academic year. Ridings recently served as the president of the League of Women Voters and moderated the Reagan-Carter presidential debates.

From March 30 through April 3, Ridings visited Meredith business, history, religion and public speaking classes. She met with the Colton English Club and other students interested in communications and politics to share her experiences and seasoned advice. She gave an interesting and informative political lecture, "Dealing with Revolution: Iran, Nicaragua and the Philippines," in the Cate Auditorium.

Despite her varied and impressive past career, Ridings' first love is the written language. "From a very early age, I knew I wanted to write. When I was little, I wrote my own family newsletter and sold it to my family. Throughout junior high and high school, I was always on school newspaper staffs, editing the school newspaper. And I've always been a reader. It doesn't matter what it is. If it's a morally uplifting work, okay. If it's trash, that's fine, too. Language, written and spoken, has always been my main love."

Ridings enjoyed her visit with the students of Meredith College. "I find that the young people are always fascinating me. I'm always learning something from them." She ended up her visit with a luncheon with the Board of Trustees, faculty members and the staff on April 3.



Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow Dorothy Ridings poses for a photograph during one of her informal lectures on campus. (Photo by Kimberly Cook)

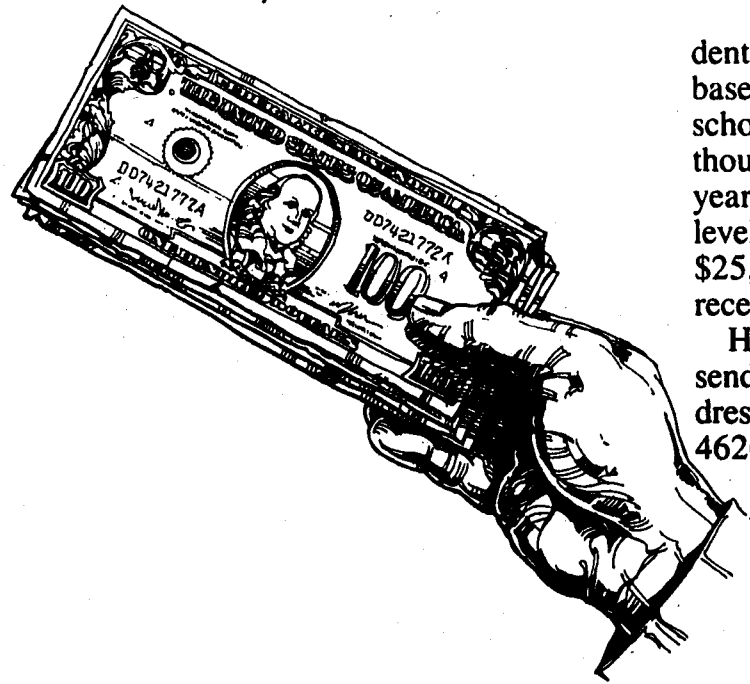
## Students urged to apply for private financial aid; new scholarship announced

Students in need of supplemental financial aid for college were urged today to write for a free copy of "How to Play Grantsmanship," distributed by The Scholarship Bank. Additionally, each booklet will be accompanied by an application for a five hundred dollar scholarship.

According to the director of this nationwide non-profit foundation, over half a billion dollars is available to high school and college students, and in many cases can cover up to twenty-five percent of a student's academic year expenses. These funds are contributed by corporations,

trade, civic and non-profit foundations and are normally awarded on a non-traditional basis such as academic merit, anticipated college major, geographic preferences, and even on the student's ability to consider a special research project or entering a contest. Parental factors, such as union, employer or past military experience are also considered by some donors.

The Scholarship Bank works with financial aids offices in high schools and colleges around the country to distribute information on the over 5,000 different programs in its computer bank. Each stu-



dent receives a personalized print-out based on his or her individual needs. Each scholarship has a value of at least one thousand dollars, and many are renewable yearly. According to the director, graduate level grants with awards in excess of \$25,000 are also available. All applicants receive up to 65 different aid sources.

High school and college students should send a stamped, business-sized self addressed envelope to The Scholarship Bank, 4626 N. Grand, Covina, CA 91724.

## New course to be offered in interdisciplinary studies

by Kim Allen

In the fall of 1987, Dr. Peggy Starkey will offer a new course in interdisciplinary studies.

The course, Women of the World, is designed to explore how religion helps shape the roles of men and women.

The course will cover the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, and Japanese reli-

gions to give a broad sample all over the globe.

According to Starkey, the course evolved from requests from students about other course on women because of the success of the Women's Odyssey class. After the request, Starkey developed the class, and it was approved by the academic dean.

### i n s i d e

Spotlight on the new director of Alumnae Affairs ..... Page 3

Meet the cafeteria manager ..... Page 3

Catch the latest sport news ..... page 4