

## 49 percent of student body votes in elections

by Elizabeth Almond

According to Elections Board chair Carol Asplen, the 1988 elections at Meredith will be remembered as one of the more successful elections in recent college history.

Forty-nine percent of Meredith students cast their ballots in the cafeteria during lunch and dinner Tuesday, March 22. In the run-off elections held on Thursday, March 24, 25% voted. Those figures show an increase in voting of 15% for Tuesday's elections and 6% for Thursday's elections over the 1987 figures.

"Voting among non-residents was way up this year, too," Asplen said.

She cites the Campus Rally, Candidates' Workshop, and increased publicity and emphasis on elections as key factors in this year's elections' success.

"We estimated that 500 students attended the Campus Rally," said Asplen. This year, the rally was held in the cafeteria, rather than the gymnasium, where it has been held in previous years.

Ripley Rand, the son of Tony Rand, a candidate for Lt. Governor, stopped by the rally to campaign for his father. At the rally, candidates for offices presented their ideas and goals in campaign speeches. A week earlier, all candidates were required to attend a candidates' workshop. At the workshop,

### Winners of 1988 elections

**SGA President**  
Gina Howard  
**SGA Vice-President**  
Yvette Brown  
**SGA Secretary**  
Nan Smith  
**SGA Treasurer**  
Bonnie Allen  
**Non-Resident President**  
Sara Simmons  
**Non-Resident Vice-President**  
Lisa Langston  
**MRA President**  
Debbie Gray  
**MRA Vice President**  
Kim Smith

**MEA President**  
Jeannie Harvey  
**MEA Vice-President**  
Mandi Stroupe  
**MCA President**  
Sue Holec  
**MCA Vice-President**  
Amanda Carroll  
**Elections Board Chair**  
Hope Proctor  
**Honor Council Chair**  
Martha Ann Brawley  
**Review Board**  
Katie Jo Goslen

**Student Life Chair**  
Beth Wood  
**Residence Hall Chair**  
Carrie Schmidt  
**Sophomore Dorm President**  
Pam Crocker  
**Junior Dorm President**  
Suzanne Hage  
**Senior Dorm President**  
Kathy Kline  
Renee Larrieu  
**Chief College Marshall**  
Suzanne Bartholomew

Asplen and other leaders gave the candidates general handbook information about eligibility for office and what responsibilities the office would require of them to assume if elected.

"We gave them some techniques for good speech making, like establishing eye contact and speaking clearly and slowly," Asplen said.

She added that this year's candidates were encouraged to adopt an issue for their campaign. "We tried to offer them a lot of support, to let them know that their interest was appreciated," Asplen said.

She called this year's elections "a positive step" toward actively involving all Meredith students in the elections process.

Meredith elections have a purpose that extends beyond the classroom, Asplen said.

"The most important aspect of elections at Meredith is that you learn to be informed. If you don't ask a candidate who they are and what they stand for and then hold them to it once they are elected, what do they owe you?" she asked.

The elections process at Meredith is modeled, to a large extent, on the elections process in this country. "If you're familiar with the Meredith system, then you'll be familiar with the U.S. system," said Asplen.

"I hope that students will get involved with local, state, and national elections through the influence of Meredith elections."

## Home ec department announces interior design degree

by Jo Hodges

The home economics department now offers a new interior design major.

The department has been hard at work developing an interior design major, said Dr. Ellen Goode, head of the home economics department.

"We've been working on it for about two years. We looked at other interior design programs around the state and on the east coast. Our students will compete very well with students at other universities with design programs," said Goode.

The new major adds three new classes, interior lighting design, professional practices in interior design, and computer aided design, to the regular curriculum of interior design courses and specifies the art classes the student must take. The major requires 40 hours in addition to the general education courses required of all Meredith students.

Because all the interior design courses overlap with the home economics major, a student may earn a second major in home economics by taking 12 hours more in nutrition, marriage and family, human resource management, and consumer economics.

The department will add one part-time instructor to the staff in the fall and another full-time instructor the year after.

Goode said the new major would help interior design students get a job in their particular field, not a related field.

"We developed the new major to give more visibility to the interior design students who want an interior design-related job. You really need to have the words 'interior design' on your diploma instead of 'home ec. with a concentration in interior design,'" said Goode.

Goode said that Meredith interior design students had a high rate of placement. Meredith graduates are working in design areas such as facilities planning, office, resort, and health care design, design studios and in sales and marketing positions in design-related businesses.

"We have had very good luck in placing former graduates. They are finding jobs in their fields," Goode said.

In the future, Goode said the department hopes to develop more computer-aided design classes and to get accreditation from FIDER, the Foundation of Interior Design Education and Research.

"For the future, we'd like to see students choosing Meredith because we have the major... we're looking forward to future developments and growth," said Goode.

## 'Carolinas Conference' begins April 8

by Meredith L. Gruehn

The 13th annual Carolinas Psychology Conference begins on Friday evening, April 8, in the Walnut Room of North Carolina State University's Student Center and continues through Saturday, April 9, on the Meredith College campus. The conference, co-sponsored by Meredith College and NCSU, is the largest Southeastern regional meeting of undergraduate students in psychology and related fields.

Carolinas Conference activities include a Friday night social, individual paper presentations, panel discussions, an invited address by a distinguished psychologist, and a psychology film festival. Registration begins Friday evening, April 8, in the Walnut Room

at NCSU from 7 pm to 11 pm and continues Saturday, April 9, from 7:30 am to 10 am in the Harris building at Meredith College. The registration fee for all conference activities is \$5.

This year's invited address will be given by Dr. Elliot Aronson, professor of psychology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His topic will be "Applications in Social Psychology: Prejudice, Reduction, Conservation and AIDS." Aronson is known for his work in social psychology and his books *The Social Animal*, *The Jigsaw Classroom*, and *Research in Social Psychology*. His address is scheduled for 10:30 am on April 9 in Kresge Auditorium.

The undergraduate paper presentations will be presented April 9 from 7:30 am to 10

am and 2 pm to 3:45 pm in the Harris building. The presentations, 10 minute reports of original and library research, are classified by subject into the following categories: cognitive, developmental, experimental, personality, physiological, and social psychology.

The panel discussions for this year's conference are on AIDS and "What You Can Do with a B.A. in Psychology." The panels are scheduled for 1 pm to 2 pm and 4 pm to 5 pm. The psychology film festival runs through the day.

For more information contact Dr. Jack Huber, department of psychology, telephone 829-8402.