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New computer system: A world of opportunities

by Cara Lynn Croom

The computer system at Meredith College was updated this summer as many students vacationed and thought of anything but academics and computing. A MicroVAX 3500 was bought to replace the DataGeneral which had been the only computer available to programming students at Meredith. This MicroVAX 3500, code named "Angel," became available to students on September 21, 1988, when Ms. Ruth Balla introduced it to her Pascal class. However, this is not the big story for the future of computing at Meredith. An ethernet was installed in the Shearon Harris Mathematics Building which

will allow students and faculty to log onto any type of printer or another computer when another is purchased. Ms. Balla hopes that some day an ethernet might be installed across the campus so that any computer might be accessed by any office or student.

The newly restructured computer lab offers nine terminals for student use and two printers. The MicroVAX 3500 offers such services as On-Screen Assistance and Electronic Mail Services, which allow students and faculty to communicate as soon as either the student or faculty member

logs onto the computer. The MicroVAX uses languages such as Pascal, C, Lisp, Fortran, Cobal, and BASIC and uses the statistical languages Min-itab and SAS. This computer provides quicker manipulation of data and a safer means of storing back-up files because these files are stored on an enclosed cassette rather than a reel-to-reel device. While the MicroVAX 3500 is not a super-computer, which is mainly used for research and not programming, Ms. Balla states that it is the most advanced non-research computer available now and most closely fits the needs of Meredith College and her students.

Kappa Nu Sigma Inductions

by Amy LaVoy

Kappa Nu Sigma, the Meredith honorary society, held its fall induction ceremony Thursday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Alumnae House. Nine new members were invited to join. They are Sylvia A. Boles, Lynn L. Crabtree, Elizabeth A. Dawkins, Kris Z. Hardiman, Kimberly A. Long, Diane C. Orrell, Paula C. Rogers, and Carol M. Stocking.

The society presented Helen Price Scholarships to the rising sophomore and junior students with the highest averages in their classes. Sophomore recipients include Rhonwyn Curtis, Alyson Honeycutt, Kay Jernigan, and Kelly Morris. The

junior recipient is Amanda Brooks.

According to Dr. Sara English, Kappa Nu Sigma sponsor, senior or second-semester junior students are invited to join. Currently the society consists of 33 student and 17 faculty members. Faculty are eligible to join if they are a Meredith and Kappa Nu Sigma alumna, or if they were a member of Phi Beta Kappa at another school.

The society also holds induction ceremonies in the spring and during Alumnae Weekend when the Kappa Nu Sigma alumnae are invited to attend the ceremony.

Kappa Nu Sigma was established at Meredith in 1923.

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