

Letters to the Editor

differ from our own.

My first reaction -- you saw my face -- to Friday's demonstration was shock. I'm a wordy person; I'd have thought talking better than sitting. But reflecting has changed my mind.

The antidote to rumor is silence.

The way out of the clamor of contradiction is affirming our agreement about simple principles, self-governance, an honor system without taint, and impartial treatment for all.

So long as we know that integrity of truth does not mean unanimity of judgment, we can deal with each other in trust. Jayne and Martha Ann can leave here trusting the code and the persons by and with whom they have lived; I can stay here confident that the students can trust me.

Whoever conceived the silent demonstration had a splendid idea. It was not a wasted day, but one very good for us all. I am grateful that I had a chance to take part.

Susan Gilbert

Dear Editor,

I am really disturbed about the decision made by President Weems concerning the recent Honor Council case. I feel that he made a partial decision since he has an affiliation with the student's parents. If he felt he would have made a partial decision, he should have had someone else make it for him. This put Dr. Weems in a bad light on campus and made many students hostile. If it had been any other student on this campus whose parents don't hold a title, that student would have had a different penalty given to her. I thought this was a school which was supposed to treat all students equally and one which was supposed to let the students govern the student body, but obviously I was wrong. This whole thing makes me question the effectiveness of our government on school grounds and the integrity of our Honor Code. I can't believe that someone who is a representative of the Honor Council for the sophomore class has the nerve to do something like this. She should know better!

I am a student who got five weeks campus and probation for one semester, because I incriminated myself. I was acting as a witness in a trial and thought I was helping

the Honor Council by telling the truth; instead, I had to have a trial based on what I said. It was a case involving alcohol, where the two students for whom I was being a witness had bottles of liquor found either in their car or in their room. I had no evidence; nothing was found in my room or in my car. I said that I did have alcohol on campus at one time though. So has a number of girls on this campus. I got the same amount of punishment as the other two students. If one of my parents held a position in the hierarchy of Meredith, would my case have been any different? Would I have had a lesser sentence than I had? I just don't see the fairness in it all.

The student in the recent Honor Council case got probation for two semesters, a reverse campus, and she must write a three page paper on academic dishonesty and the Honor Code at Meredith. I heard that she is co-oping this semester, so she has no need to come on campus. Is this true punishment? Is it really affecting her? No! Not at all! Probation is not really a big thing. You are more aware of what you're doing than before, but because of that awareness, you are more cautious of what you do and think twice before you do it. As far as reverse campus, she can still go out and have a social life. When you're stuck on campus, it makes you think a lot about what you've done and you learn a lesson the hard way. And a three page paper -- WOW! That's real hard! All she has to do is make up a good paper, submit it, and she's done. I see no punishment in her penalty, and I think that she got off easy. A suspension would have made her think about what she did whereas what she got will give her the attitude of "do something wrong and got off scot-free because of ties with the President." Sad thing is that connections at Meredith will not help her throughout her life, and what will she do when she has no ties to what it is she got in trouble for? Give her something to make her learn the hard way -- make it a harsh punishment if you have to, but don't make a partial decision. Think about the dishonest Honor Code violation she committed and what she got for it. I wish I could've been that lucky.

Amy Aldridge

Dear Editor,

I am extremely disturbed by the recent Honor Council case. This issue has left me both shocked and outraged. When I was in high school, Meredith College was the college for me. It was the only place I wanted to go. Meredith's strong heritage pulled me here and now I wonder where that beautiful heritage has gone. President Weems broke the bonds this heritage formed between the student body and the college. I have always fiercely defended this college as an excellent academic institution. I have sung her praises to other young women -- telling them of Meredith's close community and high standards. And now I feel betrayed. I am now forced to realize that I attend a college whose President reinforces academic dishonesty, for that is exactly what President Weems has done. It would seem that Meredith has two Honor Codes -- one for the ordinary populace and another for the daughters of those who work here. President Weems made a poor choice and his choice is inexcusable. Just because this young woman has close ties to this college and shows promise for a bright future is no reason to pardon her crime. Meredith students as a whole have great potential. This young woman is not an exception. She knowingly violated the Honor Code and should suffer the penalty any other student would. This case has irreparably damaged the value I placed in the Honor Code. Because of this recent event, I can not in good conscience recommend Meredith College as a college which stresses academics, for I have seen in President Weem's actions that it does not.

Shelli E. Stoker

Dear Editor:

As students of Meredith College, we are deeply concerned about the recent Honor Code violation in question. Considering that S.G.A. is our student government, we fully support them in this matter.

Meredith College revolves around a strong Honor Code, but there seems to be a misconception about this system. The Honor Code System is here for the protection and well-being of Meredith College students; however, there must be consistency in this system. Without this consis-