

# Meredith Herald

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1990-1991: Celebrating Meredith's Charter Centennial

## One for the Road?

by Muffett Brinkman

Part of a series promoting the upcoming Alcohol Awareness Week, which will be held on Meredith's campus November 5-9

Buying and consuming alcoholic beverages is illegal if you are under 21 years of age. Alcohol is a powerful drug, medically classified as a depressant.

- Alcohol is absorbed quickly into the bloodstream because it doesn't need to be digested.

- It slows thought processes in the brain, numbs brain cells, and affects all major organs.

- Alcohol is collected and processed slowly by the liver until it's removed.

"I can drive, I've only had a few drinks."

Because it affects the central nervous system, alcohol causes:

- Loss of concentration. Drinking can cause drowsiness. When alertness decreases, the chances of a crash increase.

- Visual problems. Alcohol can cause double vision and blurring. It also reduces side vision, making it hard to see vehicles approaching from either side.

- Poor judgement. Alcohol dulls areas of the brain that enable people to make sensible, safe decisions.

- Slower reaction time. Drinking slows reflexes and interferes with coordination. Drivers who can't react quickly are dangerous to themselves and others.

DUI (Driving Under the Influence or drugs or alcohol) is illegal.

All 50 states have laws against DUI. Drunk or impaired drivers face large fines, possible jail terms, loss of license, and higher insurance premiums.

Most laws are based on blood-alcohol concentration (BAC). A BAC of .10% or more is legal evidence of DUI.

The likelihood of an auto accident increases before you are legally



intoxicated! Your chances of a crash increase 1 1/2 times at a BAC of only .05%. At the legal level of intoxication, your chances increase 6 times. At a .15% BAC, you are 25 times more likely to cause an accident.

How much does your BAC increase with each drink?

It depends on your body weight and the type of drink as well as how fast you drink, your mood, and the amount of food in your stomach. Don't be fooled into thinking that if you eat before you go out to a party you can drink more and still stay sober - it will just take longer to feel the effects of the alcohol.

*Next week: Specifics on body weight and BAC; alcohol use among college students  
Information provided by Channing L. Bete Co., Inc.*

## Can Art Cans Paper Fights

by Beth Lowry

Cornhuskin' 1990 is just around the corner and there are some exciting new changes this year.

One new Cornhuskin' feature is the replacement of toilet paper fights with "Can Art." It was brought to the attention of the Meredith Recreation Association (MRA) that the customary paper fights were environmentally unsafe and excessive. This year, each class will collect aluminum cans and on Wednesday, October 31 at 4:00 p.m., they will have thirty minutes to create a mural with the cans. Members of the art department will judge the murals.

The winning class will donate the money from the recycled cans to the charity of their choice. Winners will be announced Thursday night.

MRA Traditions Co-chairs Kim Audette and Beth Lowry said that this new event is for fun only - no points will be given to the winning class.



Cornhuskin' 1990 update inside!

## Singing a Story

Odyssey Performance Monday in Jones Auditorium

by Heather Tyson

Richard Dyer-Bennet has sung to miners, school assemblies, women's clubs and longshornmen's unions. His job is minstrelsy - a musician who travels the land recreating stories through song. Commonly called the "last minstrel," Dyer-Bennet brings the past alive in ways beyond the power of the written word. Those who have heard his performance say that it is not sung or chanted, nor is it recited and interpreted. Instead, "the words hang transparent in the air and all the room is the tale, not the teller."

Dyer-Bennet performs excerpts from the Odyssey Monday, October 22 at 8:00 p.m. in Jones Auditorium. Imagine, the Odyssey as entertainment!

Dyer-Bennet's repertoire of songs ranges from ancient Greek epics through English and French folk songs to good old American ballads like "John Henry." He has sung in every state in the union,

performed three concerts in London and one in Rome, and established his own record label. Dyer-Bennet toured annually in the United States and Canada until 1970, when he became a professor at Stony Brook University.

In 1976, he discovered Robert Fitzgerald's Odyssey translation and decided to adapt it for his performance. Through consultation with Fitzgerald and a three-week cruise among the Greek islands, Dyer-Bennet managed to put together a performance as it would most likely have been performed in Homer's day. Dyer-Bennet's performance is accurate even down to a replica of a classical lyre that he says "Homer would have sold his soul to possess."

Dyer-Bennet will also hold a voice projection and narrative technique workshop on October 22.

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