

Editorial

Nude women of women's colleges

Playboy magazine plans to do a feature in an upcoming issue on the women of women's colleges. Oh goody. Just the opportunity for publicity we've been looking for.

There would be little argument that periodicals of this ilk are exploiting women. The larger question seems to be whether it is acceptable for adult women to allow themselves to be exploited in this or any other fashion.

We allow the Madison Ave. moguls to sell their clients' products with television ads that are so sleazy, sometimes it's hard to believe they're only pushing something as benign as cake mix and laundry products. "Oh, you sweet talker, Betty Crocker." Do we really think that whipping up a two layer fudge delight is going to elicit heavy breathing from the lucky recipient? In a recent bar soap ad, a young woman whips the towel off a naked man's behind as the announcer tells us their soap is good for "doing cheeks."

Print ads are no better. Men and women drape themselves all over each other, wearing nothing more than the fragrance which seems to inspire their behavior. Jewelry ads prompt male readers to buy diamonds for their girlfriends, not-so-subtly implying that gifts will bring payment in kind.

The reason this type of ad is seen so often is because it works. We believe what we see. We hear the message. We buy the product. Sex sells. And it will continue to sell as long as we put up with that kind of exploitive behavior.

Playboy isn't going to have a bit of trouble finding enough pert young bodies to fill the pages of its special issue, due out in April. The women they use will say things like, "Why shouldn't I be proud of my body? I'm not ashamed to show my body."

It's great to feel good about your body. God has truly given us a wonderful system of bones and muscles and little tiny cells that all work together to keep us alive and healthy.

Precious few of us, though, have measurements society deems perfect. Women are known to be more critical of their shape than are men of theirs. That trend is likely to continue as long as ad execs and magazine publishers continue to use young slim women and handsome well-built men to build profit margins.

Our bodies should be treasured, not exploited.

Letters to the Editor

Courtesy lost at holiday celebrations

Dear Editor,

Have we lost respect for each other? Does anyone know the meaning of common courtesy anymore? I'm not so sure after tonight.

I have just returned from some of Meredith's traditional holiday activities and I am appalled at the behavior I witnessed. It began with the Holiday Dinner. Many people worked hard planning and implementing the dinner. During the welcoming remarks as well as the entertainment by the Meredith Ensemble, students were talking and laughing as if they were attending a picnic in the courtyard. Not only did the performers deserve the attention of these students, but quiet would have been appreciated by all of us trying to listen to the speakers and singers. At the very least these students should have behaved since President Weems and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees were in attendance.

But it did not end with dinner. After dinner I attended the Moravian Love Feast in the chapel. This service is very beautiful and meaningful because the congregation takes part in singing carols as they worship. Unfortunately the people sitting behind me chose to use the hour to catch up on conversation. They talked during the anthems sung by the Meredith Ensemble and they talked during the brief sermon. If they wanted to socialize, I wish they had gone somewhere else. The service couldn't have had much meaning for them. Because of their talking, they must have missed the reason for being there.

It's time that we all examine our behavior in public. Are we considerate of others? Do we talk at movies or lectures or church services? Do we care that our rudeness causes others to be uncomfortable? It doesn't take much effort to be courteous. All it really takes is just a little thought.

This is a season of giving. Why don't we consider giving the gift of courtesy.

Becky Bradshaw



The Meredith Herald
 Published every Monday during the school year.
Editor-in-chief Julia Haskett
Business Manager Kym Spell
Managing Editor Kim Peeples
Advertising Manager Kathleen Thomas
Advertising Staff Muffett Brinkman
 Kelly Underwood
Copy Editors Jane Kennedy
 Kathleen Thomas

CLASS SECTION
Freshman Editors Muffett Brinkman
 Allison Hodges
Sophomore Editor OPEN
Junior Editor Jane Kennedy
Senior Editor Kim Peeples
Non-Resident Editor Lee Connelly
WINGS Editor Kathleen Thomas
Graduate School Editor OPEN

ACADEMICS SECTION
Academics/Faculty Editors
Art, Music, Speech & Theatre Patricia Underwood
Biology & Chemistry Mary Beth Owen
Business & Economics Susan Moore
English Catherine Hart
Education OPEN
Foreign Language Jane Kennedy
Health, PE & Dance Janie Mullis
History & Politics OPEN
Home Economics OPEN
International Studies Janie Mullis
Psychology OPEN
Religion & Philosophy OPEN
Sociology and Social Work OPEN

ADMINISTRATION SECTION
Administration Editor OPEN
Student Services Editor Julia Haskett

STUDENT LIFE SECTION
Clubs/Organizations Editors Kim Peeples
 Kelly Underwood
Sports Editor Allison Hodges
Entertainment Editors Beth Lowry
 Patricia Underwood
Features Editors Kym Spell
 Patricia Underwood
 Susan Cates

NEWS SECTION
Campus News Kym Spell
Local & International News Julia Haskett

ART SECTION
Photography Julia Haskett
 Allison Hodges
 Kym Spell
Editorial Cartoonists Pam Maxwell
 Karen Jarmon
Arts Critic OPEN
Layout Julia Haskett
 Janie Mullis
Advisor Becky Bradshaw

The Meredith Herald
 Meredith College
 3800 Hillsborough Street, Box X133
 Raleigh, NC 27607-5298
 Drop box: beside box office, Cate Center
 Campus office: Second floor Cate Center
 Phone: 829-2824
 Printed by Hinton Press, Mebane, NC
 Advertising rates available on request.

Editorial Policy
 The *Meredith Herald* is published by Meredith College during the academic year. The paper is funded by the College and through advertising. The *Herald* retains the right not to publish material containing personal attacks, insults, ridicule, or libelous statements. All letters to the editor must be signed, although the author's name will be withheld from publication if requested.
 The opinions expressed in editorial columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body.

