

Editorial

by Jessica Cook, Copy Editor

This Thanksgiving, ask yourself a question: what have I done to help the poor? Unfortunately, many of us don't have much to say.

In today's fast-paced college lifestyle of pressing deadlines, tests, and jobs, it's easy to forget our social responsibility to the less fortunate. Somewhere along the way, we have forgotten that it is our duty to help the underprivileged. Today, it is socially acceptable to spurn a beggar on the street or to ignore the needs of the poor with inadequate government aid. Why have we stacked our hearts against the desperate cries of our fellow human beings? We tend to distance ourselves from the poor and produce guilt-relieving rationalizations for their poverty; for example, we call the poor "lazy" or "stupid." We blame poverty on the poor. We blame everyone, and everything but ourselves. We look elsewhere for solutions.

Remember: While you enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner this year, a woman on Hillsborough Street frantically searches a trash can for a crust of bread. While you sleep in a warm bed at home, a child freezes on a wind-whipped city street. You ask, what can one person do to help? A lot. donate an old coat to a thrift store, volunteer in a soup kitchen, give time or money to a homeless shelter, or help a beggar instead of turning your back. Most importantly, kept the poor in your thoughts throughout the year; don't wait for the holidays to express charity and selflessness.

Because of a lack of savings, many people in the U.S. are just two paychecks away from poverty. A college degree is no longer the ticket to prosperity and financial security; because of an unstable job market, the high cost of living, and the inflation of credentials needed to secure a well-paying, satisfying occupation, anyone can become a street person or a welfare recipient - even you.

Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

The MCTV Cable Office would like to express our great concern regarding the circumstances of November 13th. A member of the Meredith community wanted to gain possession of a videotape placed on Strict Reserve, and this person signed the Circulation check-out card to MCTV and then removed the tape from the Library entirely! A

scheduled MCTV airing of this video was missed and the students needing to view this tape as part of their class requirement lost out. MCTV is here to help students! By airing required videos at various times, most campus residents can view videos in the comfort of their own room. Also, professors gain class time, and the waiting for a viewing station and your turn with a videotape is **eliminated!**

We at MCTV hope that whoever disguised their identity on a Circulation card and removed a reserved videotape from the Library will turn themselves in to the Honor Council.

Remember: Library videotapes are not to leave the building, EVER!

This previous weekend I attended the semi-formal. Just last year I transferred to Meredith and I was looking forward to my first dance at Meredith College. I am sorry to say that I was disappointed. I paid \$20 for a ticket and was personally surprised that there was no band at the dance. My \$20 definitely did not go towards funding for refreshments. Ruffles potato chips, water, and punch are not very impressive refreshments. Then to top it all off, the Big Sis/Lil' Sis brunch was cancelled. When I signed up for the brunch I was asked to put my name and my phone number. Still no one contacted me or my friends about the cancellation. It was quite embarrassing for us to take our dates to Artspace for a nonexistent brunch. Meredith College is a well-respected institution, and I personally feel that more could have been done in preparation for the dance to insure that our fine reputation would have been upheld. The Iris "Ball" was a real disappointment.

Karen O'Neill

To the editor:

I was disturbed when I read the editorial written in the November 15th issue of the Meredith Herald concerning Cornhuskin'. The first thing that disturbed me was that the letter came from someone who did not participate in the events. I am a junior, and I participated in all Cornhuskin' activities. As a result, I witnessed some of the class hostility.

Yes, Cornhuskin' was more competitive this year than in the past, but I do not feel that it was as bad as the editorial implied. The article implies that everyone was mad at anyone who was not in their class or their big/lil' sis class. I totally disagree with this implication. During the week, I ate with my friends as usual; it did not matter what class they were. I did not get angry with them. On the contrary, I wished them luck.

I agree that some people had negative attitudes, but it was just that — some people. There have always been some negative attitudes in every class. The important thing is *See Letters to the Editor, page four*

Meredith Herald Staff

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor Kelly Parker
Publication Editor Amy LaVoy
Copy Editor Jessica Cook
Business Manager Jane Kennedy
Advisor Nan Miller

Features Editor Amity Brown
Club Events Editor Kendra Neese
Photography Editor Julie Smith

Staff

Suzanne Averette
Betsy Mao
Gilda Boyd
Tracey Rawls
Trista Schagat
Sonali Kolhatkar
Ellen Williams

Meredith Herald
Meredith College
3800 Hillsborough Street
Box x133
Raleigh, N.C. 27607-5298
(919) 829-2824

Printed by Hinton Press, Mebane, N.C.

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. The opinions expressed in editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Everyone in the Meredith Community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name and address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld from publication upon request. Submissions may be dropped in the Herald box next to the Cate Center box office. Deadline for submission is Tuesday at noon.