

It's that time again! Time to play WHO'S-RUNNING-FOR-WHAT! As a veteran of this game myself, I've grown quite accustomed over the past three years to the inevitable question: "What are you running for, Hartig?" I learned early on the implications of this question, and thus developed my own ways of evading it—right up until the very second my card was slipped into the filing box. Once, I even went so far as to proclaim that I wasn't running for anything (all the while planning my campaign strategy). Instead, I explained, I planned to spend my time removing outdated flyers from bulletin boards throughout the campus.

For those of you who are new to the game, I feel obligated to inform you that it has long been a tradition here at Meredith that students avoid running against their friends at all costs. Thus, it is decided ahead of time who will run for what so that no one has to "compete" against a friend. There

are, of course, obvious benefits to this system: no one loses, and no unnecessary stress is placed on any treasured friendships.

It is a tempting trap to fall into, I must admit. However, there is certainly something to be said for knowing what you want and being willing to go after it. I say this not at all to sound heartless. I would be the last person to sacrifice a friendship for an elected office. However, I've run enough races to know that if a friendship is

worth anything at all, it will survive the stresses of an election campaign. As a matter of fact, my experience has been

that it only makes the friendship stronger, if both parties are honest with each other and with their constituents.

There is also something to be said for respecting yourself

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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 upon request.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: The Meredith Herald's letters to the editor policy states, "All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld upon request." We cannot publish anonymous letters, but we will respect the confidentiality of an author. If you have submitted an anonymous letter, and you still wish it to be published, please resubmit the letter with a request for your name to be withheld. Thank you. Amity Brown, editor

Student responds to cultural diversity letter

Who ever said this was a "perfect" world? How can it be so "perfect" when I am made to feel like I have done something wrong just because I am white and am not trying to learn as much as I can about everyone else's culture. After reading LaDawn Wray's letter to the editor about cultural diversity being addressed all I felt was outrage that I was being classified within a group of ignorant, hateful, white individuals. It's true that not everyone is totally fair when judging another, but this is not purely a racial issue. I know many people here that would rather "scrape the walls" than risk having to talk to me, much less look at me, and we happen to be of the same race. Whether it be popularity or wealth or whatever else, there will always be those that think they are better than the rest. I would like to say that they do not represent all of the "white world." I have no control over where I came from; I do however, have control over the person I am becoming and the attitudes that I possess.

Meredith does not have the capability to address every separate culture. How can they when there are so many: German, Irish, Hungarian, French, Italian, African-American, Russian, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, etc. I'm not talking about people that

are here from each country, but rather people's heritages that come from each country. I am not even sure that I know a great deal about my own culture and that might be an issue that I should deal with. Culture is often, however, a very generalizing word and somewhere in the middle we lose sight of who the individual is. The important thing is that where we came from does not measure where we are going and should not be used to categorize what kind of person we are.

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Students encourage attendance at convocations

We are writing about attendance at convocations. This is our third year at Meredith, and we have noticed that few students attend these educational opportunities. Meredith spends time and money getting interesting speakers who have much to offer our community. Instead of taking advantage of these opportunities, we make up excuses: not enough time, too busy, or just not interested in convocation. These excuses just don't cut it!

Let's look at the distinguished list of speakers who have led our convocations—Sandra Day O'Connor, Phyllis Tribble, and Patricia Schroeder. These women are known nationwide for their leadership and contributions to their fields. However, when each of these women spoke, there were empty seats in the auditorium. Why weren't students sitting in the aisles to see these well-known women? If this trend continues, the convocation committee may stop devoting time and money securing such distinguished individuals.

Convocation has something to offer all Meredith students. Topics range from biology to women in leadership to computer technology. Even if the topics do not directly relate to your major, you may still

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