

LETTERS continued from two

and leave at the end. Standing on stage before a hall full of people is nerve-racking and involves loads of hard work, personal dedication, and a risk that most people never experience, but it is my idea of pleasure. Performance — the sharing of my innermost feelings through music — is what I live for; having my art taken for granted is not.

Shannon A. McGinnis
Junior, applied music

As a former and future resident student and a present commuter student, I want to encourage resident students to stay on campus. Every year at this time, I hear the buzz from sophomores and juniors saying that they want an apartment and freedom from the dorms. Let me tell you, living off campus is not all it is cracked up to be. I live with my parents and I am allowed to come and go as I please and to do whatever I want to do. Yes, the freedom is great but the inconvenience is greater. Those of you who hate getting up at 7:50 for your 8:00 class, think about getting up at 6:30 or 7:00, just so you can beat the traffic and rush to make it to class on time.

When a resident student has a two-hour break, she can just go to her room, study, chat, or catch some sleep. I, on the other hand, must wander about campus. Cate Center is great for socializing but it is often too loud and too busy to get any studying done there. The library is quiet but I can't study unless I am comfortable with a Diet Coke within my reach. I could drive home and wait for my next class, but, in traffic, that is 20 minutes each way and the temptation is too great to just not come back. More often than not I find myself in the lounge of the women's restroom on the first floor of Joyner. The bathroom is not exactly where I thought I would be spending my breaks when I looked forward to moving off campus.

Another great thing about being a resident student is that meals are included in tuition, room, and board fees. As a commuter, I have to pay for everything I eat on campus. Even at just \$2.00 per day, that is \$10.00 per week and over a semester's time, that is a lot of money. Another cost is the money spent to buy gas for the drive of 10 miles each way back and forth to school. I have also put more miles on my car in the past semester than in the two years preceding it.

All of this is to say STAY ON CAMPUS! Sure, you give up some freedoms but it is only for 4 years. Take advantage of it; most students don't appreciate what is offered here. I'm looking forward to coming back as a resident next year and I hope you will too.

Beth Burnette
Junior

How seriously do you take Meredith's policy on alcohol? We as concerned members of the freshman class would like to express some concerns we have regarding the issue of alcohol. We came to Meredith believing that alcohol would not be a problem to the extent that it presents itself. We aren't trying to condemn those who drink, but rather are concerned with the inappropriate behavior regarding the use of alcohol on campus and at school-sponsored events.

Students who choose to attend Meredith-spon-

sored off-campus events are required to represent the college at all times, which means being alcohol free. Most students who attend these functions expect to enjoy their evening, rather than watch drunken behavior. This inappropriate behavior is not only illegal but also tacky and socially incorrect.

Alcohol is not only an off-campus problem, but it is quickly becoming an on-campus problem as well. Alcohol on campus is a blatant violation of the honor code. We feel these women are not taking their honor code pledge seriously; therefore, they are endangering the existence of the honor code which is not only a time-honored tradition, but also a necessity for successful community living today.

Our strongest concern is the inappropriate behavior that results from the excessive use of alcohol. We define inappropriate behavior as loud, lewd, or obnoxious behavior while in a drunken state. This behavior includes knocking on doors, excessive loudness, playing with the elevator bells and alarms, urinating in the breezeway, and throwing up in the hallway. These are examples of behaviors that violate community rights to have an alcohol-free environment. Such behavior prohibits the fulfillment of the Meredith College charter, page seven of the Meredith College Undergraduate catalogue.

Possible solutions are stronger enforcement of the honor code principle involving reporting violations, even if it concerns close friends, spontaneous searches, and automatic call-downs for inappropriate behavior resulting directly from drunkenness.

"The Crusaders" — Patty Berry, Ande Brinn, Jennifer Faircloth, Catherine Gallagher, Mary Beth Kennedy, Heather McKean, Hope Murdock

I'm writing this because I feel very passionately against some of the rules and regulations presently instated at Meredith. I believe that some of the rules concerning housing are turning prospective students away from Meredith and also causing quite a few young women attending Meredith to transfer to other schools. This fact saddens, as well as angers, me because not only are these women missing out on an incomparable classroom experience and outstanding faculty, but Meredith is losing women who could enhance and improve her community.

I feel that Meredith needs to "update" her housing rules, which presently satisfy only a portion of the on-campus students. Those on-campus students who wish to have male visitation, who are 21 and want to bring alcohol on campus, or who desire to have off-campus accommodations are forced to either live oppressed on campus or transfer to another school where they will be encouraged and allowed to grow up. Being stuck with only these two options is unfair and not right. Those students who wish to live more freely and independently should be able to AND encouraged to. Being grown-up and mature requires independence and responsibility. In order for these to be achieved, they must have been experienced and tested. I feel it is unfortunate that some of the Meredith housing rules inhibit and squelch the natural growth and maturation process of her students.

Meredith needs to become more aware of the needs and desires of all her students, and in doing so allow her girls to become women.

Brooke Judkins
Sophomore, English major

About a week and a half ago the weather began to turn warmer, the flowers began to bloom and the pollen began to fall. As the week went on, I heard sorts of complaints about how hot it was in the rooms, especially at night. And I must say, these complaints held some validity. Several nights my roommate and I found it hard to go to sleep because of the heat, and when we would wake up in the morning it looked as if we had been in a wet t-shirt contest. To top that off, it became warm enough for the landscapers to get out and mow the grass. Why was (and still is) that a problem? Well, in order to stay relatively cool, students had to keep their windows open, and, in turn, all of the pollen and grass clippings made their way into the rooms. So, what's the point of this letter? Well, if the air conditioning had been turned on, the students wouldn't wake up soaking wet in the morning, as well as blaze away during the day, and a great deal of the students would not be battling allergies as fiercely as they are.

And what a great relief it was when the students called environmental services asking for the air conditioning to be turned on to be told they will turn it on when they are ready. It was also nice to see signs posted up on the halls to stop bothering environmental services about the air conditioning. I'm sorry, but environmental services needs to spend the night in the dorms and then tell us they'll turn on the air conditioning when they are ready.

I've tried to think of reasons that they would have for not turning it on, and I have come up with a few. Maybe they are waiting for the temperature to hit a certain high for an X amount of days in a row before turning it on, or maybe it's a money thing; it may not be cost effective to turn it on for the next two weeks. Whatever their reasons are I can't see that they are good enough.

Quite a few of us are suffering because of this lack of air conditioning. The pollen season is the worst that it has been in years. By keeping our windows open during the day and at night we are getting maximum pollen exposure, and it is wreaking havoc on our sinuses. I have never had allergies or sinus problems until now, and over the past two weeks I have spent a fair amount of money on allergy medications that aren't working like they could because I have to leave my window open at night in order to stay comfortable.

I do hope that the reason that the a.c. hasn't been turned on is of a monetary issue because I do believe that a great sum of money has been sent to Meredith to cover my tuition and a great deal of other unseen expenses.

I won't say that I am sorry for bothering environmental services because I believe that it is our right to call up and complain if we are dissatisfied with anything here on campus — our \$10,000 a year right.

The weather is only going to get warmer and the students are going to get a lot more uncomfortable if something is not done soon. If there is some concern over money in turning the air conditioning maybe environmental services should make money off of a service that should be complementary to us by charging us to turn on the a.c., just like the people who are charging the seniors to attend their Class Day picnic.

Traci Latta
Junior, English major