

MEREDITH HERALD

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Class of 1999 "goes for the gold" at MC

By: Betsy Stewart

Telephones were ringing in administrative offices all over campus last Tuesday and Wednesday as anxious freshmen and concerned parents called to ask how Meredith planned to deal with Hurricane Felix. Tuesday's forecast predicted that Felix would bring strong winds and rain and arrive in Raleigh, along with the freshman class, on Thursday morning.

Students living in the coastal areas where a mandatory evacuation was in effect wanted to know if they could move in a day early. The answer was yes. Students who feared the stormy weather would cause travel delays wanted to know if they could move in a day late. Again, the answer was yes.

Since no one on campus, not even President Weems, had any control over the weather, Dean of Students Sharon Cannon decided that orientation would proceed as planned. If the rains

came, the outdoor events would be moved indoors. This would be Meredith's only concession to Felix; the orientation schedule would be followed. Felix fooled everyone by staying out to sea, and Thursday's weather was hot and sunny.

Some 400 members of the class of 1999 attended the opening ceremonies in the amphitheater that afternoon, and orientation was officially under way. This year's freshman class includes students from as far away as New York, California, Texas, Michigan and Utah. There are also 33 NC. Teaching Fellows and 33 Honors Scholars. They have the distinction of being the first freshman class at Meredith to be allowed to have cars on campus.

Members of the class of '99 are not the only new students on campus this semester. Studying at Meredith this year are four visiting students from the University of Humber in Hull, England and international students from Jamaica, Venezu-



WELCOME FRESHMAN: Rebecca Huffstetler and Kristen Tyvoll welcome freshman at the front gate on moving day. (Photo by Clarky Lucas)

ela, Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), Japan, Taiwan, Korea and the Netherlands. Orientation for 105 new transfer students began at noon on Sunday with a brunch at the President's house. The executive board members of the re-entry student organization, WINGS, welcomed 140 new students at their orientation on

Monday and Tuesday nights. Although the final count won't be taken until the end of Drop/Add on Aug. 29, it appears that Meredith will have a record number of students on campus this semester. Hurricane Felix, the threatening but uninvited orientation guest, failed to show up and no one missed him.

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Leaders see the forest through the trees

By: Clarky Lucas

Student leaders went out on a limb at the President's Retreat in May. Representatives from the Student Government Association, Women in New Goal Settings, Meredith Entertainment Association, and other organizations journeyed to Lake Tillery where they stayed at the Beth Haltiwanger Retreat Center.

"It was a growing experience. It was a great opportunity to get together and learn about each

organization and how they all fit together in the Meredith community," said Heather Hudgins-McKean, president of MEA. As soon as the students arrived at the retreat, they tackled the low ropes course. They brushed up their teamwork skills by participating in a trust walk where one student was blindfolded and led through a series of obstacles by another student who could see. Other activities included climbing over a large wall with only one person to help push someone

up and two people to pull her over the wall. There was nothing on the wall for the student to grab hold of to stabilize herself. She had to rely on her teammates to help maneuver her up the wall. Another obstacle was a web of rope with various size openings. The group had to figure out how to get each member through a different hole without her touching the rope and students going through the same opening twice.

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