

MEREDITH HERALD

Volume XII, Issue 21

February 28, 1996

Raleigh, North Carolina

Commuter Awareness Week kicks off

by Barbara Watts

The kickoff for commuter awareness/appreciation week took place on Friday, February 23, and was fabulous according to Dorothy Sizemore, director of Commuter Life.

Sizemore has been planning this event for months along with a committee of commuter students. The goal of this week is to create campus awareness of the commuter students and to increase communication and congeniality between resident and commuter students.

Commuters have a long history at Meredith College. A day students' club was organized in 1924. Today there are a greater number of commuter students than ever before. In the fall of 1995, there were 1,344 commuting students compared to 124 in the fall of 1971, according to President John Weems' notebook.

Rooney King, president of AMC, was very impressed with the turnout at the kickoff.

"This is a really good way to become informed about how many commuters there are and the opportuni-

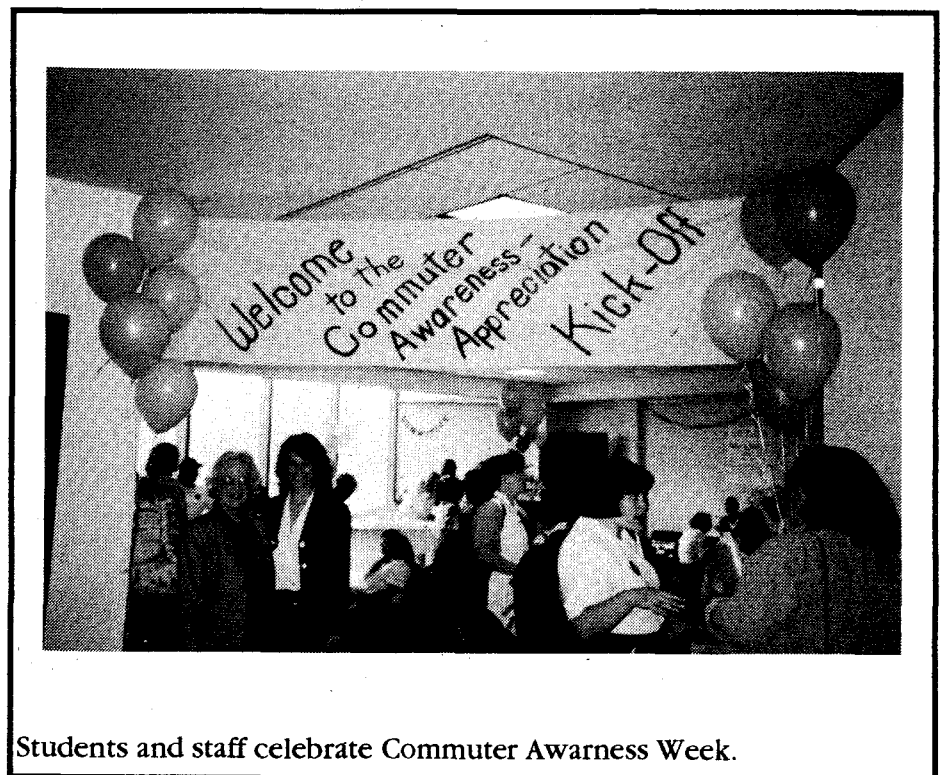
ties commuters have to be involved in campus life," said King.

Several faculty members also attended the kickoff. "It is amazing to realize the percentage of commuter students there are on the Meredith campus. Encouraging awareness of this fact is worthwhile," said Dr. Barbara True-Webber.

Dr. Tony Bledsoe, department of Business and Economics, enjoyed the refreshments and added, "I like it! It is a fine thing to do. Since a growing number of our student body are commuters, it is nice to recognize them."

Some of the students who attended the event were pleased, too. Tara Flanagan, past president of AMC, felt that, "It is good to bring everyone together." Marie Chilcott added, "Dorothy Sizemore has always been a terrific leader, and I came because of the enthusiastic letter she sent to all commuters."

Sizemore is anticipating that this week's activities will be fun for all those who participate! "Warm fuzzy" door prizes will be given away each



Students and staff celebrate Commuter Awareness Week.

day this week at 10:30 AM. To register, fill out a form and put it in the box in the Cate Center lounge. The first drawing was held on Friday at the kickoff celebration. Winners included Annabel

Rutherford, an AMC sweatshirt; Jacquelyn Gowin, a Meredith mug; and Sheila Tabron, a box of stationery.

See Commuters, page 7

Convocation celebrates Meredith's history

By Kimberly Zucker

Meredith College celebrated its 105th anniversary on Founder's Day last Monday in Jones Auditorium.

The celebration began as the class of 1996 marched into convocation. Seniors were beaming because it was their first time wearing their caps and gowns.

After the seniors were seated, the Meredith Chorale performed a beautiful selection entitled "Blessed be the Name of the Lord." Tabitha Young gave the invocation, and the program began.

Three speakers, Carolyn Covington Robingson, Rev. Robert Mullinax, and Dr. John Weems, participated in a panel discussion to try and answer what it means for Meredith College to be Chris-

tian in heritage and Baptist in denomination.

Robinson, a 1950 Meredith College graduate and former Meredith employee, spoke first on the history of Meredith College. Robinson began her speech reporting the old rules and traditions of Meredith College. She focused first on the hardships of forming the college. In the 1800's, no one could understand the need for creating a woman's college. The idea was tossed around for many years before any progress was made. Thomas Meredith suggested the idea in the 1830's, and Meredith College was not founded until 1891.

When the college first opened, there were only 16 majors to choose

from. Next Robinson read some of the rules that existed in the 1890's. Girls were instructed as to when and where they could do their shopping, what to wear, and many other rules that would be considered strict. Robinson concluded her speech by bringing us up to the present day at Meredith College.

Mullinax spoke next on the religious curriculum and atmosphere at Meredith College. Mullinax is executive director of the Council on Christian Higher Education with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He began talking first about the religious curriculum offered at Meredith. Each student is required to take 6 hours of religion, and there are a wide variety of religious classes to choose from. He

followed this by talking about how to live in the community as a Christian. While there is no perfect answer, he feels that knowing Jesus Christ will guide us on our way and make the long road ahead easier.

Weems, president of Meredith College, spoke last. He recounted Meredith College's Baptist history. He began by telling the audience how much the Baptists have helped Meredith College many times throughout history. He spoke of the challenges the college has had in remaining in Raleigh. The College has considered moving its location to Winston Salem and Durham, but somehow it has managed to stay in Raleigh.

See Convocation, page 6