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Students give up Spring Break to help others

By Addie Tschamler

Picture this: 20 Meredith women running around St. Petersburg, Florida over spring break week with guns - caulking guns that is - caulking guns used to fill in cracks and crevices inside the houses they were building for the Pinellas County Habitat for Humanity. Being one of those 20 "armed" women, let me give you a few of my journal entries about the trip and tell you a little bit about what a group of Meredith students can accomplish when they put teamwork into practice.

Waking up to a sunny, yet cool Saturday morning, we boarded two vans which would take us on our journey to supposedly warm and balmy Florida. When we arrived Saturday night at the church where we camped out in Sunday school classrooms, everyone seemed to have cabin fever, either too tired to drag themselves off the van or possessing too much energy to settle down and go to sleep, especially after listening to 80's music and the soundtrack from *Pulp Fiction* all day, as my van occupants had to

endure, along with one too many verses of Toni Basil's former hit "Mickey." (Let me just add here that all of these women were escorted by our very brave campus minister, Sam Carothers. Brave doesn't seem a strong enough word). But, nevertheless, after throwing our belongings into our rooms, many of us decided to go on a late night walk along the beach which was right across the street. And by the way, it was not balmy as we had hoped. The wind had quite a little bite to it!

The next morning, we could hardly wait to start exploring Florida after attending the 11 a.m. church service at the church in which we were residing. While many took a stroll along the beautiful pier nearby, others went to the Salvador Dali Art Museum in St. Petersburg, while still others, two students and myself, spent the afternoon going crazy in the Great Explorations Science Museum, where we got to make plastic dinosaurs and crawl through a pitch black tunnel to see if we could find our way out.

Sunday night, we all had an awe-



Meredith students help build a house for Habitat for Humanity during Spring Break in St. Petersburg Fla.

some time at the annual Strawberry Festival, which was a lot like the State Fair. After riding various rides, eating fair food and strawberries, and dancing outside the gates of the Alabama concert, we were all prepared to settle down for a good rest before four days of carpentry work.

On Monday, rain dampened the grounds of St. Petersburg, but it failed to dampen the spirits of all the Meredith women, who were out of bed at 6:30 am, I might add, to get ready for their first day of hammering, building shelves, painting and, yes, caulking like you've never seen done before! As

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Woman of the week: Charlayne Hunter-Gault

By Allison Carter

This American journalist knew at the age of twelve that she wanted to write. She was determined to be both a writer and television correspondent. Charlayne Hunter was born in 1942 in a small South Carolina town called of Due West.

With the desire to be a journalist, Charlayne wanted to receive her degree from the University of Georgia - the only university in the state of Georgia with a journalism school. Unfortunately, the university was still segregated at the time for her entrance during the late 1950's. Charlayne would not let a social problem hold her back.

In the meantime, Charlayne at-

tended Wayne State University which was located in Detroit, Michigan. While she was in Michigan, civil rights activists fought for integration at the University of Georgia. Eventually integration was enforced and Charlayne transferred back to Georgia. With this she became the first black woman to attend the university.

After her graduation in 1963, Charlayne became a secretary for the New York City magazine *The New Yorker*. She agreed to work for the publication with the understanding she would be considered for a writing position. In 1964, she became a contributing writer for the column "Talk of the Town" where she wrote for three years.

Charlayne then moved to Washington, DC in 1967 when she joined the staff of WRC. She was an anchorwoman and investigative reporter for the local evening news, however, Charlayne did not stay in DC long. She moved back to New York a year later.

For the next ten years, Charlayne worked with the New York Times. She mainly wrote stories based on the happenings of the Harlem area. Her work with the Times won Charlayne three individual Publisher's Awards.

Once she left the Times, Charlayne worked with WNET's McNeill-Lehrer News Hour. As of 1978 she was a correspondent and field reporter for the show. In 1986, her accomplishments were recognized with the Peabody

Award for her segment entitled "Apartheid's People." During the Gulf War, Charlayne focused her segments on women who were in the military.

Charlayne Hunter-Gault is another woman to whom future writers or any business woman should look. This is a woman who knew at a young age where she wanted her life to go - it was just a matter of getting there.

Charlayne worked her way through and never stopped. She would not let anything stand in her way. That is the type of attitude that all women should have when facing any situation, especially within the business world.