

Editorial: Campus rules getting more ridiculous

By Ginny Bonkemeyer

There are always a number of outrages that I would love to comment on, but lately the amount of things that just burn my biscuits are reaching an outrageous proportion. This editorial is going to consist of My Two Current Gripes:

1. It has come to my attention that the Open House procedure rules have gone a bit to the extreme. Is it not ridiculous to charge a \$25 fine over three letters? That is exactly what happened to many people on the day of the Open House after the White Iris Ball. When signing in your boyfriend, pals or even your parents, you are to sign them in by their full, legal name. That's right - full, legal name. On a line long enough to fit the name "Jon Lee," no middle name. I certainly hope that I am never a guest here - Virginia Anne Bonkemeyer is going to cost some poor soul a year's tuition.

I understand the importance of the rules for Open House and I believe most of Meredith's students realize that this is a privilege that we are not guaranteed. However, is it necessary to make it this difficult? Many students view being called to the Honor Council embarrassing or humiliating on a matter of principal. Some of the most rule-respecting students at Meredith are being called down for things such as signing their parents in "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" (on that wee-bitty line), instead of their full, legal names. The nerve! At the beginning of the school year, we all signed a copy of the Open House rules. The rule about signing the full, legal name was on that list. Guess what? We got a copy of those rules! That's right, you were supposed to frame it and hang it on your wall of honor! Keep it with the valuables. Girls on second Heilman, get a new one, STAT.

Why are the rules and small print not placed on the table with the sign-in sheet in all the dorms? Why does the sign-in sheet simply say "name"? Why did they forget to tell us to memorize it? Women of Meredith, we are working with new horizons, new rules, new privileges, and an old board of trustees. We must learn to be psychic. So brush up on those mind reading skills, dot the i's, cross the t's, and for Pete's sake, WRITE OUT ALL FOUR LETTERS!

Students should not be called before the Honor Council or be asked to pay a \$25 fine for

abbreviating a name (ex. G. Bonkemeyer) to make it fit on the line. In fact, I believe that these students should receive a pat on the back for: a) signing in in the first place, and b) attempting to make the name legible in case they do need to be called for any reason. What honesty! What respect for the Open House procedure! What dedication to the Honor Code and everything that Meredith stands for! Sorry kids, that will be \$25.

2. I would like to take this space to comment on the letter to the editor in last week's paper from the unidentified student disturbed about fire safety fines. I am truly sorry that said student lost her lamp, but I am most concerned about the sentence in her letter which states, "I actually thought that most people knew that plugging extension cords and running them behind a bed could be a little dangerous, but I guess I was wrong."

Well! I think this is the most insensitive, and probably the only insensitive thing, I have heard any Meredith student say about the fire. I lived across the hall from the suite in which the fire took place, and I just want to say that the fire safety fines are completely warranted and necessary.

The rooms in Heilman only have plugs on one side of the room and if a student desired to have a TV or a refrigerator in the room, an extension cord which ran under the bed was necessary. That fire could have happened in any one of our rooms in Heilman, and it is unfortunate that it had to happen at all. However, that fire was also one of the scariest things that ever happened to us, and insensitive remarks about the intelligence of someone using an extension cord are really unnecessary and somewhat disturbing.

The students of second Heilman have been so grateful all semester for the many wonderful things that the school and the students have done for us. I do want the opportunity to say thank you for helping us make it through this tough time. Though being displaced to the most random nooks and crannies of campus has been...unusual (I personally habitate in the study center formally known as the Sophomore Center), we could not have done it without the support of Meredith College. Thank you for all of the help and caring words - most of us have simply managed to see this as an unusual adventure.

The residents of Second Heilman extend their sincere appreciation to the Meredith community for the kindness shown during the fire. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts. Thank you again for your gratitude.

Second Heilman
Residence Hall

SGA Corner

• Thank you to all those who attended the Ethical Leadership Reception and the Volleyball Challenge.

• Did you know that Meredith College was one of the first in the state to establish the system of student self-government.

Happy Cornhuskin' !!! Be united.

Security Tip of the Week

While operating a vehicle equipped with an airbag, keep your hands at the 10 and 2 positions so they do not interfere with the airbag's deflation. ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SEATBELT!

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