

Meredith Herald

Volume XIII, Issue 22

We attract bright, talented, ambitious students. Naturally we're a women's college.

April 9, 1997

On the inside:

Experience Meredith brought a crowd of incoming freshman to the Meredith College campus.

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Kappa Nu Sigma and Pi Mu Epsilon honor incoming members in spring inductions.

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Meredith Dance Theatre performed seven pieces at their spring performance April 3 - 5.

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Farrell provokes thought at convocation

Author Farrell presented ideas on the victimization of men.

Addie Tschamler

Staff Reporter

In this week's Monday morning convocation, masculinist Dr. Warren Farrell, author of *Why Men Are The Way They Are* and *The Myth of Male Power*, spoke to Meredith students on understanding the role of men and their definition of power. Farrell, who has appeared on over 1,000 radio and television shows, said that his purpose is to encourage others to learn what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes different from their own.

Farrell said that he feels that an understanding between men and women is the key to strong relationships. "I have never had someone to come to me and say, 'I want a divorce from this person because they understand me.'"

Farrell said that if people feel they are understood, they will almost always come back to that person that understands them and learn to appreciate that person more.

During his lecture, Farrell asked the primarily female audience to ask themselves if they really understood their fathers.

Farrell asked the audience, "Have you ever asked your father, 'Dad, if you did not have any obligations to worry about, what would you really want to do in life?'"

The audience was asked to break up into groups of three and discuss what they thought their dads would be doing for a living if they could do anything they wanted to do. Farrell determined from a show of hands that many of the students' fathers chose their present career because it would bring in more money than their "fantasy" careers.

Farrell said that man's problem has a deceptive name — power. He

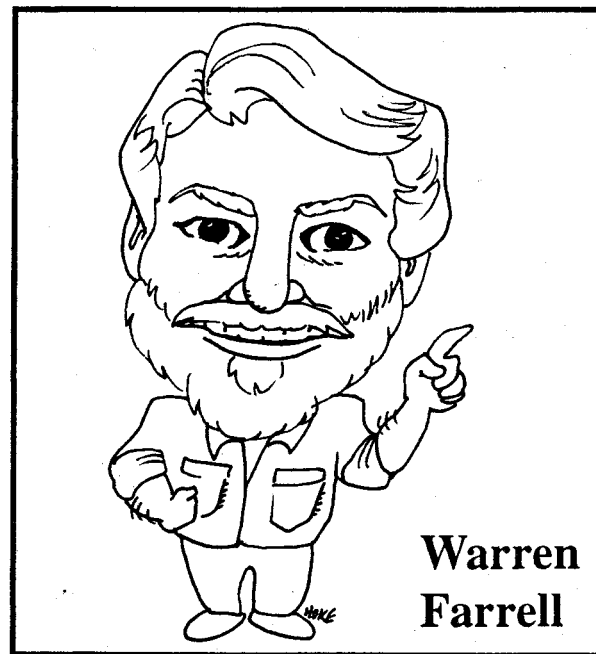
used the example of enlisting for the draft. He said that if all blacks were asked to enlist or if all Jews were asked

that is forced to enlist— men. Farrell said, however, that men do not define it as oppression; they define it as power.

Farrell said that we should understand what "controlling our own life" means. We need to learn to recognize differences in how men and women define power, he said.

To end his lecture, Farrell talked how women in the past chose men who were powerful and killers in order to feel protected. "We watched the movie *An Officer and a Gentleman*, not *A Private and a Pacifist*," he said. Farrell went on to say that what used to be functional in women's choice of men has now become dysfunctional. "Characteristics to survive with the species are the same as the characteristics it take to love a man," he said.

"So I say, 'Get on with it!'"



Warren Farrell

to enlist or if all of any one group were asked to enlist; that there would be much controversy over it. The group of people would feel oppressed and cry genocide. But there is one group

Revamped Open House policy a success

O'Briant says Open House policy has gone "very well."

Beth Hall

Staff Reporter

"It was cool having such flexible hours to have guys come up," says senior Barefoot resident Veronica King of the revamped Open House policy.

Beginning in the fall 1996 semester, Open House policy privileges became much more flexible for all students, seniors particularly. There were only three Open House days per semester last school year. There were no special privileges for seniors. But now, the Barefoot senior dorm has Open House every weekend, and all other students have Open House twice a month.

Sophomore Ann Nowlin, who served as an RA in Noel House last semester, says that she does "hear complaints from freshmen who say that there aren't enough visitation days." She says, "I remind them that we had far fewer visitation days last

year than this year, and that Meredith has at least recognized the need for more days and has done something about it."

Barefoot seniors, however, are not complaining. "I am a senior, and I appreciated having Open House every weekend--Saturday and Sunday," says Barefoot resident Emily Gee.

First Barefoot RA, B.J. Ansley, says "about 20 or so people took advantage of Open House [each time it was offered]," and feels that "as Open House continues, more and more people will participate."

When asked how she felt Open House was going this year, Director of Residence Life Paula O'Briant answered, "Open House has gone very well." O'Briant states that a total of 1,676 guests visited on Open House weekends during the fall semester of 1996. Depending on the weekend, the number of guests ranged from 50 to 300. The number of guests is important in the calculation of the success of the new Open House policy.

Another important number in this

calculation is the number of fines students paid for Open House policy violations. For minor violations, such as only writing a guest's first initial in the place of his or her first name, the responsible student is fined \$25. For major violations, such as keeping a male guest in a student's room after Open House hours or overnight, the responsible student is brought before the Honor Council where a suitable punishment is decided. SGA President Erica Balmer reminds all students who feel they have been accused unjustly that they "always have the right to appeal." Of the 1,676 guests, there were between 40 and 47 fines.

Most people feel that the number of minor violations will go down as students become more familiar with the fine print of the policy. For example, some students did not know they had to write a guest's first and last name on the sign-in sheet — initials would not suffice. Gee had this problem herself. She says, "The only problem that I had with the policy was stating the person's full name. I did not

understand exactly what this meant until it was too late. I was really upset since this rule did not appear on the sign-in sheet. After complaints were made, this part of the policy was posted."

Others did not realize that female, as well as male, guests must be signed-in. Also, many students simply forgot to sign-in or sign-out guests in the first floor parlor. A problem for Barefoot residents was the confusion over whether non-weekend holidays and three-day weekends were Open House days or not. "To begin with," says Ansley, "there were about five [fines] each weekend, because of the name thing. After that, there were probably about one or two a month for Barefoot."

O'Briant says that the Resident Hall Board will continue "fine-tuning the policy." "Fine-tuning" includes making sign-in forms more accessible and alerting the staff as to which weekends they are required to work.

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