

Think before you drink

From the Editor

I was in my car on Blue Ridge Saturday afternoon, waiting for the light to turn onto Hillsborough St. and I was scared. Not scared of Hillsborough St., but scared of the crazy, drunk people all around me who were leaving the Lawn Party. People who had attended the day's festivities were packed into cars, blaring music, hanging out windows, and screaming at each other from car to car. Drunk people can sometimes be amusing, but drunk people in an automobile can be downright frightening. The worst part is, I observed quite a few drunk drivers. And operating a machine that weighs over two tons while intoxicated is not a pretty picture. Where are the police when you need them?

Don't get me wrong; I'm 21 and I enjoy a couple of beers every once in a while, but I know my limit. I also know that I'm responsible for my actions. If I go out drinking with my friends, we make sure we have a designated driver. But I don't think that was the case for many people at the Lawn Party.

Some people started drinking as early as 9 am. Can we say zealous? I would think that 11 am would even be too early, but maybe I'm a prude.

Plus one of my friends got accosted several times in a grocery store by drunk students asking her to buy beer for them because they were so inebriated the store clerks wouldn't sell them any. How obnoxious can you get? Know when to say no, people! It is called self-control.

Also, I observed quite a few Meredith students falling all over themselves after returning from the Lawn Party. And one student in Faircloth actually broke the water pipes when she fell into them after passing out beside the toilet. Now several rooms in the dorm have water damage, and people's belongings have been ruined. You see—we all have to pay for other people's indulgences. For example, if any of those cars on the road with me had gotten into an accident, not only would they be in trouble legally, but someone could have been seriously injured or even killed. How much do you want to pay for a little fun?

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Meredith By Tory Hoke



Long distance romance can work

BROOKE BANSON
Staff Reporter

As a freshman at Meredith, I have noticed a campus-wide phenomena—a vast majority of us have long-distance boyfriends. From as nearby as Charlotte to as far away as Italy, these guys span the globe while we wait patiently to be reunited with our lovers. I know because I am one of them.

Before I left for college, I received tons of well-intentioned advice about my situation from family and friends like "Don't tie yourself down to one guy," "You'll meet someone from State," and "Long-distance love never lasts." There is only one problem; I want my relationship with my boyfriend to last.

With outrageous frat parties and jumping dance clubs offering me ample opportunities to meet someone new, it can be hard to keep believing in myself and in my love for him. My boyfriend

Dusty, who lives in Ohio, always worries about my going out, but I do not. We trust each other, and he does not act possessive or controlling. By giving me the freedom to make my own choices, my love grows stronger for him. My wait until July before he moves back also does not seem so far away.

Why date a person you only will see during the holidays or on special occasions? My simple answer is true love. I would not decline "Joe's" request for my number or work extra hours to pay for my phone bill if I did not think it could work. I have this unexplainable feeling that tells me, "This one is worth waiting for. Keep him." I have allowed this feeling to guide me throughout my freshman year and in my decisions.

Maintaining any relationship is hard and requires dedication, faith, and trust, but if the two of you want it

to continue, you can make it work. With Dusty over 1,200 miles away, I could go crazy and do whatever I wanted (he would never know), but I don't. Actually, I have grown as an individual and learned more about myself. A long-distance boyfriend has calmed some of former "wild ways." I concentrate more on my schoolwork now and become involved with new friends and school activities.

Long-distance love can last. Keeping in touch with each other through letters, e-mail messages, phone calls, and occasional visits keeps the love alive. When you do not see a person everyday, it causes your time together to be more special. When I flew to Ohio three weeks ago to see Dusty, I treasured every moment with him, even just watching TV. To me, distance definitely makes the heart grow fonder.

Letter to the Editor: Honor is important

Dear Editor,

I know for a fact that each student who has been on campus has seen the honor statement.

This is a very important code that the Meredith community holds close to their hearts and minds. It is a statement that we live by and choose to uphold for it keeps us honest and guides us in the right direction.

It was voted last spring by our fellow student leaders and faculty to hang the honor statement in each classroom and for the professors to stress the importance of the statement in the beginning of each semester. Now by telling you how I personally have come close to this code I too am stressing the importance of this statement. Many of us should have seen the framed statement in the classrooms. It is there to remind us to keep the faith and be honest. We at Meredith live by this code of honor. We accept it in our daily lives, and when it is broken we acknowledge that we are responsible for fixing it.

I realize now why the Honor Code is such an important issue here at our institution. It is very hard to be an honest and perfect person all the time. We like to think that this code is like our little "angel" resting on our shoulders who tries to keep us students from doing bad things, especially when it comes to things involving the honor statement.

There are so many times that the students here take their security for granted. We see the security officers drive around day and night and we feel safe. We do not stop to think that our safety has also been reassured by the Honor Code. How many times do you walk down the halls and see doors welcoming in just anyone? How many times do you see umbrellas or shoes or books and borrowed notes in the hallways and think how comfortable it is for you as a student to be able to leave it out and to expect it to be there when you get back? We trust each other to avoid any harm caused

by each member in the community.

At most colleges and universities, after each exam most students sign a pledge of honor stating that they did not cheat. The community here at Meredith does not make students do that; we appreciate everyone for their honesty. We trust at this institution. We feel this code should not extend only to academic issues. It is a responsibility of the current student body to reflect the dignity of the Honor Code for future Meredith students. We encourage the virtuous behavior before sending students out into the real world, trying to make it a more moral place to live.

Letters to the Editor Policy:

Everyone in the Meredith community is invited to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with contact name, address and telephone number. All letters must be signed by the author, but names will be withheld upon request.

The Herald reserves the right to place any other article submissions on file until needed or to choose not to print them.