

Meredith Herald

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

February 18, 1998

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Interior Design wins awards

□ Students attend 2nd annual design competition at ECU.

LESLIE MAXWELL
Staff Reporter

Meredith's interior design department has recently been inundated with awards. On Saturday, Feb. 8, the Carolinas Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers held its second annual Otto Zenke Student Design Competition at East Carolina University.

Out of the five awards given, Meredith students won four. Katherine Dickinson, junior resident student, and Tricia West, second degree candidate commuter, won honorable mentions. Elaine Karcher, second degree candidate commuter, won third place, and Michelle Kann, junior resident student, won second place. Each winner received a plaque. In addition to their plaques, Karcher received \$250 for her finish and Kann received \$500 for her award.

Interior design professor and club advisor Dr. Ellen Goode, along with about 20 Meredith students, journeyed to ECU at Greenville to attend the meeting of CCASID. Goode's reaction to the students' winning the awards was not unexpected: "I was very excited," Goode said.

There were a total of twenty entries at the meeting. These

entries was from students in school in both North and South Carolina. Entries were judged on communication of information, design solution, meeting program guidelines, craftsmanship and composition of the entry. Judges of the entries included professional designers, architects, design educators, and rep-

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Elaine Karcher, Tricia West, Katherine Dickinson, and Michelle Kann received awards at ECU last weekend. PHOTO BY ALYSON FLOOD

Sexual Responsibility Week informs

□ National week cites statistics on collegiate sexual relations.

WHITNEY WILSON
Staff Reporter

February 8-15 was the first ever national collegiate Sexual Responsibility Week. As a women's college, sexual responsibility should be one of our main concerns.

Sexual Responsibility Week is a time for students to be informed of the consequences of sex. The 1995 National College Health Risk Behavior Survey revealed that 86% of college students had had sexual intercourse. Of the currently sexually active students, only 30% had used a condom during their last intercourse. Realizing the repercussions of unprotected sex is vital to the health of students. Therefore, as a part of Sexual Responsibility Week, Feb. 14 is National Condom Day.

The lethal HIV/AIDS virus is more prominent among people

our age than we may realize. AIDS is the second leading cause of death among 25 to 44-year-olds. Given that the time between initial infection and an AIDS diagnosis averages 10 years, some of these individuals were infected as teens and young adults. One half of all new HIV infections occur in people under the age of 25, and one in four of all new HIV infections occur in people under the age of 22.

Although these are merely statistics, HIV/AIDS is a very serious issue that does not receive the attention it deserves from college students. "One of the biggest problems is that students think it cannot happen to them, and it can," remarked Dean of Students Sharon Cannon. Only 39% of college students have been tested for HIV antibodies. Being screened for HIV/AIDS is the first step for students. We, as members of a college community, put ourselves at a high risk for sexually transmitted diseases by doing things, such as attending

parties and drinking, that sometimes lead to sexual promiscuity.

However, HIV/AIDS is only one of the sexually transmitted diseases currently affecting college students. Of the estimated 12 million new cases of STDs in the United States each year, 3 million occur among teenagers, 13 to 19 years old. Many people do not experience symptoms with the more common STDs like chlamydia, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) or genital warts, and gonorrhea. Thus, it is important to be tested if you have put yourself at risk for any of these diseases.

Pregnancy can be yet another result of sexual irresponsibility. Nationwide, 13% of college students reported that they had been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant. Almost two-thirds of all adolescent pregnancies occur in women ages 18-19. Among teenagers in the United States, four of every five pregnancies are unintended. About half of

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Meredith first-year dies from heart condition

KIM HIGHLAND
Editor in Chief

Akie Segawa, a first-year international student from Japan, died late Sunday afternoon of cardiac arrest.

Segawa, 19, had been hiking near Sanford with friends

from her hall and the father of one of those friends when the

Akie Segawa attack occurred.

Segawa suffered from a heart condition called cardiomyopathy. Her father died of the same condition.

Upon learning of Segawa's death, a joint effort was made by Vice President of Student Development Jean Jackson, Dean of Students Sharon Cannon, Campus Minister Sam Carothers and others to get word to her family in Japan. A Japanese pastor, Yasushi Tomono, from the First Baptist Church came to help console Segawa's mother over the phone and help make arrangements. "We believed that some of the comfort we could give to the mother was clear communication," said Jackson.

Yasuko Joichi, Segawa's aunt who lives in Chicago, flew in on Monday to begin arrangements. Segawa's mother, Umeyo Segawa, and her brother and sister arrived Tuesday night from Japan.

Students most affected by Segawa's death are fellow international students and her hall mates from first Vann. These students have been invited to every information meeting held. "We wanted to bring everyone together," said Jackson.

This semester, Segawa was the vice president of Meredith International Association. She

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