

## People around world join fans

## From the Editor

I know what the cause is of all the problems our country has been having lately. Yes, I know why the whole Lewinsky-Clinton scandal has happened and why we are close to going to war with Iraq.

The reason why all these things are happening is —EL NIÑO. This mass of warm air off the coast of California is ruining our year—climate-wise and socially.

Just think: we were having a pretty good time before El Nino went crazy. Clinton was enjoying a high popularity rate, and no one had even heard of Monica Lewinsky, and over in Iraq Saddam Hussein was complying with the UN.

El Nino is wreaking havoc on all of our lives. The miserable weather we have been having all over the country is making everyone depressed. It will rain for a week straight. The ground is saturated with water, and on some days it would be handy to have a canoe to get to Joyner. Rivers around North Carolina are overflowing and destroying many homes. Mudslides have turned California to a huge mud puddle, and a recent tonadoe almost flatened the outskirts of Orlando, Florida.

And then, to make things worse, the weather will turn beautiful for two or three days, giving everyone a little bit of hope, and then it will turn disgusting outside again. Also, the fluctuation in temperature is making everyone sick. Pick a degree, El Nino, and stick with it!

So I've come up with an idea to stop El Nino in its destructive path. Everybody should purchase a box fan, hook it up to an extension cord, put it outside, and turn it on. This is our only way to combat this evil power. We must stop it now before other political mishaps occur! We must protect Jesse Helms and Newt Gingrich!

## 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; however, 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. The *Herald* also has the right to edit stories for space requirements.

**Any submissions for the *Herald* are due every MONDAY at 1 PM in the box outside of 208 Cate Center.**

## Meredith Herald

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## Editorial Policy:

The *Meredith Herald* is published by the College throughout the academic year. The paper is funded by the College and through advertising. The opinions expressed in the editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body.

MEREDITH BY TORY HOKE



## Letters to the Editor:

## Students raise concerns over election campaigning

Dear Editor,

I have seen many campaign races in my years here at Meredith. I wish I could say that all of them have been handled professionally, but the most recent campaign for the officers of the class of 2000 blew any chance of that being true. Over the past couple of weeks, I have had the unfortunate opportunity to observe very negative campaigns - one of which was justified by a supposed need for "change." My concern is not for whether this change was needed; my concern is for the manner in which it was brought about.

I've read the campaign guide-

lines. They say that there is to be no negative campaigning, but what exactly do we consider negative campaigning? I would argue that campaigning for five different positions under one billing--campaigning as if part of a party-- is negative campaigning. How convenient to have several names grouped together in one's memory when going to vote. It's an unfair advantage to be part of the "group." It shows the voting public that one officer is more willing to work with her running mates than the other candidates - it shows that officer's favor. It's a way of persuading the public, and we are gullible

enough to fall for it.

I have also heard several rumors spread about their competition by prime candidates. Gossip is a backhanded form of negative campaigning.

Obviously those students did not realize the division such actions would cause within the class. What I once saw as a unified class, I now see as two parties—those who helped with the campaign and those who were hurt and offended by it. I am truly concerned for the Class of 2000 as they approach the beginning of a new year.

- An Observant Outsider

Dear Editor,

Is Meredith College still a WOMEN'S college? Or have we turned back into an all GIRLS' school? I surely felt like I was attending the latter as I lived through election week. For a while there I felt like I was back in high school, no, middle school. In the adolescent world of spreading rumors, tearing down posters, and forming cliques all in the name of politics...All in the name of CHANGE.

The entire campaign for junior class presidency truly made me sick. And it made me wonder about the guidelines for campaigning on this campus...

Running for an elected position and serving the student government at Meredith should be a rewarding experience for all of those involved. It should be a challenge worth taking, and it should be met with a positive attitude that allows for unity and growth, in both victory and

defeat. Unfortunately, I don't think that all of the candidates running for office in the Class of 2000 had a positive experience during this year's campaign.

Maybe this was a dose of the real world, true. But I would like to think that WOMEN trained at this prestigious college wouldn't stoop to such low levels in the real world. I would like to think that competition won't be allowed to take over lives...

- A Concerned Student

## An antidote for senioritis

Dear Editor,

After reading the editorial "No Time for Job Now" in the Feb. 11 issue of the *herald*, the staff at the Career Center understands how frustrated seniors feel. The attempt to juggle the many priorities and tasks that must be completed prior to graduation can be overwhelming.

We think we have an antidote for your anxieties! When tackling any major project, it is helpful to approach it in a step-by-step manner. The first step in

your search, for example, is to attend a Career Orientation Session. A special session has been scheduled for Monday, March 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the Career Center. Upcoming sessions are offered March 23 at 5:30 p.m., and March 27 at 10:00 a.m. By attending one of these sessions and registering with us, you can take advantage of campus interviewing, resume referral, and other recruiting services. Please feel free to visit our resource library and learn about

resume and cover letter preparation, interviewing techniques and job search strategies. Each step of the process will make you feel energized and motivated to continue. Job hunting is a time-intensive task, and the Career Center has a knowledgeable staff and variety of resources that will assist you in making this process a beneficial and worthwhile experience. It's never too late to begin: start your career future now with a visit to the Career Center!