

MEREDITH HERALD

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

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Meredith Herald

at

Meredith College
3800 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, NC 27607
(919) 760-2824
FAX (919) 760-2869

Email:
cartera@meredith.edu

Pops in the Park brings thousands

☐ WRAL hosts its annual music event to celebrate summer's end.

ALISON VALENTI
Staff Reporter

Over 40,000 people crowded the Meredith lawn Sunday evening for what has become Raleigh's Labor Day tradition. Pops in the Park is an annual event sponsored by the community to celebrate the last day of summer.

The North Carolina Symphony, conducted by Gerhard Zimmerman and William Henry Curry, performed while vocalists Suzanne Ishee and Mark Hardy sang.

Concert-goers spread their blankets on the grass and settled in underneath the hazy sun. Despite the heat, children ran through the maze of blankets and buckets of chicken to try and catch Frisbees with their greasy hands.

The program included popular selections from George Gersh-

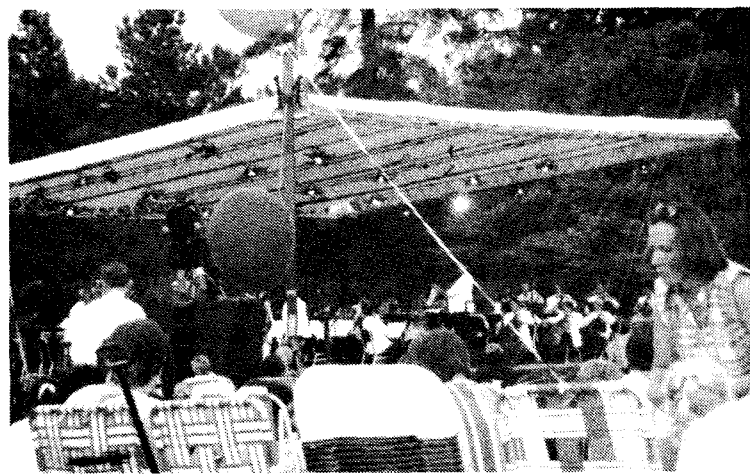
win and Irving Berlin. The songs were crowd favorites as many people hummed along with the familiar tunes.

Cole Porter's "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "Let's Do It" brought smiles to many faces as did Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*.

In addition to the music, various organizations had tents set up around the crowd. Information was available on all kinds of

community activities and services.

As the sun began to set, families cuddled together and relished the idea of a work-free Monday. The symphony ended the program with the *Overture solenne of 1812* and *The Stars and Stripes Forever*. The final selections were accompanied by a large and impressive fireworks display.



The crowd relaxed while listening to the sounds of the North Carolina Symphony over the holiday. PHOTO BY ALISON FLOOD

Meredith on technology's cutting edge

☐ Windows '95 and Office '97 are being installed in most labs.

KELLY FISH
Staff Reporter

Technological advances are on the rise at Meredith, but these advances are just reinforcing Meredith's reputation as an environment of exploration and advancement.

Until this year, the campus Intranet was accessible only on campus and with the use of a password, but, due to the growing demands of wanting "easy access," the Intranet is now available for anyone to use. Head of Technology Services Ruth Balla explained that the change was made for the large number of commuter students living off campus and for the convenience of the faculty and staff. Because of its new availability, many of the faculty have posted items on the faculty pages: lecture notes, syllabi and articles for student use.

There are three computer labs on campus for students to use, located in Joyner, Harris and Ledford. Students may use these labs during their posted hours, when a class is not scheduled. An additional lab containing sixteen computers will be available by mid-semester in the library. These computers will always be available to students after 5 p.m. daily and on weekends. The labs in Harris and Joyner have been upgraded to Windows '95 and Office '97, and Ledford will soon be as well.

Some have raised questions about upgrading to Windows 98, but Balla explained, "Since Windows 98 is a new operating system, we are unsure of its stability, and since there is not a big change from Windows 95 we are currently planning on using this system in all our labs."

Meredith provides each student who is taking three or more credit hours with a free e-mail account. Classes are offered throughout the year to explain e-

mail, which students are encouraged to use because faculty and staff feel that it's one of the easiest and quickest ways to communicate.

There are policies about the use of e-mail accounts that are strictly enforced. Students are asked not to send or forward chain letters because this can easily cause the system to crash.

A change that the Meredith community may be seeing in the spring is a new campus-wide e-mail program. The school was also able to purchase a data projector that allows the screen of a laptop to be projected to a larger screen. The technology department hopes that this machine will encourage the use of different technology in the classroom.

This summer, ten members of Meredith's faculty went through a week-long training session sponsored by the Dupont Fellowship. There they attended information sessions about using various ways to incorporate technology in the classroom.

Edible Suggestions on a roll

BY TORY HOKE
Features Editor

Any patron of Belk Dining Hall has noticed the "Edible Suggestions" box and board posted on the Faircloth side of the dining area. The box has been accumulating suggestions for dining hall improvement from the Meredith community since the beginning of the fall semester, and the board provides Campus Dining Manager Thad O'Briant with a medium of response. The new setup has inspired a significant increase in campus input.

The suggestions "run the gamut," said O'Briant. "We get probably five to 10 a day now. Before, we were getting 10 a week."

O'Briant, with Assistant Manager Kathleen Reynolds, Catering Manager Kathy Jones, and Shift Managers Ben Pritchard and Donna Owens, helms the staggering business of serving 2500 meals a day with a staff of about 45 full and part time employees and 12 student workers. By estimates that Jones categorizes as "low," that business comes to about 150 lb. of lettuce, 50 lb. of turkey, 1000 pieces of dessert, 15 gallons of soft-serve ice cream, 30 gallons of milk, 500 pieces of fresh fruit, 150 chickens, and 60 lb. of spaghetti noodles. Dining Services provides a rotating field of foods to satisfy both the appetites and the nutritional needs of the campus.

"At dinner, you'll have at least three entrees, a starch—like potatoes, rice, or pasta—and at least three vegetables, at least one of those leafy green," O'Briant said.

Dining Services uses the Edible Suggestions to enhance and complement the menu. O'Briant has already implemented more than a few changes in response to individual suggestions.

"We've added Grape Nuts™," noted O'Briant. "We have granola again—that was asked for. Tonight we have fried vegetable sticks. We've changed the tables around because some students

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