



MEREDITH HERALD

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

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Sophomores relish 'Butterfly Kisses'

❑ Class of 2001 hosts their dads at the annual Father-Daughter Dance.

LESLIE MAXWELL
Police Reporter

Proving to their daughters that they still have it, dads from all over shared a special time, reminisced and made many new memories with their daughters at the annual sophomore Father-Daughter Dance. The event, themed "Butterfly Kisses" for a Bob Carlisle song, was held Saturday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at Sister's Garden on Milbrook Road.

The co-chairs of the event, Natalie Murray, Lesley Parr and Carrie Swart, worked hard to make sure that it was a memorable and fun evening. Sophomores were invited to ask their father or a father figure for the special night. Tickets for the dance were \$60 per couple, which included dinner, a DJ and the rental cost of the facility.

After the crowd of approximately 400 found their seats, the program began with a welcome

from Jo Guglielmi, math professor and adviser for the class of 2001. The Rev. David Langley, father of sophomore Rachel Langley, then gave the blessing.

Sophomores and their fathers were then treated to a buffet with an array of fresh fruits, several types of cheeses, steamed vegetables, several entrees and dessert.

After dinner, Murray, Parr and Swart welcomed the dads and

their daughters. They shared a poem about the special ties that fathers and daughters share. Next, a special presentation was made for the fathers from their daughters. Sophomores had been asked to turn in both an old and a recent picture of them with their dad, and these pictures were used in a slide show set to music like Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings" and Will Smith's

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A general view of the dance floor at the Sister's Gardens shows the excitement of the crowd.

PHOTO BY LESLIE MAXWELL

The need for a female president

❑ Many on campus would like the next president to be a female.

BETH HALL
News Editor

"The Future of Our Youth in the Hands of four Triangle Women: Four 21st Century Triangle Women Affecting Eternity." That was the title of a recent *Triangle Lifestyle Magazine* cover story. It touted the achievements of women presidents and chancellors at Triangle colleges and universities.

Notably absent from the list of schools represented was Meredith College.

Meredith is the largest private women's college in the Southeast, but has never had a woman president in its over 100 year history, although 90% of all women's colleges have women presidents. Meredith is the only women's college in North Carolina which does not have a woman president.

The article boosted the talents of the recently appointed president of Peace (a women's college with only 550 students), Laura Carpenter Bingham. It also cites the accomplishments of Marye Ann Fox, chancellor of NCSU, Nannerl O. Keohane, president of Duke University and Molly Corbett Broad, president of the

"Our most public image, our president, should match the reality of our campus - a place of academic rigor, intellectual inquiry and female empowerment."

- Alyson Colwell-Waber, professor of dance

University of North Carolina System.

"All of these institutions are run by women," said Alyson Colwell-Waber, professor of dance. "Of all these institutions in the Triangle, should the women's college be the one that isn't."

Colwell-Waber is not the only one in the Meredith community who notices the irony. She is not the only one who would like to see Meredith's next president be female.

"Even if the other colleges around us didn't have a woman president, it would still be right for Meredith," she said.

"There's no argument that there is not a woman who could do the job," she said. "We can't not find a woman president. The colleges around us have."

The public perception of Meredith, that we are "insulated and conventional" could be changed by a woman president, said Colwell-Waber. "We know what goes on here—leadership, serious academics, exciting opportunities, but public perception hasn't caught up," she said. "We can't ignore this perception."

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Enrollment record, scheduling surveys

OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT PLANNING AND INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

It's official! Meredith has a record-breaking enrollment this fall! The largest enrollment prior to this date was 2,574 in the fall of 1996.

On October 1, 1998, the official reporting date, the number of students who had enrolled for credit this fall was 2,612—2,413 undergraduates and 199 at the graduate level. Achieving such a high degree of success in enrollment this year is gratifying for many reasons, but particularly so since this is the 100th group of women to attend the college.

In 1899, Baptist Female University opened its doors, with 180 students registering on the very first day; the enrollment grew to 220 students by the end of the year. As Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson reports in *A History of Meredith College*, "The week before the opening, President Blasingame, judging by the number who had sent five dollars for a room reservation, had hoped for 125." It is exciting for Meredith to be ending her first hundred years of operation with another enrollment that has exceeded expectations.

All undergraduate students taking at least one course for credit this semester are being asked to complete an important survey that will help inform the college about students' course scheduling patterns and preferences.

The Academic Council has requested this survey. It was administered last spring and is being given again this fall to help with long-range planning. Students, this is your opportunity to tell us about the schedules that work best for you. Your faculty adviser will have a copy of the survey and response form for you. If you have not been assigned a faculty adviser at Meredith, these forms have been mailed to your local address.

Your cooperation in this research project, which has been requested by your departmental representative to Academic Council, is very much needed and appreciated.