



MEREDITH HERALD

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

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On the inside:

□ The 23+ and WINGS programs are explained.

Page 2

□ Meredith welcomes new Residence Directors.

Page 2

□ Civil Action is not much of either, says reviewer.

Pages 4

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Spring semester brings new faces to MC

□ Students from all around transfer here for the Spring semester.

LISA GILLIAM
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Approximately 25 to 30 new transfer students, including women from Kentucky, Florida, Michigan, and New York, just began their first semester here at Meredith College.

Transfer orientation for this spring of 1999 began on Monday, Jan. 4. Students go through much of the same orientation as new students who begin in the fall, but at a much faster pace. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., resident students gathered for check-in in the Johnson Hall Rotunda. Commuters were to arrive at 1:30 p.m. The opening session and family orientation began at 2 p.m. followed by a reception for families and Introduction to Campus Life Fair.

New freshmen then had their first academic advising session while transfer students met with the registrar. The evening concluded with a dinner for the transfers with their student

advisers and student organization presidents. Transfer students do receive student advisers just as new students do in the fall. Transfers will then join the advising groups from the fall, led by that student adviser.

The next day, Jan. 5, began bright and early for the new students. Conferences with faculty advisers began at 8 a.m.,

Meredith College welcomes spring 1999 transfers!

followed by registration at 11 a.m. Commuters and residents then split up for lunch over a campus information session in the Dogwood suite.

At 2 p.m., the students met for the Honor Code Ceremony in Kresge Auditorium.

Students could then go to the Technology info session, fitness center orientation and CamTel office to get photo IDs.

Stephanie Helms Harris, Director of Commuter Life and Special Services here at Meredith, says that transfers come to Meredith for many dif-

ferent reasons. Harris says that among the reasons are that some people need to take a semester before college to take things into perspective. Some are not satisfied with their current institution and some people want to benefit from the more personal attention that Meredith has to offer.

Harris also hopes that current students here at Meredith will "try to make an effort to reach out to them to become a part of Meredith and validate their decision for coming here."

She says that it's often harder for transfer students to adjust because there is not the "euphoria" of the orientation of the fall when there are hundreds of new students.

Transfer students do have at least one activity to look forward to each month and that is monthly activities sponsored by Special Services. Harris says transfer students can find out about their monthly activities from their student advisers, transfer newsletters, and flyers around campus.

Maintenance conducts holiday overhaul

□ Facilities Services augments and repairs over 15 areas.

TORY HOKE
Features Editor

Any student caught up in complaining about poor water pressure or showers that take time to heat should make note of the efforts Facilities Services made over winter break to keep Meredith's campus in top condition. While most students were enjoying a lengthy winter vacation, the maintenance staff was taking advantage of their absence to make major improvements and repairs.

The adverse weather conditions complicated existing grounds projects and added to Facilities Services workload, as they had to take time from a loaded schedule to clean up Christmas-day ice storm damage, including over 100 fallen limbs. The holiday storms added work to the already massive task of leaf

clean up.

While winter weather demanded clean-up efforts, maintenance prepared for spring by planting 25 trees, 250 shrubs and over 1000 bulbs. Astute members of the campus community noticed that the grounds lost some old, ill or otherwise troublesome trees like one at the Poteat exit of Barefoot and one near the line of shrubs on the Weatherspoon side of the Brewer House Day Care Center.

In the residence halls, maintenance crews contracted the refinishing of about 20 bathtubs in Vann and Carroll, putting the final touches on reassembling them just in time for returning students.

Staff checked the halls for lighting, plumbing and repair problems, and repaired an underground leak in a main campus water line that developed over break between Faircloth and Poteat.

Underclassmembers returning with vehicles will be happy to note that maintenance has

installed new steps in the Blue and Green parking lot.

Both Facilities Services and Campus Security encourage comments from those that use the B&G lot about how to make the lot as safe as possible, whether improvements are necessary in steps, landscaping or lighting.

In other campus projects, maintenance replaced pipes and valves all over campus to prevent further leakage. Crew members also painted Jones Chapel and areas of Belk Dining Hall, completed a "2 circuit" lighting project in Harris, began installation of a new patio at the library and secured a contractor to make window replacements in Brewer House. The replacement of those 31 windows are tentatively scheduled for March and will not interfere with existing programs and services.

Members of Meredith's dance program will be happy to hear that maintenance has also secured a contractor to work on the floor of Weatherspoon's dance floor.

Graduation statistics are strong

SUE KEARNEY
Dean of Enrollment Planning
and Institutional Research

Meredith College is pleased to report graduation statistics for the students who entered as full-time, first-time freshmen in Fall 1992.

In accordance with federal guidelines, the report reflects the percentages of students who finish within six years. However, it is significant to note that most Meredith graduates earn their baccalaureate degrees within the traditional four-year period.

Fall 1992 Cohort

Number of Entering Students	375
Graduating in 4 or less years	58.7%
Graduating in 5 or less years	66.7%
Graduating in 6 or less years	68.8%

Meredith's graduation rates are strong when compared to national statistics.

Based on data published by the American College Test (ACT) in 1998, the average percentage of students attending selective private institutions who graduate within five years is 64.1%. For those attending selective public institutions, the five-year graduation rate is 49.9%.

The overall five-year graduation rate for students attending public and private institutions, without regard to selectivity, is 52.1%.

A more complete report is available from the Office of Enrollment Planning and Institutional Research, the Office of Admissions or the Office of the Registrar.