



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

First AIDS awareness week presented

Students, faculty, and staff learn about the STDs and AIDS.

KRISTEN BOSTEDO
Staff Reporter

If you were on Meredith's campus last week chances are that you noticed many red AIDS awareness ribbons. That is because Feb. 1-5 was Meredith's first ever AIDS Awareness Week. President of MEA Dana Flotkoetter was the driving force behind having this week at Meredith. Along with a committee, Flotkoetter wanted to increase the campus's awareness about AIDS, as well as STDs in general.

Ann Gleason, Director of Academic Advising, who was the faculty sponsor for the event, helped obtain a Creative Ideas Fund grant which enabled Meredith to display the AIDS Memorial Quilt, in the Jones Chapel sanctuary.

Flotkoetter was excited they were able to obtain the quilt because it really helped AIDS

seem more real.

Monday in Jones Auditorium, there was held an opening convocation in which dance and theater students were featured in a performance called "Let's Talk About Sex, Baby."

The big event was the speaker from the AIDS Service Agency, who lectured in Jones Chapel on Tuesday. Carlotta Lee, a project coordinator for ASA, opened the speech by quickly dispelling the myths about AIDS, sex and contraception.

She then introduced a woman who has lived with the HIV virus for the past 10 years. The woman, Judy, gave the audience her account of how she contracted the disease and how she lives on a day-to-day basis with HIV. She warned the audience against sex without protection by saying, "AIDS is the leading killer of people in the age range of 15 to 25; it can and will affect you."

Faith Hart, Vann's resident director, led a discussion group

for the week on both Tuesday and Wednesday nights. There participants watched a video which discussed sex, contraception and the most prevalent STDs today. Intermittently, the facilitator stopped the tape to discuss these issues and to allow students to air their opinions.

Hart, who had worked with the quilt before as a sponsor, was excited about getting involved because she felt the week was important to encourage a better understanding of how dangerous HIV is today.

Thursday, students were asked to wear red to help recognize the week. "Circle of Friends"—a symbolic joining of hands in support of persons living with HIV—came together on the lawn between Joyner and the Alumnae House.

Flotkoetter was pleased with how the week turned out. She hopes that it will continue because she feels it is important for everyone to be aware and know there is a problem.

Students attend UNC-W conference

The event targets concerns of African American students.

BROOKE O'NEAL
Guest Writer

Meredith College could take a cue from UNC at Wilmington on how to celebrate Black History Month. On Friday, Feb. 5, four Meredith students—Sakeena Abdulraheem, Jala Abdul-Jabbar, Erica Lee and Brooke O'Neal—traveled to UNC-W to attend the seventh annual South Eastern African American Leadership Conference.

SEAALC was created by UNC-W's Black Student Leadership Network. The BSLN wanted to offer an outlet for African Americans to "address their problems and concerns."

In 1993, the conference was named the North Carolina's African American Student Leaders Conference. In 1996, the event was renamed the

SEAALC to include all African American students throughout the Southeast.

This year's theme was "Breaking Barriers—Building Leaders." During the opening reception, speaker Columbus Copeland stated, "Whatever you want in life, I want you to pray for it. If work won't get it and prayer won't get it, then forget it because you don't

need it."

Later in his workshop, Copeland dealt with the subject of failure. He reminded his listeners that "failure is not the end of the road, but part of the process."

As for entertainment after Friday night's reception, comedian Mike B. kept the crowd

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From left to right, Abdulraheem, Abdul-Jabbar, Lee and O'Neal pose with *The Real World's* Kevin Powell.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY STEPHANIE HARRIS

Search committee submits candidates

Beth Hall
News Editor

The Board of Trustees executive committee received the three presidential candidate recommendations from the presidential search committee at an executive board meeting Monday.

The full Board will meet Friday, Feb. 26. Between now and then, the executive board may re-interview the candidates and may cut the pool from three to two or one before submitting the name(s) to the full Board.

While no one on the search committee is allowed to comment on specifics of the candidates due to the confidentiality of the search process, Janice Swab, a committee member and professor of biology, said that she was excited about the candidates recommended. "It's real good news," she said.

After the full Board has time to consider the candidate or candidates, it will vote. It is only a matter of weeks before Meredith College will welcome its new president.

A source close to the search, willing to talk to the *Herald* under anonymity, said all three candidate recommendations are women, but as of press time this had not been officially confirmed. The official spokesperson, Gene Langley, chair of the search committee, was out of town and therefore, unavailable to comment on the recommendations. If a woman is elected to the position, it would mark the first time in Meredith's over 100-year history that a woman served as president of Meredith, the largest private four-year women's college in the Southeast.