

# 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

## Hartford named College's seventh president

□ **After year-long search, trustees announce selection.**

LESLIE MAXWELL  
Police Reporter

Long before the official announcement Friday afternoon, about 200 students, faculty, staff and alumnae came together in the Johnson Hall Rotunda for a history-making event.

The announcement they awaited in anticipation was the naming of Meredith's new president. After the search committee looked for nearly a year, it named Dr. Maureen Hartford as the seventh president of Meredith College.

A native of Charlotte and a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, Hartford is the current vice president for student affairs at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Camera crews from area television stations like WRAL and reporters from area publications like the *News and Observer* were among those in attendance on Friday.

Minutes after 3:30 p.m., the audience cheered and clapped as Hartford walked down the appropriately red-carpeted stairs of the Rotunda. She was

followed by trustees Jeff Hockaday, chair, and Charles Sanders, vice-chair.

During Hartford's descent, senior Caroline Fleming reflected the sentiments of many by saying, "This has got to be one of the coolest moments of my life."

As Hartford approached the lectern at the foot of the stairs, Meredith students welcomed her to the tune of big sis/li'l sis tune from *Bye Bye Birdie*: "We love you president, oh yes we do!"

Hockaday introduced Hartford as someone "who agrees with what we were looking for." He noted that the search committee wanted a president who "would understand this college, its students, its people."

"I am so happy to be one of the women of Meredith," Hartford said as she remarked how she felt she was coming home again. She also said that visiting the campus the week before was "like being hugged into a family."

Hartford discussed several of her goals as the new president of Meredith, including increasing diversity, improving science facilities and accrediting the business program.

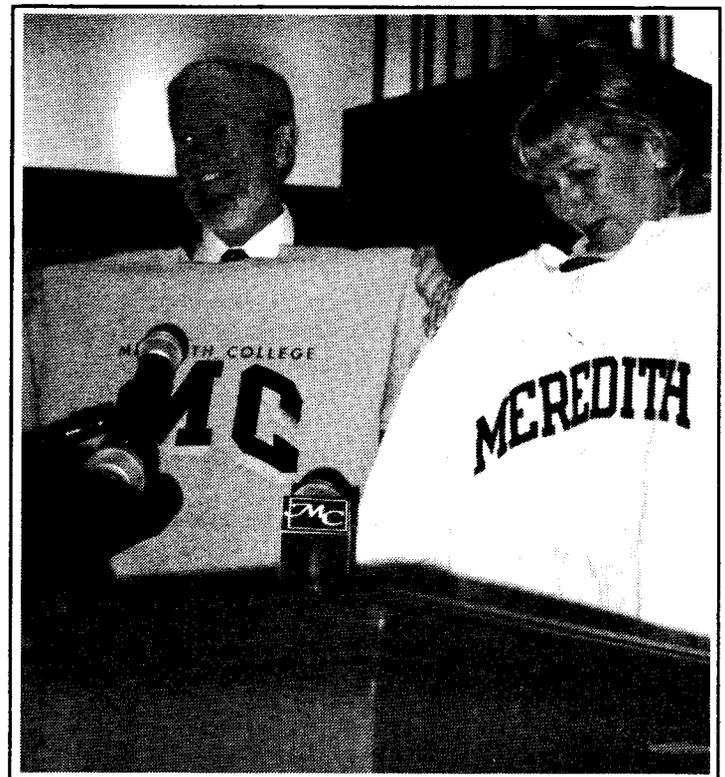
Then, citing him as "the

most important person in my life," Hartford introduced her husband Jay Hartford, who also works at the University of Michigan as a fund-raiser. These skills, she warmly noted, would be good for Meredith. Hartford added that her husband will be a "first gentleman Meredith women will be proud

of." She said that they were both looking forward to joining Meredith's family.

Hartford spoke for about 10 minutes. After her remarks, Sanders presented the Hartfords with their first Meredith sweatshirts, which they held up as cameras flashed.

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Dr. Maureen Hartford and husband Jay proudly display their first Meredith sweatshirts to the crowd of students, faculty, staff and alumnae Friday afternoon.

PHOTO BY BETH HALL

## Trustees approve new Open House policy

□ **Changes are met with mixed reactions.**

ALLISON CARTER  
Editor in Chief

Resident students can prepare to see males on campus and in the residence halls more than ever when the 1999-2000 academic year begins in August.

The Board of Trustees passed Student Government and Senate's proposal for the extension of Open House hours last Friday during their afternoon meeting.

Elizabeth Beals, SGA vice president and Senate chair, presented the proposal Friday morning to the student development committee of the Board of Trustees. After listening to Beals with proposal in hand, the committee unanimously voted

to send the proposal to the full board that afternoon.

During the spring of 1996, the Board of Trustees approved the current policy which allows two Open Houses a month for underclassmembers and every weekend for seniors living in Barefoot Residence Hall. Each student group had specified hours of visitation on assigned weekends.

Prior to the 1997-1998 academic year, after the change from the previous spring, there were only three open houses a semester on either a Saturday or Sunday during a four-hour time period for all students living on campus.

Shocked when she heard about the new policy, senior Carrie Carter said, "I don't like the idea of having guys there [in the residence halls] all of the

time; that's why I came to an all-girls school. I can't believe it is every weekend." Carter felt the policy was fine her first year before the 1996 policy change.

The new policy, which will go into effect after the Labor Day weekend in September of this year, states all resident students will be able to enjoy Open House hours every weekend. On Saturdays the hours shall be from 1-11 p.m. (10 hours) and Sundays 12-7 p.m. (seven hours). There will be no Open Houses during exam weeks either semester.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Meredith students to share an important part of their lives - their residence halls - with male friends. It is also an important step toward Meredith women being recognized as women," said Vann Residence

Hall Director Faithe Hart.

When SGA and Senate began their research back in August, they called other colleges and universities to investigate their Open House policies and visitation hours. Student representatives called such schools as Gardner Webb, Mars Hill, Peace College and Salem College - all in North Carolina.

Salem College's current policy states visitation hours to be Sunday - Thursday noon-11:45 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 1:45 a.m. On dance weekends, overnight guests may register one week in advance for either a Friday or Saturday night. A contract is written and the guest must have ID and wristband at all times, as stated in the printed proposal given to the trustees last week.

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