



MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women to Excel.

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New students design their futures

Move-in day brings heat, rain for orientation.

CHRISTINA HOLDER
News Editor

Balloon arches. Orientation at Meredith seems to be all about balloon arches—upon arrival, anyway.

Sophomore Sarah Pritchard still remembers pulling onto Main Campus Drive a year ago to get her first glimpse of Orientation Meredith-style. Driving past waving and smiling Orientation Crew members and beneath, you guessed it, the balloon arch, Pritchard says she felt "at home at Meredith."

The Orientation Crew would breathe a sigh of relief because making freshmen feel "at home" was the goal of the 44 member team last week as Meredith welcomed 544 women, the largest class ever, to campus last Saturday for the Orientation Week themed "Design Your Future."

Blueprints for the week were drafted long before the arrival day of Aug. 14. The offices of Residence Life, Academic Advising, Dean of Students, First Year Experience, Commuter Life and Special Services, and Student Activities and Leadership Development, as well as student representatives and freshmen faculty advisors, formed the Orientation Committee.

Their combined efforts produced a palette of "design" themed events. The Office of Student Activities and Leadership Development was responsible for coordinating many of the activities and the Orientation Crew.

Dena Price, assistant director of the office, said, "The Orientation Crew was composed of students who represent different organizations and who were in charge of the art

coordinating the Orientation Committee and the plans for the Diversity Session, the Women's Health Session, the Freshmen Survey, and the placement tests. "I think Orientation went smoothly. The freshmen seem to be upbeat and ready to go!" said Bumgardner.

While Orientation Crew members were busy attending "crew meetings" that included team building exercises, Resi-



Orientation Crew Member Stephanie Parsons, junior gives directions to a father on move-in day.

PHOTO BY STEV

and decorations, the tool booth, the picnic, the out-of-state Ice Cream Social, the slide show, the Campus Life Skit, and the Activities Fair with entertainer Roger Day."

Carolyn Koning and Chrissie Bumgardner, co-directors of the First Year Experience, were responsible for

dent Assistants and Student Advisors were learning about their roles to the new class. Combined, the Orientation Crew, RAs, and SAs, arrived 1 week to 3 days early to prepare for arrival day.

Some faculty also arrived early to help get the Summer Reading Program, a new edition to Orientation, implemented. Faculty have been working since May to organize the program, an idea that originated in the English department. Over the summer, freshmen were asked to read the book *Having Our Say*, by Amy Hill Hearth. The book records the lives of the Delany sisters, two women who fought the odds of a time that discriminated against their race and gender. The program included discussion groups lead by a faculty advisor and making collages representing the students' main impressions of the book. The collages will be assembled together and dis-

Hartford makes plans for the year

LESLIE MAXWELL
Editor in chief

Although Dr. Maureen Hartford's tenure as the seventh president of Meredith College officially began on July 1 of this year, she was a part of Meredith's campus even before that. July 1 is the date when Former President John Weems' retirement began.

Hartford came to Meredith from the University of Michigan where she was vice president for student affairs.

Named president on Feb. 26, Hartford came to campus again in April and then in May for Class Day, Graduation and Alumnae Weekend. Her visit in May found her living in the President's house for about a week.

"I really enjoyed being here that week," Hartford said, adding that she had time to begin thinking about issues and meeting with people.

She was the Commencement speaker at graduation on Sunday, May 9, Mother's Day. Her speech celebrated the bond between mothers and daughters.

She will be the speaker at the first Convocation on Monday, Aug. 30 at 10 a.m. in Jones Auditorium.

Hartford and husband, Jay, moved into the President's house in mid-June. "A lot of people helped," she said, including her mother and 92-year-old grandmother.

They did not stay in the house long, however, because the Hartfords flew to Seattle, Wash., where their daughter Stacey lives. On July 1, their first grandchild Katherine was born. The Hartfords arrived back in Raleigh on July 5.

The Hartfords also have a son living in Portland, Ore.

Hartford spoke to the families of freshmen on Saturday, Aug. 14, at Family Orientation.

Sunday, the Hartfords hosted



A welcoming sign greeted freshmen and transfer students on Saturday, Aug. 15.

PHOTO BY STEVE WILSON

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