

MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women to Excel

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On the inside:

☐ Meredith students needed to help one another.

Page 2

☐ America Reads encourages literacy.

Page 3

☐ SGA members are here to serve.

Page 4

☐ The Cell will provide a break from homework.

Page 8

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Search begins for Meredith's VP

☐ Taylor's replacement will be named in October.

BETSY RHAME
Staff Writer

The search for a new vice president of business and finance is well underway. The position became vacant this summer when Charles Taylor left the position he held for 17 years.

Taylor accepted a job at Wingate University in Wingate, N.C. as the executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Taylor accepted the position as vice president for business and finance at Meredith in 1983. He was named executive vice president of the college in 1996, taking on additional responsibilities.

While former president John E. Weems took a sabbatical

leave during the 1998-9 academic year, Taylor served as the college's "virtual president" until Dr. Maureen Hartford's arrival in July 1999.

"He loves Meredith with all of his heart," Erin Taylor, '03, said. She is Taylor's youngest daughter.

Two other Taylors, Erin's older sisters, are Meredith graduates: Anna, '99, and Blythe, '94.

Dr. Rosalind Reichard is serving as the chair of the search committee for the vacant position. The committee recently conducted interviews off-campus for potential employees.

"We have narrowed the pool down to the top six," Reichard said.

"We expect to narrow it down to three and bring them to campus in September," she added.

Until then, Bill Wade from

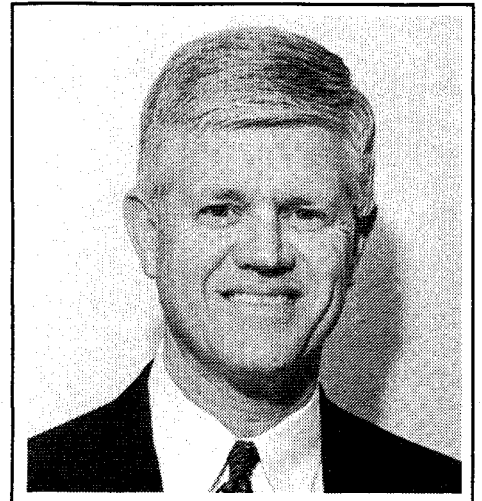
the accounting office is serving as the interim vice president for business and finance.

Wade, whose job used to be controller and personnel manager, now does his old job along with new duties of the vice president for business and finance. He took over Taylor's position on July 1.

Wade said that now, he is trying to "maintain the things that were already in process so nothing falls through the cracks during this interim period."

Reichard said that the new employee will not perform exactly the same duties as Taylor did.

The new position will no



Former Vice President Charles Taylor.

PHOTO BY STEVE WILSON

longer be for an executive vice president.

Participation in strategic planning will also no longer be the responsibility of the new vice president for business and finance.

The committee expects to make a decision by Oct. 1.

Permanent police chief is Strickland

☐ Strickland is no stranger to life at Meredith.

JENNY COSTA
News Editor

A new president, a new Honors Program Director, a new Director of Residence life, a new assistant for Student Activities... a new Chief of Police—not exactly.

Chief Franklin E. Strickland of Oxford, NC was officially named Meredith College's Police Chief in late August.

But Strickland is no stranger to Meredith.

He served as both the third-shift supervisor and first-shift operations officer here at Meredith between August 1997 and March 1999 after which he decided to retire.

When former Chief Mike

Hoke announced that he was leaving Meredith to teach middle school in Vance County in November 1999, Chuck Taylor, then executive vice president, knew just who to call.

Taylor called Strickland out of retirement to serve as interim chief until the search officially began because of Strickland's experience on the campus.

Strickland said that retirement was not for him. "I enjoy working; it's like a hobby to me."

There were several qualified candidates for the position, and four, including Strickland, were interviewed.

Dr. Jean Jackson, vice president for Student Development; Bill Wade, interim vice president for business and finance; and Ruth Pierce, director of Health Services were on the search committee for the position.

Pierce and Wade both said Strickland's experience at Meredith made him most qualified.

But being familiar with Meredith was not the only qualification Strickland had.

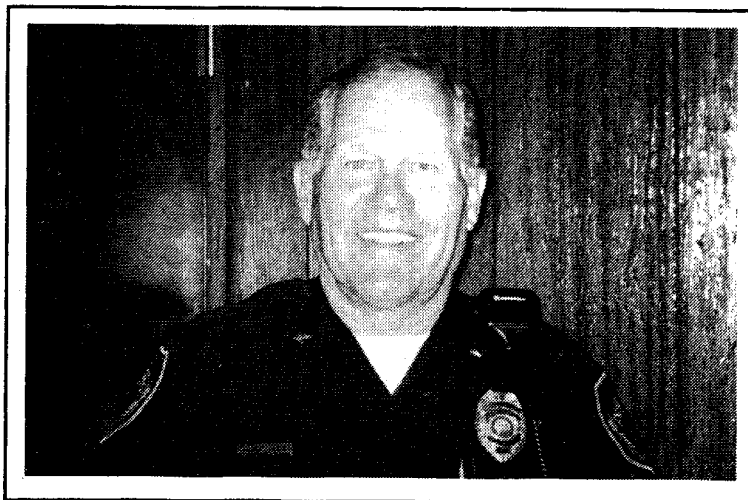
He is a distinguished war hero. While in the Army serving in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot for 2 years, he carried out 1500 combat missions.

He received several combat awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism, the Bronze Star Medal, an Air Medal with 29 oak leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Award and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry as well as numerous others.

When he returned from Vietnam he began pursuing his childhood dream of becoming a policeman.

He worked for the Durham Police until 1992 where he retired as the commander of the Police Academy.

He then became the director of the Criminal Justice School



Frank Strickland recently was named the official police chief at Meredith.

PHOTO BY ABBY SPENCER

Please see
STRICKLAND
page five