

W.'s contradictions

Last Saturday, as rain poured down and clouds blocked the sun, the nation said farewell to an eight-year president and said hello to the son of a former president.

From the Editor

Many did not welcome George W. Bush with open arms; indeed, there were nearly as many protesters there as there were supporters--something to be proud of in the United States, a place where people can exercise their right to free speech without

fear of persecution.

Security measures were the highest they've ever been for a Presidential Inauguration.

It seems ironic that the new president, a man who says he's so in touch with the American public, needs so much security to get him away from the crowds he feels so close to.

This is the man, a man whose father bought him a Texas baseball team, who said in his Inaugural address that many in America have never experienced poverty. Has he?

This is the man who wants to help the poor, the impoverished, the lower-class Americans but at the same time cut taxes. Funding for all of his 'help the poor' programs will come from where? Maybe we could sell our nuclear arms to Iraq or some equally other inane idea.

This is the man who wants to find new, alternative sources of fuel but invites Cabinet members and Environmental Protection Agency heads to explore the Alaskan reserves--just in the meantime, of course.

Is it any wonder that rain seemed to dampen the Inaugural Day? Is it any wonder that protesters carried signs to protest Bush's Inauguration?

We shouldn't be surprised at what Bush tells us; one of the most inexperienced Presidents this nation has ever had, Bush seems to have surrounded himself with his father--father-like figures comprise most of his Cabinet and top advisers.

Should we be worried? Maybe. Should we at least be concerned about the direction our country might be headed towards? Yes.

Meredith Herald

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How to reach the Herald:

If you have an article idea for the staff, contact the office at 760-2824. You can also e-mail the paper at <maxwell@meredith.edu>. All ideas will be considered but may not necessarily be used.

Campus Forum

Director of Academic Advising says 'goodbye'

Dear Meredith students:

George Shinn once said, "Growth means change and change involves risk, stepping from the known to the unknown."

I wanted to let you all know that I have decided to make a change and thus will be leaving the position of director of Academic Advising. It was not an easy decision, certainly, but I know that Meredith continues in very good hands with all my other colleagues in the division of Student Development.

I have enjoyed getting to know many students on this campus and will miss the smiles, insights, flannel pants and enthusiasm I have seen here.

There will still be resources available for students in the Office of Academic Advising, so please don't hesitate to come to the second floor of the Park Center if you need some academic assistance. I wish you all a great spring semester and very bright futures.

Sincerely,
Laura McLaughlin,
former director of Academic Advising

Meredith student gives thanks for fellow students

Dear Editor:

As I sit with all of my homework completed, I've decided to write a thank-you letter.

Since many of my angelic friends and sisters have moved off campus this year, I haven't had the opportunity to tell them thanks for being a great support team for me! It's been my pleasure getting to know all of my sisters at Meredith College, including the new sisters I've met since living on second Heilman this semester.

However, this letter is especially for those sisters in the class of 2001. You've stood by me and have supported me in both good and bad times in my life. Yes, for some odd reason you've been there for me as a class to help me when I've

been at the lowest points in my life. For that, I will always be grateful.

You've also provided me with plenty of memories filled with laughter and tears of joy, many of which I've captured on film. I consider you my sisters.

The bottom line is that I thank God every day each and every friend who has come into my life, including the class of 2001. I cannot mention each friend who has made a difference in my life and has consequently made me a better person, but there are a few I must mention.

These angels include the following: second Vann angels, especially Kate Breen, Jenna Leggett and Katie McLean;

second Faircloth angels; Wendy, Manju and Jennifer Rogers; all of the Heilman angels from last year, especially the first floor, the super suite and wonderful RA and understanding friend Krystal Tyn-dall.

I just want to assure you that you've made a difference in my life and have made me a better person. For that, I thank you all.

So, whenever I see someone's favorite color, food, drink, band, singer or TV show, I'll say a prayer for you.

In closing, I just want to say that I'm here for any of you if you ever need anything at all! Have a great semester!

Sincerely,
Jackie Lynn Schmidt

Letters to the Editor Policy:

Everyone in the Meredith community is invited and encouraged to write a letter to the editor. All published letters must be typewritten with a contact name, address, and telephone number, and all letters must be signed by the author in order to be published.

The *Herald* reserves the right to place any other article submissions on file until needed or to choose not to print them. The *Herald* also has the right to edit submissions for space restrictions, grammar and style. Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editorial staff.

Inclement Weather Policy

Decisions to change the Collegoperating hours or to cancel classes due to adverse weather conditions are made by appropriate members of the Senior Management Team.

Once a decision has been made, the information is immediately updated on Meredith's inclement weather line, 760-2384.

Notice of cancellations and delays are also phoned in to WRAL-TV 5 (or check the WRAL website at <www.wral-tv.com/contents>) and to other local television and radio stations as time allows.

Submitting to the Herald:

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Submissions can be brought to the Publications Office, 208 Cate Center.

Submissions include letters to the editor, press releases and feature articles.