

CORNHUSKIN' :

I'll never earn my degree in whistle-blowing

□ How is shucking corn and bobbing for apples going to prove that this campus really does have bright, young women?

LISA WILSON
Managing Editor

It's that wonderful time of year again at Meredith.

The screech of whistles fill the air, corn huskers in practice are seen around the campus, apple bobbers adorn the amphitheater, and girls marching down halls banging pots and pans together with all their might are common images of this week we all anticipate-Cornhuskin'.

However, maybe not everyone anticipates Cornhuskin'. Maybe standing in the cold ser-

enading each other does not appeal to us all. Perhaps portraying a word is not top on everyone's priority list.

If this does make you feel warm and fuzzy, go for it, more power to you, rock on. But please

leave us who still have homework to do, who still get up early to go to work, and who just are not into it alone.

I wish I had a dime for every time someone has asked me this week if I'm

going to Cornhuskin' practice, Can Art, the hall raid, or to the parade.

Then when I reply that I have other things I have to do, they look at me like I have lost every brain cell I have ever

huskin' is a tradition at Meredith, but so is studying.

The classrooms do not shut down for Cornhuskin'; it is not a federal holiday.

Tests are still given, readings are still assigned, and papers are still due.

I'm not trying to slam those of you that are really into Cornhuskin'.

Just understand that not everyone is as supportive of Cornhuskin' as you are, and quite frankly, not everyone has time for it.

My parents are not paying thousands of dollars a year in tuition for me to blow whistles, shuck corn, bob for apples, and imitate words.

They do, however, pay for me to go to school to get an education.

"My parents are not paying thousands of dollars a year in tuition for me to blow whistles, shuck corn, bob for apples and imitate words. They do, however, pay for me to go to school to get an education."

I understand that Corn-

**Are you proud to bob for apples?
Joni Smith wants to know. Email her at smithjo@meredith.edu**

The Campus Forum

Tuition increase harms diversity and hurts students:

Dear Editor:

I felt obligated to take time out to address the editorial submitted by Claire Langford in the Sept. 26 issue.

Where do I begin?

First of all, let me say that I disagree with Ms. Langford's statement, "an inexpensive private school education cannot be a quality education." There is no question that a private school will cost more than a state supported school.

However, I do not know what Ms. Langford considers an expensive education, but from my perspective last year's \$9,810 tuition was plenty. Even with the improvements and construction on campus I say that it was underhanded and sneaky for the current administration to hijack the current upperclassmen of even more tuition.

When the increase to \$12,100 was announced last year with the promise of increased aid, many of my fellow classmates chose to stay believing that with only a \$2,300 increase, "I can take out a loan and be ok." Now all of

a sudden it will increase again in 2002 and 2003.

Why weren't we informed of this last year? Maybe it's because the administration knew we would all transfer. Now many of us are stuck here because we have invested too many credit hours to leave.

I understand these desired changes will cost money but will benefit the Meredith women after me. However, don't try to fool me with the fact that my degree will somehow be more prestigious because of these changes after I leave. How will future classes know that their tuition will not end up costing \$22,000 or more?

If I were a financially responsible underclassmen, I would transfer as soon as possible. If I wanted to pay for an Ivy League education, I would have gone to Duke, Yale, or Harvard. We are not on the same level as these schools in size, athletics, research, medical facilities or diversity.

Why should our tuition be similar?

Ms. Langford addressed how she believes the value of her degree has diminished and that she's excited about seeing it restored. Why?

What are alumnae looking for, bragging rights? Did she

The *Meredith Herald* encourages letters to the editor. For your letter to be considered for publication, it must be typed and signed by the author. Also, include a contact name, address and telephone number. All letters submitted become the property of the *Meredith Herald*, and the newspaper reserves the right to edit submissions or to choose not to print them.

even think about what Terry Howell said about the embarrassing diversity problem we have on campus? Are Ms. Langford and other alumnae proud of this tradition?

All I am saying is don't sugar coat what's really going on. Don't tell us all about Meredith's improved rankings in *US News and World Report*, and then announce we will be forced to pay even more money to finish our undergraduate degree.

Don't gloss over the fact that these increases will with certainty negatively affect our socioeconomic and racial diversity.

I would heed all underclassmen to seriously consider whether or not you should return to Meredith. Maybe you

should apply for transfer admission and financial aid to the public university of your choice.

I also call for a survey of every student to let the administration see who plans on leaving Meredith and who will try to stay. Let them see and evaluate whether it is better to retain 50% of the class of 2003 at \$15,100 per year versus 90-100% of the class at our current tuition rate.

Lastly, let me say that I came to this school because of the support offered to 23 plus students and because it was one of the few places where both the traditional and non-traditional

woman could get a reasonably priced private education.

With these new changes, I am afraid Meredith will lose its reputation as an economically accessible private school that provides all women with an excellent education, leadership skills, and high moral standards.

I fear it will instead become an elitist private institution that offers these opportunities only to those who can afford it.

Sincerely,
Jamilah E. Chadwick
Class of 2003

Lots of Dough

Americans eat approximately 100 acres of pizza each day or 350 slices a second. 3 billion pizzas are sold in the United States per year. Think about how many pizza boxes that adds up to every year; then think about where they end up. In North Carolina we only recycle 50% of our cardboard, that suggests that the rest is ending up in our landfills. Recycled cardboard is as sanitary as virgin cardboard. This is a valuable resource that we could use considering how much pizza we consume in this country. We need to be asking our pizza companies to start using recycled materials and our recycling companies to provide more places for us to drop off our cardboard or start taking it up at our homes.