

LAPTOPS  
continued  
from  
page one

and all pawn shops in the area have been notified."

While these faculty laptop thefts are disturbing, Strickland pointed out that no student laptops have been stolen thus far. He commented that this was a pleasant surprise considering the large number of laptops that were distributed to the freshmen this year.

Strickland offered some tips for students and faculty to help prevent future laptop thefts. "Make sure that offices and dorm rooms are locked, and in cases where a security cable has been provided, make sure it is secure before you leave for the day," he said.

He added that members of the Meredith community should immediately report any suspicious people on campus to Campus Police at x8888.

□ Meredith's first  
gay/lesbian alliance  
hopes a new website  
will promote aware-  
ness on campus.

TIFFANY ADAMS  
Staff Reporter

Meredith's first gay/lesbian student alliance is now on the web.

Spectrum, an organization providing education and support for members of the Meredith community who are concerned about issues surrounding sexual orientation, recently created a website to "create more of a presence on campus and provide resources for students," said Lindsey McAdams, secretary of Spectrum.

For many years, Spectrum provided educational and support services through the Counseling Center. The Senate approved Spectrum last year, and it became an official campus organization.

"The organization is open to students of all sexual orientations," McAdams said.

Frip Rudd, a member of Spectrum and webmaster of

the website, created the website just before Spring Break in March. The idea for the site came about last semester, and Rudd carried out the plans this semester. She said that she updates the website on a regular basis.

"I may update the site three times in one day or wait a week, depending on when it needs to be updated," she said.

The site contains links to various educational websites that have information about news and events in the Triangle and gay and lesbian resources. The website also features a message board and chat room for open discussion.

Also featured on the site is a page called "Voices," in

which members can post poems and stories.

Spectrum president Lyn Tucker thinks that the educational links are a good way to provide people with an opportunity to educate themselves about issues surrounding sexual orientation. She also stated that the message board provides an outlet for discussion for the Meredith community.

McAdams stressed the importance of the site to the Meredith community because it "will bring diversity to the campus and make people aware of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community on campus."

Kat Bailey, Spectrum vice president, feels that there is not a lot of outward support

for Spectrum on campus, but is hopeful that the website will increase support by allowing people to discuss issues anonymously.

The club promotes awareness of issues lesbian, bisexual and transgender students at Meredith College deal with because they face adversity which encourages them to hide who they really are. Members of Spectrum feel that Meredith is not yet a community for everyone, since some members of the community are encouraged not to discuss their families, partners and lives.

For more information about Spectrum, visit the website at [www.angelfire.com/theforce/spectrum/](http://www.angelfire.com/theforce/spectrum/).

## Student Life Spring Forum

April 16

6:00 p.m.

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