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## Class of 2006

## learns the

# “Elements of Excellence”

*Orientation 2002 introduces freshmen to new surroundings, prepares women for life at Meredith and beyond.*

**“Elements of Excellence” combines new activities with old for a memorable orientation for all.**

**JONI SMITH**  
Editor in Chief

Today commences a new semester for returning Meredith students and the first for the college’s newest class. Events this week centered around orientation, and several new changes to the usual move-in schedule.

On Friday, Aug. 16 and Saturday, Aug. 17, freshmen commuter and resident students, respectively, oriented themselves with the campus and moved into the residence halls.

“I was amazed when I first got onto campus,” said freshman Sarah Grey. “Everything was better than I thought it would be. The posters and smiling faces made the adjustment a bit easier.”

The theme for Orientation 2003 was “Elements of Excellence.” Co-directors

of First Year Experience, Carolyn Koning and Chrissie Bumgardner, met with the orientation committee, which consisted of several faculty, staff and students, to develop the theme and expand on ideas to incorporate into orienta-

tion. Koning said one reason “Elements of Excellence” was chosen for the theme was because of the new math and science building that will be completed later this year.

“Elements of Excellence”

also parallels the science initiative Dr. Hartford announced last year.

Over the next four days, the freshmen students did more than simply move in to the residence halls.

This year, 72 student advisors helped these new

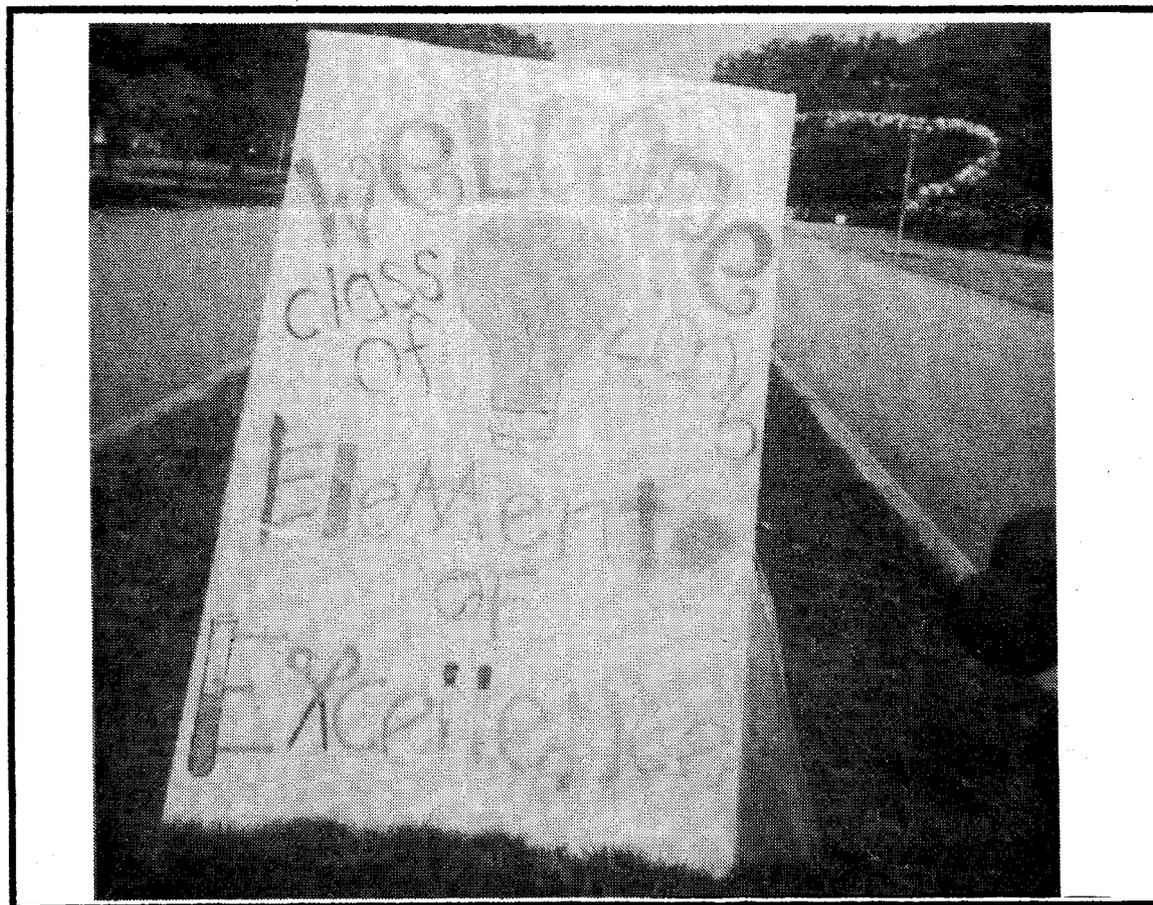
students to plan schedules and to orient themselves with the city and campus. As the chief liason between the faculty advisor and the student, the student advisor spends time answering questions, calming fears and giving advice.

“There is a lot of time and effort that goes into orientation. There are so many people who do a lot of behind the scenes work to make the job of student advisors easier,” said Sejal Patel, a senior student advisor.

Bumgardner, who coordinated much of the student advisors’ activities, said she was impressed with the “energy, attitudes and attention to detail” of this year’s student advising class.

Some activities included in “Elements of Excellence” were similiar to those in previous orientations.

“Orientation ran about the same as it usually does. It’s a very busy time that can get frustrating,” said Patel.



Welcome signs adorned Meredith’s campus Saturday as the class of 2006 settled into their new surroundings.

PHOTO BY JONI SMITH

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