

JONI'S
CORNERJoni's last editorial--
we promise!JONI'S
CORNER

JONI SMITH
Foreign Correspondent

Somehow another year has slipped by me in what now seems like the blink of an eye. Not only does this issue mark the end of another school year, but it also marks the end of my time here at Meredith. Despite the drawbacks I have harped on for four years, this school is an amazing place that has molded me into a person who does not even resemble who I was in August of 1999 when I first came to this campus.

It has always seemed to me that everyone writes sappy, tear-jerking prose at the end of anything, whether it be a school year,

a term in public office, or even the end of Cornhuskin'. Therefore, I will leave the sappy, tear-jerking reading material for other people.

First of all, I hope the Meredith community continues to push the boundaries of what is commonly accepted on campus. I have always thought that consistency is boring and that people should continue to evolve. If I can manage to stick to this, I will feel like I have accomplished something too many people never do. My hope for the Meredith community is that it contin-

ues to evolve and never stagnates. This includes accepting new ideas and putting an end to some of the traditions that keep Meredith in the past.

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I would sincerely like to thank every member of the history and politics faculty for being the best group of people I could possibly have surrounded myself with for four years. You all

are a huge reason why I want to teach on the college level. Thank you for encouraging me to spend my final semester in Russia. That was the best decision I could have ever made. Dr. Betty Webb also played a significant part in my experience in Russia and I could not leave campus without expressing my gratitude to her,

Tracy Knight,
John Rose,
and Sarah

Milani.

The staff of the Meredith *Herald*, along with Dr. Rebecca Duncan, has also been instrumental in making my senior year the best

of my four years here. Tuesday evenings without a *Herald* responsibility will not seem natural! Dr. Duncan is the best adviser this newspaper could have. Her unyielding support and interest in what goes on with our newspaper is vital to its success. I have also greatly appreciated her encouragement with my endeavors to always keep this campus on its feet.

Walking across the stage in two weeks seems unreal to me today, but if the next two weeks go by as fast as the past four years, it will be history before I know it. So long Meredith--maybe I'll see you at Cornhuskin'.

"The road not taken" is sometimes the best

CHRISTY
SADLER
Editor in Chief

I've finally decided to write an editorial.

This is a momentous occasion for many people who know me and have been begging me to write one all semester. However, I chose to leave the task to the members of the staff who were more opinionated and thicker-skinned. But I realized a couple weeks ago that I couldn't resist using my last opportunity to be in print at Meredith to share some of the hard-earned wisdom I think I've gained over the last four years.

Once I made this decision, the only problem was figuring out exactly what this wisdom was.

I then racked my brain for the one most important lesson I've learned over the last four years. Considering the many hours of classes I've sat through and the many more lessons I've learned outside the classroom from faculty, staff and other students, this was no easy task. However, I decided that most of my happiness over the last four years has boiled down to one particular truth--taking risks.

Now, most of the people who know me would be shocked to see the word "risk" used by me in a positive way. All my life, I've been notorious for taking the safe path and going with the familiar. But my time at Meredith has taught me that risks don't kill, and they often reinvigorate. It's

when I've strayed off the known path onto the "road not taken" (of course, I had to work in a Frost quotation somewhere) that I have reaped the best rewards.

Four years ago, when I was a confused soon-to-be high school graduate, I took a risk. I came to Experience Meredith and left the campus that day not only having discovered that Meredith was the place for me but also having already begun some of the relationships that would be my lifeblood over the next four years.

At the end of my freshman year, I took another risk. I signed my declaration of major form, hoping that English was the right major for me but having no idea exactly how right it would be. I will leave

Meredith next week with a B.A. in English, and I will always remember the memory lines, teas and brunches, as well as the bright faces, quirky personalities, and incredible kindness, wit and intelligence of every professor in the Meredith English department.

Thanks to each of you for all for the many ways you have taught me over the last four years.

During my sophomore year, I took a risk and signed up for a study abroad consultation with Dr. Betty Webb. I had always been intrigued by Europe but couldn't fathom going that far from home and traveling that independently.

However, Dr. Webb informed me that the only

choice I had was whether or not I would attend both parts of the Meredith Abroad program, and before I knew it, I was on a plane to London. I could never have imagined how much I would learn, what wonderful people I would meet, and how many of my lifelong dreams would come true in six all-too-short weeks.

One year ago, I took a risk and told Christina Holder that I would take over the *Herald* this spring. I must admit that I had no idea what I was getting into, but I can honestly say that if I had it to do over again, I wouldn't have decided any differently. The *Herald* has provided me with great experience

**See Risks
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