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## Round the Bases With Orientation 2003

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The bases are loaded. With two strikes already, the pitcher winds up. It's a fast one, the batter swings. It's going, going, it's out of here! That's right, orientation 2003 was a homerun this year for the new class of 2007 and transfer students.

The orientation theme, "A League of Our Own", described it all for the newly arrived Meredith students. Meredith College pulled out all the stops and embraced the class of 2007 with open arms, welcoming a whole new batch of freshman along with those transferring to Meredith. With baseball themed shirts, current Meredith students, faculty and administration have been working tirelessly to make sure that 2004's orientation is the best yet.

Orientation is an essential building block for any newcomer to the college life. The goal is to help students' transition to college life as easily as possible, while making a few



SGA President Erin Hege and other members of the Meredith community welcome the class of 2007 during orientation. Photo courtesy of Marketing

friends and learning about the campus along the way. What seems like an overwhelming week to those participating in orientation, quickly transforms into an experience that will enrich their new life at Meredith.

"My orientation process was stress-free due to the attentiveness of my Student Advisor and the organization of the events," said freshman Audrey Tamer, "I felt welcomed and prepared for my year ahead."

In order to make orientation a success, everyone in the Meredith community had a part to play. Current students can volunteer a few days prior to the start of orientation as part of their involvement on campus. Resident Assistants performed room checks and took part in situational analysis that serve to make campus living a more enjoyable part of Meredith life. Student Advisors attended training sessions organized to help them effectively communicate and become an information resource along with a friendly face to new students. Orientation Crew, woke up before sunrise to create the balloon arch that greeted arriving students, and participated in activities all week including a

skit. The crew also assisted students and parents alike during Orientation.

Amanda Denny, a senior, served as Transfer Student Ambassador Chief. "I really enjoyed being the Transfer Student Ambassador Chief this year! We had a wonderful group of Transfer Student Ambassadors that made orientation week very successful." Amanda further explained that, "This year the ambassadors went through more training than they have been through in the past." Part of this training was made for the purpose of making the ambassadors a better class liaison reference. Incoming transfer students were given the opportunity to decide if they would like to attend traditional age or non-tradi-

tional age orientation. Attendance was better this year for the functions and events during orientation than in the past.

Sophomore Lindsey French also enjoyed her experience as part of orientation crew. "I remember when I came to Meredith last year and the first noticeable thing I saw was the balloon arch. Since then, I knew I wanted to take part in the orientation experience," stated Lindsey. "I wanted to make the new freshman class' orientation as exciting as my own and I knew as a member of Orientation Crew I could make this possible."

Within their first few steps onto campus, it became evident to all new students that being a student at Meredith College is a unique opportunity and experience, one of which is shared between fortunate women everywhere who can say they went to Meredith and it was "a League of Our Own".

"I've wanted to come to Meredith since I was in third grade. I've always known that this is the place for me," explained freshman Meredith Bell, "Orientation just confirmed what I have thought all my life: Meredith College is my ideal college and I plan on making my four years here the best!"

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