

Record Class

Continued From Page 1

participate in Meredith traditions, and to stretch their minds.

Ginny Turlington is a resident on Meredith's campus, leaving her family and traveling from Pinehurst, North Carolina. Currently an undecided major (as most freshmen are), she is considering majoring in social work or something in the business field.

Even if she is undecided in her major, Turlington is confident in her decision to attend Meredith College.

"Both my sister and mom went to private colleges, so I think you get a better learning experience in the small classrooms; you also get more individual attention," she explained.

Turlington is already focused on her goals at Meredith and she wants to get involved on campus to make the most out of her college experience. She plans on participating in Campus Crusade, Big Sis/Lil Sis and training to become a Young Life leader for high schools. Turlington already has ideas about what she would like to do on campus and she is looking forward to her next four college years.

Turlington is excited to "meet new people, be open to new ideas, more independence, and learn more about the real world".

Dolly Vang, a freshman, from Charlotte, North Carolina. Vang decided to heed her parents' advice to enroll into Meredith College.

"It was my parents' preference, so I am going to try it



Photo courtesy of Tiffany Stokes

Freshman Ginny Turlington out and see if I like it or not," Vang stated.

Although her parents were a huge factor in her decision, Vang still finds Meredith fun and enjoyable. She plans on getting involved in Student Government Association, various activities on campus, and participating in

Meredith's traditions, such as Cornhuskin'.

Academics are also an important part of Vang's life; she has decided on a major in biology, with a concentration in pre-dental. She aspires to become a dental hygienist after college.

Vang has immediately noticed what she thinks differentiates college from high school.

"I have a lot of free time - it is really different than high school. And being a freshman is a little stressful because you don't know what to expect," Vang stated.

Even though Alleyse Lipscomb left friends and family in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to travel to Raleigh, she still feels she is a part of a small, close-knit community at

Meredith. Lipscomb commented on her experience so far at Meredith, "This community is so close, it is like being in a family, and I love the small classes-it was a good transition."

Lipscomb is uncertain of her choice of major, but she is considering interior design or education. Following graduation, Lipscomb wants to

teach and then own an interior design business.

Lipscomb is eager to start the new school year and get involved quickly. She plans to apply herself on campus in organizations that promote diversity - possibly by joining the Association for Cultural Awareness.

Although she has plans for her next four years, she is not limiting herself to those plans. "I love the free time, and Freshman Alleyse Lipscomb there are so many different girls. I've gotten to know a lot of people on campus," she stated.

Like Vang, Lipscomb agrees that college is a huge step from high school and that it is very different. She feels that "[college] makes you think, and you see the difference from high school. You have so much more responsibility and I feel much more independent."

The incoming freshmen at Meredith College greatly range in diversity, abilities, skills, and personalities. They are quickly immersing

themselves in the Meredith atmosphere and "culture."

Even though college is a

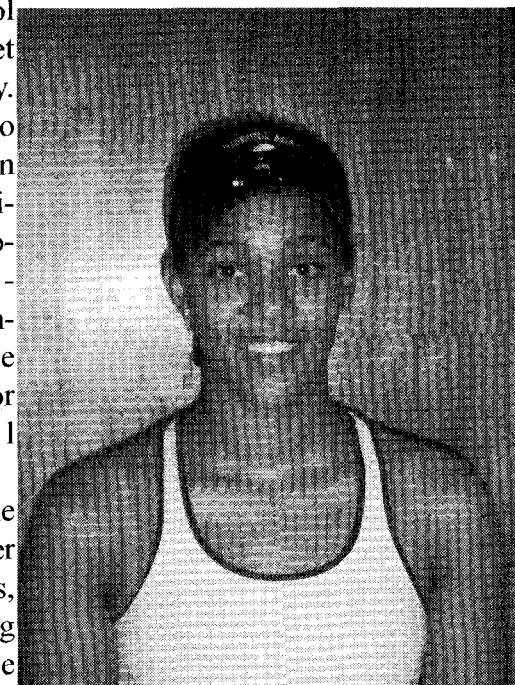


Photo courtesy of Tiffany Stokes

huge step toward adulthood, these featured freshmen have smoothly transitioned themselves from high school to college by getting involved, learning about different majors, and meeting a lot of new and exciting people.

U.S. News & World Report ranks Meredith #16

JANE LANGFORD
Features Editor

Meredith College was ranked the #16 overall Master's University in the south in last week's *US News & World Report Magazine*. Meredith also finished 14th in the South for best Master's programs at the best prices. The University of Richmond was ranked #1 in the southern region.

The magazine uses a

number of factors in deciding a university's rank. They survey over 1,000 different programs in the U.S. in five major fields of study - business, education, engineering, law, and medicine. They then break the schools down geographically into four regions, North, South, Midwest, and West.

The rankings are based on statistical merits of the different programs as well as subjective data



photo courtesy of www.usnews.com

among leading deans and faculty in the different fields of study. For the statistical rankings, the magazine uses what the magazine calls "inputs",

or measures of the qualities that students and faculty bring to the educational experience; and "outputs", measures of graduates' achievements that can be linked to their degrees.

Often, the amount of time recent graduates spend trying to find a job and their starting salary play heavily into the statistical standings. Also, class size, teacher-to-student ratios, and graduation rates are very impor-

tant. Meredith ranked 6th in graduation rate in the south.

Meredith has consistently been among the leaders in both graduate and undergraduate programs in recent years. *U.S. News & World Report* puts the statistics out once a year. The August 23rd issue and guidebook are out on shelves now.