

MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women To Excel

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Meredith's Weekly Weather

WEDNESDAY Isolated Thunderstorms High 65/ Low 45

THURSDAY Partly Cloudy High 67/ Low 43

FRIDAY Isolated Thunderstorms High 69/ Low 53

SATURDAY Showers High 74/ Low 51

SUNDAY Showers High 67/ Low 41

MONDAY Partly Cloudy High 63 Low 34

TUESDAY Partly Cloudy High 64/ Low 42

Meredith hosts NCAS meeting

PIPER PETROCELLI

Contributing Writer

Meredith College hosted the annual meeting of the North Carolina Academy of Science (NCAS) last weekend, March 19, 2005. The event was a collaborative effort between Meredith College, the NCAS, North Carolina State University, the Collegiate Academy of the North Carolina Academy of Science for undergraduate research, and the Museum of Natural Sciences. Esteemed scientists Lynn Margulis and Robert Higgins celebrated the research of students in science. On Saturday, Margulis spoke at North Carolina State University on the Gaia Hypothesis and the intercon-

nectedness all the systems on earth.. Higgins is an internationally renowned authority on microscopic invertebrates found in marine sediments. The events at the Museum of Natural Science celebrated his enormous contributions to the scientific community, especially his discovery of a new phylum, Loricifera.

Saturday's events in the Science and Math Building offered students an opportunity to showcase their research, and to participate in poster sessions and lectures. Meredith student Lauren Thie presented the latest results of her research work with Dr Larry Grimes on mosquitoes. Students from Guilford College, UNC

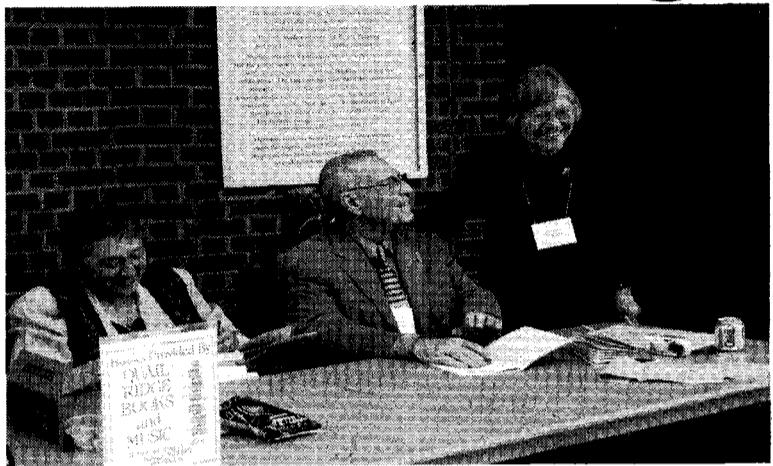


photo courtesy of Wendy Gem

NCAS members greeted Meredith students, faculty at the event on Saturday.

Pembroke, Warren Wilson College, and North Carolina State University also participated in the event. Students from Guilford College presented their research on poor communities whose residents breathe significantly

dirtier air than those in more affluent communities. Students also presented research findings on how quickly life becomes impaired during new construction and development projects.

Swab, Gem create sustainable NCAS meeting

PIPER PETROCELLI

Contributing Writer

For the first time in its history, the NCAS meeting was sustainability driven. Dr. Janice Swab, Biology professor, and student Wendy

Gem merged the latest cutting edge technologies and the forces of nature to make the meeting environmentally smart and sound. Invitations and programs traditionally printed for campus events use pounds of paper, acres

of trees, and gallons of toxic chemicals. The paper Swab and Gem used for their program was tree-free and was made from sugar cane. What guests saw at refreshment tables throughout the Science and Math Building

looked like conventional paper plates, cups, and napkins. The forks, knives and glasses appeared to be made of plastic. However, guests and students were taking home the "plasticware" as souvenirs. All items were biodegradable and compostable. Rather than using fossil fuels from the petroleum industry, these natural-plastic cups were made from sugar cane. The napkins were made from recycled paper, and the spoons, knives and forks were made entirely from corn. If given the choice, people want to live their lives in ways that are kind to the earth. People have been looking to the scientific community to discover new technologies that allow us to live with all of life's conveniences, without compromising the environment.

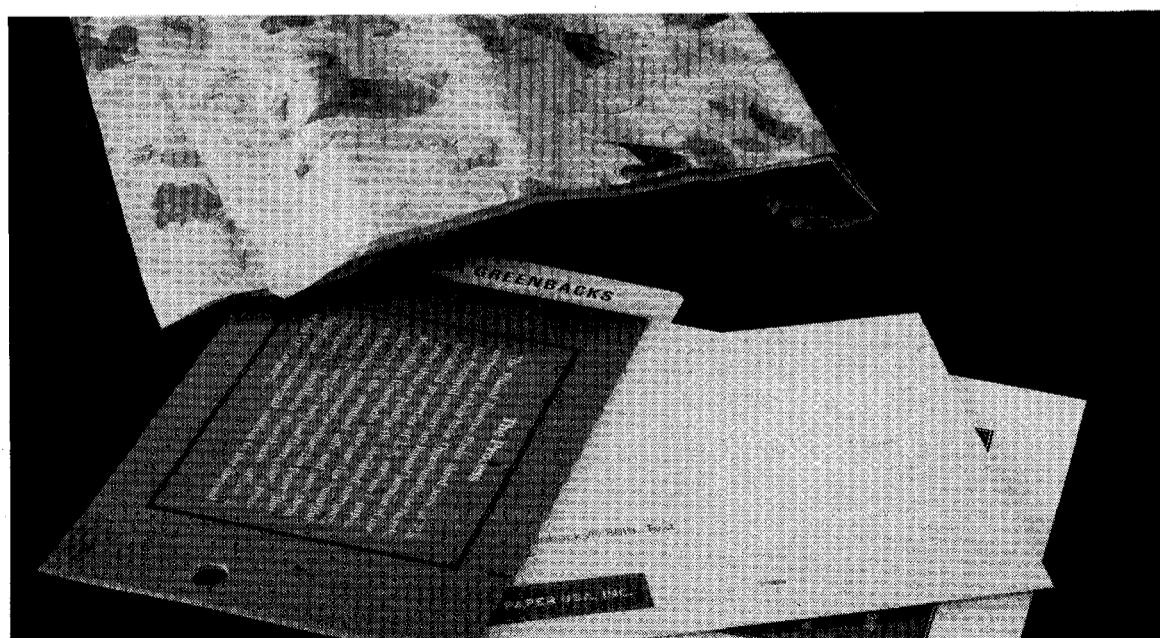


photo courtesy of Wendy Gem

Examples of biodegradable, recycled paper products at NCAS on Saturday.