

Diversity Column

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Contributing Writer

Surprisingly, I didn't know what to write for my last column. I felt all this pressure from myself to make it profound and meaningful. But I'm buckling a bit under the pressure, so I've decided to tell you about something worthwhile and hope you might find a little meaning in it.

Some of you may have heard about the Safezone program and even read articles about it in the Herald. For those of you who haven't, Safezone is a program that seeks to identify allies for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) students at Meredith. It does so by training volunteers and providing them the resources necessary to help students that come to them. Any student that speaks with a Safezone member can trust that anything said is kept confidential.

Some of you may question

why such a program is necessary. If you haven't heard this before, there have been incidents of harassment against lesbian and bisexual students on our campus. These actions are not only against the honor code, but against common sense. The principal of treating others as you would like to be treated seems to have disappeared. Safezone is a resource to help these students by offering a safe space for them to discuss what is happening in their lives, whether it is harassment or simply personal issues.

But Safezone is not a program designed to change everyone's mind about homosexuality. Whether or not you believe homosexuality is right or wrong is not our focus. Safezone is merely to offer education about issues you may not be aware of and to remind students that everyone deserves respect.

With that said, Safezone is a program designed for all students, not just GLBT students. Safezone is de-

signed to help students who are questioning whether or not they themselves are gay, or students who have found out that a parent or close friend/roommate is gay. It is also for students who have witnessed harassment of a GLBT student and don't know how to help or deal with it. The list goes on, but you get the picture.

Why am I bringing this up now? Because we have just added twenty Safezone members to our roster. These members include faculty and staff. They will be putting up their Safezone signs on their doors when they are ready. If you need assistance, you can find one of these members and speak with them.

For more information on the program, you can contact Charlie Sims in the Office of Diversity and Commuter Life.

We hope to get more students involved next year, so please consider joining the program and encouraging your friends to join.

Congratulations to the new members of the Gamma Rho Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, an international honor society in business administration. These members were honored at the induction ceremony on April 26, 2005. Please extend your congratulations to the following students:

Undergraduate Students:

Diana Elizabeth Brafford
Ann Perry Castelloe
Christine Lynn Davis
Michelle Elaine Dillman
Ashley Meredith Flouhouse
Elizabeth A. Hendrick
Stephanie Candice Jessup
Katherine Diane Kayser
Qin Li
Kendall Lynn Overcash
Anna O'Neil Sells
Sheema Sher Khan Muhammadzai
Rachel Elizabeth Snyder
Samantha Marie Speers
Amanda Laney Stephens
Elizabeth Yaros

Graduate Students:

Melissa Janelle Buxengard
Molly A. Denton
Adrenna L. Jarrett
Angelina Sabrina Mink
Jeanell Dudley Morton
Candy Warner

Delta Mu Delta also inducted Dr. Maureen Hartford, President of Meredith College, as the 2005 DMD Honorary Member. She is first honorary member to be inducted since 1994.

Q & A with Allison Drake

Your major/minor(s):

Communication, Concentration Human Communication

Besides softball, what else are you involved in on campus? (clubs, organizations...)

Communication Club, Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Junior Woman's Club

What were some of your favorite games this season and why?

The games at our tournament in Virginia (East Coast Classic). It was fun to take a trip with the team. We got to know each other a lot better and we played really competitive ball.

What traditions does this



year's softball team have? (chants/cheers, silly things you do before the game, etc)

We always pray before the game along with a chant that I think has been around for a long time. During the game, we have infielder and outfielder cheers that when we are doing poorly we say Doritos and the outfielders say cool ranch.

Do you play any sports besides softball outside of Meredith?

I did in high school, but not

now, I used to play volleyball, basketball, swimming, and softball.

Who is your favorite athlete?

I don't really have a favorite, I really like the Atlanta Braves though.

Who is your idol?

My parents

Any brother or sisters?

One sister, Patrice Drake

What was your favorite class at Meredith?

Gender Communication

What is your favorite memory of your college life?

The first day of softball practice my freshman year, meeting all the girls that are now

Spring 2005 Schedule

April 28: Day of Celebration

April 30: End of Year Bash

May 3: Last Day of Classes

May 4: Reading Day

May 5: Final Exams Begin

May 13: Final Exams End

May 14: Baccalaureate 2005

May 15: Commencement 2005