



MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women To Excel

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Meredith's Weekly Weather

WEDNESDAY
Windy
High 81/ Low 59

THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 85/ Low 63

FRIDAY
Scattered T-storms
High 81/ Low 63

SATURDAY
Showers
High 81/ Low 55

SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 74/ Low 49

MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 58/ Low 43

TUESDAY
Showers
High 80/ Low 54

Model UN Class Travels to NYC for National Model UN Conference

Emelia Dunston
Staff Writer

For those who may not know, some Meredith students have been making a name for themselves at the United Nations. Recently students from the Model UN class, along with their on-site advisor, Dr. Gregory Vitarbo, traveled to New York City for the National Model United Nations Conference. The students were able to attend the conference this year thanks to the generosity of President Maureen Hartford. According to Dr. Vitarbo, the Model UN class is offered by the Department of History & Political Science usually once every two years. Interested students in and outside the class also maintain a Model United Nations club, which engages in fundraising, campus programming, and planning. The students who attended the conference were Emily Collins, Meredith Taylor, Les-

lie Harris, Courtney Crute, Rose Wilson, Tara Mitchell, Erica Oakley, Jackie Neustel, Kelly Johnson, Amanda Weaver, Angenette Burns, and Jessica Coates.

The five day conference was held April 11th through the 15th. This year's trip to New York was their first visit to the National Model United Nations Conference, which drew delegations not only from colleges around the country but also from Canada, Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Meredith was chosen to represent an inter-governmental organization, the Interparliamentary Union, an umbrella organization representing over 70 countries around the world that use a parliamentary form of government. The students from Meredith delegation (12 in all) were assigned to represent the IPU on the various committees that conduct the work of the UN. They prepared position papers on a

variety of real global issues, debated and discussed with other delegates, and helped prepare and draft resolutions. Ten students represented the IPU, while the other two students were chosen to represent the nation of Greece on a mock Security Council; they too debated pressing global issues and drafted resolutions, and also participated in a "crisis" simulation.

Erica Oakley, who represented the Inter Parliamentary Union in the Economic Commission for Africa committee, stated "This trip was very rewarding in the fact that I was able to work with such a diverse group of people on such an incredibly important topic. I imagine it was much like the real UN - when time was running out, we were all scrambling to finish resolutions in a manner that would be beneficial for everyone in Africa. I would love to do it again and would encourage anyone else to at least try it." Em-

ily Collins, President of the Model UN Club, expressed the same sentiments. "All in all, the conference was a lot of fun. It was a new experience for everyone and gave us a new perspective of how the UN really works," she replied. The group's on-site advisor, Dr. Vitarbo, said "All of our students did a truly outstanding job in preparing for and participating in the Conference; they were responsible, professional, and hard-working. In my role as faculty adviser, I was there to chaperone, aid, and assist students in any way I could, but they really did not need me. It was a great experience and a testament to our students and the Model UN class and club."

The students enjoyed their trip and were able to receive an eye opening experience. Hopefully, they will be able to use what they learned and improve for next year's conference.

Suicide Bombers Target Egypt

Jackie Bullock
Staff Writer

Two suicide bombers struck outside the main base of the Multinational Forces and Observers, located near the Gaza border in the Sinai Peninsula on Wednesday, April 26, 2006. The two bombers were the only casualties. The multinational peacekeeping base is located about three miles south of the Rafah border crossing to the Gaza in northern Sinai.

An Associated Press report

stated that the first bomb exploded around 11:00 a.m. and targeted a Multinational Forces and Observers vehicle in which peacekeeping personnel and Egyptian officials were riding; none of the occupants were injured. The second bomb exploded around 11:35 a.m. near a police vehicle at another location in the same area. No injuries were reported in that incident. This is the second attack on the Multinational Forces and Observers in less than a year. In August 2005,

a roadside bomb exploded near a vehicle belonging to peacekeepers, injuring two Canadians. The peacekeepers have been stationed in the region since 1982 and monitor the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Ten countries make up the force—the United States, Canada, Australia, Colombia, Fiji, France, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, and Uruguay. Norway also provides the force with three officers but it is not a member.

The Wednesday bombing

occurred just two days after a triple bombing on Monday, April 24, 2006 at a beach resort in Dahab, Egypt, which resulted in multiple injuries and deaths. In that incident, the first bomb exploded outside a restaurant; the second exploded outside a supermarket and a jewelry store; the third bomb exploded at the entrance of a bridge. The U.S. State Department reported four Americans

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