



MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women to Excel

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Meredith's Weekly Weather

WEDNESDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 80/ Low 59

THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny
High 82/ Low 57

FRIDAY
Sunny
High 70/ Low 49

SATURDAY
Sunny
High 73/ Low 56

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High 71/ Low 55

MONDAY
Sunny
High 73/ Low 56

TUESDAY
Sunny
High 73/ Low 56

Doris Kearns Goodwin speaks

Natalie Braswell
Guest Writer

For a relatively small campus, Meredith College has opened its doors to some big names. On Aug. 31, Meredith welcomed another big name: Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Goodwin is a renowned historian. Her historical accounts have placed her on the New York Times best seller list more than once. Her accomplishments are widely recognized in the community surrounding Raleigh and beyond; however, on Meredith's campus she was also known as the lady who wrote the really long summer reading program book.

The incoming freshman class was told to purchase a copy of "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and

Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II" over the summer and read through it before school. Some students, including one who asked not to be identified, had an admittedly hard time making it through the book, daunted by its "long pages and lack of pictures in the margins." However, the general consensus among the student body that made it through the book was that it was a wonderful read, and a lot more relevant than the students had originally thought.

The book focuses on and outlines in great detail the lives of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt in a completely candid manner. During a question-and-answer session, one student asked Goodwin if she thought that

the current war was anything compared to World War II. Goodwin had a lengthy, detailed response, summed up with the statement, "We are in really tough times right now, but nothing compared to what we went through with Hitler." She also spoke of the parallels between Eleanor Roosevelt and current female political figures, including Hillary Clinton, a woman she feels "channels" the famous first lady.

Some students were interested in the process of writing such a work. Goodwin admitted to being nervous about accuracy, saying that she feared "a panel of the presidents I have interviewed and asked about waiting for me in heaven to tell me what all [she] got wrong." She stressed the importance of citing sources and being meticulous with direct quotes

— a subject that hit home with any Meredith student with a respect for the honor code.

She also hit home with several Meredith students with her discussion on the role of women in today's society. Goodwin talked about the hardships of the women in the home front during WWII and their struggles to choose between work and traditional maternal roles at the end of the war. "All of us, as women, have these mixed desires," she said, regarding the pulls between work and family.



Shirin Ebadi comes to campus

Molly Gluck
Interim Editor

On September 14, 2006, Meredith College was lucky enough to be the host of Shirin Ebadi. She was the winner of the Nobel Prize in 2003 for her work as an activist for refugee rights as well as those for women and children. From 1975 to 1979, Ebadi served as president of the city court of Tehran and she was also one of the first women to be a judge in Iran. In 1979 she was forced to resign her position and become

a desk clerk solely she was a woman. It was then when she dedicated her life to human rights.

Ebadi graduated with a law degree from the University of Tehran. From there she has written many books and articles which focused mainly on human rights issues. These are tools that are still used in classrooms throughout the world today. She also started to write her own autobiography in 2003, after she received the Nobel Peace Prize. She finished the book, *Iran Awakening*;

A memoir of Revolution and Hope, which was published in the United States in 2006. This book, though it is printed in many different languages and known throughout the world, has not been printed in Ebadi's native language and is not even allowed to in Iran.

Ebadi's visit to Meredith's campus was one that was not only very informative about her life and the challenges that she had to overcome, but it also was very inspiring to young women. Shirin Ebadi left an impression

on most when she stated, "The path I have chosen is the right path. I have been able to convey my message to more people all over the world."

Not only does this quote really play into the theme of the lecture series for the year, "The Status of Women: Our Future, Our Responsibility," but it also helps to instill the hope into young women and the future generation that their voices can be heard and that they can make a difference.