



# MEREDITH HERALD

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Educating Women To Excel

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## Meredith's Weekly Weather

TODAY: Sunny High 57/ Low 32

THURSDAY: Partly Cloudy High 56/ Low 36

FRIDAY: Mostly Cloudy High 60/ Low 37

SATURDAY: Sunny High 59/ Low 35

SUNDAY: Partly Cloudy High 63/ Low 39

MONDAY: Partly Cloudy High 67/ Low 49

TUESDAY: Partly Cloudy High 73/ Low 47

## Meredith College Hosts Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi

Amber McKinney  
Staff Writer

On Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Meredith College hosted the speaker of the United States House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, an occasion sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Presidential Lecture Series. Pelosi spoke on the 2007-2008 theme of "Ethical Leadership."

In a brief, pre-lecture meeting, Pelosi met with Meredith College women in a less formal setting to speak with a select group of students, including presidential scholars, legacy scholars, women's studies majors, and others. Each student was allowed to briefly greet Representative Pelosi before everyone was asked to sit down. Peace College students arrived near the middle of the meeting.

The questions mostly centered around Pelosi's position as a female in a high-ranking position of society. When sophomore Jessi Agee asked about how difficult it was for Pelosi as a woman to reach the rank of Speaker of the House, Pelosi answered that her party helped her by having the "courage to honor the hope and legacy of the country." She had not intended to run for a leadership position, and she turned down her first opportunity. She had a second opportunity to

run, and this time she felt that it was her civic duty to run. Pelosi's party stood behind her, and she was able to, as she says, "break the marble ceiling."

When asked by Maggie Bizzell about how far Pelosi thinks the nation is from having the 1<sup>st</sup> female president, Madame Speaker replied, "If it doesn't happen now, it will be a while, I think." She also said that "the odds are very good. Women are very, very excited about that prospect." When answering a question about the importance of volunteering, Pelosi spoke about her own experience in volunteering in her local library. Doing volunteer work for library legislation got her involved in politics. Pelosi says it is important for people to volunteer, but one should be realistic about how much work one can handle.

Her best advice to women is to "Be Yourself." Pelosi said that the "power of women in the country is still untapped." She urged the women in the college to be the "most authentic, sincere person you can be." She believes people should make their decisions "based on experience and judgment" and stay true to themselves.

After the meeting, Pelosi spoke in Jones Auditorium in front of an audience of Meredith College faculty, staff, and students, students

from the surrounding area, and the general public. Meredith College President Maureen Hartford welcomed everyone to the event and talked briefly about the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Presidential Lecture Series. Afterwards, Britney Brown, president of the Student Government Association, introduced Congresswoman Pelosi. Brown talked about Pelosi's accomplishments: she is the highest ranking woman in America's political history, she has

represented California's 8<sup>th</sup> district since 1987, and she has promoted family policy, increased health care, and human rights.

Pelosi's speech was about "America, our history, our future." She began her speech by talking about the United States' declaring independence from England. She spoke about how the people were confident, optimistic and faith filled. Since the

Pelosi cont. on pg. 6

## Presidential Questionnaire

Is there an incumbent running for President?

How often and in what month are elections held?

In what month is inauguration?

Name at least two current Republican candidates for President.

Name at least two current Democratic candidates for President.

Name 3 spouses of candidates (Democrat or Republican).

Name the current titles of at least two of the candidates (i.e. Senator).

Name at least 3 issues being discussed as part of the candidates' platforms.

First prize winner gets a \$10 Ben & Jerry's coupon and the second prize winner gets a \$5 Ben & Jerry's coupon. Submit entries to [herald@meredith.edu](mailto:herald@meredith.edu)