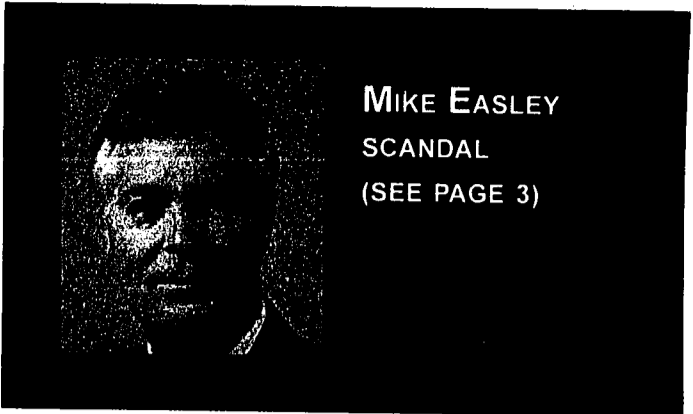


the MEREDITH Herald



INSIDE



Page 2
President Obama Drops in Gallup Poll

Page 3
Public Schools Lack Funds

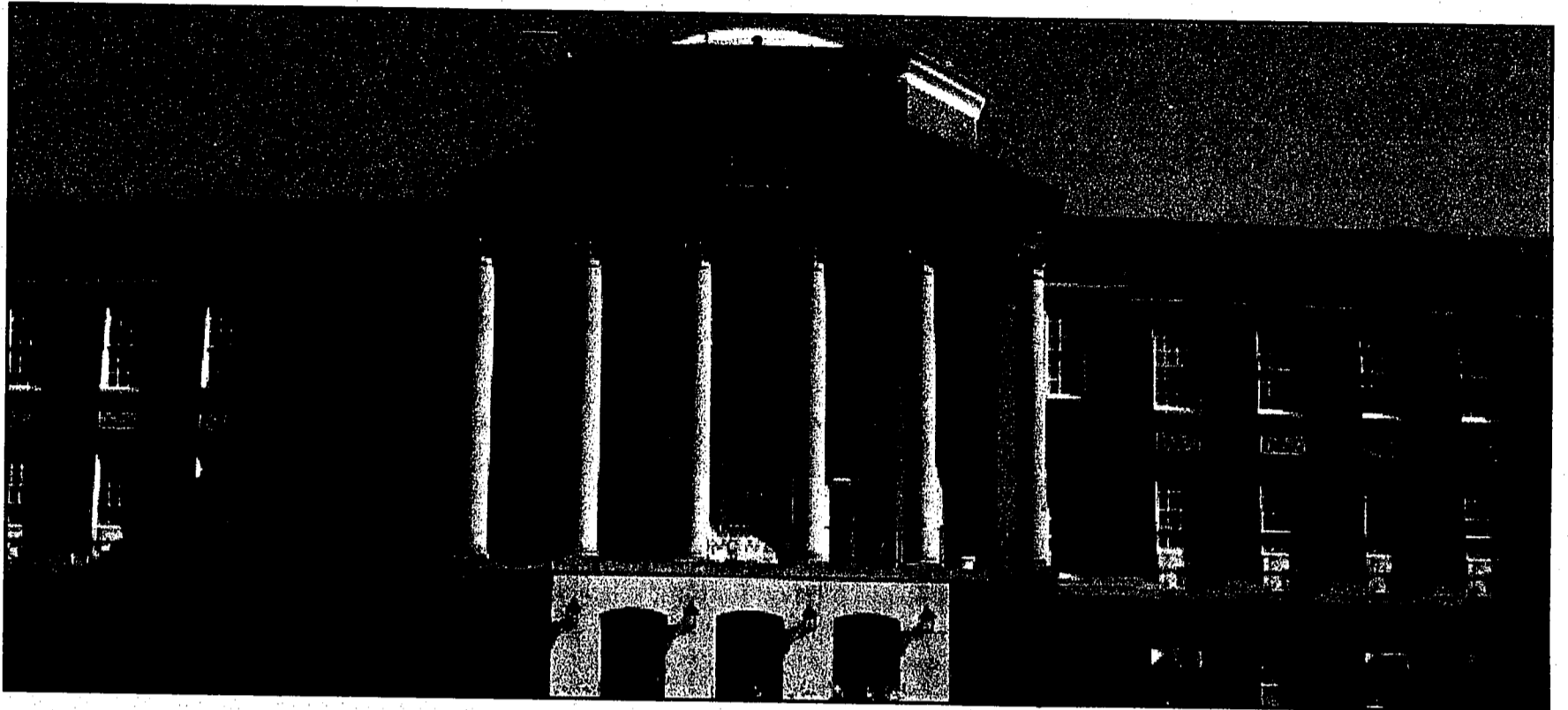
Page 4
Think Green at Meredith College

Page 5
Fall Fashion Preview

Page 6
Victories at the Athletic Field Opener

Page 7
The Kenyan Ambassador's Visit to Meredith College

Page 8
The Consequences of Academic Dishonesty



ELEVEN MAJORS STEPPING IT UP

Elisabeth Lynne Bjork
Staff Writer

She walks into her class the second week of college. An anxious undercurrent of whispers fills the room. She joins them. Then the professor steps in and confirms the rumor: their program might be cut. The students immediately wonder what will happen to them, their career, and their life.

But what the students need to think about is what will happen once they've left. Although the majority of Meredith College students are unaware, this situation is playing out on campus this minute. Eleven different majors at Meredith College are under review by the college for under-enrollment and could possibly be cut from the college's picture. These majors span a wide range that includes French, music, computer science, and women's studies. However, if any drastic cuts take place, they will not affect students currently enrolled in the programs.

So we must look into the future. What would life at Meredith be like without these studies? What was The Wizard of Oz without Technicolor? A nice world, but black and white just the same... What can we do to preserve the color, to provide a positive impact that will last even after we graduate?

The music, dance, and theater programs are all under review. Several departmental heads of programs under scrutiny agreed that Meredith College would experience a great loss if it no longer offered the fine arts. Some felt Meredith would be a weaker college and draw in fewer students. Carol Finley, Associate Professor of Dance and Director of Dance at Meredith College, said the loss of fine arts majors would "create an artistic void."

The French major, while still not heavily enrolled, has increased dramatically in the number of students over the past couple years, according to Dr. Veronique Macheli-

don, head of the French program. Dr. Sherry Shapiro, Director, Department of Women's Studies, pointed out that the women's studies major has been at Meredith for only five years, so naturally it would not have a large number of students enrolled yet.

All the departments under review hope to make a strong case to the review committee. Each feels her department is important and adds to the texture of life here at Meredith. Dr. Machelidon noted that if the French major were gone, students at Meredith would be left with only the option of majoring in Spanish as a foreign language. Dr. Jacquelin Dietz, Head, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, said she was concerned that if the computer science major were cut, it would be hard to get it back and students would be limited.

In addition, heads are concerned with the very little warning they received and the impending deadline to submit their proposals to the review committee. Although several of them think the review in itself is beneficial, they are not keen on the way it has been presented or the method by which only the eleven majors were singled out for review.

Whether or not they agree with the review, they have all thought of great ways to make their programs more well-known and more attractive to students, both at Meredith and in the community. Some of them are highly enthusiastic about the ways in which they can show students their excited programs.

Dr. Machelidon says one solution is to encourage students to double major or at least minor in French. She believes French goes well with many other majors and interests and students should be encouraged to declare their major as early as possible so students can explore options of second majors and/or

minors.

Dr. Dietz plans to eliminate the BA in Computer Information Systems and replace it with a BA in Computer Science. Then, with the availability of both a BS and BA in Computer Science, students don't have to limit themselves to a four-year computer science degree and may pair it with something else. Some departmental heads, including Catherine Rodgers, Department Head, Professor of Theatre, feel the most important project is simply to acquaint people with their program. Dr. Shapiro says the next step for the women's studies major is to introduce it off-campus and expand its recognition.

The music department, led by Dr. Fran Page, involves its students in its quest for increased popularity and enrollment. Dr. Page encourages students to wear stylish Meredith Music Department t-shirts off-campus as well as on, and to attend and help out at a wide variety of musical functions in North Carolina. Some musical events for high school students will be held on Meredith soil this year, and Dr. Page mentions the music faculty and students have many other tricks up their sleeves.

All Meredith students can help spread the word about Meredith's many exciting programs. Meredith bumper stickers and t-shirts always help identify Meredith as a staple in the Raleigh community. Encourage friends to think seriously about the instrument or foreign language they love, or about their interest in religion. Remind them that Meredith hosts many options for the undecided, including women's studies, economics, and computer science. It is time for you to step out of your black and white comfort zone. When you graduate, know that you have made a colorful impact on students for years to come.

Green Tip for the Week of September 2

According to cleanair.org, "Americans throw away 2.5 million bottles every hour." Do you part and buy a reusable water bottle instead of using dozens of plastic bottles.

Visit www.meredith.edu/sustainability/ for more information on recycling.