

SCIENCE & TECH

Green Tip of the Week

courtesy of Laura Fieselman

Do you really need to print? You may not save an entire tree from not printing out that syllabus or that draft or even those notes, but just think: If you and everyone else in your class and the whole school and your office and your house etc... were to prevent themselves from clicking print before thinking if it is necessary, could save a tree from getting cut down to give us those 80,000 sheets of paper.

Source: <http://planetgreen.discovery.com/home-garden/tips-clutter-paperless-existence.html>

Bottling It All Up

Calley Jones, Staff Writer

Some people drink it because it tastes better, or because it's cleaner, or just because it's more convenient. According to Karlstrom and Dell'Amore's National Geographic article, the average American drinks 21 gallons of bottled water each year. In places like Mexico or Africa, drinking bottled water might be a wise precaution. However, the tap water in the US is federally regulated and screened for harmful contaminants preventing the need for bottled water. Despite the readily available clean drinking water here in the States, the bottled water industry sells more gallons than any other beverage industry besides that of beer and soda.

These avoidable bottled water industries cause a horrendous waste of resources. Fossil fuels are burned to transport and cool bottled water. Watersheds are harmed by groundwater pumping. It is estimated by some that in order to produce 1 gallon of bottled water, up to three gallons of water may be required. The plastic bottles rarely end up in the recycling bin and can release harmful chemicals as they decompose in landfills. In an effort to protect the environment, some cities in Australia have banned the sale of bottled water all together. A little closer to home, Chicago has placed a special tax on bottled water. San Francisco and Seattle do not pur-

chase bottled water for city use.

In addition to harming the environment, bottled water may pose a health threat. Bottled water is more likely to be contaminated than tap water. Most bottled waters are sold in containers meant only for single-use however; they are still being reused by lots of people. These plastics can leach harmful chemicals; one in particular is a suspected carcinogen.

So the next time you're thirsty, think about filling up your Nalgene instead of heading to the vending machine. Not only is your health at risk, but also protection of the environment.

SPORTS

New Intramural Program at Meredith!

Jillian Curtis, Staff Writer

Starting this spring, Meredith College will have a new intramural sports program available to all students. The intramural program is open to everyone, not just athletes, and it is intended to be a fun, active way for students to get together and participate in sports. So far this spring they have already had a meet & greet bonfire and a volleyball tournament open to everyone who signed up. The program is run by Junior Mary Woessner. Woessner's goal in creating this program was to make sports more accessible to the student body.

"There are really no opportunities for non-varsity athletes to participate in recreational sports outside of Physical Education classes. I think everyone should have the opportunity to participate in sports, and with

intramural sports its not about the competition or winning. It's really just about having the opportunity to come together with friends and have fun playing a variety of different sports," stated Woessner.

In addition to the volleyball tournament, the program will also have a 3 week, 6 verses 6, flag football tournament. On the first day of the tournament there will be a kickoff event complete with food and beverages. Like all of their events, the tournament is open to all that are interested. If you want to participate, you can stop by the Weatherspoon Annex and fill out a sign up sheet.

Intramurals at Meredith have appeared from time to time throughout the years, but so far there hasn't been a consistent program. Much of this is due to a lack of monetary

Player of the Week

Jillian Curtis, Staff Writer

This issue's Player of the Week is senior Kathryn Maples. Maples is this year's co-captain of the 2010 Tennis Team. Her leadership skills along with her talent on the court has enabled her to become one of the most vital assets on the team. Maples is hoping to lead her team to success this season.

"We have a lot of talent on the team this year and I think we will do pretty well. We are working hard in preparation for the Conference Tournament," commented Maples.

Maples love for the game began in the seventh grade. She currently plays both singles and doubles on the squad, but currently holds the number one singles position on the team. Her favorite parts of playing at Meredith is forming friendships with her teammates and being able to compete at a collegiate level.

In addition to playing tennis, Maples is also a dedicated student with a double major in both Business Administration and Fashion Merchandising and a minor in Marketing.

funding as a result of what appears to be lack of interest and participation on behalf of the student body. In order for this program to really take off, students are encouraged to show their support by signing up and participat-

ing in the events. Student feedback and participation are what will make this new intramural program successful.

