



Recyclable Items in the trash on campus. Photo by Julia Dent

Campus Sustainability Efforts Not As Green As Advertised

Julia Dent and Alexis Stout

Campus Analysis – It's hard to walk around campus and not see large blue recycling bins, signs for the Daisy Trade and posters advertising the environmental sustainability major. But if you look beneath the sustainable surface, how "green" is Meredith?

While Meredith advertises to recycle plastic bottles, only bottles with the recycling numbers one and two are accepted for recycling. The city of Raleigh accepts plastics numbers one through five and number seven, and it is now against the law in North Carolina to throw away these plastics. Meredith's contract is with American Recycler, and they take the recycling to Sonoco, where it's shipped to other markets to be melted. Grounds Manager, Aaron Schettler, reports that "Meredith doesn't accept higher plastics is because it isn't cost efficient, and it has a very low market. In order to melt these plastics, they have to have higher temperatures, in which it is hard to recycle locally."

Other recyclable items like tin and paperboard are also not recycled at Meredith. Schettler is currently looking into having a commingled recycling program for these products to be picked up once or twice a month.

There are many other recyclables whose bins are hard to find on campus. Cardboard receptacles are only located behind the Cate Center, apartments and dining hall, so many departments don't recycle their cardboard. The art

department's dumpster is always full of cardboard at the beginning of the semesters from the all of the cardboard boxes that the art supplies come in. Glass can also be recycled by the library, behind the Cate Center and behind the apartments, but many people don't utilize these facilities.

And why recycle these products on campus at all? "It's important because it saves valuable landfill space and resources used in the manufacturing of packaging and paper," says Dr. Erin Lindquist, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Paper towels and toilet paper are among the many of the recyclables that travel from Meredith College to landfills, and they cost the college about \$5,250 every month according to John Wilson, the purchasing coordinator for the Facilities Department. This financial and environmental impact could be lessened by installing hand-dryers across campus. Companies like Excel Dryer produce "green" hand dryers like the XLERATOR hand dryer that uses 76 kilojoules per use compared to 743 kilojoules one paper towel takes to produce, according to their website. They also say that once installed, the XLERATOR hand dryer has a 90 to 95 percent cost savings since paper towels aren't used.

In addition to recycling efforts, Meredith also has compost, local foods and energy conservation programs that may not -- cont. on page 7

Cornhuskin' History Holds Fun Facts

collected by Marzia Nawrozi, compiled by Amy Hruby

Fall brings the rustle of corn to Hillsborough Street as Cornhuskin' season begins. Students across campus are frantically finalizing costumes, skits and songs for the main event Nov. 6 at 6 p.m. in the Amphitheater. Before it begins again, take a look back at past campus newspaper coverage of Meredith's most experiential tradition.

Oct. 26, 1945

Athletic Association Schedules All-Student Husking Bee

"The Athletic Association has announced definite plans for the all-student Husking Bee party which is to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 30 in honor of the new students."

Oct. 31, 1958

New Contest Added

"Hoola-hooping [sic] has been added to the list of contests this year, and pie-eating and cow-milking have been dropped."

Nov. 3, 1977

Changes in Cornhuskin'

"Cornhuskin' was introduced at Meredith in 1945 by Miss Doris Peterson, head of the physical education department. Being a Kansas native, she knew corn 'shucks' as corn 'husks,' so she called the contest Cornhuskin'. The first year contests consisted of corn husking, hog calling, chicken calling, apple bobbing, relay races, and folk dances. ... Today, Cornhuskin' has evolved into a parade, hog calling, tall tales, class songs, apple bobbing, and corn husking." --Cindy Bizzell

Nov. 8, 1995

Fifty years of magic

"The first Cornhuskin' was held in the Dining Hall, with events beginning at 6:15 p.m. and ending at 8:15 p.m. Following the class competitions, the Folk Dance Club performed for both students and faculty in the courtyard. The competition was judged on showing 'pure corn and hillbilly-ishness.' ... The only class to be victorious all four years was the class of 1960." --Carol Swink

Nov. 11, 1998

Capture the Corn

"School spirit, strategy and fun are what made up Meredith's first game of 'Capture the Corn' last Wednesday

afternoon. This field activity, based on the game 'Capture the Flag,' was coordinated by MRA to replace the normal Cornhuskin' tradition of raiding the President's house. On any other Cornhuskin' Wednesday night, all the classes would have gotten together to sneak through the woods to serenade the college president at his home. This year, however, with no president to serenade, Cornhuskin' needed an alternate activity. Kate Breen, an MRA Cornhuskin' co-chair, came up with the idea." --Kristen Bostedo

Nov. 4, 2009

Time to Get Corny

"Cornhuskin' is an event simply too big to be contained within Meredith's campus. When practices begin, nearly the entire Raleigh area knows. People ask, 'isn't Meredith starting to play with corn, or whatever it is they do this time of year?'" --Anna Turner

John Creagh Memorial Scholarship Established, Accepting Applicants

Meredith faculty/staff are invited to nominate students, and students are invited to apply, for the first John Creagh Memorial Scholarship Award. Dr. Creagh was a beloved Meredith faculty member of theater and communication for 23 years, before he succumbed to cancer just before Easter 2007. Thanks to donations from Dr. Creagh's family, students, friends, and colleagues, a grant of \$1200 is anticipated, to be awarded for spring semester 2013. Students with a demonstrated interest in communication, theater, and literature are invited to apply, particularly those who contribute to the diversity of the college. Each application should consist of an application letter (one page) by the student and a letter of nomination and support by a faculty or staff member of the college community. Students may pick up an application form from faculty members in Communication, Theatre, and English. Applications and nominations must be completed by Nov 26. Please deliver applications to Ms. Cindy Bell, Administrative Assistant, Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Joyner 230.

NEWS BRIEFS

The World Series is scheduled to begin on Wednesday. / Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized as the first Native American saint. / Hundreds of meteors passed through the sky Sunday night as Earth passed through Halley's comet's path. / The FDA confirmed its investigation of whether five deaths could be linked to Monster Energy Drink, causing its shares to fall 14 percent. / Lance Armstrong was stripped of his cycling titles after allegations of him doping for the Tour de France. / Activists in South Korea flew balloons carrying tens of thousands anti-Pyongyang flyers into North Korea. / A Dubai café is now selling camel lattes, camel-ccinos and camel meat fajitas.