

THE HERALD

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Current Corny-ness

Sarah Cullen, Staff Writer

While some of the traditions of Cornhuskin' have come and gone, such as Do-Nut competitions and faux cow milking, a lot of what current Meredith students relate to this beloved pastime have been events that have filled Meredith College girls' memories since corn began in 1945.

Cornhuskin' begins officially on the first weekend in November, and starts with a parade the afternoon of the event. While the individual seniors organize what exactly will go into their special time, past parades have included sports cars, golf carts, bicycles and scooters – all decorated in corn-themed attire. This has always been a way to kick start Cornhuskin' and get everyone excited for the night's events.

After the parade, the day becomes a blur of apple-bobbin', cornshuckin', hog-calling', tall tales and well-rehearsed skits and dances. Corn was initially started as a way to honor the freshman class, and while that may no longer be the purpose of Corn, a portion of that dedication re-

mains at the true heart of Corn which is to unify and bring together all students at Meredith whether they be freshman or sophomore, odd or even, an oddball or a bathtub ring singer. The theme of unity has become an essential part of the Cornhuskin' we know today. With unity t-shirts and banners proclaiming love towards each and every class, those messages are more than just an attempt to win more spirit points.

It is this unity that truly makes Cornhuskin' what it is, what it always has been, and what it will continue to be after all of this year's Corn participants have come, graduated, and gone. It is why Corn has remained a strong and favorite tradition for so many, for so long. And it is with this in mind, that it is no surprise the number of alumna that show up every year in support of the angels who enjoy it now.

And remember, may the odds and evens be ever in your favor.



Cornhuskin 2013 via Julia Dent



Cornhuskin 1981 via meredith.edu



Cornhuskin 1967 via meredith.edu

History of Cornhuskin'

Katrina Thomas, Staff Writer

As this fall reaches its peak, many students are becoming crazy for Cornhuskin'! Most everyone on campus has heard of this class competition, but they may not know much about its history. This tradition first took place in 1945. Before Cornhuskin' first took place, the biggest fall fling was based on medieval festivals in Italy.

Despite today's fierce competition, Corn was originally intended as an event to welcome new freshmen. It featured the familiar events of hog-calling and cornshuckin', as well as chicken calling; however, many other activities were absent. Initially a one-day event viewed from the courtyard and the BDH steps, Cornhuskin' has expanded campus-wide blowout requiring a ticket to see it in the amphitheater. Events like can art and hall raids take place throughout the week, and preparatory activities like rehearsals and decorating the campus often begin more than a month in advance.

The event really started to take off in the 1950s and 1960s, beginning with a location change to Jones Hall in 1951. Themes were allowed in 1957 for the sophomore class and for everyone the following year. True to its culinary name, from 1957 to 1960, Corn got three new food-related events: cow milking, pie eating and a Donut (catching) Con-



Cornhuskin 1952 via meredith.edu

test. 1960 added to the mix with the incorporation of apple bobbing.

While Cornhuskin is a blast, you need to use good judgment in order for it to go as smoothly as possible, and looking at its history can help you establish some ground rules. For one thing, all the practices, decorating, and other events and activities can be time-consuming, but you shouldn't skip class. Faculty angels are watching over your attendance habits and have been for 50 years, so if you cut class, you cut down your class's score due to lost participation points. Furthermore, the parade and the main competition have been on Friday night since 1995, so you'll have a full weekend to recover afterwards. From loud hall raids to signs declaring class dominance, trash talk and pranks have their place in

Cornhuskin', but the ultimate goal is unity. Do you really want to be like the 1976 students whose hot-water-dumping earned them a place of disgrace online? All in all, when it comes to Cornhuskin', have fun, use good sense, and be grateful for the people who started this wonderful event!

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