

The Meredith Herald

January 27, 2016

Dining Hall Superheroes

Emily Chilton, Assistant Editor



When the snow and ice set in Friday, most regular restaurants would have shut down, sent their workers home - but not BDH. The Dining Hall went to Emergency preparedness mode and worked with housing and campus police to secure rooms should they be needed. Campus Dining posted a picture Friday afternoon on their Instagram account Meredith_Dining of their staff receiving blankets, pillows, and other essentials before their dinner shift, so that they could stay overnight and continue serving the students without driving on dangerous roads or leaving students with an empty stomach.

Ms. Lahoma Smith wasn't working

Friday, but she stayed Saturday night to Sunday and said that if she had been working Friday, she would have stayed then too. "I've been with Meredith for 13 years and stayed for five snowstorms," said Smith. "If my kids were in college, I'd want someone to take care of my babies just like your parents want someone to take care of you. Here, we got a lot of love, concern, passion, and great food." She worked the omelet station Sunday at lunch, replying to student questions about what she did yesterday with "I worked, and then I went straight to Poteat and went to sleep."

According to Del Crudup, Belk's hourly supervisor, who's worked for Meredith 15 years and stayed for snow twice, the men stayed on the ground floor of Poteat while the women stayed on first floor. The two managers coordinated and transported employees to and from work when it was safe to do so, picking people up for work and also taking them home after their shift if they couldn't stay overnight.

The student response to the staff's efforts was immediate; the Instagram post got over 150 likes and 45+ com-

ments with thank-yous and praise, even some from parents. After seeing some of the comments, staff member Rodney Freeman said gratefully "That'll make you want to come to work, right there."

The Meredith College Alumnae page also received over 1300+ likes and a ton of comments. Alumnae Jordan Stewart said "This shows that ALL things about this college are what make it so special and sets Meredith apart from the rest."

Did you know that Meredith staff with Oak Leaf catering also catered a wedding this weekend in Pinehurst for staff member Stephen McAdams? But that's a whole other story for another time.

So, as students have been reminding each other all weekend, stop and say thank you to a BDH worker this week!

In the time since this article was written, Ms. Lahoma Smith's house was lost to a fire. A GoFundMe page has been created to help support her and can be found on Facebook or at <https://www.gofundme.com/7377khtq>. Although the dollar amount has ex-

ceeded the "goal" on the page, contributions are still welcome. In addition, a collection box is set up in BDH to help replace Ms. Lahoma and her husband's belongings; women's clothes size 16 and shoes size 9; men's clothes size 3XL and shoe size 11.5.



The Sack Arrived, but the Leggings Shall Stay

Brooke Mayo, Staff Writer

In lieu of our special anniversary year, The Herald staff has decided to dust off the old newspapers of our college's past and bring to light what former Meredith women have written. This is the first of a series of excerpts from long-forgotten MC newspapers, and we hope that the Meredith community enjoys a blast from our very own past as much as we have enjoyed gathering this information for you.

An excerpt from "The Sack Arrives" by Sue Matzner, originally published on March 14, 1958.

"[A] desirable feature is the fact that girls who wear sack dresses can eat so much more when they go out on a dinner date. They won't have to wait until they get in and get their tight belts or skirts off to let their dinner place itself more proportionally in their systems.

Think of the comfort that these girls will have at ball games and movies while their more tightly laced sisters sit on the edge of their seats striving

for oxygen. Imagine being able to enjoy the plush roominess of the Village Theater instead of envying your date's relaxed positions."

For those who do not know, sack dresses look what they sound like: they're straight, roomy dresses that leave much to the imagination - especially just how big or small a woman's waistline is. Even in the late 1950's, women of Meredith College were conscious about their body types but they also desired comfort, so sack dresses were a revolutionary trend because it was comfortable, acceptable, and yet still fashionable.

In today's Meredith College culture, we have strayed from the need to make fashion statements. In fact, the majority of us do not make too much of an effort in our appearances when it comes to our campus activities. Why is that?

Well, for one thing, we care more about comfort than fashion. Excluding a few given exceptions of our trendy fashionistas, the majority of Meredith

women may be seen wearing leggings and/or yoga pants at least once a week - if not every day. Many women do not see the point of wearing anything that isn't completely comfortable just to sit in classes or attend club meetings, and these clothes are something that women of all sizes tend to wear. Plus, we are surrounded by women, many of whom are wearing similar clothing, so it isn't considered a big deal.

A good reason that many modern Meredith women - and collegiate women all over the nation, for that matter - wear leggings and yoga pants is because, well, we can. Back in the 1950's, there was a strict understanding about what women could and could not wear - especially at our then-Baptist all women's college. Nearly sixty years later, the times have definitely changed. Women have more freedom when it comes to what we wish to wear, and we have decided ourselves what we consider appropriate.

While stretchy pants are generally acceptable, many women still refuse

to wear pajama pants to class because it seems disrespectful. Similarly, the controversy about wearing leggings only when the buttocks are covered by a shirt is another fashion dispute that varies depending on whom is asked, as well as if these types of pants ought to be worn by women above a certain size.

No matter how one feels about leggings or yoga pants, they're here to stay in our Meredith community. It's interesting to compare our lives now to how Meredith women once lived, and it's a powerful thing realizing that we aren't as different as we often think. Just like their excitement for sack dresses, we understand the need and desire of being comfortable during our day-to-day lives. Plus, we have bigger things to worry about.

The original article about the sack dresses may be found at our Herald website at meredithherald.wordpress.com. Access to this article has been made courtesy of the MC Archives.

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The editors and staff always welcome submissions from the Meredith community.