

# The Meredith Herald

October 26, 2016

## Ghosts of MC

Carolina Brust, Staff Writer

Halloween: that one time of year that you can enjoy a bowl of candy alone and wear what you want without any shame. And with costumes and candy come ghosts. We all have a ghost story, or at least know someone that does. Meredith College is no exception to this, having its own fair share of paranormal ghouls. Throughout the years, Angels have reported strange sightings on campus, in their residence halls, and even in the elevator. In spirit of the Halloween season, I present to you... Ghosts of Meredith College.

According to legend, Molly was a sophomore resident of Brewer when she discovered she was

pregnant. With the father of the child unknown, she decided to save herself from the scandal by jumping down the elevator shaft. Her body is said to reside in the basement of Brewer and her spirit haunts the elevator to this day. Rumor has it that every time you ride the elevator, you have to be nice to the resident ghost or face the consequences. "I've had some friends that were taken to the basement instead of the first floor at Brewer, they said it really creepy!" said Torie Tracy. The weird thing is, there is no button to the basement but a key hole instead. The only way to get down there is either with a key or have someone

in the basement call for the elevator. Remember this next time you get on the elevator, and give a little hello to Molly for me.

The other ghosts of MC are recorded in the archives of the Meredith Herald, previously named The Twig. In an article appropriately titled "Ghost on Campus...Aaaag!", a former staff writer writes about the ghosts on campus during the '90s and recounts her own experiences. "The most well-known haunt is in 4th Brewer...a student hanged herself and haunts the hall to this day. Moaning fills the silences - though I'm told she stops if you ask her to," writes

Ginny Bonkemeyer. How sweet, just like our dear friend Molly. Bonkemeyer continues to tell of a ghost that scaled the trees of Stringfield and peeked through the windows. The last ghost is a personal favorite to Bonkemeyer, by the name of Casper. "My loyalties will always remain with our little friend...in my 1st Vann bathroom. Casper would move the bathroom door and cast shadowy lights...but he always kept us company."

Do you have any ghost stories to share? Have a Happy Halloween and keep an eye out for your neighborhood spirits!

## The Experience - Corn-tastrophes and All

Teressa Berton, Staff Writer

It's the most wonderful time of the year! That's right, Cornhuskin' is here! While many students here on campus will be a part of this beloved Meredith tradition, few know its history on campus. Cornhuskin' has been a part of campus life since its conception in 1945 as the Meredith College Corn Shucking Bee. The tradition was originally intended to be a way to welcome freshmen to campus, but quickly became the class-wide competition that we know and love.

In its earliest years, Cornhuskin' was made up of many events, some familiar, like the parade and hog callin', and others less familiar. Some of the less familiar events include cow milkin', where students made their own cows compete, or the hillbilly couples' dance. In the hillbilly

couples' dance competition, students would dress in their best hillbilly costumes and perform a dance. Over time, more events were added, like tall tale and apple bobbin', and competition continued to escalate. By the 1960s, the competition heated up with water pranks and other pranks on dorms. In 1976, safety regulations were put into place, creating what we know today as Hall Raids, as well as safety guidelines for competition. As time has gone by, more events have been added including tall tale, skit, and the sing-song competition which has transformed into the class song event.

However, Corn is not always 100% fun all the time. Everyone knows that as Cornhuskin' approaches and tensions rise, it can seem as

if Cornhuskin' is bringing nothing but disasters. Whether it be a reign of terror to your sleep schedule or making day-to-day life a little more hectic, the current struggles of Corn season are nothing compared to the corn-tastrophies of the past.

We have all heard rumors of the insanity that was Cornhuskin' before the implementation of the rules of conduct in 1976. Maybe you have heard the unconfirmed story of a sneaky student who fell through the roof of Jones Auditorium while spying on the senior class' preparations. Other catastrophes were the water pranks played on students by upperclassmen, as well as damage to college property. Water pranks often consisted of students pouring boiling water down from the breezeways

between Stringfield and Vann onto unsuspecting victims. Thankfully, today the only remaining pranking traditions are hall raids.

Over the years, Cornhuskin' has continued to be a beloved tradition, that has grown and evolved with the college becoming a unifying force across campus. As times have changed, we can be thankful that we have found a happy balance in our Cornhuskin' festivities. With the rules of conduct in place, we can focus on unity as a college, and become even cornier together. Whether keeping students up all night, bringing Odds and Evens together, or joining alumnae across generations, Cornhuskin' is a tradition worth experiencing.

## Women of MC

Seung Pang, Staff Writer

Neema Kimaru:

"The BLM protest was important to me because it forced students, faculty, and staff on our campus to acknowledge the issue of police brutality among innocent African Americans, as well as other minorities. For some people it's easy to ignore that this is an issue. You can turn off the news, the radio, block things out on social media, but it's hard to ignore a group of over 100 people dressed in all black, laying in the grass protesting on your way to class. I appreciated that the Black Student Union offered a discussion session the following day so that people could come together, learn, and discuss change."



Leena Torky:

"Being here at Meredith has been the biggest confidence boost for me. Being at a women's college surrounded by smart, driven, and caring individuals has really helped me get so involved and learn a lot about myself in the process. My amazing Big, Taylor Hudgins, started the FEM club (Female Empowerment at Meredith) during my freshman year and I have been involved ever since. Bri Crumbley was the second president of the club and really helped to get me even more involved in campus activities, and I really look up to her as a role model. This year is my first as president of FEM, and I couldn't be happier. Meeting every week with such awesome and intelligent folks to discuss all sorts of intersectional feminist topics feels like a dream. This organization is a safe place for women and gender-nonconforming

individuals to talk about important issues, and most importantly to learn and grow from one another. It has truly been one of the most enriching and empowering experiences for me, and I look forward to every meeting. There's just so much to learn from all the amazing people on this campus!"



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