



## To The Editor...

Dear Editor,

"THE" South abounds with persistent myths: that we all (not unlike "you all") talk like the Shake and Bake commercial, that all "men" are gentlemen, that life after death is found in your geneology, and that "girls" should go to a "girls school" for two years and then transfer to T.H.E. University. But like all good southerners we find ways to question the validity of such misconceptions.

It seems that the proverbial sophomore malaise has struck Salem C.: transferitis non knowumwhy. Everyone at one point or another questions their college choice and if they don't question their choice, they question why they are not questioning, well everybody else is aren't they??? The unfortunate aspect of transferitis non knowumwhy is that one battles it with alot of hindsight and often too little foresight, knowing what the past year and a half at Salem have done for them, but having no idea what the next two and a half could, should or will. Having once been a sophomore and having spent many a night in the Genetics lab questioning more than my college choice (i.e. my sanity, my physical state), I thought maybe I could afford you sophomores a bit of hindsight, prejudicial.

All myths have a beginning, most in ancient Greece or Rome. Though ours has no Mycenaean origin, it has one equally as archaic, the 'ole South, where men were men and women were housewives, Back then, Daddy packed "Sweetie Pie" off to a "Girls' School" to learn the skills of gracious living and then shipped her into the market (i.e. the male market) hoping that somewhere between the sorority house and the soda shop she'd nab herself a "Good 'ole Boy," a son-in-law, a !!PROVIDER... Well, fortunately most "girls' schools" are, like hoop skirts, a thing of the past. Today, "Women's Colleges" are focusing on the needs of today's woman, developing her mind, her organizational abilities as well as her culinary skills. Women's Colleges are tackling a big task: teaching women to blend a gracious lifestyle with an exciting career. Salem, I feel, is leading the southern women's colleges in this respect.

You have such an opportunity to indulge yourself at Salem with four years of discovering who you are, learning your outer most limits as well as your limitations. An education is much more than learning to conjugate irregular verbs in French. Its developing your ability to discern what is important to you and why. Salem, for me was the perfect academic Petri dish, giving me not only the liberal arts background that I treasure, but also the desire for life long learning. I attribute that largely to the professors I had at Salem professors who were more interested in my development than in "publishing or perishing" or their pet graduate students. Somewhere along the way my professors here nurtured my condifence and for the first time in my life I started thinking that maybe there was intelligent life in the vacuous reaches between my ears.

Salem also afforded me what is a rare opportunity for women, a chance to make my own friends, friends who weren't just wives of my potential husband's business associates, etc. Its incredible now to see what my Salem friends are doing, writing masters' thesises, taking care of you (and me) at the infirmary etc. Salem, through S.G.A., class activies and various organizations, gives you an opportunity to learn to accept responsibility, an ability that increases exponentially over the years. My friends in the business world, in graduate school, etc. have a pleasant self assurance about them now, not a brashness, but a simple self confidence that will carry

them far. I remember what a fairly homogeneous Freshman class we were, similar goals, similar backgrounds... 193 grey sweat suited strong. Then over the four years we watched each other develop skills, master concepts and launch into lifestyles, Senior year when everyone was applying to graduate schools. getting jobs, making life plans, we were all doing it together, realizing how far we had come together and how far we'd go together. Excitement then was sitting on the steps of Sisters sharing job offers, acceptances to graduate schools and even marriage proposals as if they were our very own.

Now, I'm no Pollyanna and I don't feel that Salem is for everyone. She's only for those who realize what a treasure she is. One complaint that is often voiced about Salem is that she shelters you from the real world. Granted, maybe to a certain extent she does. However, the four years I spent here showed me the BEST of the world and enable me to meet the "not so best" of the world not with a tainted cynicism, but with a desire to work toward something better, toward the life and the kind of people that I know here.

So, Sophomores, in battling your malaise, look around you, treasure Salem's nooks and crannies. Some afternoon walk through campus when the sun is setting, notice the tiled roof of the Alumni House, the George Washington Spring House... and think about what a place this is to ponder, to grow- Salem offers so much more than an education. If you still feel under, ask a senior or an "oldster" like me what your years here is like, then sit back and prepare to hear an epistle.

Kem Mims

Dear Editor,

It has come to our attention in observing the habits formulated over the course of the first two months of this school year that you, in your laziness and apathy, have disregarded all requests to "STAY OFF THE GRASS!!!" If, by chance, this request has not been stated simply enough for your understanding we will attempt to aid you further in hopes of salvaging the few blades of grass yet living. (YES! THERE ARE A FEW!)

In an earlier issue of the Salemite, an excellent summary of the situation and its alternatives was made. Why must immaturity and sheer carelessness pervade the actions of Salem girls? If it is a lack of energy which causes you to continually tread a cowpath across the lawns, let us put your mind to rest: for the average person, it takes approximately 32 steps to walk across the "cowpath" as opposed to 43 steps for those who choose the cobblestone walkways. (We regret that our research led us to walk the "cowpath" ourselves.) Taking this to heart, we have no doubts that the health conscious girls of Salem, repeatedly found jogging, playing tennis or hockey, and dieting their lives away, will choose the longer path.

We rest our case!  
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P.S. After a lunch of beef stew, mashed potatoes, salad, and ten chocolate chip cookies, it might help to take a few extra steps -- even if you're not dieting!

## Management Seminar Successful

This past Wednesday the Junior League of Winston-Salem sponsored a seminar and presentation on leadership-management techniques and staff-board relations. The featured speaker was L. Renshaw Fortier, a nationally recognized management consultant. His appearance here is part of the Junior League's Community Leadership Training Seminar.

Interested Salem students and faculty were invited to attend the morning workshop off campus and the evening "Leadership Roles in Effecting Change" lecture in the Salem Fine Arts Center. Student participation and response to both sessions were excellent. Everyone who attended the programs found them not only interesting and valuable for future reference, but also very helpful in the current management of school affairs.

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## Tell It To Exec. Board

Have you ever had a brilliant idea concerning campus life but did not know who you should tell it to? Have you ever had a gripe eating away at your stomach and wanted to have some action taken on it? So have you ever wondered where the phantom Executive Board of our Student Government hides out?

Executive Board officers can now be found at the Back Door every morning - usually around 10 to 11:30. Executive Board wants more student input and participation, so come on and have a cup of coffee with us at the Back Door. We want to discuss campus life or any other aspect of Salem College that is on your mind!

Diana Jolliff  
SGA Secretary

Executive Board Members:  
Connie Caldwell  
Kate Wallace  
Paula Myers  
Susanne McCaskill  
Diana Jolliff

## THE SALEMITE

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