

## Editorial

Dear Editor,

As a college newspaper, the Salemite leaves much to be desired. We are disappointed in the overall quality of the publication and would like to take this opportunity to elaborate further.

Issue after issue, the same kind of mistakes prevail; misspellings, incorrect usage of words, grammatical mistakes and awkward sentence structure. We regret that it is necessary to write this letter, but it is our contention that the Salemite is an embarrassment to the name "Salem College." It is unfortunate that such blatant mistakes as "The faculty themselves make their own groups..." and "This year Salem instigated the degree program into its curriculum..." should ever appear in our college newspaper. Perhaps more thorough examination of the copy prior to its being sent to press will alleviate these errors. We truly hope so.

If us don't tries to fix them errores then we doesn't need any newspepper at salem College.

Sincerely,  
Darcy Camp  
Sarah Parsons

I received this letter to the editor late on Tuesday afternoon accompanied by an appropriately corrected copy of last week's Salemite.

As deeply as Ms. Camp and Ms. Parsons regretted the necessity of writing the above letter I sincerely regret the equal necessity of having to formulate a response for two reasons. My first reason deals exclusively with time as a limited quantity and my second is the Salemite itself as misunderstood quality.

I mention time, because with the deadline for our final issue of the year being only hours away I feel it is a gross injustice to all the members of the Salem Community the paper serves that mine is the only response this letter shall have. I must question why, if each issue of the paper has offended Ms. Camp and Ms. Parsons, they have waited until this not only late, but terminal date, to voice their criticisms. I must wonder what self-deception and naivete I have allowed myself this year. At no point in time have I felt that the Salemite is "an embarrassment to the name 'Salem College.'" The verbal, and therefore unrecorded, responses that staff has received throughout the year have been more than positive, and also incredibly supportive. Students, faculty and administration have communicated with us in a manner unparalleled within our memories and records. I have felt that the Salemite has fairly, thoroughly and proudly represented our College. Each issue of the paper this year has illustrated what I sincerely believe to have been the best efforts of a small group within a small school.

This brings me to the

"overall quality" of the Salemite which has disappointed Ms. Camp and Ms. Parsons. It has been our standing policy on staff to not only welcome, but encourage constructive criticism. We have sought out the opinions of those we serve, and those who are knowledgeable in our field of endeavor. We have listened to their criticism and we have adapted and altered accordingly.

To those who have worked on the Salemite this year the hours have been long and the work has been demanding. The challenge of printing a weekly newspaper (a feat few small colleges manage) that will enlighten, entertain and be a proud and true emblem of its school has spurred us on. I feel this challenge has been more than aptly met. We have made the changes in our policies and format to ensure not only a weekly publication that is at the heart of the school, but one that shall remain there as long as there are students to accept the summons to its contest. A skeleton staff "leaves much to be desired," the Salemite does not. I realize that we are neither the New York Times or the Daily Tar Heel, but neither do we realistically aspire to be. I would have to be deaf, dumb and blind to believe that there is no need for improvement in our efforts. Yet I know of no one, no office, or no organization on any crevice of this campus that would not honestly admit said same. Our task is Sisyphian: our errors shall be corrected to the best of our capacities, as others assuredly shall arise. This shall not discourage or waiver us from what we attempt; for it is expected and necessary for servitude without slavitude and growth without malformity.

Laura Castellanos del Valle

## Letters

Dear Editor,

How delighted we were to wake Monday morning and find a loading zone in front of Bitting! At last, we thought Mr. Talbert had gotten the message that the residents of Bitting were in dire need of such a space. Our gratitude changed to confusion when we found Mr. Zimmerman and an assistant blacking out the zone later during the day. We inquired as to why the zone was being removed. He explained that the loading zone was not authorized by the College nor by the city, and thus had to be removed.

This incident raises two issues. First, whoever painted the loading zone realized a longtime need for such a facility. Bitting residents have been told that they are free to load and unload their cars at anytime; however, repeatedly tickets have been issued by the city, and College Security has threatened to call tow trucks (sometimes calling without threats) when cars have been parked only a short time. Notes left by the driver specifying to security that loading was in process and

that the car would be removed directly have gone unnoticed. Obviously, the need for an official zone is one deserving immediate attention and action. Need we say more?

The second issue involves security. Mr. Zimmerman explained that the zone was painted between 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 a.m. Monday. The painting must have involved much time. A hasty job would have been apparent. Where, we ask, were the security guards between 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 a.m. Monday? Why weren't these nocturnal artists discovered? It concerns us that such an act could take place without being noticed. Our only relief is that this act was a harmless one and not one of a more serious nature. Let this letter end as a pat on the back to whoever painted the zone, and a poke in the side to those who have ignored our plea for a loading zone and tighter security.

Sincerely,

Liz Boyd, Ann Miller, Kate Wallace, Robin Masey, Kate Mayer, Cindy Taylor, Joanne Skafudas, Connie Sherman, Beth Richardson, Amy deCourt

Dear Salem students, faculty and staff members,

Many thanks to all of you for making this year so special for us.

It has been a great experience to stay at Salem, a school with such a good spirit and so many old traditions.

It is a very nice feeling to be able to bring back so many wonderful Salem-memories to Sweden.

Special thanks to two very outstanding "roomies."

See ya,  
Marie & Gunilla



Salemite Senior Staff - So Long, Amanda and Ann!

## THE SALEMITE

Printed by Lindsay Publishing Co. and published every Friday of the College year by the Student Body of Salem College.

Editor-Laura Castellanos del Valle  
Associate Editor-Missy Littleton  
Layout Editor-Pam Snyder  
Feature Editor-Kim King  
Co-editors of Photography-Persia Thomson  
Laura Babb  
Business Manager-Giselle Thompson  
Assistant to Bus. Mgr.-LaVerne Hales  
Advertising Manager-Kate Langsenkamp  
Circulation Manager-Nancy Coudr et  
Cartoonist-Caroline Ivester, Julia Owen

Salemite, staff meetings every Tuesday,  
3:30 p.m. Salemite office.



## Speak Out-Cont'd.

My efforts beyond academics while I have been here at Salem have been on making life better for students. Through Student Government and work in the dorm I have had opportunity to be confronted with problems in student life.

I believe now I can make some suggestions as to how student life can be made better.

First of all, we students need to see examples in the lives of those around us for what we should be and what we can be.

If reasonable behavior is exemplified around us, we will be more responsible. If we sense a spirit of cooperation within the college structure, we will be more cooperative.

Second, we need to know that everyone here cares about Salem as an institution. Each of us, whether student, faculty, or administrator has an investment in Salem College.

We need to know that we are respected and taken seriously as students. We are learning to be professional in classroom situations as well

as in our Student Government dealings. Respect is earned, of course, and we expect to earn it. Keep in mind that we are not totally sure of ourselves, that we are still learning; but when we want changes and have valid reasons for wanting the changes, look at our proposals objectively and judge them on their merits. When we earn respect, be willing to give it to us.

We need to know that we are cared about. Show us that you have time for us not only as students, but as people. I guarantee that we will work harder and be much more pleasant to be around. And we will show you that we care about you.

Finally, show us that you realize it is difficult to be a student - and it is difficult. I am not saying let us off easy or have infinite compassion, but put yourselves in our places every now and then.

I have learned from experience that problems do not get solved unless someone is willing to stick her neck out and make some suggestions. I believe that life for students can be improved if faculty, administrators, and even fellow students understand each other better.

I want to see other students enjoy and benefit from Salem as much as I have and I want to see Salem grow.

Robin Maxey

I would just like to say a few words about satisfaction in particular, about the strengths and the dangers of self-satisfaction. The person who is never satisfied with himself or his capabilities, who feels that he can never successfully attain the goals which he has set for himself, becomes an unproductive person caught in the quicksands of his own insecurities. On the other side of the coin is the completely self-satisfied person, whom I would label as stagnant, or complacent. This person possibly set goals for himself which were too low, too easily reached. Or perhaps he just got lazy, or tired of working for his goals, and justified it by saying "I'm completely happy with myself the way I am."

I fear these two people - the Cont'd. on four