

Spring Break Heaven Or Hell?

by Jenny Savage

As soon as everyone gets back from their perspective Jan. terms and is settled in for second semester, the first topic of conversation is usually the first questions asked. As soon as everything is planned it is right about the time that things start going wrong and problems arise. Let's imagine that it is almost one month until Spring Break is to begin. Now, is when the problems and misunderstandings begin.

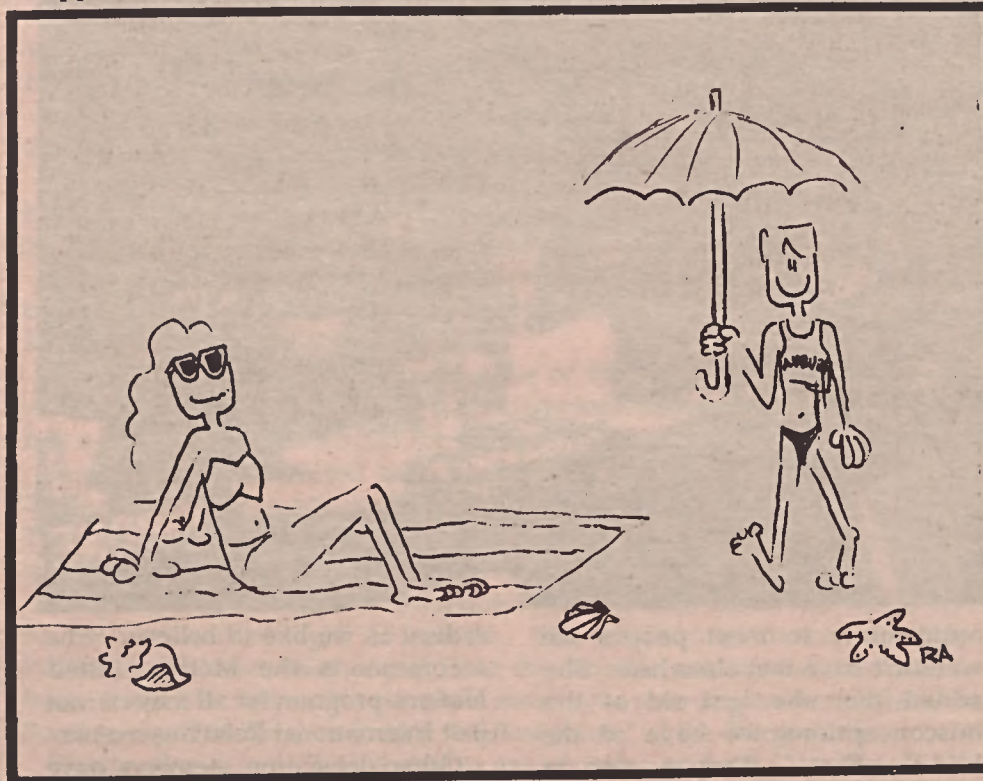
One month until Spring Break, this is usually when the dieting begins. You find what you think is the perfect diet for you. You know the one; the one that is perfect for your lifestyle and the "shape" of your body. You begin the diet only to find out two weeks later, you have not lost one pound. So what do you do, you starve yourself, which you also find is not the perfect diet either. The next step is accepting that you just might look like a beached whale on the beaches, but you convince yourself that it doesn't matter that you will have fun anyway. Next, you go shopping for the perfect Spring clothes and the sexiest, but tasteful, swimsuit.

You decide to make this little adventure one you make by yourself. You go to every store imaginable, only to return back to the dorm with maybe two pairs of shorts, one shirt, and one sexy, but getting less tasteful bathing suit. After beating off the crowds at the stores, and paying for over priced clothing that you are not totally satisfied with, you find out one of your friends going with you has the exact same shorts. Well, you are thinking to yourself, "Wait till she sees my bathing suit, no one has this one." Then you whip out this, what you think, incredible bathing suit. Your friend oohh's and aahh's over it and tells you how much she loves it, and as well as showing her admiration for the suit in the same breath, she tells you that another friend has the exact same one. Lo and behold, this awful statement is true when you see your other skinny, great bodied friend with YOUR bathing suit on. Once again, you tell yourself "I will have fun anyway." Well, it is now time to make last minute preparations, and then the day comes when you leave for your totally awesome Spring Break.

The day has finally arrived. You are packing the car to leave. The driver of the car tells you that you

must sit on your lost piece of luggage. You see, she has a five passenger car with six passengers travelling to Spring Break with you. You are thinking to yourself "Maybe I should just go home." But, that thought quickly leaves your mind when you notice a huge rain cloud hovering over your head. This time you think to yourself, "Oh, it will be nice where I am going!" Ignoring the sudden darkness that comes over you, the caravan finally heads out to your dream destination for Spring Break.

After 15 hours in a five passenger car with six passengers, you have finally reached your destination. You kiss the ground when you get out of the car because it was only supposed to be an eight hour trip.



You escaped death numerous times, you got lost at least 35 times, and you had a flat tire, as well. As soon as you arise from this ceremony of kissing the ground, you finally take a gander at the house in which you will be spending the next ten days of your life and ask yourself if it's worth it. You decide to give the quaint homestead a chance and go inside to check it out. In the den, there is outdoor furniture. You laugh this off and head to the kitchen, which being a Salem student, you know you will be in this room most of the time. The kitchen is not much better, The refrigerator appears to be at least 200 years old, with the stove and sink in close competition for second oldest. You then casually turn on the water, and what do you know, but it is brown and smells like rotten eggs. Again, you laugh this

off and head to the bathroom, which is even worse. The shower appears as if it has not been cleaned up since the house was built, as does the sink. It is at this point that you decide that footwear is a must whenever entering this part of the house. You then decide that it cannot get any worse, but it does. Upon entering the bedroom, you notice the lovely rat traps under the bed. The next thing to catch your eye is the so-called draperies that appear as if they had been used during World War II. No, more likely, the War of 1812. Once again you tell yourself, "I will have fun!"

After unpacking, and realizing your bag was one of three left on the sidewalk in front of the dorm back at school, the whole crowd goes out

amazed! You are dumbfounded! You are completely let down! The guy has on a leopard skin "weenie bikini!" At this point you want to dig a hole in the sand and crawl into it because your friends are hysterical at the guy you thought was so cute! Once again, you tell yourself, "I WILL HAVE FUN!" It's at this point that you take time out to read the newspaper.

Out on the beach reading the paper, you finally make it to the weather section where it says, "Rain, for the next five days!" You are only going to be on Spring Break for five more days! About this time, sure enough the predicted rain comes down in buckets, and home has never looked so good before.

Home cooking is not sounding too bad either. After realizing you have no money left and your ribs are beginning to show, you think about the pot roast your mother makes. Upon becoming aware that you are now drooling thinking about that roast, it dawns on you that you have no dinero for another meal. You were not good about budgeting your money and thought you would drink beer to oblivion and not worry about eating, but you soon find out this is not as easy as it sounds. Luckily, you find some spam in your house, the Taj Mahal, and you decide that spam is not as bad as you once thought! Now you understand why that starvation diet you tried never lasted. Simply because having the hearty appetite we Salem women have, we cannot go without eating! Once again, you say "I WILL HAVE A GOOD TIME."

The rest of the week is basically the same string of events, you are still constantly telling yourself, "I WILL HAVE FUN" and even after all the same outfits, the beached whale, the forgotten clothes, the disgusting house, the anything-but-wonderful weather, and the geek from Auburn, you decide you did actually have a good time. Maybe not the best time, but a good time none the less.

I hope none of you read any characteristics of your Spring Break in this. If you did maybe next year you consider staying home with mom and dad! Even if you did notice some of these things and still had fun, more power to you. These events reflected in this article have stemmed from my past experiences, and I had fun, so it can be done. Just remember next Spring Break, watch out for guys bearing "weenie bikini's!"

to dinner. After nearly two hours of trying to find somewhere everyone likes, you arrive at the restaurant only to find there is an hour wait. You eat dinner and spot a pretty cute looking college guy across the room. He has on an Auburn sweatshirt, and you decide he must be on Spring Break as well. You now have his face implanted in your mind to remember tomorrow when you are out on the beach.

After a night from hell on the bed from hell, you are finally on the beach enjoying the somewhat sunny, but chilly weather. Of course, you make yourself believe that "IT WILL GET WARMER!" Lo and behold, you see the Auburn guy from dinner. You can only see from his waist up and he looks pretty good so far, but then you see from the waist down - SCARY! You are