

# The Salemite

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## Salem Appoints First Woman To Chair Board

by Katie Thomas

Sitting in the Rondthaler-Gramley House with the morning sunlight streaming through the windows, Mary Bryant Newell is definitely in her element. This warm, Southern woman laughs, "I call this house 'Tara'. I feel comfortable here."

Salem and the Salem environment have had a very definite impact on her. She graduated with the class of '48 but has never really "left." Now she will undertake the highest position an alumna can have at Salem: the chairmanship of the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Newell fell in love with Salem the minute she arrived. Coming from a family of four brothers she says, "Salem was wonderful - all oriented towards girls." But the Salem she knew was different than the one today. She was a student during the war and tells stories of the closeness of the students, the faculty, and administration. Students were not as mobile in those days and spent most of their time on campus. No one had cars, so "road trips" were

not a common place event.

Many of Mrs. Newell's leadership qualities began at Salem. She was SGA president her senior year and a class officer her sophomore year. At an early age she developed a sense of responsibility. It was broadened during her years at Salem. She remarks, "At Salem you develop a sense of self confidence. You know who you are and what your abilities are. You have tested them."

These same leadership positions and self confidence led her to later become president of the Alumnae Association, and now she feels she can return what Salem gave to her. When asked if she ever thought, when she was a student, she would be the chairman of the Board of Trustees, she laughs and says, "Never in my wildest dreams. But I always felt a sense of service wherever I was. Salem instills in you a sense of wanting to get involved."

Salem's atmosphere also harbored Mrs. Newell's sense of achievement. She learned a feeling of self assurance while here. But, she explains, it is not



like setting out to be a leader. The closeness of students and faculty, being in constant contact with role models, has its impact. She states, "At Salem you are not conscious of looking for role models. But as life unfolds, you realize they are there." Mrs. Newell recalls a fond memory of the night before she was to give her acceptance speech as SGA president. An economics

professor, Eva Belle Covington, called her in to her apartment in Main Hall. Mary Newell gave Ms. Covington her ideas for a speech. Mrs. Newell realizes now that it was this sort of closeness that spawned her role models.

Impressed by the dedicated work of the other Board members, Mrs. Newell herself has served on the SGA president. An economics

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## Performing in Protest

by Julie Stone

The North Carolina School of the Arts faculty, staff, and students concern over the effectiveness of Chancellor Jane E. Milley has come to a head after an announcement last Thursday by C.D. Spangler, the President of the Board of Governors of the North Carolina University system.

Spangler announced that Milley had resigned after an almost unanimous vote of "no confidence" by the faculty and administrators. But the resignation does not go into effect until after June 30. Until Milley leaves, she has the authority to appoint the committee to appoint a new Dean of Drama (two have already resigned in the last three years). She has the final say on all new faculty decisions and will decide on merit raises for the faculty. She will also review current faculty contracts that are coming up for renewal.

President Spangler also announced that from July 1 to December 30, Chancellor Milley would receive full pay for a leave of absence. Then she

would return as the highest paid member of the School of Music, making more than the Dean of the School of Music despite the fact that while she holds a Masters degree in music, she is not a performing artist.

The faculty and students are very concerned over the future of the school with Milley still empowered as their Chancellor as well as comments made by Spangler about "possible reorganization" of the school.

The school is concerned in view of the fact that since Milley has been at NCSA, two deans of Drama, an assistant dean of Music, the Director of Stage Management, and the Assistant Technical Director have resigned. A significant number of alumni have stopped contributing to the school until "the current managerial crisis is resolved." They charge that many administrative procedures, financial decisions and planning for the future have either slowed down or ceased to exist. She has not been responsive to

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