

The Salemite

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Freshmen Officers: A Class Act

by Hanan Abdul-Rahim

Together they are a burst of energy, a breath of fresh air, and an explosion of enthusiasm. They are the officers of the class of 1995: president Meredith Snellings, vice president Mary Black, treasurer Hannah Ashford, and Honor Council representative Sarah Woody (at the time of this interview, the secretary had not yet been elected). These bright young women have different personalities, but they also have many features in common. They all share a great deal of love for Salem and the eagerness to participate in bettering student life on campus.

Meredith Snellings is from Richmond, VA. Meredith, who graduated from Douglas Freeman High School, is already busy working as the photography editor for the Salemite. Meredith was also very active in high school. She was treasurer and vice president of the

environmental club and photography and editorial editor of the yearbook. "These activities taught me organization" says Meredith.

Mary Black, who is the newly-elected vice president, was the vice president of the Anchor Club at Hartsville High School in Hartsville, South Carolina. The club was involved in fundraising for school activities.

Serving as the treasurer of her junior class in Clayton High School will definitely be of help to Hannah Ashford, the freshman class treasurer. Hannah says that working in fundraising has given her "an appreciation for money" and that serving her class has given her "a sense of the needs of the student body that must be considered."

Sarah Woody is somewhat familiar with the Honor Tradition by virtue of having attended a school that has that

same tradition.

When asked why she ran for her position, Meredith replied that she had been planning on getting involved since her arrival at Salem. "I had always heard that enjoying Salem is getting involved in it," she explained.

Mary wanted to become the vice president of her class because she is a "people-lover," and she would like to be able to help others. Hannah sees her position as catalytic in getting to know and serve her classmates.

"I ran for this office because I've seen this system work, and I've also seen some faulty things in it at my school that I wanted to change" explains Sarah. She added emphatically "I believe in this system."

The officers are enthusiastic about projects for their class. They would like

to see all the freshmen involved in their class activities. "The class has to give us ideas," says Meredith. "We are not here to run the class but to represent it and to learn from mistakes."

The officers also talked about what they love most about Salem and about the traditions they intend to uphold. They all agree that the closeness and personal treatment make Salem different and special. "I feel like I go to school with my sisters" says Meredith. Sarah agrees and adds that people at Salem are "willing to work with you."

Finally, when asked how they wanted their class to be remembered in ten or fifteen years, the officers answered "unique, determined, classy, and memorable." Frankly my dears, I have little doubt that the class of 1995 will be anything less.

Laura X on Marital Rape

by Elizabeth Barrett

It is easy to picture Laura X as a college student at U.C. Berkley in the early 60's. Her long straight hair is gray now, but it is probably in the same style. Her clothes are also that same 60's style. The bright red A-framed dress she wore the day we spoke was short, really short, and socks and sandals were her only accessory. The friendship room in Strong where she was staying was like many college dorm rooms, a mess, with papers and clothes scattered everywhere. Most of all, her passion about women's issues is probably about as strong as it was then.

"I remember a professor in my college telling my class that women could neither whittle or whistle. I raised my hand and told him I had learned to do both at camp," she said about her experience at U.C. Berkeley.

Laura X, graduated from Miss. Hall's

boarding school for girls and went on to Vassar College which was also single sex at the time. She spent three years at Vassar then in 1962 went to California and got her degree from Berkley. The large coed university was a "tremendous shock." Laura did not know there were things girls could not do and she started to hear that message at Berkeley.

Miss Hall's and Vassar had taught Laura X that women could do anything. However, that women must develop their minds to be interesting for a man.

Is that still the message women receive on single-sex campuses today? "No," Laura replied, "not so much today. Women's potential to develop their minds is for their own pleasure and for their community."

We met only an hour before she was to leave Salem for the airport. Laura continued on page 2

Four Viewpoints on Display in the FAC

by Kate Hargett

A new art exhibit opened on October 1, in the Gallery at the Fine Arts Center. Entitled "Four Viewpoints: Louis Brown, Sue Buck, Pat Courtney, and Lida Gordon," the exhibit profiles four female artists whose approaches to current social, political, and sexual issues are all unique. A wonderful collection of powerful and interesting works, the artists use different mediums and concepts to convey their messages. The four women present their work via pencil drawings, monoprints, concep-

tual art, and abstract shapes.

The idea behind the exhibit, says director Geoff Bates, is to show students that women artists can approach art in different ways and that their subject matter does not necessarily have to focus on still-life studies of fruits and flowers. Everyone is encouraged to stop by the Gallery and see this new exhibit, as it gives diverse and insightful viewpoints of today's society. The exhibit runs until November 1.

