

THE BELLES OF ST. MARY'S

Published in thirteen issues during the school year, September to June. Monthly for December, January and April; Semi-monthly for October, November, February, March and May, by the Student Body of St. Mary's Junior College.

Second Class Postage Paid at Raleigh, N. C. 27602. Subscription \$1.00 per year.

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COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE DILEMMA

By Jan Leonard

As the freshmen and juniors gaze dreamily out their windows at the colorful spring flowers, the sophomores and seniors sit on the cement floor of lower Smedes with their glazed eyes staring at the brown metal mail boxes. Their spring fever has been overcome by the "am - I - ever - going-to-get-accepted" epidemic.

Girls who once became starry-eyed over letters from Tom Slick now toss them aside, hoping that the letter underneath is from Carolina, Georgia, Hollins-or even Carlsbad Community College. Instead of cheerful greetings in the halls, one hears "did you know that Carolina is only accepting 2.5 and over?!"

Mr. Lawrence has been amazed at the new interest that sophomores and seniors have shown in math. Everywhere—in notebooks and books, on black boards and desks—there are scribbled equations of $C=2 \times 3=6$ and $D=1 \times 3=3$. All the math teachers are perplexed by the new theories that students have devised to make thirty credits divided by fifteen hours equal 3.0. They assure students that, even with the New Math, there is very little probability that this equation will be accepted as true before June 1.

Finally, as the schools make

In the SPRING



a young man's
thoughts turn
to

FORGET IT!

EDITORIAL

A NEW TRADITION

During the past two weeks, new Student Government officers have been elected. Shortly they will take on new responsibilities as student body leaders, and next year they will have the task of making 1968-1969 a success.

What makes a successful student government? First and most important, a successful student government must have conscientious, capable leaders. But any student government can have capable leaders. For true success, it must have leaders who are not only disciplinarians and official representatives, but who are also genuinely interested in each girl, devoted to improving the school in anyway possible, and dedicated to fulfilling their duties in the interest of all girls. They must have the respect of each student, but at the same time, they must be on the student's level, as a friend and classmate. They must laugh at the latest jokes, party at fraternities houses, sunbathe on the sunporch, diet frantically before Spring Vacation, cram for exams. Yet they must convey to each student the purpose and seriousness of the Honor Board, and maintain the dignity that characterizes St. Mary's student government. But exceptional leadership is not enough to make a successful Student Government.

Active student participation, guided by the SGA officers, is a second important aspect of success. As committee members, Leg. Body members, class representatives, etc., students participate in student government, and are guided by the officers. These committee members, enthusiastically return to their dorms and spread the "news," thus communicating each new idea to the entire student body. These new ideas, conceived by the student government leaders, foster enthusiasm which leads to active participation.

Lastly, a successful student government must work among happy girls. In creating a feeling of happiness and friendship, the true quality of leadership is revealed. Sincere officers do not set themselves up as perfect examples, but rather they offer themselves as "helpers" along the road to happiness and maturity at St. Mary's.

In terms of student government, 1967-1968 has been a success. Our leaders have been more than just leaders. Mary Holden, Juliet, Molly, Carolyn, and Ann have created a new tradition of excellence . . . a tradition that will be difficult to uphold.

their decisions, the acceptances and rejections begin to arrive. Every day there are new names on the blackboard. Ones who have not heard smile a forced congratulations while the accepted one beams happily and never mentions that she must attend summer school and maintain a 4.0 average for the last semester before her acceptance becomes complete.

Tharon Sapp Has Poem Selected For Reading

Miss Tharon Sapp, a sophomore at St. Mary's had a poem selected for reading at the eighth annual Literary Festival at Hollins College.

Miss Sapp's poem "I Weighed the Importance" was one of 25 chosen from over 500 entries submitted by students from Virginia

FOCUS—

ON ELECTION PROCEDURES

By Jessica Gillespie

Much student dissatisfaction has been shown during the past weeks concerning election procedures at St. Mary's. Girls complain that they do not know enough about the candidates' qualifications and capabilities. Other objections to the process of choosing a nominating committee.

The objection concerning the rapid presentation of the candidates is a valid one. This procedure, based on the tradition of having no campaign, was still in effect when St. Mary's was a great deal smaller than it is today. Now it is ridiculous to think that every girl knows every other girl's qualifications of the stated office.

Perhaps campaigning would be out of place at St. Mary's. Some method should be devised to familiarize girls with the candidates. Previous experience in offices in high school and acting at St. Mary's could well show a girl has the qualities of leadership and the spirit needed for office. This information should be made available to the student body.

The nominating committee has also the victim of a great deal of criticism. It is argued that the students should have a part in choosing on the committee. The committee chooses those girls who are qualified to run for SGA offices. Presently this committee is chosen by the student government officers. The girls are chosen because of their knowledge of an office and their qualities and because they are responsible for a student government office. The committee must also choose girls who are familiar with the juniors.

Those who complain about the committee would do well to remember that there is always an opportunity to nominate a candidate from the floor. This procedure requires only the names of the girls and the customary approval by Dr. Stone. Everyone thus has a chance to see her choice of a candidate she meets the preliminary qualifications.

The nominating committee should put before the student body girls who it feels are most qualified of filling the stated office. It should not play favorites. Thus it is ridiculous to hear someone say that she will not vote for a candidate because she has been nominated by the committee.

and North Carolina colleges and Universities.

The Literary Festival featured Pulitzer Prizewinning poet Gerald Wilbur and novelist Gertrude Garrett as speakers this year.

A panel composed of writers and poets Henry Taylor, a faculty member at Roanoke College, James Seay, faculty member at Virginia Military Institute, and criticized the 25 selected poems as part of the program.