

The Hammer

by Laurie Sherrill

St. Mary's has a definite problem — a chapel problem. What is it and what can be done to solve it?

First; the service. For those of you who can really get into perfect sentence structure and Bennett-like descriptions, you have my deepest awe and admiration, but for those of us restricted to dangling participles and other forms of free speech, the flawlessness of written prayers is alien. In fact, it enforces the theory that you cannot have a heart to heart talk with God for fear of being misunderstood. Another fault is that prayers are said so fast that one has little time to think about what one is saying. Yet, the bond of coming together to be one in our prayers is to strengthening to forego. The idea is right, but the execution of it is not working.

Secondly; the girls. It is hard to listen to a man who is seriously trying to share something with you fifty feet away while the girls right behind you are whispering about last night's wild blind date in obnoxiously loud tones. Or filing their fingernails. Or the girl beside you is reading a comic book. Or the girl in front of you is trying desperately to relate something through sign language to a girl on the other side of the chapel. Believe me, these are true experiences and I am sure they are not rare. The problem with these girls is not so much rudeness as it is one of being self-centered. Apparently, some girls cannot stop enjoying themselves long enough to care about the person next to them.

The third aspect of this problem is the lasting effects of the sermon. No matter how relevant the sermon is, there is little opportunity for inspiration. After the service on Sunday, girls rush back to their rooms to throw on jeans and to go to lunch. On Wednesday night, it is a mad rush to get back and sign out. Think about it; how many times have you ever returned to your hall to hear people talking about the sermon? There should be a place where those who desire to could go and discuss the service. Often there is a need to clarify, to explore in depth, or just to share. The least St. Mary's could do is offer a chance for fellowship.

Our dry campus is going to blow away if we do not take constructive measures to nourish spiritual growth and fellowship. I suggest that a type of open seminar be set up to follow each chapel service. By this, girls would have the opportunity to share without feeling uncomfortable or pressured.

Drama 31 Presents Skits

by Kathy Doggett

Mrs. Stamey's Drama 31 class put on four plays in Ragland Auditorium on April 29. The plays were student directed by members of the class. Julie Parker directed *An Individual* which described the last day of a girl's life. Beth Hahn and Ruth Butler had the lead role in the play. Another play, *A Perfect Analysis Given* by a Parrott was directed by Becky Clark. Sally Lewis and Becky portrayed the antics of two middle-aged women who went bar-hopping. Terry Fuljhum directed *Alice in Wonderland* with Jane Flanagan, Sugar Cheshire and Janie Faircloth in the cast. Sugar Bryan directed *Peter Rabbit* with the following in the cast: Mary Walker, Susan Harrison, Isabelle Savage, Laurie Lorithies, Leisa Fellers, Coco Pollard and Susan Kayhol. With this type of variety there was something for everyone to enjoy on the 29th.

The Rose Garden will be closed to 1st semester St. Mary's students next year. The Raleigh Police Dept.



WHO'S THAT PLAYING IN THE TREE? . . . Next year's editors of student publications. From top to bottom: Sallie Shuping, Muse; Gay Tolley, Muse; Gaye Isenhour, Belles; Beverly Wheeler, Handbook; McKay Munford, Muse, and Francis Creel and Kay Carpenter, Stagecoach.

Editorial

Fellow Students,

It's that time of year again when this year's student officers, hall counselors, Cold Cuts, and editors, etc. are replaced with anxious rising sophomores and seniors. This giving up of the old and stepping aside for the new is an inspiring, but also sad time of year. With it we look toward the future while recalling fond memories of the past. The 1973-74 SGA officers have been nothing short of outstanding in their concern for the girls at St. Mary's, and in their sincere warmth and friendliness. And the hall counselors — what would we have done without them? They've been there when we needed them — to calm our fears, to share our joys, and to turn us in to Social Board when we got out of line. The list could go on and on — there are so many deserving, helpful graduates that will be leaving "the ole homestead" this spring. And we'll never forget them — not in a million years. My special love and appreciation is extended to Ms. Margaret Stevens, a steadfast and honest Belles editor who made our newspaper something to be proud of. Her abilities as an editor have made next year a challenge for me and the rest of the Belles staff. I hope we do as well in keeping the students and the faculty and administration at St. Mary's informed of the events in our community. Good luck and good times to everyone this summer!

Sincerely,
Gaye Isenhour

What's the Story Behind Self-Scheduling Exams?

by Anne Gregory

Several weeks ago the proposal of college students scheduling their own exams seemed to be very promising. But what appeared to be a dream come true to the students looked more like a nightmare to the faculty. As it was set up, there would be a central location (a classroom in Ragland) where all the examinations would be kept filed under lock and key with a faculty member in charge of distribution. Students would pick up their exam at their leisure, sign it out, take it in Ragland Auditorium, and upon completion, would return it to the distribution room. There it would be put back into the file and given to the instructor at the end of the day. What could be simpler?

Apparently, it was a little too simple when reviewed by the faculty, and failed to meet their requirements of being an effective method of examination. In a statement drawn up by the language department, and presented in a faculty meeting, four major objections were

brought out against the prospect of self-scheduling exams. Above all, it was feared that it would be detrimental to the weaker students. They felt that some students would not intelligently plan their exam schedules, and that many, with visions of summer and sunshine dancing in their heads, would cram their exams in a few days in order to take off for the beach. Students would take their exams as a conglomeration, not as a class. They would be without the advantage of their teacher present for instruction and answering questions. The grading of exams would be affected, also. Instead of a teacher grading a classes' papers as a group (based on each other for comparison) he or she would be forced to evaluate them individually, thus putting rigidity on the student's grade. Finally, the faculty felt that this would place a severe strain on the Honor Code. One member compared it to placing food in front of a hungry baby and telling him not to eat.

(See STORY page 3)

Day Student Scoop

by Verna Gates

A Day Student Banquet was held on Thursday, April 18. The purpose of it was to honor the old officers and announce the new ones. The banquet was held at the Hickory Steak House in Garner, and consisted of a salad, steak, potatoes, and blackberry cobbler.

The newly elected Day Student President is June Upchurch. She will replace this year's president, Kay Reynolds. Kay's major project this year has been to paint and furnish the Day Student attic. She has devoted much of her time and effort to complete the attic, and as a token of their appreciation the Day Students presented Kay with a silver locket.

Traditionally, only one girl serves as Secretary-Treasurer. However, next the story will be different. After two ties and two run-offs, the number of votes was so close that both Lisa Luckett and Cathy Boyd will share the position. The girl who held the position of Secretary-Treasurer this year was Mary Dombalis; Mary has done a fine job this year and received a piano shaped music box from the Day Students for her devotion.

The counselors chosen for the Day Students are Cathy Moore and Pam Byrd. This year Pam Hudspeth served in this position. The counselor is a boarding student who keeps the Day Students informed of school activities.

The entertainment at the banquet consisted of an awards night with Robert Goolash (Lisa Luckett in a tuxedo), and Raquet Belch (Jean Truelove in an evening gown). Among the awards given were: the Garbage Mouth Award which went uncontested to Martha Ann Auld; the title of Popcorn Queen to freshman Ann Waters; the Clean Hair Award which was presented to Sally Young, who by the way, appeared kerchiefless; the Miss Lizard Lick Award to Ms. Carol Coggin, accompanied by an aluminum crown, and the Billy Jean King Jr. Award presented to athlete Laureine Meir. Along with her certificate, Ms. Meir received one-half of a tennis ball, the other half to be received as soon as she wins a tennis match!

Also, the coveted Cackling Hen Award went to Day Students gossip, Morge Towler. Her prize was an egg with the words, "Honey, have you heard the one about . . .?" inscribed on it. The Bride of the Year Award was given to Donna Parnell, formerly Miss Donna Byrd. The Cancer Stick Award went to one of the Day Students' most beloved chain-smokers, Cathy Moore. And Melissa Smith, known throughout for her fair complexion, received the Albino of the Year Award. The Nut of the Year Award was given to Becky Flythe who, unfortunately, was unable to attend the banquet because her keeper refused to let her out! Ms. Corneille Little beat out stiff competition and received the Slob of the Year Award. The Smartass Award went to Gail Austin, and the Dumbass Award went to all the "brilliant fools" who chose to attend St. Mary's.

The banquet proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by all.

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