

EDITORIAL

St. Mary's, an Honorable School

As this past week was Honor Week, the St. Mary's community heard much about the value of honor, not only in our present lives but as a reflection of our future. Throughout the week we attended the Honor Chapel and Honor Reception, and we had speakers on our halls; from these functions we gathered how "we the students" interpret the definition of honor and how we live by it—or, at least how we should live by it.

However in Assembly, Monday, September 27, we got a taste of how our teachers approach the Honor System. Aside from the students, the teachers are the integral part of our Honor System. It is they who have to enforce and also abide by it. It can't be too easy for a teacher-professor to walk out of a room after administering an exam; but when they do, it not only shows trust and character on the part of the teacher but also their confidence in the character of the student. This is the very essence of the Honor System.

In the assembly topics of discussion ranged from cheating to plagerism to "brownosing". Many interesting points were brought up and the attitudes held by teachers were revealed. It was pointed out by Dr. Quinn how fragile the Honor System is; it is only as strong as the student makes it. Of course, there will be impurities in the system here and there but when the offenses mount up to the point of ridiculousness then the system is obviously ineffective and should be replaced. Let us hope that never happens here.

Other thoughts were brought up on how we as students take an active part in the Honor System. As Dr. Watson pointed out, it is our duty as a member of the St. Mary's community to talk to the girl if we see or have evidence of her breaking the Honor Code. This is a very difficult thing to do, but it is essential to the nature of St. Mary's. On that same note, after approaching a girl who has broken the Honor Code she will probably (became of human nature) either deny the charge or else become vindictive and claim that "every other girl has done it ... they got away with it". To this Dean Jones had quite an appropriate reply, "That's life". This is so true, think back to the Hinckley case, what kind of justice lets a man go free after an attempt of murder on one man's life and the actual maiming of another man's life (Brady). There are hundreds of other examples that shows us that in 'real life' justice is seen through tinted glasses and that nothing—not justice nor democracy—is in its purest or idealistic form. The Honor Code is based upon these two aspects of government—we vote for the legislative body and they carry out and interpret the rules which govern us.

Of course, there are going to be problems and extenuating circumstances with each case; and of course people are going to complain, but what is the alternative to the Honor Code? Teachers breathing down our backs every minute to make sure we're not cheating? Guilty until proven innocent? We are, indeed, fortunate to have the Honor System; we are one of the very few schools in the United States that still employs it. If it ever comes to it, lets hope we will be the last.

L. J.



Students sign honor pledge in special Chapel service.



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My Opinion

by Clayton Henkel

During the summer, when I wasn't on the beach, I tried to make a list of what I thought I'd need at St. Mary's. My father thought that the list must have contained every thing but the kitchen sink when we were packing the station wagon. But one thing I made sure to buy was a good box fan. I clearly remember how sweltering hot it had been my first year on 3rd Smedes. This year, however, things were going to be better.

But when I got to school I noticed my room was kind of cool. That was alright, though, because we were unpacking and it was so warm outside. When things were settled it wouldn't seem that way. The next morning, it was like

trying to get out of a bed on an icy-cold winter morning. Soon, by the ingenuity of my roommate and myself, we came up with a way to combat the cold—we tacked up a poster over the vent. Unfortunately, the air was so strong, the poster looked 3-D!

Then everyone on the hall began to come down with some ailments. Sore throats, colds, and watery eyes. Another girl swore she definitely had mono. And, in turn, I ended up with the same thing... a fever, a cold, and I even managed to lose my voice. I knew that it was simply a case of being over air-conditioned.

So, I put my health in the hands of the St. Mary's nurses. When I tried to explain

how cold it was in the dorm, the nurse indicated her air-conditioner was also going full blast. Then she quickly diagnosed my sickness as a "virus," and sent me on my way with some miracle drugs—salt and chloraseptics.

Is it really necessary to let an air-conditioner be on all day—so that you are forced to open a window to let some heat in? I have given this problem some thought and decided that when it is too late in the summer to wear white, they should turn down or completely cut off the air-conditioner.

I can hardly wait until this winter to see how the heat works. Maybe that box fan will come in handy then.

1982-83 Forum Series

I would like to extend an official pat-on-the-back to the creators of the St. Mary's College Forum which began this year on Oct. 11. This year, the forum focuses on the question "Who are we, we Americans?" This is a question that will be answered in an imaginative and intelligent way by our speakers. It is a question that every St. Mary's girl should be able to answer in a thorough way.

Our speakers come from every walk of life. For example, Dr. Arthur Marks, a professor from UNC, and distinguished author will speak about American Art on November 8. On October 26, Sarah Weddington will speak on "Changing Roles of American Women, Problems and Promises." She is a nationally known figure, and writes a column for GLAMOUR magazine every month. She was also chosen as the commencement speaker at Salem College by the STUDENTS last year.

Throughout the year, we will hear talks on religion in America, Movies as reflections of American society, American popular music; technology. We will be introduced to a female American black poet, a film critic for Spectator Magazine,

and an Xerox executive who will answer the question "Is liberal arts the answer for the American Job Market?"

Our 1982-83 Forum Series is, in my opinion, breathtaking. The Belles will interview these interesting

people. However, most speakers will be available for questions after their speeches. Feel free to ask them anything you want to know. After all, the Forum Series is for YOU. Take advantage of this well thought out and impressive program.



Do you have an opinion about the new Sunday Chapel service time? If you do, mail it to Box 17, Campus Mail, include initials and class, please.