



The Belles

of
Saint Mary's
College



Volume XLVII, Number 2

December 1987

The Weeks Before Christmas

By Lisa Morris

'Twas a few weeks before Christmas when all through St. Mary's, not a student was sleeping but all were quite weary.

The girls were all studying for their final tests, in hopes of making A's even without rest.

Day students were gone, and boarders in their rooms, with visions of presents at home for them soon.

Boarders in sweatpants and day students too; had just started studying what they hopefully knew.

When out behind campus there arose such a clatter, the girls sprang from their rooms to see what was the matter.

When what to their wondering eyes should appear, but a truck load of State boys, who had approached from the rear.

With a little old driver so lively and quick, the girls knew in a moment he was dressed as St. Nick.

They whistled and shouted and called out names: Hey Joe! Hey Kevin! Hi Eric and Ed! Hey Bob, Hi Steven! Hi David and Dan!

To the front of Smedes St. Nicholas went, loaded with presents (much had he spent).

All were excited and knew in a beat, that this was the start of a holiday treat.

The boys hooped and hollered and wished the best, for they all knew of the final tests.

When the boys had finished and the partying through, it was back to the books which teachers hoped students knew.

But the girls heard the boys as they drove out the lot, MERRY CHRISTMAS ST. MARY'S, OUR PARTYING WON'T STOP!!!!



PEACE

Starry nights and holidays bright... go together like joy and contentment... love and laughter. Enjoy!

English Teacher Says Goodbye to Saint Mary's

By Caroline F. Stephenson

This month, after seven years at Saint Mary's, Mr. Jack Kraemer is retiring from teaching. I met with Mr. Kraemer on a sunny afternoon in late October. We spoke in his office, where as always, his clock sounded like a sputtering defective Mr. Coffee. It is fully annoying to most who visit him there, but he claims that the racket does not bother him. I guess he has just gotten used to it.

Mr. Kraemer came to Saint Mary's in the fall of 1980 to work as an Assistant Cataloger and Reference Librarian. After a year in the library, Mr. Kraemer was asked if he would like to fill an empty teaching position in the English department. He jumped at the chance because he wanted to work more directly with students.

During his hours away from school, Mr. Kraemer likes to sail, listen to music (mostly 60s Rock & Roll and classical, especially Chopin), spend time with his girlfriend, and go for long walks with his dog, Rory. When I asked him what he is going to miss about Saint Mary's, Mr. Kraemer replied, "the food, the swimming pool, having an office next to Mr. Tate, and Dr. Esthimer's blush."

When we met, Mr. Kraemer had on a tweed jacket, a tattersall shirt, coordinating tie, Khakis and bucks. His classic attire is nothing too elaborate or dressy; it suggests the kind of man he is. The intricate pattern of the seemingly simply tweed jacket is like his very complex thoughts, and the casualness of the khakis and bucks is like his laid-back attitudes. On occasion, you see these two ideals come together when he breaks the classic monotony and wears his yellow, high-top Converse. Although hard to accept at first, everyone has become used to this outlandish, Esthimerian addi-

tion to his wardrobe.

On November 13, the date of last month's Faculty Follies, there were many tears, jeers, and cheers as Mr. Kraemer presented his "slide show." His presentation contained vivid imagery that was familiar to everyone at Saint Mary's. What made the presentation hit home so well, was Mr. Kraemer's sharp, off-beat sense of humor. Everything he said was so true. It is nice to know that he is leaving us with those fond, humorous memories.

Sometimes the comments that Mr. Kraemer makes in and out of class suggest to a lot of people that he is a cynic, and always looks on the bad side of things. When posed with this question, Mr. Kraemer said, "I have hope, so I am a realist, not a true cynic. The world is a selfish and self-centered place. I have seen

too much pain, horror, blood, death, and destruction to automatically assume that politicians or any leaders are out for the good of everyone." This statement makes him sound like an unhappy man. Once you have been around him for a length of time, however, you get used to and understand his view of life.

Mr. Kraemer's personal happiness is one of the reasons he is leaving Saint Mary's. After teaching for almost fifteen years, he feels that he is ready for a drastic change in his life. He wants to stop teaching before he becomes ineffective and gets tired of the subject matter. I asked Mr. Kraemer what he is going to do after retiring, and he replied, "absolutely nothing." For those of us who are not leaving Saint Mary's, however, it is going to be hard getting used to not having him around.

Cinderellas Attend The SGA Dance

By Kristie Hoffstedder

Cinderella's fairy godmother must have been on hand Saturday, November 7. From dawn to dusk Saturday, girls lined the dormitory hallways. Preparations were critical to the overall appearances. There were last-minute purchases to be made: shoes, pantyhose, the perfect pair of earrings, and for some... a formal dress.

As the princes arrived (the majority were from "la maison de State l'universite") in their coaches (BMW's and Hondas would have to do), the girls lingered in bathrooms, just to make sure that EVERY detail was perfect. They could now be escorted away to an evening of romance and adventure.

The grand entrances were made at the

Raleigh Civic Center. Times for appearances were 9:00 to 11:00. One or two became nervous when the seamstresses was still putting on final touches at 9:30. All minor disasters were overcome and everyone made it eventually. The band, Graffiti, was great and made the evening of dancing very enjoyable for all.

Volleyball at Saint Mary's

By Beth Battle

Saint Mary's held its first volleyball season in the 145-year history of the school this year. Although the team lost every game this season, it laid the foundation for future volleyball successes. The team was coached by Ms. Alexander and had only high school players. The team played other independent high schools, including Salem Academy, Bishop McGuinness, Cardinal Gibbons, Ravenscroft and Wake Christian. Team members were (in alphabetical order): Mary Andrews 11, Beth Battle 12, Jennifer Brooks 11, April Browne 12, Michele Cress 12, Jennifer Downey 11, Laura Griffin 12, Sally Pridgen 11, Mary Thrower 12, and Joni Wiles 11. The managers were Paisley Dietz and Mary Lee Beasley. The team is young with many people returning. Let's hope that they can continue their enthusiasm and spirit which made this year's season a successful one.

The season was concluded by a game between the faculty and the team. Members of the faculty who played were Dr.



Mr. Jack Kraemer
(Photo by Caroline Stephenson)

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