

# THE BELLES



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## Meet Emyl Jenkins

First Lady Promotes SMC Throughout The Country

By Kathryn McRee

*Editor's note: Emyl Jenkins is a nationally recognized authority on antiques and collectibles. She has a nationally syndicated newspaper column, has written several books (and has more on the way), is a regular on the lecture circuit and has been on "Good Morning, America" several times. As well, she is active in her community and she and Dr. Jenkins are the parents of two children; their daughter, Joli, an SMC graduate, currently attends UVa., and their son, Langdon, is a student at UNC-G.*

Recently, The Belles had the opportunity to talk to Mrs. Emyl Jenkins, the wife of the president of Saint Mary's College. In the conversation which transpired, Mrs. Jenkins discussed everything from antiques to women's roles in the modern world with friendliness and cordiality, and demonstrated herself to be one of the most interesting and active women associated with Saint Mary's.

**The Belles:** We know some of the things you do as the president's wife, such as hosting receptions. What are some less obvious things you've done as the president's wife?

*Mrs. Jenkins:* I do a lot of things for the College which the College never knows about. For example, one year I hosted a mother's tea in February for a

North Carolina group that honors outstanding women and also outstanding mothers in the state. It's a small group, but it is a very important group, and I did that to get these women to come to Saint Mary's. It's that sort of thing that I do—to have groups come if I think that they don't know about Saint Mary's or if they would be interested in learning more about it. Another example is this fall—I couldn't be here, but the party went on anyway. There was a reception, a morning party for about 25 or 30 exchange wives from Japan who came through the house. Here again, I thought

*"You can have it all if you know what 'all' is."*

—Emyl Jenkins

this gave them a chance to see Saint Mary's, as well as coming to this house. So it's those sorts of things which I do that people are not aware of. Another thing is wherever I speak, and I speak across the country all the time, I always insist that in my introduction it is mentioned that Clauston, my husband, is the president of Saint Mary's College in Raleigh. And in Pittsburg about four years ago, after the introduction, it

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Emyl Jenkins poses with former UNC president, Bill Friday, who is holding a copy of one of her books.

## Gulf War Promotes Campus Debate

By Jenny Schmidt

As we went to press, the war was ending. Yet the activism it spurred and the questions it raised promised to linger. The war articles in this issue of *The Belles* focus on student concerns, some of which have been negated by the prospect of peace—and some of which remain with us.

It is a Monday in late February. The wind adds a brisk breeze to the chilly air while the sun is shining brightly. Saint Mary's campus is on its normal schedule; students walk to their classes talking and laughing. Everything seems to be at ease; everything seems to be the usual. But far away a war had started, for many of us the first war of this scale that we have had to experience. "What were the thoughts and emotions inside us?" Sometimes this war seemed distant or even dramatized. One thing was for sure, however: this war affected the lives of our friends and relatives, our country, and ourselves very deeply, whether we wanted it to or not.

In the dining hall, Meg Boette,

Kristin Gardner, Tressa Haynes, and Donna King, all sophomores in college, gather for lunch. They discuss the media's role in the war. They feel most of the information we received was "generalized," with a few "attention-getters." The continuous news bulletins and updates with pictures of bombs made the war seem unreal or like a movie. Stephanie Best and Erica Jones, two 12th-graders, felt that limitations should be on the media so important information would not leak into the wrong hands.

These students also felt, as most of us probably do, that Iraq's act of spilling oil into the Gulf was a "cheap shot." Donna King describes it as environmental terrorism [with] no military value." Alison Little, a 12th-grader, asks why Saddam Hussein would do such a thing since "he is going to ruin his own land and set himself back."

Most students also felt that Israel did the right thing by staying out of it; it is felt, however, that Israel will surely retaliate someday, probably with terrorism.

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Activists ask Bush to "give peace a chance."