

# THE BELLES

of Saint Mary's College



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## Celebration winds up with a **BANG** —SMC Enjoys 150th Birthday Party—

By Katherine Hair

Happy Birthday, Saint Mary's!

If you missed the fireworks during the Fourth of July, you got another chance on Wednesday, September 18th, as Saint Mary's celebrated its 150th birthday.

Reflecting our long and varied history, students came dressed in costumes from different decades such as hippies, flower girls, flappers, preppy Southern belles, and reserved Victorians. At the birthday party, there was fried chicken, barbecue, cole slaw, green beans, rolls, and four huge birthday cakes. Everybody had a joyous time, dancing, posing for pictures, and chatting with fellow classmates.



## Remembering the Way We Were...

By Anne Griffin

In 1824 Dr. Aldert Smedes issued a circular announcement for the opening of Saint Mary's. This school would be a private girls' school located in North Carolina, near the capitol. Pupils would be admitted at any age. The school would offer tuition in English, Latin, etc., for an expense of \$100 a session. Extra charges would be for French, Music, Drawing, Painting and Ornamental Needlework. The year would be divided into two terms of five months, starting May 15th and ending October 15th.

On May 12, 1842, Dr. Smedes opened Saint Mary's doors for the first day of classes. The opening services were held in the parlor because the chapel had not been build yet. Only thirteen students, including day students, were present.

The rules were different than ours today:

"Pupils are required to be punctual at their meals and must not leave the table without permission."

"No works of fiction are to be read excepting on Saturday, after the duties of the day are over, and then, only those that are approved of."

"At least two hours a day must be appropriated by every pupil to active exercise in the open air. Five times round the grove, twice a day, will be deemed a fulfillment of this requisition."

Students were required to wear a uniform which was dark blue with a straw bonnet in the summer and pale blue or white, with blue ribbon, in the winter.

The Belles will focus on Saint Mary's history throughout the year.

## Fall Packed With Fun Events

By Elissa Thomson

The month of October held a lot of fun for all of the St. Mary's girls.

Octoberfest was the week of October 21st through October 25th. Beginning on Monday during the assembly, all the students and faculty saw the history of our school re-enacted. Monday night there was a bonfire, a storyteller and a Cold Cuts performance. Wednesday there was a Fun Run sponsored by the Letter Club, and Wednesday night a new game for all called The Roommate Game.

It was lots of laughs. Finally, Friday, October 25th was Parents

Day. Starting on Friday morning, there were refreshments in Smedes Parlor for the parents and daughters, and then the parents attended the classes from 9:00-1:35.

As we went to press we were looking forward to October 28th through November 1st, the week of Halloween. As tradition holds, there will be a Hall Decorating Contest, a great way to get the halls together.

Happy Halloween! Hopefully you have picked out your costume by now.