

THE LANCE

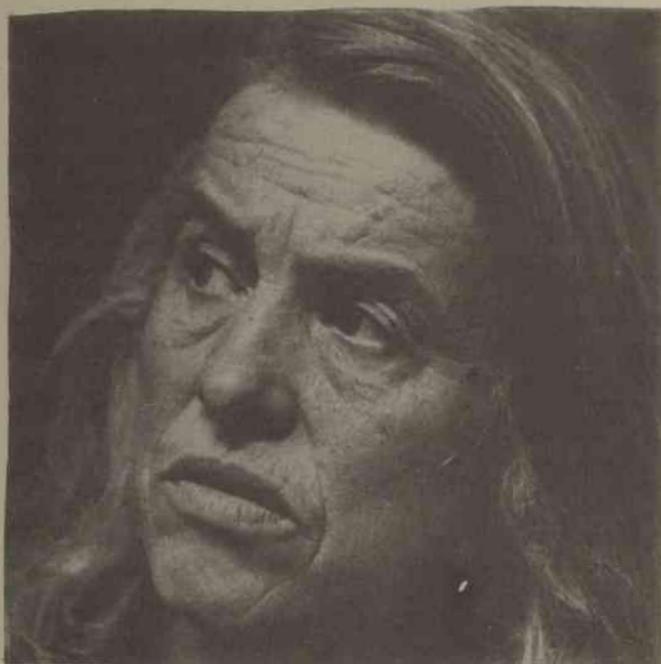
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Retention Study Planned



M. C. RICHARDS, (above) a Black Mountain professor and teacher of all kinds of things (poetry and pottery, to name a few) will be in residence at SA coming week. See "This Week" (below) for times and places.

A study of student attrition probability at St. Andrews will be initiated tomorrow as part of the spring registration process, says Registrar James Stephens.

According to Stephens, who is overseeing the study as part of the work of the special committee on student retention he chairs, a questionnaire will be included in the registration packet students will pick up from their faculty advisors beginning tomorrow.

The questionnaire to be given to the student community, says Stephens, is one derived from a four year study of 230,000 college students by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program. It uses statistical information from the CIRP study to predict, on the basis of the answers given by students filling it out, what the likelihood is that they will not complete their four years at St. Andrews. The questionnaire used by CIRP was given at St. Andrews to SAS classes last year, he said.

"The information we get from this," says Stephens, "will help us in another study currently underway on the effectiveness of the faculty advisor system at St. Andrews. By pinpointing students' probability of dropping out, we can get together with them and see where the problem is and what we can do about it by changing the system," he continued.

"In short, it will help us find out what we're not doing well," Stephens told THE LANCE. "Weak departments, problems in dorm arrangements—this study will help us isolate problems in the college structure and give us indications of how to go about correcting them."

Stephens was most emphatic in stressing the need for
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About Page One

A college is people. A rich diversity of backgrounds, personalities, and interests. A constant kaleidoscope of activity.

All this and more are found on the previous page as THE LANCE presents a full page enlargement of The Big Picture. It contains

- between 475 and 500 people;
- about 73 of which are faculty and staff;

- 8 bicycles;
- 2 dogs (visible, that is);
- 20 feet of computer printout sheets;
- 1 inflatable banana;
- 1 horse;

- 1 stereo speaker;

- 2 people with cameras (one taking a picture of the photographer taking the picture);

- 1 Fiat convertible;
- 1 golf cart;
- 1 piano;

- 8 people on other people's backs;
- 1 surfboard;
- and a host of other things.

Look carefully at expressions. One girl with her mouth wide open. Others laughing or shouting. Mike Dum looking the wrong way. A whole crowd watching Neal Bushoven hide behind Warren Anderson and Betsy Neff. George Melton dwarfing his surroundings. Peg Kays and Fran Newbold in costume.

It is a frozen moment of life. A portrait of a college as people. It is you.



CONVERSION to a private line phone system in the dorms continues at a casual pace, but Julian Davis, the college business manager, says the switchover will be complete by Nov. 10.

M. C. Richards Here This Week

Mary Caroline (M. C.) Richards, author of "Centering" and "The Crossing Point," will be in residence at St. Andrews November 10-15 to give a series of informal talks, readings and pottery demonstrations.

Ms. Richards - who in the early fifties taught English and writing at Black Mountain College the famed experimental school in western North Carolina - gained wide recognition as a poet, potter and philosopher following the publication of her first book, "Centering", which became a best-seller shortly after it appeared in 1964.

In recent years, Ms. Richards has not been tied to any one school or institution, but has instead travelled widely, demonstrating her pottery techniques, reading from her writings and entering into dialogues with those who share her concerns.

"I am an odd bird in both academic and craft worlds," she admits, "perhaps because I am a poet, and thus, by calling, busy with seeing the similarities between things ordinarily thought to be different."

Composer John Cage, another former Black Mountaineer who visited St. Andrews recently, has expressed admiration for Ms. Richards' wholistic approach to life, art and education, remarking that "the subject she teaches isn't listed in the catalogues. Sooner or later we know we're studying with her."

M. C. Richards' visit to St. Andrews will be the most recent in a continuing series of readings, lectures and performances by artists and thinkers formerly associated with Black Mountain College, who began coming to St. Andrews during the college's 1974 Black Mountain Festival.

Among these have been Buckminster Fuller, Jonathan Williams, Robert Creeley, John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Ed Dorn and Fielding Dawson.

An exhibit of Ms. Richards' pottery will be on display in St. Andrews' Vardell Art Gallery throughout her visit, and will officially open on Monday, Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. with a gallery talk by the artist. On Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Richards will read from her writings in Granville Hall, and on Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. she will present a pottery demonstration at the St. Andrews Crafts Center.

During the rest of the week, Ms. Richards will be on campus to meet and talk with members of the St. Andrews community and any interested visitors.

MONDAY-FRIDAY:

M. C. Richards in residence at SA. Monday, 8 p.m. Gallery talk, Varden Gallery. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Poetry reading, New Meck lounge. Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Pottery demonstration, Craft Center.

NOVEMBER 6-7:

Last two performances of "Land of the Dragon," a Chinese children's fantasy presented by the theatre department. 1:30 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Auditorium.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7:

St. Andrews Review benefit, featuring Carolyn Kizer, Waverly Land, Judith Johnson Sherwin, et al. 7:30 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Auditorium. Tickets \$6 single, \$10 a couple.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7:

CUB Dance with the band "Hardwood." 8 p.m. in the College Union.

WINTER TERM internships with state agencies are again being offered. Notices have been posted about the campus. See Prof. Fouke, LA 128, for applications.

This Week

ALL WEEK:

SA Senior Kim McRae's photography exhibit on display in the Varden Gallery.