

News Perspectives

Highlights of the Summer

by Natasha Kennedy

In case you were among the unlucky people who were not able to grace St. Aug's campus this summer, listed below are some of the highlights of the summer:

1. **St. Augustine College's Upward Bound Program.** For the third summer in a row, I had the opportunity and the honor of working with St. Aug's Upward Bound Program.

Upward Bound is an enrichment program offered to high school sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduating seniors from all over Nash County.

During the summer, the students stay on campus while taking enrichment courses offered by St. Aug. The program was cool, the students' attitudes were cool, but as usual, the classrooms were hot!

2. **National Teacher's Convention.** The title of this convention should be "The Invention of a Brand-New St. Aug for a week for The National Teacher's Convention."

Augites, you would not believe some of the things that were done when St. Aug hosted this conference for **ONE WEEK** this summer. First of all, the second, third and fifth floors (because Upward Bound students stayed on the fourth floor) of Weston Hall looked like hotel rooms, equipped with new bed linen, towels, and soap in the bathrooms.

And, guess what? Every

one of the rooms had phones installed and turned on—**FREE OF CHARGE!**

That's not all. The lobbies on these floors were equipped with full-sized refrigerators, **MICROWAVES**, and 25" television sets!

(St. Aug was generous enough to put a television set and a VCR on the fourth floor for Upward Bound and our phones were also turned on free of charge. Thanks!)

I can understand St. Aug trying to accommodate these teachers, because it presents a great image to the world about St. Aug, but just think about how many possible prospective students are in Upward Bound. Why not give these students some type of incentive to entice them to come to St. Aug?

Not surprisingly, some of the teachers from the Convention told me that they were treated so well

that they can hardly wait to come back next year.

3. **Summer School:** Of course, St. Aug had its usual Summer School session. Students attending summer school were either repeating a class, taking enrichment classes, wanting to graduate early or simply wanting to graduate at all.

4. **Freshman Orientation:** This summer, St. Aug held three Freshman Orientations. Judging from the increase in Freshman enrollment this semester, it would seem that many of them

were very impressed with the College.

The other day, a freshman was telling me that she couldn't wait until the new Student Health Center with the Olympic-sized pool was built. Funny—I've been saying the same thing for the past four and a half years. But, I'm not discouraged because St. Aug did finish building the New Men's Residence Hall!

5. **New Men's Residence Hall.**

See! At St. Aug, dreams do become realities. When I heard about the plans to build the dorm about a year ago, I knew that it would not take long before the dorm would be built and occupied by students.

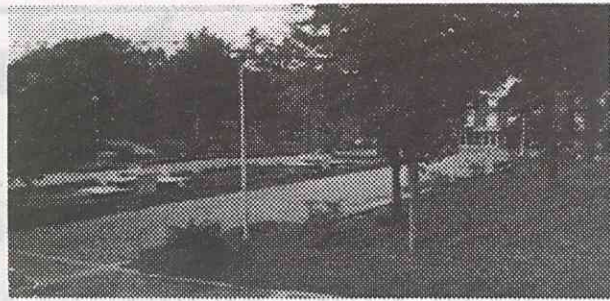
The dorm couldn't look better. To its occupants, let's keep it that way!

6. **Loss of St. Aug alumna and Raleigh Police Officer Denise Holden:** The end of the summer was not a pleasant one. The loss of Denise Holden on August 4, 1995, was felt not only on St. Aug's campus, it was also felt in the Raleigh community.

I had the pleasure of knowing Denise and living in the same dorm (Delany Hall) with her before she graduated in 1994.

In fact, when I saw her about three weeks before her death, she greeted me with her usual "What's up, Tosha" just like she did everytime I saw her.

As someone stated, "You couldn't have known a more genuine person." We miss you Denise!



On the homefront

by
C. N. Azitis

The Saint Augustine's College campus does have a certain charm about it. The trees stand their ground as flowers accent a certain tranquility that belies the burst of activities. And the ambiance pervades the quadrangle. But perhaps it is actually the people themselves that make it thus... students and others adding flavor to the mix.

The facilities are not necessarily as we might sometimes expect. Half of the time half of the blame must surely rest with us students, particularly when we fail to maintain what is rightfully ours through our silence. It may not seem to impact on us directly at that point, but it may exact an exorbitant cost in the long run. Address it or be willing to endure it. Use your own discretion.

The teaching/learning environment may sometimes seem to leave much to be desired. Well, our first priority is to educate ourselves—“None but ourselves can free our minds”. Face it, it's a two way street. We usually get what we ask for, sometimes less, but certainly no more. And when we simply settle for what is given, we shortchange ourselves. High expectations serve us better than do low. Occasionally, one may have to demand more in the way of instruction, for any instructor who does not push us, may be miseducating us. The door should always be open to change.

Self-pride and self-worth are not necessarily one and the same. We need never ask more of another than we demand of ourselves. Quite simply, we are accountable for our own actions. And we should be held accountable. If we are not part of the solution, then perhaps we should best reexamine our reason for being here at the college. And what about Falcon Pride? We can't have it both ways. And excuses are like — well, everyone has one! Let's get the ball moving and stop fooling around. After all, you seem to like calling Saint Aug's home... too!

St Aug professor at UN Women's Conference

by
Dawn Randolph

St. Aug's own, Dr. Julia Dreyden, an assistant professor of English, was one of more than 20,000 women from around the world in Huairou, China, for the 5th United Nations Women's Conference.

"The conference was so inspiring that I have already changed the content of my classes to share my experience," she said.

The three-week conference is usually held every five years to discuss world-wide issues affecting women. There were representatives from countries like Kuwait, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Sudan, New Zealand, Japan, Germany, Switzerland, and Canada.

Dreyden was chosen to attend the conference when she received state-wide recognition for writing, "The Glorious Stories of Women", which was staged by students from St. Aug. Being an active member of the North Carolina Women's Forum and North Carolina Council for Women, in which she assisted in the 75th Women Suffrage Anniversary celebrations, she was well equipped to represent North

Carolina and Saint Augustine's College as joined thousands of other women advocates.

"The most powerful topic was on genital mutilation and female circumcision," she recalled. "Women must be informed that these customs are not only unhealthy but can be deadly."

Though Dreyden was thoroughly impressed with the discussions which also highlighted domestic violence, she expressed serious concern about pedophilia (sexual perversion and activity with children). "I believe that many of the problems that women suffer stem from pedophilia," she commented.

Aware of the urgency for young women to be activists, Dreyden hopes that St. Aug. will be able to send female student leaders to the next conference, due to take place in 2005. "There are too few of us (women) standing up for the many," she declared. "When women stand together, we formalize power."



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