

Monsters, Slaves Will Invade May Dell

Day Will Include Early Chapel, Picnic Supper And IRS Dance

By Jean Calhoun

Crepe paper, burlap bags, beats of a drum, worried heads, graying hair and date problems are all symbols of Salem's May Day. When the campus changed from drab gray to perky pea green yellow the May Day "big wheels" began to stir their golden wands in the air and beseech their Muses for inspiration.

The idea—that of the May Day Pageant—was born. The mother was Betty Parks and her little helpers were Jane Watson, assistant inspirationist, and Ann Sprinkle, first vice-president in charge of typing. The electric current that made the little Brain Child come to life was *Gulliver's Travels*, "Parts of which I had read one time," Parks said.

Stevie Helps With Dialogue

The Child shaped into adolescence and more ideas were thrown in. Even Stevie Gramley threw. One day when the script writers were frantically searching for inspiration, Stevie appeared and they solicited his help. Consequently parts of the dialogue will be in his own words.

The plot of the pageant centers around Rooney Barnes, a traveler who is a "combination of Robinson Crusoe, Lemuel Gulliver and Moses." He, the traveler, searches for perfect happiness, a place of unmarred beauty. He finds, instead, monsters who have enslaved peasants. The queen and her court appear; their beauty breaks the spell of wickedness of the monsters and frees the slaves. This is the plot, unrehearsed.

Rooney Practices Barefoot

This is the plot as rehearsed. Rooney laments as she practices bare footed in the darkness of the May Dell. "Pook, the chief monster," she says, "Chased me down a rough rocky path."

Miss Reigner suggested that for a dramatic effect we "throw the monsters in the creek and drown them." The monsters find that they wouldn't have to die but could become beautiful and get back into the act.

Dee Allen strikes the drum; Jo Bell clangs the symbols, and the slaves and monsters move to its monotone beats. "The dance movements, Parks says, grew from little dances I learned in my Girl Scout troop."

The duet, composed of Ernestine Kapp and Nell Philips, practices an old folk song, "In May," which "I dug up in the library," quote Parks.

Linda March rehearses her bal-

let and Betsy Liles "makes like a leap frog."

Sally Senter, May Day Vice-Chairman, was nobody's "yes man". She even suggested that since there seems no present solution to the problem of the monsters shrinking away, that "We use alum—that'll shrink 'em!" Her most painful experience in preparation for the big day was blundering through a local five-and-ten early one Monday morning loaded with one ton of burlap and a half ton of cambric for the costumes. She sums up her May Day feelings with "It's been a hard fight, Mother!!"

Betty and Sally both flaked when they thought of rain. If rain comes, as rain might, they will move body, soul, characters, and props "in from the swamps to Memorial Hall."

Dance Has Rainbow Theme

"Somewhere Over the Rainbow, that's the theme of the dance," said Elsie Macon, I. R. S. President. Jane Fearing, and Willie Rhyne, decoration chairmen, report that everything will be "very rain-bowie—pink, blue, green, lavender and yellow." Pastel crepe paper will stream from the ceiling with balloons hanging in the center "not

May Day Events

- 7:30 a.m. Choral Ensemble Sings to May Queen
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Devotional in Front of Science Building
- 5:00 p.m. May Day Pageant in May Dell
- 6:00 p.m. Buffet Supper in Corrin Refectory
- 9:00 p.m. Formal Dance in Gymnasium
- 1:00 a.m. All In

too high but high enough." Angel hair clouds will float above. There will be a little garden complete with a summer house "that's six feet tall" and a wishing well.

Gym To Have Bridge

It has been arranged for a huge rainbow to settle at the far end of the gym — complete with a bridge underneath and a pot of shiny gold at one end. Were the Troll to be at the dance, he would surely complain because of the "trump, trump, trumping, over my bridge." For the members of the May Court will come over the bridge, meet their dates and form the figure in the shape of a rain-



Nell Philips, Ernestine Kapp and Rooney Barnes stop for a rest during the May Day rehearsals in the May Dell. Nell and Ernestine will sing a duet in the pageant, and Rooney will play the part of the traveler.

bow. Monie Rowland, May Queen, and her date Bobbie Stockton of Winston-Salem will be in the center of the figure.

Dance Dates Chosen

Other members of the court and their dates will be Flossie Cole with Bill Donahoo of Winston-Salem, Lou Davis with Ray Deal of Morganton, Jane Watson with Pat Kelley of Winston-Salem, Peggy Bonner with John Ferebee of Elizabeth City, Ann Hobbs with Dr. William Helsabeck of King, Connie Barnes with Don Darnes of Wilson, Ann Hughes with Ed Lamb of Winston-Salem, Peggyan Alderman, Caroline Ross with Ralph Harbison of Morganton, Cacky Post with Jimmy Connelley of Morganton, Sara Tulloch with Winslow Ballew of Marion, Sara Sue Tisdale with Ralph Holt of Burlington and Pheobe Barnhardt with Carl Furr of Concord. The girls in the court will wear full length dresses with bolero jackets and big picture hats. They will carry flowers that will be "prettier than ever before."

Reg Marshall Will Play

Music for floating on earth below the floating clouds will be furnished by Reg Marshall's orchestra. Ann Evans will sing a few songs.

The receiving line will be composed of Monie Rowland and her date; Elsie Macon and her date, Steve Jones and the chaperones—Dr. and Mrs. Gramley, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Heidbreder, Miss Smoke and Mr. and Mrs. Martin.

"Tres gaie" Japanese lanterns will decorate "the veranda, that is, the front porch of the gym," said Elsie. Refreshments will be served on the porch during intermission. Salem's belle and "tuxed and tailed" gentlemen will eat salted nuts, munch and crunch cookies and partake of "mixed drinks." (Ginger ale mixed with lime sherbet.)

Tonight the marshals will raid Miss Anna's pansy bed of those funny faced flowers to be used in the morning devotional. Miss Anna will help them because the pansies must be "pinched not pulled." "If there are not enough pansies here," said Cynthia May, acting chief marshal, "We'll baffle the city police with a series of

pansy thefts." It's a traditional thing—the giving out of pansies. Everybody has to have one.

But at eight o'clock the day is still young, and the marshals still must "work, work, work." Before passing out and taking their swollen red feet out of white high heels, they must pass out programs, usher and tactfully remove trespassers from the 250 seats that are reserved for the faculty and the families and guests of the May Court. (P. S. these reserved seats will only be held until 4:30; then they may be occupied by average "peons.")

Marshals To Wear White

All the marshals will be garbed in white for their first important outing. The Shope twins will wear "white suits just alike—not seersucker — but Sacony." Marshals for the Morning Devotional will be Cynthia May, Caroline Ross, Jean and Joan Shope, Euber Roberts, June Williams and Patsy Gattis. "Extra hands" for the afternoon pageant will be Betty Tyler, Dot Smothers, Mary Lou Whiteheart and Jean Calhoun.

The marshals will be allowed to rise at 5:30 May Day morning to see that everything is set up "according to Hoyle." They'll have to piddle around in the May Dell and cover the campus many times. "I think I'll get up at 4:30," Caroline Ross said, "I like to be prompt."

Monie Rowland, the May Queen, was "so upset" because of an article appearing in a local newspaper describing her oval face, green eyes and "even my teeth." The article reported unauthentically that she said, "I'm footloose and fancy free—for a while." Her May Day dress, she said, came last week and is white with a lace bodice and peplem with illusion net underneath. She plans, like many daughters, to let, "Mother touch it up Saturday when she gets here."

Clewell Dorm has been swamped with evening dress boxes, and Bright knows that they are "dance dresses." Salem girls have begun ironing their dresses. "I usually do about fifteen or twenty," she said, "and, law, those ruffles!"

Tonight Salem dorms will echo with "May I borrow your—", "Do you suppose a big beautiful orchid

will clash with my ultra-violet and red stripped dress?" "I'll have to cut about an inch off of my high heels; he's so short!" and "Dern those cokes I drank—I can't get in my dress."

When hungry stomachs begin to growl and people begin to eye their watches, wishing for the hand to rush to six o'clock, good smells from the kitchen fight for survival with the Winston tobacco smell. The kitchen scent will come from ham biscuits, chicken salad, cheese sandwiches, Russian tea, peach salad and tarts of brownies. The meal will be the traditional buffet style, plus organ music. Russell added a note of encouragement to his good food news by saying, "No, I don't think it'll rain Saturday."

May Day Morning Arrives

May Day morning will come and Betty will comb her graying red hair, Sally will rejoice that Betty didn't have measles, Elsie and her committees will clorox crepe paper stained hands, Salem, in general will fuss because the right side of their hair turns up and the left side turns down, Rooney will get a big stick and "beat the snakes out of the May Dell," marshals will fold 2500 pageant programs and the sun will shine!!!

Campus Shots

Everyone praying for a sunny May Day . . . Sally Reiland writing term papers . . . Marian Lewis chasing Furney Baker through South . . . Kitty Burrus and Joan Rutherford still holding their sides when they laugh . . . Mid-night oil burning in the *Salemite* office getting out the May Day issue . . . Seniors lining up jobs for next year . . . Joann White playing the "Lost Note" on the dining room organ . . . Choral Ensemble journeying to Wilmington . . . Cripples hobbling around campus . . . Mildred Spillman being feted three times in one day . . . Diane Knott taking a shower fully clothed . . . Seniors planning closed house for the last three weeks of school . . . Elsie, Jane and Willie directing the gym decorations . . . Apologies to Betty McCrary—She didn't thumb from Duke; her car broke down.



Jean Shope, Bessie Smith and Faye Lee sit on the floor of the gym making lanterns and blowing up balloons to be used for decorations for the I. R. S. dance.