

WELCOME
FRESHMEN

The Salemite

GLAD
YOU'RE HERE

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Orientation Group To Welcome New Students With Full Days

Freshmen To See Salem, To Graduate In 200th Year



... and now you are a Freshman. You are a stander-in-line; a signer of last name, first name, middle initial; a wearer of a name tag; a receiver of chair, desk, bed, and dream; a member of the class of 1972—a Freshman.

Being a freshman is a little frightening; being a freshman is lots of fun... best of all, it is exciting, it is unique—it is beginning.

College is hard work, homework, slow work, no work. It is listening, talking, thinking, walking, seeing, being... This is college, this and more—college, perhaps is many doors.

To be sure, the doors around Salem are all standing wide open while new faces stream in and out them. These doors signify the wide and open welcome to Salem which swings backwards and forwards, upwards and downwards—even "sideways!"

Through all the years—yes, even through all the two hundred and sixteen years from 1772 until 1968—the welcome could never have been more sincere than it is today. Forty-seven orienters are on hand to introduce you to our way of life at Salem. What is life around the Square? It would take about nine months to even begin to give you a fair estimation, and that would only be scratching the surface. From now through Founder's Day, through the day when the

leaves drop off the ginkgo tree in God's Acre, through Senior Follies, through the Christmas Tea and tree lighting, through Russell's kitchen party, through IRS weekend, through May Day, through Parent's Day and through your final exams next May, you will discover just what makes Salem unique. You are now a part of Salem—a part of the sisterhood right here.

It's a red-letter year! Hopes for a happy and beneficial year, not only academically but also socially have never been higher. Plans are brewing all over the campus. Clubs and organizations are reaching out for you. Thus, the year's success will depend in a large measure upon you and your interest. You are the ones who can make the dreams of the campus leaders come true. Surely, the ivy will continue to climb and the bells will chime off, on, and around the hour, but Salem needs more than ivy, bricks, and bells—Salem needs all 150—more of you to become a vigorous part of her spirit.

We, who are a part of the Salem Spirit now, welcome you to our way of life and raise cheers and toasts to you. College, perhaps, is many doors, and you are standing at these portals which open up new avenues on a new adventure. It is exciting; it is unique; it is beginning.

Sara Hunt
Chairman, Orientation

Grades Hard To Change

Ann Arbor, Mich. — (IP.) — If you're an "A" student, you find it hard to change your study habits to earn only a "C" grade — even when that's all that is necessary and all you want to achieve.

This seems to be the result of an experimental "pass-fail" option adopted by the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Beginning last winter, seniors were permitted to take one course outside their major field of study on a pass-fail basis, with the credits to count toward graduation but not toward their final grade-point average. This year the faculty has extended the privilege to junior students as well. In general, students have welcomed the innovation as giving them a chance for academic exploration.

But compilation of grades achieved by 178 of the 203 students who took advantage of the option in its first year indicates that the "good students" did their usual level of work in the pass-fail course. The pass-fail students were in the same classes as students taking the course under the traditional grading and credit system.

The instructor gave all students the traditional letter grades, but for those enrolled on a pass-fail basis, the registrar recorded only "pass" for those making C or better, and "fail" for those getting D's or E's.

Of the 178 students, 98.5 per cent passed their courses. If grades had been given, 19.5 per cent would have received A's, 58 per cent B's, 21 per cent C's, 1 per cent D's, and

5 per cent E's.

The level of performance of the pass-fail students in the courses was similar to their general grade point average for all work taken in the University. In other words, A students continued to make A's.

Charles Pascal, a research associate who conducted the study for the Center for Research and Learning and Teaching, comments: "We were surprised that students were not more adept at playing this new academic game."

He said that even though the students sought only to achieve a C, or passing level, their previous years of "academic conditioning" made it difficult if not impossible to do so. The students themselves were surprised, he says. One pass-fail student expressed it this way:

"I'm trying hard not to work and I still made a B-plus on the mid-term exam. I find myself trying to do the minimum amount of work to get a C. Otherwise I am frustrated that I am wasting time in the (pass-fail) course that I could be spending on the other courses in which grades are recorded."

Pascal recommends pass-fail sections in which all students are enrolled on the pass-fail system. He cites the example of "two lonely mathematics majors" who enrolled in a course in the history of art on a pass-fail basis.

Since at least a third of the students in the class were "majors" in history of art, the math students not only were out of their depth, but felt compelled to respond to the competitive pressure for grade achievement, he points out.

To the Class of 1972,

As the official spokesman for the Orientation Committee, I, the Pied Piper of Salem Square, want to be among the first of many to welcome you to Salem. All the upper classmen and I hope that you will love Salem as much as we do. You, the Class of 1972, mark the two hundredth birthday of Salem College. Through her two hundred years Salem has established many traditions which you will become very familiar with during your first year at Salem. My first duty as your Pied Piper of Salem Square will be to tell you about the wonderful Salem traditions; so come follow me!

Salem's first tradition is the assembly marking the formal opening of the academic year. At this assembly, you will see the other three classes and the entire faculty; it is all quite impressive.

Salem's second tradition is a service for the entire student body at the Home Moravian Church on the first Sunday of the school year. This will give you a chance to meet Dr. Hughes who is pastor of the Home

Church and an opportunity to learn a little more about the Moravian faith.

On a warm afternoon in early October, all classes are suspended, and everyone rushes down to the hockey field to celebrate as wildly and as loudly as possible the founding of Salem. This is Founders' Day! The celebration ends with the announcement of the class that has won the most points during the day. Each class is judged for its spirit, its skit, and the number of events won in the afternoon competition. In a blaze of glory, the winning class dashes out to the Tavern or the Trophy Room to celebrate its victory.

And suddenly it's Christmas! Around Salem Square, this is the happiest and most beautiful time of the year. The Christmas Banquet, Christmas Candle Vespers, Christmas Putz in Old Salem, Senior Christmas Carolling and the Y's Orphanage Christmas Party are completely guaranteed to keep you in the Christmas spirit all through the holiday. I promise to do my part by blowing my magic horn

and decorating the Square with at least three inches of pure white snow!

Exams are a little less traumatic with Dean Johnson's Coffee and Russell's Kitchen Party. After exams, you can look forward to Ivy and Tree Planting by the seniors, the Birthday Dinner for all students, and of course May Day with the pageant and crowning of the May Queen. While the juniors are burning their hats in preparation to inherit the caps and gowns of the seniors, the seniors are busy attending dinners and teas and preparing to graduate. The seniors also sit together at meals during the last three weeks of school.

And suddenly it's summer, and you are all sophomores and eagerly await the chance to "look down on" a new freshmen, and as your Pied Piper let me not only guide you through the traditions of Salem but also through every phase of life at Salem.

Welcome again to the class of '72.

Sincerely,

The Pied Piper of Salem Square