

Senior Dorms, Do Or Die: Or, Compared With Annual Room Drawing, Vietnam Was A Picnic

by Laura Day

If there's anything other than registration that provokes more wailing, weeping, and gnashing of teeth, then it's got to be room drawing. It happens only once a year but something that one little piece of business can transform an entire campus of Salem females into a vicious, clawing horde.

Take for instance some rising seniors that we'll call Meg, Sue, Patty, and Jan. This Fearsome Foursome has shared the same dorm popper, showered on the same hall, and answered the same question for the past three years. They're not about to drop such an intimate relationship just because friends Sally and Ann want to move to the local Hilton (after all, Mama and Daddy are going to pay). The Foursome tries to convince Sally and Ann to move with them to the Dorm of the Eternal Sisters, but the latter declare they'll never live in "that gasty" and walk off with their noses scraping the moon.

Two hours pass. Sally and Ann decide that maybe room service isn't everything after all. They descend to stay on campus if and only if they can live in Northern Hall. "Great", says the Foursome. "We'll move over there too." "Great", says the Dean, who vetoed the Hilton from the

first. "No dice", says the class president.

"This year our class wants senior dorms and only senior dorms and we'll fight and die for senior dorms. Northern Hall is not a senior dorm."

The president pronounces this verdict with the authority of a hundred Martha Mitchells. But the Foursome doesn't give up.

"We'll move to Gamecock," they say.
 "Gamecock is not a senior dorm."
 "Then we'll move to Family."
 "I'm sorry but Family is not a senior dorm, either."
 "Well then, damn it, what's left?"
 "Chewing."
 "Chewing!!! We'll live in fourth floor Main Hall before we live in Chewing," they scream.

By this time the class president is glowering. Every night for the past week her flock has been fighting over dorms. They've looked at every dorm on campus and changed their selections six times.

"I am sorry," she says, "but the Dorm of the Eternal Sisters and Chewing are the only choices since we all want senior dorms. And we all want senior dorms, don't we girls?"

"Senior dorms, me oh my,

We like them better than apple pie.

If we don't get them we surely will die,

Hurray for senior dorms!"

The Fearsome Foursome, realizing their defeat (and the utter idiocy of the class song), agree to join their class in senior dorms. Sally and Ann even condescend to live in the Dorm of the Eternal Sisters, but only if:

(1) the college promises to send in an Orkin man every week and

(2) the dorm mother provides a free can of Raid in case of an unexpected attack.

"Agreed," says the Dean. "Agreed," says the president. "Agreed," says the class. And a rare peace settles over the juniors.

Meanwhile, back at Gamecock, the sophomores are having a meeting. The class has polarized into two factions, the Weak Dorm clique and those who want to move to Northern Hall. After a few minor skirmishes, the class finally settles for Weak and Northern Hall, with a few brave souls volunteering to remain in Family and Cruelle.

Cruelle — did I say Cruelle? People are not actually volunteering to stay there, are they?

You can bet the freshmen aren't, at least. Right now they're all down at Lehman, drawing for rooms. You'd never guess that this is what's going on, however. It looks more like an assault with the entire class pitted against the Dean. Talk about weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth — Vietnam was a picnic compared to this! Just witness a few threats:

"I will not stay in Cruelle another year — I absolutely refuse to suffer purgatory before my time, and I'll commit suicide before I sign up for that dorm again."

"The Cruelle rec room is too tacky for words."

"The ceilings are too high and the sinks burp."

"I'd major in nuclear physics before I'd room there again."

"I hate to look at green pool water in November."

"My father is going to kill you!"

The Dean calmly signs her life away as sixty-five miserable freshmen are committed to Cruelle for another year. The sun sets on Roomdrawing 1974 and peace reigns again — 'til next year.

Foxtrot To Gym For Dancing Tips

Want to try something fun, yet different? Have you always envisioned yourself as another Ginger Rogers? Then come to the Ballroom Dancing Classes held each Thursday night from 7:00 to 8:15 in the gym.

Taught by Becky, a Wake Forest coed, the classes have been in session now for two weeks. There will be two more sessions including this week's class. Dances being taught include the foxtrot, the swing, the shag, the boxstep, and the tenstep. Interested boys from Wake Forest serve as partners or you can BYOB — bring your own boy. Partners rotate so everyone can learn to adapt to dancing with people of different heights.

The dancers are talking about the good times they have at these classes and they urge those interested to come.

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