



# The Salemite



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**CLUB CARNIVAL** - Campus clubs gathered on Sept. 15 to recruit members and publicize plans. (Photo by Mildred Thomasson)

## Interdorm Update

By Anne Beidleman

Petitioning for Interdorm Chairman was over Friday, Sept. 16 and the one petition for the office was regrettably withdrawn because the petitioner had another office she wanted to keep rather than become Interdorm Chairman. The problem of Interdorm Chairman, or lack of one, went to Executive Board which met for two hours without resolution. Executive Board took the problem to Legislative Board with the recommendation that the decision regarding a chairman be postponed.

According to the Student Handbook, Legislative Board has the power "at the end of the petitioning period, in the event that the slate for an office is empty,....to complete the ballot with the name of any eligible candidate who gives her consent." The members of Leg. Board unanimously decided not to exercise this power. They also decided to defer the election of a chairman of Interdorm; to allow the Interdorm Council to set-up a temporary chairman; and to commission Legislative Board to re-evaluate Interdorm Council's structure, purpose, and allotted power.

### Back Door Opening

By Caroline Wannamaker

If you happened to walk behind Main Hall during the morning hours this past week, you might have noticed a congregation of people in a room underneath the back porch. If you then happened to stop, what you would have seen was The Backdoor, Salem's student-faculty lounge.

The Backdoor began its 1977-78 year with an Open House last Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Wine punch, cheese, crackers, and fresh fruit were served. The turn-out was excellent, with representatives from the student body, the faculty, and the administration. Regular hours, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., were resumed Wednesday morning and will continue throughout the school year.

Members of the Student Activities Board and The Backdoor committee operated the lounge during its first week. A different student organization or club will be responsible for Backdoor operation during the morning hours each week. Everyone is always welcome, and we at The Backdoor hope that you will make a habit of stopping by.

After the meeting was over, this reporter interviewed Betty Shull, temporary chairman of Interdorm; Kathy Kirkpatrick, president of SGA; and Anne Piedmont, vice-president of SGA.

Do we need an Interdorm Council? If so, what purpose will it serve?

B.S.: "With the structure it has now, Interdorm Council needs a change. We need one, but as it was discussed there is a definite need for power to return to the dorms. We need Interdorm to promote interaction between the dorms."

K.K.: "We need some sort of Interdorm Council because we have seven dorms and seven House Councils going seven different ways and without Interdorm, competition would increase between the dorms. We need equity between the dorms and Interdorm Council keeps house presidents working together, though I would like to see the House Councils become more powerful and act on infractions. Interdorm Council promotes good communication between the dorms, Exec. Board, and Dean Johnson."

A.P.: "I agree with Kathy that we need Interdorm but with the altered purpose of advising house presidents. I agree that we need a central body that will set policy so there aren't radical differences between Clewell and Sisters. It also needs to be a place where seven dorm presidents can get help with the problems they have in their respective dorms."

Why do you think so few people petitioned for the office of Interdorm Chairman?

A.P.: "Several factors were involved - one is that the Junior class is very small and the office was unopposed in the first place so we should have taken the hint that the office was uninteresting. Also, many who expressed interest in the position had other responsibilities. Perhaps Interdorm is outmoded in its present form - the elections were an indication of the students' attitudes."

K.K.: "Don't blame it on the Junior class. Interdorm has lost its respect in a number of ways. The Junior class is full of natural leaders but they are already leading. No one is gung-ho about taking on an office that has a reputation which is now in question."

Do you think that the lack of interest exhibited by the students is connected to their attitudes about the Interdorm Council itself?

Cont'd. on three

## Symposium Format Changes

By Margaretta Yarborough

"We ought not to have it if it's not first-rate, in every regard." In that remark, Dr. Cuninggim put his finger on the problem facing the Lecture-Assembly Committee as it met last Friday to discuss the fate of the symposium. At that meeting, the committee voted to scrap preparations for a large symposium on "Humor in America." It will concentrate on the same topic in the spring of 1978, but will spread the program over several evenings.

The Salem community has come to expect a symposium every other spring, but the mixed reception of the 1976 symposium on women raised many questions. "The concept of a symposium in the 1970's may be outdated," according to Dr. Pubantz, chairman of the Lecture-Assembly Committee. Also, budgetary considerations are one limiting factor in the final form taken by a symposium. Three thousand dollars is allotted every two years for the symposium, of which a third comes from the school, one third from the Alumnae Association, and the final portion from student SGA fees. With only \$3000, it is difficult if not impossible to plan a full-fledged symposium with top-notch speakers.

Last fall a series of mini-symposia was held to determine a topic for the coming symposium. In the spring, a petition for the topic "Humor in

America" was submitted to the Lecture-Assembly Committee. All decisions on the symposium must be passed by this committee, but a special symposium subcommittee, headed by Anne Beidleman, has so far been in direct charge of planning the symposium. Other members are

Anne Piedmont, Beth Jones, Lynn Hill, Rebecca Lasley, Beth Mumby, Brooke Fauth and Dawn Scott.

To date, the subcommittee has written, researched, and presented four symposium proposals. Three of these were

Cont'd. on four

## Yearbook Editor Named

Staff Report

Rumor HAD it that there was no editor or staff for the 1977-78 *Sights and Insights*, but on Tuesday, Sept. 13, nine staff members were present to hear that Robin Sink had accepted appointment as editor of the yearbook.

Publications Board voted unanimously to appoint Robin as editor, considering both her past yearbook staff experience and her enthusiasm for working on the yearbook this year. As a senior history and education major, Robin also is involved in student teaching, S.N.E.A. and works part-time at the Zeverly House restaurant.

After considering the responsibility carefully, however, Robin accepted and has been working diligently with her staff to organize section editors, photographers and schedule deadlines. Also, she took a work

team to the yearbook office to clean up two years' accumulation of scattered annuals, layout sheets and layers of dust.



Robin Sink

"It didn't look like the office had even been used over the past two years," Robin said, "and it probably was used just for storing pictures. We're definitely planning to use it this year, though."

Cont'd. on two