

Editorial

Concern Over Quality of Life?

A recent letter to the editor began, "As students concerned about the quality of life at Salem..." The letter contained a criticism of the mercenary character of the Founder's Day spirit link competition.

No doubt, the students who wrote the letter truly were voicing their displeasure with a competition they felt adulterated the spirit of Founder's Day, thus supposedly lowering the quality of life at Salem. Long after the letter had been answered and the entire spirit link controversy had been fully analyzed and dissected; (and faded from our memories), the words "as students concerned about the quality of life at Salem" endured and seemed too important to dismiss without a mention of their significance.

Being concerned about the quality of life at Salem does not require a letter to the editor, or membership in a club or organization, or perfect attendance at SGA meetings. It isn't just a concern for timely issues that outrage us momentarily and can be resolved rapidly. True concern translates criticism into positive action. An active interest in the quality of life is not only criticism of what is wrong but encouragement of what is right.

Rarely a week passes without some group appealing to students for input in the discussion of an issue which relates to the quality of life at Salem. We can dismiss such appeals from Executive Board, Student-Faculty Committees, Faculty Task Forces, etc. believing our thoughts will not be considered - or we can respond constructively and creatively. Often the benefits of such involvement may not be readily visible, but true concern for the quality of life here is concern for the present and future of our institution.

Caring about the quality of life at Salem is no minimal commitment, but it is well worth the dedication and involvement it requires.

Jane Dittmann

S.G.A. Reports

By Anne Piedmont

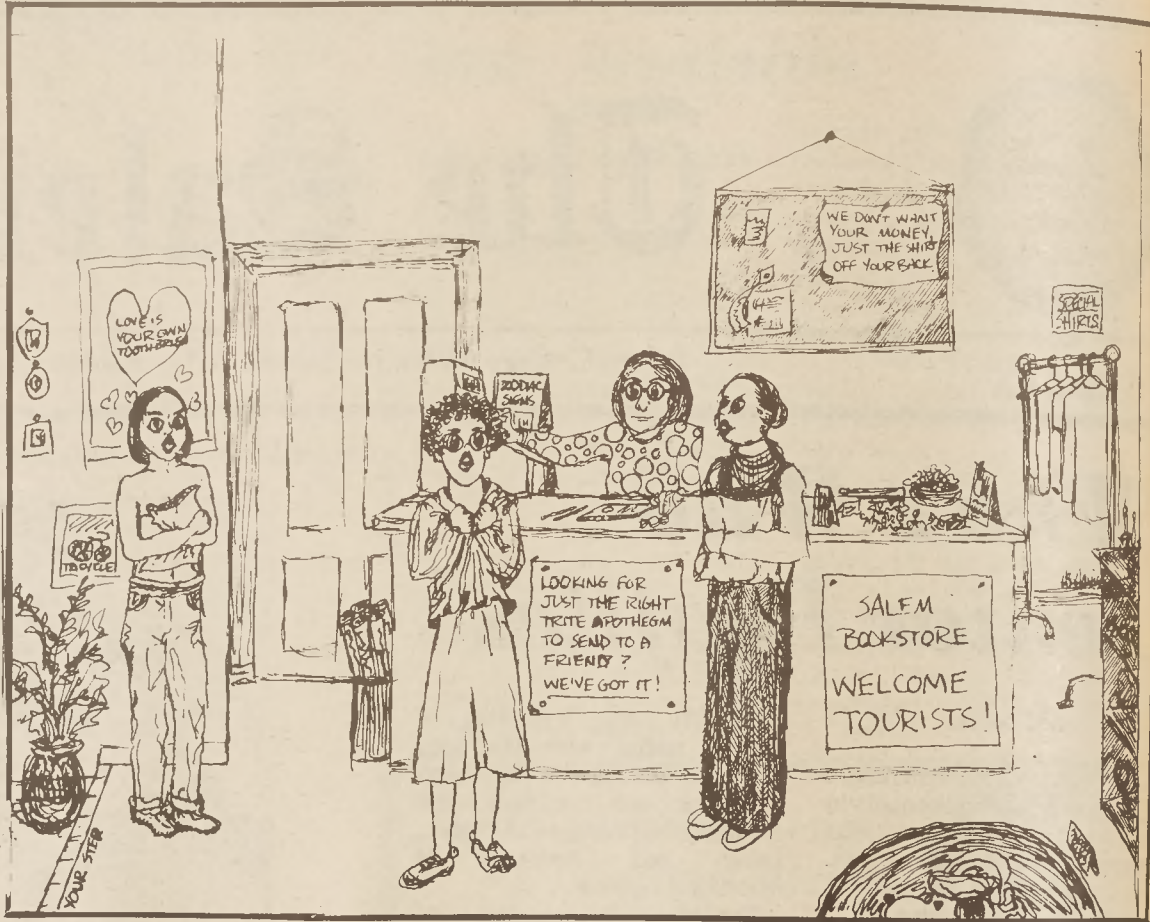
Representatives from 13 southeastern women's colleges will be on campus this weekend for a conference.

The colleges are located throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia, and they run the full spectrum on social and other regulations. The representatives will meet Friday night, Saturday morning and night, and Sunday morning to discuss a variety of topics. Topics include: clubs, visitation, drinking, assemblies, faculty evaluation, faculty advising, student leaders, student-faculty committees, apathy, and student publications.

The weekend should be interesting and informative for all involved. Executive Board hopes to gain insight into how other women's colleges structure their Interdorms and Legislative Boards.

S. G. A. SALUTES

Congratulations to the new Freshman class officers: Moyer Fairey, president; Kathy Marakas, vice-president; Susie Schultz, secretary; and Stephanie Howell, treasurer. Congratulations also go to the Freshman representatives to Student-Faculty Committees, Donna Smith, Curriculum; Jan Patrowiz, Academic Council; Laverne Hales, January; Melissa Weddle, Admissions; and Jennie Smith, Lecture-Assembly. Dana Knopp deserves thanks for all the work she has put into the Alumnae phone-a-thon.



Letters . . .

To the Editor:

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Leigh Shearin and the Big Four Committee for a well-organized and successful Interclub Weekend. The variety of scheduled events was a welcome change and reflected much thought and planning by the members of Big Four.

The costume party sparked much enthusiasm among the student body. It added a relaxed atmosphere and offered the opportunity to be creative and original. The scavenger hunt and the variety of music both Saturday and Sunday were thoroughly entertaining.

In all, the weekend was fun and well-planned, especially considering the limited budget Big Four has to work with. Thanks for all the hard work!

Sarah Kay Jean Fleming
Nancy Frizzell Betsy Bryan
Betsy Hardy Laura Weather-
 spoon
Elizabeth Toney Cindy Merchant

Women Return

Cont'd. from one

girls in her classes. She enjoys listening to them talk while anticipating the day her own children will be college age.

Constance Egbert faces the prospect of being a junior for three more years (two courses per semester), but remains undaunted. "I had gone to UNC-G and applied; they were totally impersonal. Not only were they not helpful, but they lost everything I ever gave them!"

Later she tried Salem, and was impressed with the treatment she received from the minute she walked into Main Hall. She received more guidance and an "extra added touch." According to Connie, the "personal touch was what did it. The people couldn't be nicer, and a returning student sometimes needs that."

Women who come back to

college may find college life out of the ordinary. Stell Snowdon, a home economics major, says that she doesn't feel like a boarder or a day student: "I'm in three different worlds - the working, the school, and me." Lois Hicks with four children, finds her classes take more time away from her family than she likes. "You have to live a double life."

Salem's continuing education program offers many women the chance to begin again and to work toward special goals. "I find that I appreciate it so much more even than when I was at Rutgers (for night school years ago)," says Connie Egbert. She now plans for a certificate in secondary education. "I know that's what I want to do. Before, I didn't care - now I do." But for those still in college for the first time, she says, "If I had to do it all over again, I'd get it over at once."

The Salemite

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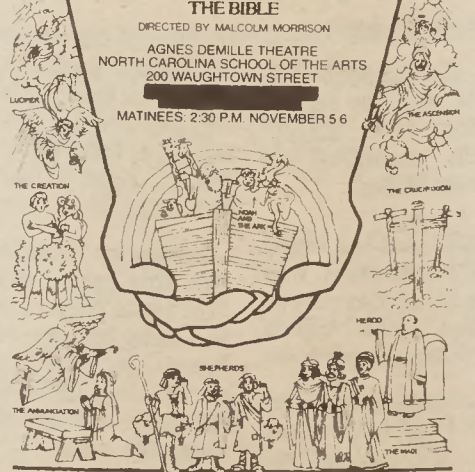
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