

Excuse Me, Mr. President

By Martha Walker

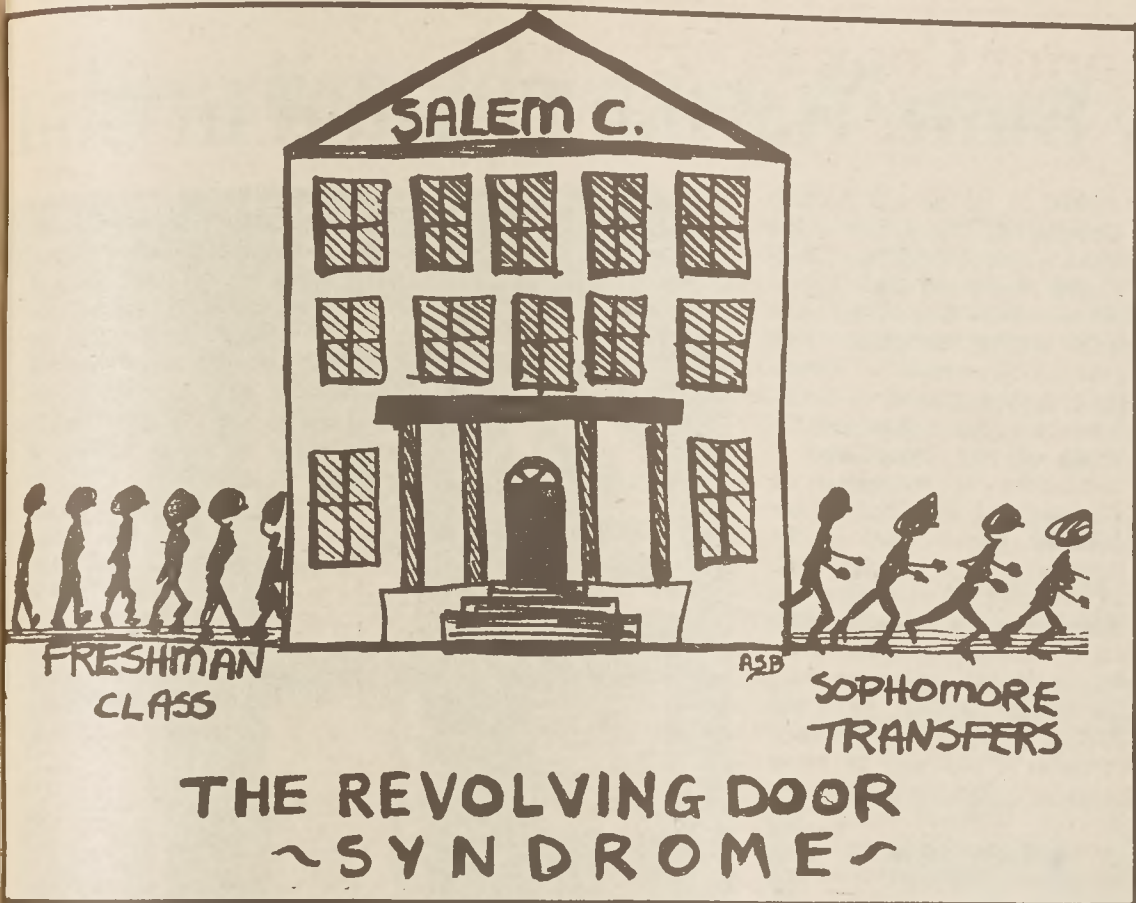
If you can remember your second Sunday here at Salem, perhaps you'll recall that your whole freshman class donned its Sunday best and headed for Home Moravian Church. Perhaps even then you wondered just exactly what the relationship is between Salem College and the Moravian Church. Perhaps some of you feared that there might exist a "Southern Moravian Convention" which would control our every move. A group of this type obviously does not exist, but what influence does the Moravian Church have on us? Is this influence beneficial or harmful?

Dr. Cuninggim is very involved with the question of church-related colleges and has done extensive research and writing in this field. In his speech to the Board of Trustees last fall, he said, "...Salem's relationship with the Moravian Church is an immense asset which needs to be examined by both organizations so as to seize fully on its obvious benefit and to escape its unnecessary pinch." Let us do just that.

When I asked Dr. Cuninggim about our connection with the Moravian Church, he explained that there are very few "organic" connections. Perhaps the most important connection is the fact that a majority of the Board of Trustees (of both the College and Academy) must be Moravians, chosen by the Triennium Synod, a governing body in the Church. There are thirty-nine board members, twenty elected by the Church. These members function and vote individually, not as a church "block". The Moravian Church gives approximately \$16,000 per year to the College to be used for the Chaplain's salary, the religion department, and, possibly, some scholarship for Moravian students. Having these connections defined, my next question concerned the influence of the church on the college. To this Dr. Cuninggim replied, "In regard to tone and temper of the institution, (there is) a great deal (of influence); in regard to specific decisions on curriculum, or budget, or personnel, or student affairs, (there is) very little." He further explained that, "the Board of Trustees is the governing authority; no doubt about it."

I really was curious to know if we are a help or hindrance to each other, often a question raised about church-affiliated schools. Dr. Cuninggim brought to my attention a book about liberal arts education called *Four Critical Years* by Alexander Astin. Dr. Cuninggim said that in his book, Astin points out that the type of college which is fruitful and successful in making the four years of college the most valuable is the "small, liberal arts, single sex institution with a church connection." It seems that Salem suits this description to a tee.

If this is all true, then how do we benefit from each other? Dr. Cuninggim had several answers to this question: "The Church and College recognize each other as joint heirs of a valued tradition ... This college benefits by virtue of its closeness to and its distance from the Moravian Church ... It benefits from freedom and free association." He says that we share mutual concerns, such as a desire for justice, for a healthy atmosphere, and for god human relations, which allows us to have such things as a strong and respected student government and honor code. I think that it is important that we as Salem students understand that, "organic ties are very few; ties of sympathy and understanding are very strong."



New Officers Discuss Plans

Cont'd. from two



MOYER FAIREY



REBECCA BAGGETT

Rebecca Baggett, Day Student Representative to Honor Council.

The Honor System is an important part of Salem which is worth preserving. I wanted to be a member of Honor Council to uphold this code.

During election time, I was surprised to realize that there were so few people running for offices. That was one of the reasons I chose to run.

I am looking forward to working on Honor Council and learning about its procedures.

Letters...

To the Editor:

Dear Editor:



Kahlil Gibran once said, "You give little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be on campus Wednesday, April 5th from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Club Dining Room. In the past, Salem has had a poor and embarrassing showing at the Bloodmobile. In an effort to remedy this lack of participation, a class competition is planned for the event. The class that has the highest percentage of donors will receive a plaque in recognition of its achievement.


This is an excellent opportunity for Salem students, faculty, and staff to contribute to the larger community. By giving a little bit of ourselves we may truly help others. Roll-up your sleeves and revenge the seniors' Founders' Day victory because they plan to win this competition too!

Sarah Parsons

Forsyth County's
Tanglewood
Park

Presents
The Eleventh Annual
Tanglewood Steeplechase
Saturday, April 22, 1978
Gates Open 10 AM - Post Time 2 PM
General Admission \$1 Per Person
Tickets Available On The Campus



An Inner City Meeting Place

**Best Pizza
Anywhere**

Rose n' Thistle
Restaurant
Fine Food, Wines and Beers

107 Lockland Ave. (Near Baptist Hospital)

Mon.-Thur. 11-11
Fri. & Sat. 11-12
Sun. 5-11

Salemite deadline, staff meetings every Monday, 4:30 p.m. Salemite office (below Student Center).