

## Editorial

As our last dance weekend is upon us and most of us are planning our last few weekends of this school year, we sometimes neglect the fact that we are at Salem for academic reasons.

Last year, as a freshman, I looked forward to fun in the spring and finishing up my first year in college. During that second semester I no longer felt like a newcomer. I had made many new friends and I was eager to become involved in school activities. Then, towards the end of the year came the Honors Assembly. I was more impressed and felt more of a closeness with the school than I had felt all year.

This assembly, where students are awarded for academic excellence and talents of every kind, showed me the love and respect that students and faculty feel for each other. When one girl would win an award, everyone there was proud of her.

I wish I could feel that way year around; that all of us are aware of the academic excellence around us and respect that as part of the knowledge that Salem stimulates. Let us especially be aware of others' achievements this spring as we think of NMUN, where our students performed outstandingly among schools of high academic reputation -- as we think of music awards and scholarships granted. And I look forward to the award assembly to renew my feeling that students at Salem are aware of others' efforts and proud of their accomplishments.

Joan Gentry

To some members of our society who believe in "the bigger the better" motto, Salem College may seem like a little red schoolhouse among the larger universities that abound in this country. But one will find here in our small but admirable academic community a full share of outstanding students. Within the past few weeks a number of Salem students have been noted for their academic excellence. I would like to acknowledge these students in this week's editorial.

The Salemite extends many congratulations and much praise to Fulbright scholar, Arie Tubb. Winning this scholarship is indeed a great achievement on Arie's part and a source of pride to Salem College.

Congratulations are also in order for those students who participated in the National Model United Nations. Portraying the delegation from Tunisia, Salem College was honored with special recognition, a second place Certificate of Merit.

Salem can also boast fullheartedly on this accomplishment.

While I still have pen in hand I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge another individual. This particular person is not a student and did not even win an award (though one would be fitting) but recognition is well deserved.

This past week was the most infamous at Salem due to a certain unpleasant event that must take place every year. Specifically, I am referring to room drawing and anyone who is willing enough to take on the dreadful task of assigning rooms ought to win something - preferably a two week vacation in the Bahamas when it's all over.

Well, I am sure you know by now that the individual I speak of is Dean Johnson. Room assigning is an impossible job and she does the best she can - trying to please everyone isn't easy. Now that the week of crying and complaining over rooms is over maybe you can give some thought to Dean Johnson. I think she deserves a great, big thank-you, stiff drink and a ticket to Nassau!

Missy Littleton

## Letters

The F.I.T.S. and FOOLS Costume Dinner held last week certainly provided superb amusement for all of us who were present. Costumes such as "Wake Forest girl at the beach," "IRS date," and "Trashed Freshmen" immediately instigated great laughter from the crowd. Because of their originality and unequaled sense of humor, they were highly applauded by everyone. However, there were two costumes which were shockingly daring. I specifically refer to the one titled "Father and his dirty habits," whereby mockery and burlesque were taken to the limits of degradation and even blasphemy. Such a mundane and irreverent act not only indicates hollow morals, but also an absence of Christian values.

Cynthia A. Heath

Dear Editor,

"THE" South abounds with persistent myths: that we all (not unlike "you all") talk like the Shake and Bake commercial, that all "men" are gentlemen, that life after death is found in your geneology, and that "girls" should go to a "girls school" for two years and then transfer to T.H.E. University. But like all good southerners we find ways to question the validity of such misconceptions.

It seems that the proverbial sophomore malise has struck Salem C.: transferitis non knowumwhy. Everyone at one point or another questions their college choice and if they don't question their choice, they question why they are not questioning, well everybody else is aren't they??? The unfortunate aspect of transferitis non knowumwhy is that one battles it with alot of hindsight and often too little foresight, knowing what the past year and a half at Salem have done for them, but having no idea what the next two and a half could, should or will. Having once been a sophomore and having spent many a night in the Genetics lab questioning more than my college choice (i.e. my sanity, my physical state), I thought maybe I could afford you sophomores a bit of hindsight, prejudicial.

All myths have a beginning, most in ancient Greece or Rome. Though ours has no Mycenean origin, it has one equally as archaic, the 'ole South, where men were men and women were housewives, Back then, Daddy packed "Sweetie Pie" off to a "Girls' School" to learn the skills of gracious living and then shipped her into the market (i.e. the male market) hoping that somewhere between the sorority house and the soda shop she'd nab herself a "Good 'ole Boy," a son-in-law, a !!PROVIDER... Well, fortunately most "girls' schools" are, like hoop skirts, a thing of the past. Today, "Women's Colleges" are focusing on the needs of today's woman, developing her mind, her organizational abilities as well as her culinary skills. Women's Colleges are tackling a big task: teaching women to blend a gracious lifestyle with an exciting career. Salem, I feel, is leading the southern women's colleges in this respect.

## The Salemite

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You have such an opportunity to indulge yourself at Salem with four years of discovering who you are, learning your outer most limits as well as your limitations. An education is much more than learning to conjugate irregular verbs in French. Its developing your ability to discern what is important to you and why. Salem, for me was the perfect academic Petri dish, giving me not only the liberal arts background that I treasure, but also the desire for life long learning. I attribute that largely to the professors I had at Salem, professors who were more interested in my development than in "publishing or perishing" or their pet graduate students. Somewhere along the way my professors here nurtured my confidence and for the first time in my life I started thinking that maybe there was intelligent life in the vacuuous reaches between my ears.

Salem also afforded me what is a rare opportunity for women, a chance to make my own friends, friends who weren't just wives of my potential husband's business associates, etc. Its incredible now to see what my Salem friends are doing, writing masters' theses, taking care of you (and me) at the infirmary etc. Salem, through S.G.A., class activities and various organizations, gives you an opportunity to learn to accept responsibility, an ability that increases exponentially over the years. My friends in the business world, in graduate school, etc. have a pleasant self assurance about them now, not a brashness, but a simple self confidence that will carry

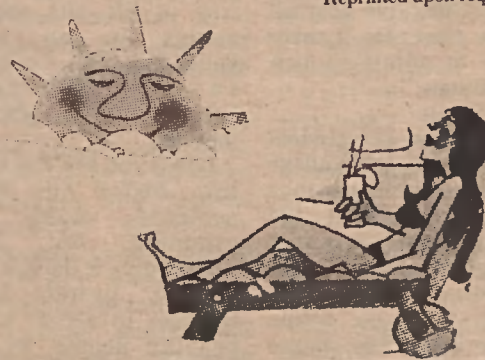
them far. I remember what a fairly homogeneous Freshman class we were, similar goals, similar backgrounds... 193 grey sweat suitedstrong. Then over the four years we watched each other develop skills, master concepts and launch into lifestyles, Senior year when everyone was applying to graduate schools. getting jobs, making life plans, we were all doing it together, realizing how far we had come together and how far we'd go together. Excitement then was sitting on the steps of Sisters sharing job offers, acceptances to graduate schools and even marriage proposals as if they were our very own.

Now, I'm no Pollyanna and I don't feel that Salem is for everyone. She's only for those who realize what a treasure she is. One complaint that is often voiced about Salem is that she shelters you from the real world. Granted, maybe to a certain extent she does. However, the four years I spent here showed me the BEST of the world and enable me to meet the "not so best" of the world not with a tainted cynicism, but with a desire to work toward something better, toward the life and the kind of people that I know here.

So, Sophomores, in battling your malaise, look around you, treasure Salem's nooks and crannies. Some afternoon walk through campus when the sun is setting, notice the tiled roof of the Alumni House, the George Washington Spring House... and think about what a place this is to ponder, to grow- Salem offers so much more than an education. If you still feel under, ask a senior or an "oldster" like me what your year here is like, then sit back and prepare to hear an epistle.

Kem Mims

Reprinted upon request



## Warning!

It has been brought to The Salemite's attention by the Wake Forest Police that the stealing of fraternity composites constitutes a felony.

Anyone, a Salem student or otherwise, who engages in such a practice would be charged with larceny. The replacement value of each composite is about \$275.

The Wake Forest Police and the Interfraternity Council have met and discussed the theft of three composites involving three Salem students. The composites were returned; however, the warning is out, if another theft occurs, they will prosecute.

## I.R.S.

### reminders

Please Note:

Fri. night - All activities will be held between science and Refectory; In case of rain, events will be held in the Refectory.

Sat. afternoon

Please remember - No liquor in Salem Square!

Sat. night - No

Coolers in the Convention Center! I.D.s are absolutely necessary!

Sun. afternoon

There will be a \$1 parking fee at Tanglewood.

# THE SALEMITE

- Read it

- Support it

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its your newspaper