

The Salemite

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Growing Up In A New Environment

Freshman Orientation -- a week of surprises, meetings, tests, lectures, smiles, tears, long-distance phone calls, adjustments, late-night talks, and theitters of actually "being at college." Yes, all 159 freshmen did survive the rigors of such a week, despite the hustle and bustle, the water shortage, and the trauma of adjusting to a room-mate, a full class schedule, and a totally new environment.

Orientation committee members spent a busy three days preparing for the big move-in," but little did they know how after everyone would be after all those freshmen had moved in. Skits, parties, meetings, and more meetings crowded the agenda, but as upper-classmen arrived, freshmen began to feel less alienated and more a part of the salem community.

stock of Salem, find their special niches, and become involved in college life.

It's never easy to adjust to a new environment -- that's why freshman year is very definitely a year of growth; learning about yourself and about other people. It's a year of becoming, dreaming, trying, and laughing. It's a chance to grasp opportunities and to be yourself, no matter what you desire to be. We upperclassmen definitely have an advantage - we've been here before, and we've been through the freshman trauma. But somehow we sigh as we watch the freshmen, because we remember what it was like to finally announce, "I'm a freshman at Salem," and we wonder what could be more appealing than the starry eyes, the eager look, or the high expectations of that little-girl-turned-woman who arrives with a Webster's Collegiate Dictionary -- and a ragged teddy bear. We, the upper-classmen sympathize with your

hectic orientation, your impossible work loads, your room-mate arguments, and your far-away boyfriend. We understand your need to ask questions, your confusion, your frustrations and your despairs -- because we've been there. But we wish for you, the best that Salem has to offer, and that includes all those aforementioned things, because they are all part of growing up.

This whole year will really be your orientation, and when you sit down and have a last meeting in May, you'll think back over the year -- whether the memories are good or bad depends on you.

So, get started -- orientation passes quickly, you know, and those who don't learn the rules and who don't participate will be left out in the cold. Salem has something for all of us, and it's here for us to take. The decision, then, is totally and freely ours -- we began it and we'll end it. Our future at Salem is our own.

by Robin Elmore

Make Plans for January

A few weeks ago at registration we all received a booklet on January Term. Our fingers may have flipped through the pages; and our eyes may have glanced at the myriad choices and momentarily scanned selected pages, but those first days were so hectic that January was farthest from our minds.

By now this booklet probably is flattened between text books, or hiding in a desk drawer, or collecting dust on a shelf. We must now scrounge around for this misplaced booklet and give careful consideration to the opportunities offered by January Program, which undergraduates in other schools, especially universities, do not have. During the week of October 7-11 we all must register for a program, and rather than list all the options as the booklet explains them, I will explore the benefits of an on and off campus program through my own experience. Bear in mind each January course is different, and I can offer only my own perspective. Please remember this - the location is as important to the educational experience as what you select to study.

Salem Campus in January offers a relaxed spirit often not present during regular term. Schedules are not as important. For example, the class I took met two hours a day. If discussion continued beyond the church's twelve gongs my professors and classmates remained because these days did not demand rushing to the next class or meeting. We even had time for a morning break with homemade pastries, coffees and teas, time for dining out as a class and enjoying lunch at our professor's home.

The refectory and dormitories reflected this same leisurely spirit. After meals, I lingered and continued

on conversation with friends instead of zooming off to a meeting or to books. On many evenings I had the opportunity to attend discussions on pertinent topics with faculty speakers. There was even time for television, cross-stitch, occasional naps, longer mornings, road trips, letter writing, extra reading.

As for January off-campus, the days may not be as slow paced, especially if you decide to travel with a group, but what is gained is invaluable. I ventured to Southern Florida with Dr. Mowbray and nine Salem students. We did not have a two hour class but a class which lasted twenty-four hours a day for almost thirty days.

We built our Salem community in state parks, pitched tents or slept under the stars, had evening visits by raccoons, armadillos, and mosquitos. We did everything together - grocery shopped, cooked, dishwashed, hunted for outhouses in the dark, picked wild grapefruit, canoed, bird watched, snorkled, swam, peered at alligators in the night, and even sat in laundry mats on Friday and Saturday evenings. By the end of this month we were a family where more had occurred than just learning factual material about Southern Florida ecosystems. We departed with a broader understanding of and appreciation for the natural environment and each other.

Of course my experiences and those brief explanations are only one student's view of what each location provided. Hopefully now you will consider the location as well as the course. Ask other students of what value different locations were to them. Consider carefully what to study and where to be in January. The benefits you reap from this term always will be an important and memorable part of your Salem College education.

by Stephanie King



Julia Owen Preps Cornelia Outten for Convocation

Women Without Water



Where were you when the water went off? Many were just stepping into the showers, some were waking up getting ready to brush their teeth, and still others were in the middle of a hot tennis match at 10 a.m. Sept. 4.

According to the supervisor of Salem Maintenance, Calvin Zimmerman, "What transpired was that a 16-inch main for the city which supplied water to the college campus ruptured because of pressure put on a 48-inch culvert lying across this line."

Zimmerman explained that the break occurred at about 10 a.m. on the city yard of Salem Avenue. Water was not able to be restored to the Salem campus, Old Salem residents or other area residents until 11 a.m. Sept. 5.

While many Salemites were heading to the local YWCA or pooling together for a room at the Holiday Inn, city personnel worked around the clock trying to restore water.

They encountered difficulties, however, because of "two terrific rainstorms which did not occur in the campus area," reported Zimmerman.

Due to the fact that the water lines were located 30 feet underground, cranes, steam shovels and bulldozers had to be used for reparations.

Maintenance remained on campus until 1 a.m. Friday when Zimmerman dismissed his men and remained for the night himself. He explained, "I appreciated the cooperation I received from the student body. No one complained directly to us. And I enjoyed seeing the girls wash their hair and brush their teeth in the water from the pump on the square." Everyone worked together.

When the water was restored, maintenance and clean-up crews remained on campus until well after their normal working hours.

Reports of increased swimming in Clewell pool were made and many threatened they would "just die if they didn't get a shower."

Fortunately, however, the only cost to the campus was that of inconvenience. It was a classic case of woman vs. the elements...

by Allison Bulce



Dr. Morrill laughs at comment by Cindy Arant

Photographs by Nancy Stephens