

EDITORIALS



Salem's Image The Responsibility Is Ours

A college's image can be described very attractively in handbooks and catalogs. For example the Salem Catalog says, "It is the purpose of the College to help each student to discover and develop her own integrity as a person and to prepare herself for a role of leadership in the world." The picture is very pretty, yet very unrealistic.

I say unrealistic because this image exists as long as the students allow it to. The real image and reputation of an institution lie in the hands of its faculty, administration and students. The actions of these three groups together make the institution, especially those actions of the latter.

At a recent mixer hosted by a fraternity at a large North Carolina university, overdrinking and poor conduct by a few Salem students exemplified how the irresponsible actions of a few can damage the image of an entire school. A large number of the Salem girls who attended the mixer drank the fraternity's bar dry.

Drinking as a social activity is acceptable if done with grace and maturity. If Salem policy was not founded on this premise, we would not be able to enjoy the liberties offered to us through our drinking policy. The policy states that: "The college should make available to the students a campus atmosphere that will create a sense of responsibility for their acts. The use of alcoholic beverages by Salem College students should be done in moderation and with discretion." We should remind ourselves that it is the responsibility of all of us to maintain Salem's positive reputation. Allison Bulce

Salem Security Tips

Larry Upshaw, Director of Security and Safety, advises students on what to do when stopped or arrested by police, according to the Associated Students of Duke University's procedure.

If you are stopped by the police:

1. Do not try to run away, even if you have not done anything. The police officer

can use force if he deems it necessary to detain you.

2. The police may stop and question persons when they reasonably suspect criminal activity. Under some circumstances they may conduct a limited search of the person. If they stop and frisk you, do not resist even if you are innocent.

see Security, p. 4

Grading Problems Exist Elsewhere

Evanston, Ill. - (I.P.) - Northwestern University has been the scene of long and vocal debates over the accuracy and fairness of its grading procedures. Finally, the College of Arts and Sciences won approval from the NU administration to change to the plus and minus system.

Under the new policy, effective this fall, grade distribution will be: A equals 4.00, A minus equals 3.67, B + equals 3.33, B equals 3, B minus equals 2.67, C + equals 2.33, C equals 2, C minus equals 1.67, D + equals 1.33, D equals 1.00, and F equals 0.00.

Dr. John Margolis, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences pointed out that the grading debate here was fueled by a 16-4 recommendation of the Student Advisory Board in 1976 which urged introduction of intermediate grades. "We feel this move will increase the discretionary power of grades and could possibly spread out the distribution of grade point averages," the student statement said in part.

"There's a concern about grade inflation," Margolis said. "Plus and minus is only a grading option for the faculty member," he added.

"They don't have to put plus or minus on a grade." However, Margolis was forced to admit that students made effective arguments against the new policy.

"They said that it would increase pressure for students to compete for the next highest grade increment and complicate the faculty's already difficult task in dividing students," Margolis said. The students also said that as a result of depressed grade point averages, the competitive position of NU graduates would be jeopardized.

"This isn't a fair assumption," Margolis said. "They're presuming that GPAs would decline. The appropriate committee studied this, and I believe that the committee concluded that it (the plus and minus system) didn't make a difference." He also did not think that crossover students from other schools of NU would be adversely affected by CAS's new grading system.

Hope for Peace Diminishes

Anwar Sadat's death diminishes both the world prospects for peace and stability in the volatile Middle East. He was truly one of the great leaders of our time who had the courage to seize the opportunity for peace in a region of war and hatred. He was a man of vision and a man of realism; a war-maker and a peacemaker. In his own view, politics is "the art of the impossible!"

We can only hope that his successor, Hosni Mubarak, has the courage and the luck to steer a course through the perilous threats of pan-Arabism and the Moslem fundamentalism.

--Errol M. Claus



Anwar Sadat

Dec. 25, 1918 - Oct. 6, 1981

Students -- Show Us Your Slang

Do college students have their own language?

A U. of North Carolina - Greensboro anthropologist thinks so. William L. Coleman recently worked with his students to compile 500 examples of dialect familiar to most college students. His list included such favorites as "all-nighter," "catch my drift," "space cadet," and "party hearty."

On a less comprehensive basis, two Penn State U. student newspaper columnists recently compiled a "frosh gloss" - a list of terms students new to that campus should understand. With tongues firmly in cheek, they listed such things as "drop-add - accepted party behavior, involves members of the opposite sex."

Whether humorous or serious, college slang is an essential part of campus life.

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Thank you Dean Sullivan! The awards assembly last week was the first fall term assembly of this kind since we have been here. Many students at Salem are probably not even aware of our various academic awards or our honor societies and their requirements for membership. Publications and assemblies have given more coverage to topics other than academic achievements. The academic excellence of Salem often has not been extended to recognizing those who meet its high standards. Nothing could be more frustrating to dedicated students.

The Honor Society applauds you and hopes that the fall awards assembly is the beginning of a long tradition.

The Salem College Honor Society

Frances Barnes, Janelle Brown, Anne Elizabeth Echols, Robin Elmore, Nan Graham, Maureen Orbock, Julia Risher, Dorothy Alessandra Sugden, Kathy Glover, Lisa Godwin, Dolly Gordon, Susan Huffman, Ledie McCall, Misae Tanaka, and Bettie Wall Long.

Dear Girls,

I love you still, for you shall always be my girls. My last day I tried, but when I entered Clewell and screamed, "Man on the hall!" I lost it. I had to hide so you would not see my tears. Somehow I think I helped some of you, at least I hope so. I know you helped me. I wish the best to all of my girls.

Remember, no matter where you go, what you do, who you become, good, bad, or indifferent - you shall always be mine. M.M.P.L. Monte

The Salemite

Printed by Lindsay Publishing Co.
King, N.C.

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Photographer: Hollin Dwiggin

Circulation: Ann Biswell

Advisors: Laura Edwards, Nancy Stephens.

The Salemite office is located in the basement of Lehman Hall.