

Learn And Let Live

by Katie Thomas

It's undeniably inevitable. You go out with the girls for a night on the town (whichever town that may be), you have a designated driver, but she decides she will "just have a beer or two." The night progresses and so do the number of beers. By the end of the outing you are, number one, wondering about the condition of your driver but don't want to sound like a geek and ask her how she is, or, number two, you are feeling too good yourself to care.

Let's face it kids. This is a drinking society and a drinking campus. There may be a conscientious minority out there, but not many of you can

say that you haven't been in this situation more you have fingers and toes. So for those of you who do hold your promise to remain stone-cold sober and drive, read this to tell your friends who you know don't.

Last week was National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. I received a lot of information, as editor, about the alcohol problems that a lot of colleges are facing. I guess the first step is to make everyone more aware of these problems, but the second is to recognize that it is not o.k. to drink and drive. We can't stop people from drinking. It would be stupid to suggest that a lot of us want to. After all, much of our college experiences lies in

the bottom of the bottle. But to try and cover up what we know is all true is dumb. Almost murder, you could say.

I don't have to explain what can happen when you drink a lot and drive. Everyone knows that. But please remember that it doesn't take a lot to distort your perception, make your reflexes slow. If you don't care enough about yourself to drink water when you're the designated driver, then at least do it for your friends, your parents, and other people on the road. You have no idea how much "one or two beers" can affect the lives of others.

I would like to suggest that Salem begin to recognize this

problem for what it is and do something about it. Offering more "taxi services" at dances, publicizing more information on drinking and driving, showing those horrible films that we saw in high school drivers Ed., getting the Police department to come and tell us a few horror stories of their own, and starting a program where we take the keys of the designated driver at mixers and hold them until it's over and giving them a pin that states that they aren't allowed to drink, are a few suggestions.

Not a lot of fun I know. But don't you think it's worth it? I wish I had thought that on the night of August 5.

P.O. BOX

Lack of communication

I must begin by saying that I am quite impressed with the performance of those holding student offices this year. And generally speaking, I have very few complaints. However, in the past week I became discouraged by the fact that while communication has now sprouted among dry fields, these new seeds seem to grow only in elite areas.

Despite my efforts to read the paper, various memos, and bulletin boards dispersed throughout campus, the information presented continues to remain a taboo subject. Or possibly the general public is not considered an expected caliber in relation to those at the White House. While I do not question censorship by any means, I do dispute the process of elimination. Salem is proud of her progression, however, in this instance she seems to regress. Though discrimination is a prejudice of the past, some campus leaders appear trapped in time. They have confined their knowledge to their most accessible contacts, and qualify brief statements as spreading the word. It is not apathy that is incriminating, for the majority is not heard. Rather, the silence kills the weed that strays from the crop. We all would like the opportunity to listen so that we might create our own noise.

My only request is that you concentrate less on the Round Table and more on Camelot.

Women Presidents

I, Susie Salem, congratulate Ginger Saunders for her success as acting President of the College. I have to admit I found a certain joy in being able to say "Hello, Madame President." Not that I dislike Dr. Litzenburg, but I have often wondered why at a women's college a male sits in the office of the President. So I've been busy doing some extra-curricular research lately.

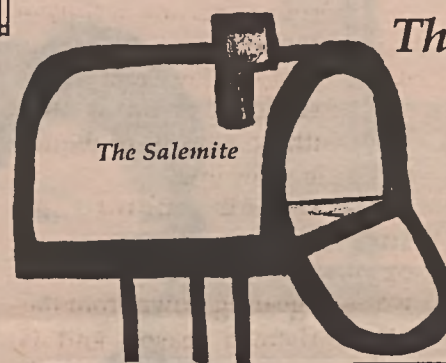
Of 20 randomly selected women's colleges I found listed in a 1987 book on American Colleges and Universities 13 have women Presidents. These institutions include:

Smith College-Mass.
Hollins College-Va.
Agnes-Scott College-Ga.
Sweet Briar College-Va.

Radcliffe College-Mass.
Mount Holyoke College-Mass.
Bryn Mawr College-Pa.
Mills College-Ca.
Barnard College-N.Y.
Chatham College-Pa.
Mary Baldwin College-Va.
Wellesley College-Mass.
Stevens College-Ms.
Mount Vernon-Wash.

Of the 20 colleges 6 had male Presidents. These institutions include:

Salem College-N.C.
Randolph Macon Women's College-Va.
Converse College-S.C.
Meredith College-N.C.
Scripps College-Ca.
William Woods College-Ms.



The P.O. Box is the Salem grievance column. We urge anyone to submit questions.

The Salemite

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