

Coalition Unifies Salem Sisters

by Patricia Earnhardt
and Bonita Lee

Salem College students are making changes happen. Change is here to stay. Join us in making history.

DID YOU KNOW, that during the month of July a Student Opinion Survey was sent out to rising Sophomores and Seniors concerning the mixing of traditional-aged and non-traditional-aged students on campus? Why? To gain a better understanding of the experiences, concerns, and perceptions surrounding this issue. What about you? If you received a survey how did you respond, honestly, fairly, putting yourself in the other person's shoes before answering each question? Or if you did not receive a survey, how would you have responded?

Here is a sampling of the questions asked:

Do you think that the presence of both traditional and non-traditional students makes for a more interesting class?

Do you feel that having both traditional and non-traditional students at Salem is a hindrance to your academic success?

Based on these two questions alone, how do you feel? Are you well informed? By now you can see that we want student body participation on this issue. Where and how do we begin?

On August 29-30 a team of Salem women attended a seminar at the Center for Creative Leadership to find out where to begin on resolving issues that concern the mixed-aged student campus. The seminar entailed "get to know you exercises," a review of quotes from the student survey, group exercises to increase leadership and

team work abilities, and action planning.

At the beginning of the seminar, we were read quotes from Salem students concerning the problems seen between traditional and non-traditional students. These quotes represented the negative aspects of the survey. We realized after hearing a few of the quotes that the main problem stemmed from misconceptions and stereotypes of the existing relationship between resident and non-resident students. There were more stereotypes than students.

If you are ready, we would like to take you back to the seminar. Imagine that you are in a room with twenty-four other people each wearing different masks. These masks, you observe, are made up of differing opinions, attitudes, and perceptions.

During your process of observation you talk to the person next to you. As

you talk with her she reaches up and removes a piece of the mask she is wearing. Eventually all the masks disappear, and for the first time you see the real person you have been talking with. As the masks are removed so are the false opinions, attitudes, and perceptions.

The main differences centered around academic issues. Many were uncertain about the differences in course loads, necessary academic standing, and extracurricular activities.

We were instructed to form coalitions to make action plans. These coalitions consisted of residential and non-residential students. We came up with ideas of how to explain the problems we had seen.

Each group made a poster representing the problem they were faced with. Once we explained each poster we realized one thing; they all focused on the same ideas, misunderstandings and a lack of communication at Salem.

On the second day, we were once again put into coalitions to plan our actions. This time we had to explain how to solve the problems we were faced with. With coalition brainstorming we put our plans into black and white. The action plans were similar, and each coalition started to think and feel much the same. The coalitions had all focused on the same issues, communication and student awareness.

After the coalition was formed, we needed a name. Since the coalitions made the action plans, then the Salem Student Coalition should implement the plans. Thus, the name of our group and a new committee on campus.

The members of the Coalition are: B.J. Buckland, Annette Byrd, Joan Campbell, Kay Curl, Kay Curl, Mathilde Dumond, Patricia Earnhardt, Mary-Alston Glenn, Anna Harris, Sandy Hildebolt, Bonita Lee, Sally Lemmon, Mindy McLarty, Lura Munoz, Ashley Neill, Strat Newitt, Kathy Phipps, Ashley Pruitt, Melissa Robinson, Tammy Taylor, Kathy Thornton, Nancy Tomberlin, and Audrey Wilson. Patricia Earnhardt was chosen as the resident chairperson, and Bonita Lee

was chosen as the non-resident chairperson.

The coalition felt that if we are going to work together as a community then we should share the same name. We are all "traditional" students, only different in age. So, in an effort for equality we will now be called "resident" students and "non-resident" students.

These changes were brought about because we realized that we are all Salem sisters.

Coliseum Promotes Entertainment

by Lauren Strain

In April of 1987, ground was broken for a new coliseum to be built in Winston-Salem. Two years later, on August 27 1989, the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum opened its doors with visions of bringing a wide variety of entertainment to the Winston-Salem area. At the opening ceremony, retired Army General William C. Westmoreland delivered the dedication speech. Mayor Wayne A. Corpening feels that the coliseum will be a great asset to the city. "It's something we've been dreaming about for years and now we're finally going to get it." City officials are estimating that the new coliseum will bring about \$5.1 million a year into the economy.

Lawrence Joel, the veteran for whom the coliseum is named, was the only Winston-Salem native to ever receive the Medal of Honor, which honors outstanding veterans. Joel was an army medic and received an honor in 1960 for saving the lives of 13 yellow soldiers during an attack in Siagon. He also received the nation's highest combat award in 1967.

A New York artist by the name of James L. Ford has designed a \$150,000 memorial to honor the country's war victims. The memorial is made up of 500 granite posts that bear the names of soldiers who were killed in the Vietnam War. Ford said that he "hopes that the outdoor gridwork of granite markers which will be interspersed with flowering trees, will create both the impression of soldiers in formation and of an orchard were many of the young trees have been cut down."

The old Memorial Coliseum will be torn down, and an annex for ice skating and hockey will be built. The new coliseum and annex will cost about \$35 million by the time it is completed in 1991. This is a third more than the original estimate. It reportedly offers 18 luxury boxes to such clients as Flow Motors, RJR Tobacco Company, Pepsi, Wachovia, Bermuda Village, US Air, and Bowman Gray/Baptist Hospital Medical Center. There are eight outdoor and six indoor ticket windows, 13 concession stands, five locker rooms, four dressing rooms, four restrooms (each) for men and women, two dressing rooms for athletic officials and a press room named the "Gene Overby Press Room" honoring the former WSJS announcer and "Voice of the Deacons." The coliseum is designed to seat 14,776 people for center stage events and approximately 12,000 people for circus, rodeo and truck pull events. It will seat 140 handicapped people.

Since the grand opening, Dionne Warwick, LL Cool J and Alabama have had concerts in Winston-Salem. Although big stars such as Bruce Springsteen, The Rolling Stones, or U2 will not have concerts at the new coliseum, upcoming performances will be given by popular entertainers like Randy Travis and Ice Capades.

In addition to musical performances, sports events will also be held at the Veterans Coliseum. On November 11, Wake Forest will begin its basketball season in a exhibition game against a Soviet Union club team. The NBA season was tentatively scheduled to begin on November 3 with a game between Charlotte and Detroit; however, because of the \$4.6 million that Wake Forest University contributed to the new building, the Deacons will have the privilege of playing there first.

It looks like life in Winston-Salem may be picking up, folks. From the sound of it, we are in for some topnotch entertainment.



photo by Lesley Stokes

Winston-Salem opens the doors of the new coliseum and are hopeful for topnotch entertainment in this area.