

Take A Break From Life In The Fast Lane

by Paige Parker

Stop! Slow down. Take just a few minutes and think about all the things in your hectic life that you take for granted in each day that passes. We have an abundance of things to be thankful for, but how often do we stop, smell the roses and realize all that our busy lives encompass. With the tragedy of Hurricane Hugo, the realization that we go through each day and expect normality to continue slapped me in the face.

Normality to us revolves around society making our every need easily available. If we "need" to go to the store, we hop in our cars. If we "need" to take a shower, we expect hot water. If we "need" to go to Interclub, we expect

the money to be there for us. If we "need" a friend, we expect him/her to drop everything and to comfort us. All of these "needs" are things we have grown accustomed to. As society continues to make our day to day activity even easier because of science and technology, we continue to have more "needs" which we expect to be fulfilled.

How often do we stop and think of all the sacrifices our parents make for us. They miss a meeting or a luncheon so they can see us in a dance performance, play, tennis match or debate. Their sacrifices go much deeper than financial (and none of us are cheap). And parents actually love us even when it is hard to like us. No matter if we fall on our faces, they convince us that the effort put into the project

will build character in our maturing personalities. I am not saying that parents never make mistakes, but I do want to emphasize that we may possibly take them for granted in our chaotic lives as college students.

Imagine if Hurricane Hugo left damage to Winston-Salem as it did to Charlotte and South Carolina. We would have to stop and think about how frivolous things in our minds are in actuality not so very important. People were without electricity, gas, food and some who lost their homes had no clothes to wear. The great focal point of this tragedy is that people have united and relief drives are being held everywhere. But people are still left without electricity and the amount of gas they can buy is being

limited. Think about not having a hot shower at your convenience. It's not a warming thought, but thousands of people are facing a world that cannot encompass their needs as they are accustomed.

I am not implying that we should write thank you notes to the electricity company or to Texaco, but I do want to stress the importance of slowing down our hectic lives. We are extremely fortunate and need to realize this. We live in a world which revolves around satisfying our every whim. Maybe this is not all bad because I enjoy comfort just as anyone else, but if we slow down and think about all that others do for us, I think we will all be amazed at the immense amount of things we take for granted.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

The scene is familiar to all of us. After having spent the day craving home cooking, refectory food just does not hold appeal. But still we decide to wait through the lines. Everyone knows college students cannot afford to go out to dinner every day!

Still we always know that while the food we eat may not be up to Julia Child's standards or perhaps even our own, we will never go hungry. This fact is not true of many other people. These individuals are not all from such far off places as Africa and Asia. There are many hungry people in our own city. The Good Samaritan Soup Kitchen may feed as many as two hundred forty people an evening.

Sometimes it seems that we as individuals can do nothing about the living conditions and hunger of many of our fellow human beings. Such feelings are dangerous. The *Crop Walk for Hunger* is one way we can help people whose lives are not as secure as our own. On October 15 many of us will be walking six and two tenths miles for the hungry.

All the money collected will go for food. Overhead and advertising costs will be paid by corporate sponsors. Please support the walk for hunger!

Sincerely,
Suzan Ekmekci

Dear Editors,

As a member of *The Salemite* staff, there are a few things that we must have in order to publish an exceptional newspaper for students, faculty and staff.

I understand that the request for an air conditioning unit has been met and we are awaiting installation. We appreciate that more than anyone will ever know. But, there is another complaint that needs to be looked upon. WE NEED A DARKROOM!!!

Here it is, Tuesday October 3, 1989. Amy, April and myself are busy typing articles when Lesley Stokes comes in and tells us that nowhere in Winston - Salem will print our photographs. You see, in order to save money, we bought a bulk loader to roll our own film. Little did we know that no one will print bulk loaded film. We have a simple request for a darkroom. *The Salemite* would not be the only organization to benefit from the installation of a darkroom. *Sights and Insights* would also be able to use a darkroom, not to mention the possibility of a photography class being offered.

I realize that not all requests can be met, but this would be a request that would benefit more than just one organization. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Jenny Savage

Dear Editors,

I am a "prospective resident of Strong residence hall" and I am replying in reference to our dilemma over the dorm. I have a few things to say to everyone involved with the project. I received a memorandum today (September 19) from President Litzenburg of a list of sequences of decisions about the renovation project.

First, the "prospective residents" were not aware of a low bid coming in the middle of July. This threw off the whole process. Looking over this list I found another discrepancy which angered me; on April 6 the first bid date was to be set for May 31. But by May 2 the date for the first bid was postponed until July 21. (Note: May 2 was before the tornado.)

All of those months the residents of Strong assumed that the original dates were thrown off because of the tornado. Unfortunately, we were not kept abreast of the issues.

On August 9 the contractors requested an extension on the contract from October 30 until November 30. We were not informed of this change until we received the memorandum today (September 19). When we arrived back on campus we noticed that no work had begun on our home, Strong dorm.

September 4 construction began and we still believed that the

project would be completed by October 30.

I want those responsible to become responsible to the students. We are the ones who will leave with this memory of how we were not told the facts at the appropriate time concerning our dorm. We, the students, are to be representatives of Salem College for the rest of our lives.

I just hope when this institution decides to renovate Sisters dorm that the students will be aware of what the procedure is. The entire incident with Strong dorm is a result of poor planning on the part of everyone involved in the renovation project.

Sincerely,
Karen Timmons

Dear Editors,

I wanted to take this time to praise the September 20 edition of *The Salemite*. You are doing a great job.

Thank you for the coverage on the Strong Dorm situation. Believe it or not I learned a few things myself.

I find the changes in the newspaper exciting and refreshing. Good luck with your future editions.

Sincerely,
Beth Brown
Pres. Strong Dorm