

ARACHNOPHOBIA: The Order of the Scorpion

by Dorothie Hughes
The Salemite

Salem's only secret society, the Order of the Scorpion, continues to fascinate me.

Being new to the college this year, I read about this elite club in the Student Handbook.

How's this for mystery: "...Projects of the group are vital ones, though often small, intangible and unknown." I'll say. NO ONE knows who these 14 juniors and seniors are!

The Scorpion's identities are not revealed until the end of the senior year, when they wear pins with Scorpion insignia at Commencement. The yearbook also prints the names of graduating Scorpions at the end of the year. In other words, you don't find out who they are until after they're gone.

Their main objective, supposedly, is

to keep intact the true spirit of Salem. Last year, everyone received candy from them. This Halloween, bags of candy were found in the dorm lobbies for all to enjoy. Thanks ladies!

I always check the tree and statue in front of the alumnae house for those construction paper scorpions, which I assume to signify a Scorpion meeting.

Why is the scorpion, of all animals, their mascot?

Apparently, they're not financed by the school itself, so where do they get the necessary funds for an operating budget?? Do they sell Scorpion t-shirts or sweatshirts?

Inquiring minds want to know!

That is the extent of my second-hand knowledge about this group. They definitely have my curiosity peaked.

I've deduced that in order to be se-

lected by the "Scorps," you must be a student who is civic-minded, involved in extracurricular activities and a well-rounded person. Well-rounded could translate into being the wildest party women on campus.

All my speculations have caused me to repeatedly ask my friends whether or not they're a Scorpion - its almost a game. I keep telling them to put in a good word for me if indeed they are one.

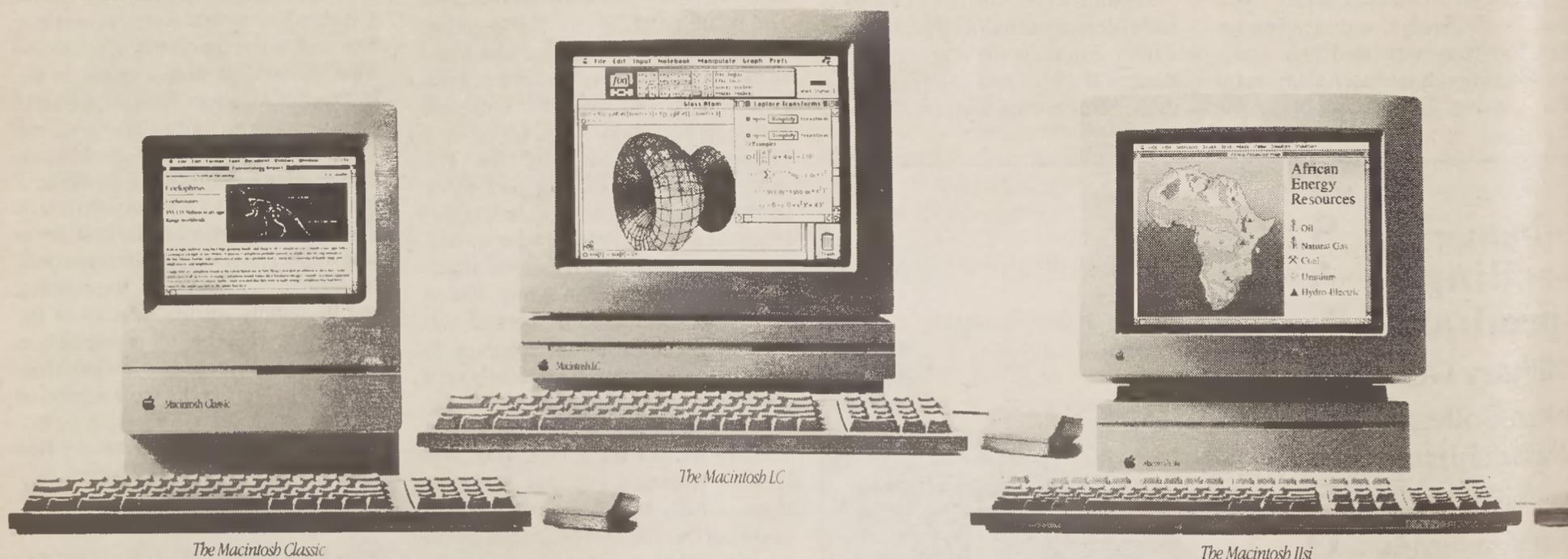
Is there an application someone can send me?? Perhaps a Scorpion could write an anonymous letter in care of *The Salemite* to enlighten us Scorpion wanna-be's.

There are rumors that a new secret society, the Order of the Dot, is gearing up for the spring semester. But like the Order of the Scorpion, it might just be hearsay.



A scorpion found hanging outside the Alumnae House is thought to signify a Scorpion meeting. photo by Patricia Earnhardt

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