

The Salemite

Volume LXXI No. 7

Serving the Salem College Community Since 1921

April 24, 1991



Photo by Patricia Earnhardt

The new Student Commons is under construction. It is estimated that project will be completed during the next academic year.

The Voices of Literature Books Come Alive at Writers' Conference

by Patricia Earnhardt
The Salemite

Until recently, most anyone associated with the library would describe it as a place where they study, do research, write papers, take tests and experience silence.

But it can now be considered a place where the books found voices.

The Salem College Friends of the Library Southern Women Writers' Conference, held in the library reference room on April 6, opened the podium to six writers who's voices gave imagery to their written works.

The first program, "The Woman Writer and Her Work" enabled the authors to present excerpts of their most recent work or from material not yet released.

Marianne Gingher, a Salem alumna, was among those who participated in the event. Gingher read from her upcoming novel centered around a small, southern, liberal arts college for women called "Morning Star." Each sentence led further down the halls of "Dorm Life" at Salem. The audience was given a glimpse of life at Salem College in the late 60's. The audience learned that the hallways and what goes on within them hasn't changed a great deal.

Candace Flynt read from her most recent novel Mother Love where three sisters, the main characters of the story, emerge from the book and bicker with one another. With each suggestion of the life of their recently deceased mother the sisters tell their story and the history of how they loved their mother and how she loved them.

Sue Ellen Bridgers delighted and enlightened the audience with a tale of spending Thanksgiving with her family in a rural Eastern North Carolina town. The height of the story was a search for an infamous and historical four-layer coconut cake which is found after the main character's great uncle stands from his chair where he has been seated on top of the flattened cake.

Through the speaker of the story, Bridger's spoke to the special nature of a family reunion.

Linda Brown brought a sense of culture to the program. In Rainbow Round My Shoulder, Brown's most influential character tells of her trials of protecting a young black girl who was raped. The rapist is brought to the woman's sense of justice after she beats him and continuously collects money from him to support the young girl.

continued on page 2

Committee Keeps Quick Pace in Search for New President

by Dot Hughes
The Salemite

With goals and objectives identified and fine-tuned, Salem College and Academy's Presidential Search Committee has made steady progress and its search for a new individual to head the two schools has maintained its top priority status.

The Search Committee is operating as a special committee of the Board of Trustees and since February has been working with the Academic Search Consultation Service (ASCS) has assisted more than 200 colleges and universities in presidential searches over the past 15 years. A Presearch Study report was prepared in early March. Presidential priorities and characteristics were formulated from extensive interviews with members of the Academy and College community. This report is on desk reserve in the library and is available to anyone.

The Search Committee is composed of a variety of institutional positions. They were appointed by Mary Newell, Chair of the Board of Trustees and include Dr. Annette Allen, Dean of Salem College; David Black, Headmaster of Salem Academy; Dr. Douglas B. Borwick, Associate Professor of Arts Management; B.J. Buckland, Winston-Salem, an alumna of the College; Nancy Cameron Capel, Troy, NC, and Barbara Folger Chatham, Ronda, NC, College alumnae who are also members of the Board of Trustees; Terrie Allen Davis, Winston-Salem, an alumna of both the Academy and College who is a member of the Board of Trustees; Mary Ann Campbell Davis, Winston-Salem, an alumna of the College; Dr. Linda Dudley, Associate Professor of Psychology; Clyde W. Fitzgerald Jr., Winston-Salem, a member of the Board of Trustees; W. James Harman, Direc-

tor of Institutional Advancement for Salem Academy and College; Dr. George McKnight, Associate Professor of Chemistry; Flavel McMichael, Atlanta, President of the Salem Academy Alumnae Association; William Neal, Charlotte, member of the Board of Trustees; Betsy Saxman, Staunton, VA, President of the Salem College Student Government Association; Beverly Schultz, alumna of the Academy and history teacher at the Academy; the Reverend Richard Sides, Winston-Salem, associate pastor of Home Moravian Church and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Jean Olive Snyder Stubbs, Winston-Salem, President of the Salem College Alumnae Association; and Dr. Janet Zehr, Assistant Professor of English. Jim Harman is the staff liaison to the committee, and Carollee Harman is the executive secretary.

The Committee met on April 10 and identified 12-15 candidates whose strengths most closely coincided with the desired characteristics. Part of this process included talking with people who have worked with the candidates and following up on references. By April 24 the candidate pool will narrow to 5-8 individuals, and the committee will conduct confidential interviews and make additional reference calls. It is anticipated that leading candidates will be invited to visit the campus prior to Commencement to meet with representatives of the Salem Academy and College community.

In addition to helping the Committee select final candidates, these meetings will give the finalists the information and insight necessary in order to accept the position of president from the Board of Trustees.