

Salem Suffers Growing Pains

by Kristan Majors

To some students the idea of Salem becoming larger is upsetting, but to others the possibilities of expansion are exciting. Like it or not, Salem College has set a goal to increase its student population to approximately 450 by the year 1997.

The Class of 1996, with one hundred fifteen boarders last year, brought several changes to Salem College. Likewise, the Class of 1997, with one hundred thirty-seven boarding students, promises to bring even more changes. Salem's newest additions include the Salem Signature program, a new language lab, additional professors, the Career Connection program and other student services.

This year's freshmen class is one of the largest Salem has had in several years. The increased enrollment obviously brings more money into the school, and new students as well. During Freshmen registration,

complications with classes brought a lot of attention to the growth. For instance, in three common freshmen classes, the maximum number of students for each class was increased. Biology 10 has seventy-one students. An additional English 30 course had to be opened. Also, Sociology 100 holds sixty-three students this semester.

Dr. Doug Borwick, Associate Dean of the College, said "On the whole, registration went pretty well; but, we do plan to make some corrections for next year so that everything will move more smoothly. I believe compared to other schools Salem registration is still much better."

Several upper-level courses have also increased in number because of the affects due to the size of the Class of 1996.

Dr. George McKnight, the General Chemistry professor, who has forty-three students in his class, said "I wish I had more time to prepare for such a large; but, in all seriousness, I do not feel we have had any problems.

I do not want the class to become any larger but this size is fine."

"Students should expect some crowding initially, but the upper-level courses are smaller," said Dean of College Annette Allen. Dean Allen assures the student body that the faculty and staff are working together with the students to amend any problems. Within a year or two, Salem will be a much stronger and better place.

For those who feel Salem is becoming too big, might be amazed to hear that Salem has not always been this small. In the late 1960's and early 1970's, boarding students totaled approximately five hundred. President Thrift said that women were placed in houses owned by the college in Old Salem, including Lehman Hall.

President Thrift assures students that Salem faculty and staff have no interest in seeing Salem become as large as it once was, but they do hope that their goal of four hundred and fifty boarding students can be met.



Transfer student Kathy Franklin and freshmen Keisha Feinster and Lauren Tucker are part of the more than 120 new students who have joined Salem's ranks. Photo by Stephanie Peede.

She also said that Salem dorms will be able to hold all of the students.

The staff and faculty do not feel that Salem will be hindered from the increase in students. In fact, Dean Allen feels, "Larger classes allow the

students to be more innovative. Also, the increased funds will mean more services and technological advances."

At present, the total enrollment for Salem, including the Continuing Education and Graduate students, is eight hundred forty.

A Visit to Neverneverland...



The junior Pirates, headed by Captain Hook (Larnie Yusan), gleefully kill off Peter Pan (Helane Anderson). Wendy (Wendy Jane Garret) and Tinkerbell (Meredith Snellings) look on. Photo by Anna Mansfield.

by Stephanie Peede

This year's Fall Fest was one of the best ever, according to Gracen Glenn, chair of the event.

Fall Fest was kicked on Tuesday, September 22, when more than 150 students showed up to hear the band BS&M play on Clewell patio.

To prepare for the event, Glenn sent fliers and posters to schools like Wake Forest, Hampden-Sydney, N.C. State, Davidson and Duke. Glenn also designed and picked out the colors for the Fall Fest T-Shirts. The sophomore/senior team wore off-white and the freshman/junior team wore turquoise.

Glenn feels her hard work paid off because the mixer set a positive tone for Wednesday's events. "It was really rewarding to see everyone having such a great time," said

Glenn.

Fall Fest activities included breakfast, decoration of the refectory, a treasure hunt, skits, songs, and a football game.

The sophomore/senior class won the treasure hunt by collecting everything on the list which included such random items as a pirate's eye patch, a plank, and the Salem seal.

After lunch, the classes sang songs and acted out skits dedicated to their sister class. The afternoon came to a close with a football game in Salem's square, which was also won by the sophomore/senior team.

Senior Allison Bruce echoed Glenn's words, "Everything was so low key and went over really well as a result of class cooperation. The new ideas of Gracen's were great and it was the best Fall Fest I ever had!"

Admissions Gains a Different View

New counselor is Salem's first to hail from a co-ed college

by Dianne Conley

Andrea Meals is one of the newest additions to Salem's Admissions staff. She is outgoing, spunky and loves her job. What makes Andrea different from the other counselors is that she did not go to Salem or any other women's college. Meals has great respect for Salem and thinks that the school "sells itself" when students come on campus.

Meals grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia. After looking around at different colleges to attend she chose Radford, but only for a semester. The college was not for her, so she decided on Virginia Wesleyan College for her second semester.

While at Wesleyan, Meals took advantage of her opportunities there. She was co-captain of the cheerleading squad, social chair of her sorority, a tour guide, sang in two choirs, and was a peer advisor. Meals graduated in 1992 with a degree in the Liberal Arts Management Program, with a concentration in Marketing. After

graduation, she spent the Fall of '92 as a road runner for Wesleyan. This job involved recruiting students from all over the country. According to Meals, "I got Virginia Wesleyan's first set of triplets. I hope I can do the same thing for Salem!"

Meals ended up at Salem a year later, but it was not her first time here. Andrea came to Salem as a prospective student for a Senior Overnight. However, she doubted Salem because of the fear of attending an all girl's school and nobody told her about the benefits of a women's college. Years later she decided to pursue a position in the admissions office of a women's college, because she began to realize all the advantages women have by graduating from an all female institution.

So far Meals has been thoroughly impressed with everything Salem has to offer it's students and has grown to truly love Salem. She also loves going out and sharing the experiences of Salem with prospective students. "It makes my job fun," she quotes.

As an admission counselor, Meals travels from Labor Day to Thanksgiving, spending about one night a week at home. Her territory mainly includes western North Carolina, Kentucky and the deep South. She answers questions and concerns about Salem and college in general. Meals acts as the students' link between high school and college, and is very honest with the students she encounters. Andrea believes that "[her] job is not to make sure that everyone goes to Salem, but that everyone goes to the school that is right for them." She wants to find the students who are right for Salem!

As for Andrea's future, the only thing she is certain about is that she will go on to get her Master's Degree. She implied who knows where the future will lead her. For right now, she is incredibly happy to be here at Salem. She feels overjoyed that Salem chose her for this position, and the Admissions Office feels lucky to have her. Welcome to the Salem community, Andrea Meals!

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