

# A MONTH OF GREATS NEARS END

By Lisbet Robinson

To most people (and St. Mary's is no exception) the month of February means valentines. But February also has another meaning—it the month in which two of our great presidents were born and one great inventor. These men, Thomas Edison, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington, gave of themselves for our country and truly deserve to be called great, and they deserve to be honored during the month of February.

On February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln was born on a farm on Knob Creek in Kentucky. Although Lincoln was raised in a log cabin, he was not raised in poverty. After a few years, his family moved to Indiana, where Lincoln grew up. Life was hard, and there was much work to be done; thus, Lincoln's school career totaled less than one year. Although school seemed to be out of the question, Lincoln took a great interest in books, and used the knowledge he gained from them in making speeches. It is in this way that his political career began.

Since Lincoln had received very little education, he had to gather and learn many law books to become the lawyer he desired to be. He knew that in order to enter into politics, he first would have to become a good lawyer. After much work and time, he achieved his goal and was on his way in his political career.

Abraham Lincoln is considered a great president, no matter which side you take in the Civil War. He did what he thought was best for his country, and he did that well. Abraham Lincoln was a great president because he loved his country and tried to do the best for it.

Another great president was George Washington, who was born on February 22, 1732, on Pope's Creek Farm in Westmoreland County, Virginia. Washington had a fairly good education for his times, and he used this education to his best advantage. He took an active part in all affairs at school and at home, and he especially loved dancing. In these boyhood years, Washington lived the normal colonial life, but soon his calm interest turned, and he desired to become a sailor. This astonishing fact was not pleasing to his family; therefore, his interests were again changed. But the spirit of adventure still existed within him, and he became a surveyor. However, soon the war broke out, and he became the first leader of the American army. Years later on April 30, 1789, Washington became the first president of the United States. His activities during the war had shown that he was capable of holding the highest position in the nation. He also presided over the convention that wrote the United States Constitution.

During his two terms as president, Washington put the Constitution into operation, appointed the cabinet, moved the capital, issued the Neutrality Proclamation, settled the Whisky Rebellion, and made our nation a whole. Yes, George Washington was truly a great president.

The last of the greats born during this month is Thomas Alva Edison,

who was born on this day in 1847 in Milan, Ohio. Even as a child, Edison had a great deal of curiosity. To him, everything was a question—and that question had to be answered.

At the age of nine, he was given a chemistry set, but would accept none of the statements until he tested them himself. He also marked all of his bottles "Poison" to be sure that his family did not handle them. His chemical experiments got him into trouble, however. One day an experiment blew up on a train, and the conductor threw him off. This may have caused his deafness. But Edison found it easier being deaf because he concentrated better.

From this time on, Edison widened his range and broadened his interest. The results of this were the stock ticker, the light bulb, the phonograph, the motion picture, the storage battery, the cement mixer, the dictaphone, the duplicating machine, and the telephone. From this list of inventions, it is easy to say that Edison is a genius, but he defined genius as "1 per cent inspiration and 99 per cent perspiration".

These three men are great because of the changes they made for our country and for the contributions they gave to us. They are remembered today and will remain in the future. February is truly a MONTH OF GREATS.

## Sigmas, Mus Start Basketball Play

The Sigma-Mu basketball season has started again. Our first game is on February 28, and both teams are now getting ready.

Our first inter-school game will be sometime between now and the 28th. Last year we beat Peace here, but they beat us at Peace.

Our team is also hoping to play both Meredith and Carolina before the season is over.

New basketball member includes Margaret Stevens.

Although we have a very good team, we should show our school spirit by coming to this game and every other one.

## Sophs Honor Frosh At Valentine Party

Even though the underclassmen celebrated Valentine's Day on February the 17th this year, the Valentine spirit still prevailed. The Freshmen received their invitations Thursday morning. Until then the whole party had been a secret, kept well by the Sophomores since they had been planning for quite a while.

At nine o'clock the big sisters went to get their little sisters and escorted them to the party on First West Wing. The hall was decorated colorfully with streamers and a big valentine was extended from the ceiling. On the walls were smaller valentines which were made by the big sisters with their little sisters' names on them. The food was great, needless to say.

Soon the entertainment began. Kathleen Dale, in her long, slinky-black dress, was Mistress of Ceremonies. She welcomed the Freshmen and announced the line-up of Great Stars and Celebrities that were going to be present for this special occasion. At this time, the Fabulous James Brown was presented by her announcer, (Merrie de la Vergne). And then The James Brown (Susan Gilbert) performed to the ecstasy of all the screaming fans. After his performance, there were several other honorable guests. Martha and the Vandellas (Martha Vaughn, Bagley Waddill, and Nancy Gillam), Barbara Lynn, and Mary Wells (Patsy Slater), and others were a few of the great entertainers. There were some Go-Go girls (Kathy Bradley and Lindy Stenson) who danced wildly to the "Land of 1000 Dances."

After the entertainment, there was a special consultation period for the always-advice-seeking Freshmen. The psycho-analyst was Dr. Freida Freud who had come all the way from Germany (Cantey Tomlinson). She gave adequate advice to all the Frosh (who were Sophomores impersonating individual Freshmen), on such wide and varied subjects of boys, love-life, dating, hallucinations,

## Ten Best Films In 1965 Selected By Critic

By Lamar Sparkman

Bosley Crowther, an influential motion picture critic, whose column appears in the Sunday *New York Times*, revealed his selection of the outstanding films of 1965. In this article, entitled "The Ten Best Films of 1965", Mr. Crowther remarked that "... it was not a particularly good year." He added that many films that were supposed to be memorable, such as "The Greatest Story Ever Told" and "The Agony and the Ecstasy" were major disappointments.

The films that Mr. Crowther selected were produced in a variety of places—from Italy to Japan—and it is notable that only one was made in Hollywood; which, until recent years, was the undisputed film capital of the world.

Mr. Crowther's ten selections, with his comments on each, are as follows: "The Pawnbroker"—from the novel by Edward Lewis Wallent and starring Rod Steiger. "This drama of a lonely survivor of the Nazi concentration camps who has tried to lose himself as a pawnbroker in a poor section of New York is a powerful and stinging exposition of the need for man to continue his commitment to society in these days."

"Ship of Fools"—from the novel by Katherine Anne Porter, directed and produced by Stanley Kramer and starring Simone Signoret and Oskar Werner. Mr. Crowther remarked that "... it is an extraordinarily mnemonic communication and expresses a resounding irony."

"Darling"—screenplay by John Schlesinger with Julie Christie in the lead role. It is the story of "the impulsive affairs and confusions of a restless, selfish, a moral young woman among the social freaks and commercial connivers of contemporary London, Paris, and Italy . . ."

Mr. Crowther has also selected "Reputation," "Juliet of the Spirits," "The Eleanor Roosevelt Story," "Red Desert," "Kwaidan," "To Die in Madrid," and "Thunderball."

For his comments on these films, see the next issue of *The Belles*.



Two freshmen diligently work on the decorations for the Freshman-Sophomore party which was February 17 with the theme of "Carousel."

dreams, switchboard difficulties, and of course, the never-ending problem of the Sophomores' taking over the Freshmen's boyfriends.

The last conference that she had was with a Typical Freshman (Sandy Hamer) and a Typical Sophomore (Lisa Rowland). The Freshman, in her McMullen outfit, pearls, and pocketbook, was baffled as to whether she was a typical St. Mary's girl. The typical Sophomore came bursting out in her hogwashers and raincoat, saying that she did not understand why the Freshmen had not followed the fine examples that were set by the Sophomores. But then the Typicales decided that basically they are all the same . . . and the Sophs began to sing "We love you Freshmen", and the song was returned by the Frosh.

The party was over, and the decorations were torn down. Soon everyone was back on her own hall . . . fat, happy, and sorry that February the 17th was over.

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