

THE BELLES OF ST. MARY'S

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Letter To Editor Are We Led As A Herd Of Sheep, Unprepared For Life?

Dear Editor:

Stated in the Student Handbook in the purpose of St. Mary's Junior College is this sentence: "The college recognizes the need of students for self fulfillment and for preparation to assume the obligations that society places upon those who are privileged to have rich cultural background and high ideals of integrity."

Upon entering college a student must accept certain responsibilities, but she should also be able to voice her opinion about these responsibilities. We are here at St. Mary's to be prepared for entering society and to broaden our horizons. How is this ultimately possible if we cannot voice our opinions and be heard?

Many students would like to assume some responsibilities, but they are not allowed to. We all have an interest in St. Mary's, but we are unable to further our interests to any extent. It is our school and we should be able to exert some independence in deciding what we are to do here. Contrary to this, our independence is confined into the strictest of limits.

If we are to enter society with a rich background, we should not become a student body which merely accepts situations as they are, especially when they are unpleasant.

Every bit of independence we knew before we came to St. Mary's is completely denied to us now. Of course, we all realize that there must be certain rules, but when these rules get out of hand, and we are made to obey them, even when they

do not benefit us in any way, we should be able to speak out and be heard.

St. Mary's students have become a herd of lost sheep who follow the many petty rules, because it is easier to submit and not complain. Yet there are those few who stand up, but they can not because of the lack of communication between the students and administration. When an opinion is voiced and a complaint registered, a hearing is denied. The administration attempts to push the student back into the common herd of sheep.

Constantly we hear the phrase "we are working on it", but where are the results? If we were able to be independent in any sort of way, some results might be seen. The administration is here to guide us and help us, not to simply lead us blindly through two of the most important years of our lives. We shouldn't be preparing for life, we should be living it every day. How can we become adults without being given any privileges and responsibilities of an adult?

The time-worm cliché: "You only get out of it what you put into it" applies directly to the students at St. Mary's. If we could be given a part in planning an assembly program or a concert, we might get more out of them. We do appreciate the opportunities we are given, but we also could add to the opportunities by getting some of our own speakers or even speaking ourselves. When we want to have a speaker or see a certain movie, they are immediately censored. We are not naive, and we have been subjected to the outer world beyond the realms of this campus. It is unfair that we cannot bring some of this outer world into our lives at St. Mary's.

In our society, the freedom of speech is one of our most prized possessions. Why aren't we allowed this freedom here? Surely we can speak out, but the administration will not listen and tends to condemn us for our ideas and plans. With communication and determination between the administration and the students we might become prepared to enter society.

As it stands now, many of us will go out into the big, wide world completely blind to life.

A Blinded Senior

Sally Cruikshank Considered For Merit Scholarship

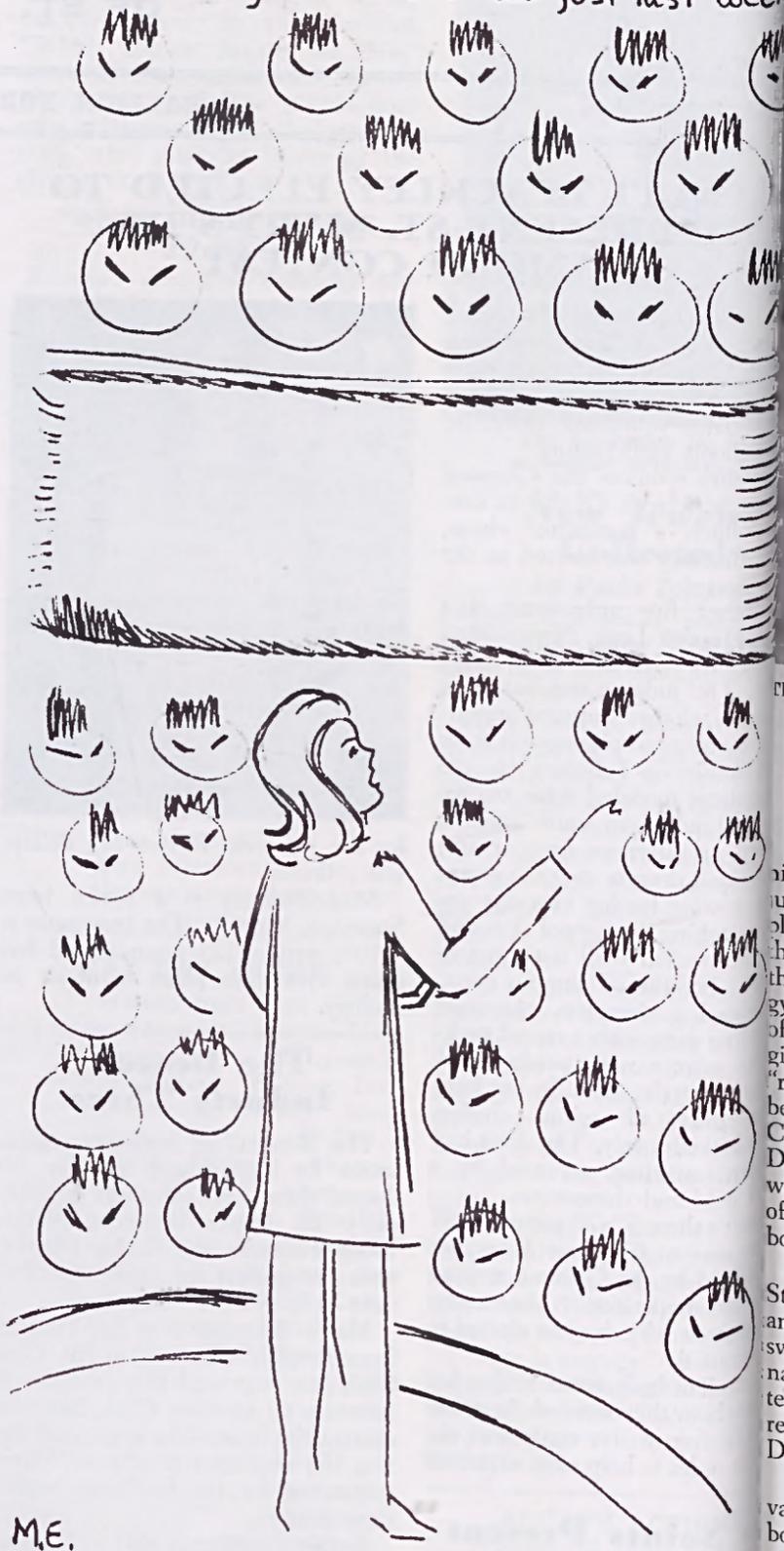
Sally Cruikshank, a sophomore from Chatham, New Jersey, has been awarded the Certificate of Merit by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

This achievement means that she has advanced from a Semifinalist to a Finalist. Sally will now be considered for a Merit Scholarship which is the highest academic honor that a college applicant can receive.

Flicks of Future

Village: "Night of the Generals"
Varsity: "Walk, Don't Run"
Colony: "Riot on Sunset Strip"
Ambassador: "Dr. Zhivago"
State: "Tobruk"

"Yes, as a matter of fact I saw L.B. Swimming in the Potomac just last week"



M.E.

Letter of Appreciation To Dr. Stone

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Stone for allowing the Cruikshank ventilation system to be turned on again. I am only one student living in the Cruikshank Dormitory; however I feel that I am conveying the sentiments of many.

Because of the apparent discontentment, I also feel the students living in Cruikshank and Penick should know that the administration is not responsible for the disconnected phones. This responsibility rests solely in the hands of the Raleigh Telephone Company.

I would again like to express my appreciation to Dr. Stone for being so understanding and co-operative.

Sincerely,
Anne Winston Pinder

Dining Room Improvements?

Dear Editor,

What has happened to the dining room at St. Mary's? At the beginning of the school year, we were served food, but it has begun to deteriorate steadily. Lately, there has been a variety in the meals served in the dining hall. Neither is there a sufficient quantity of food.

First servings, especially of meats, are scanty, and second servings are refused. Thus, students leave the dining room hungry.

Improvements also could be made in sanitation.

Thank you.
Some Hungry Students

