

THE BELLES OF ST. MARY'S

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Senior Commencement Parties Planned

Commencement weekend will begin for seniors on Friday, May 23. Mr. Tate will supervise graduation rehearsals throughout the day on Friday.

The seniors will be entertained by the alumnae at an 11:00 A.M. brunch to be held at the Velvet Cloak, on Friday.

Friday evening, the St. Mary's dramatic club will present **Jane Eyre** for the students, parents, and friends.

Class day will be held at 4:00 P.M. Saturday afternoon with all four classes participating.

The Glee Club will present its final concert Saturday evening in the auditorium.

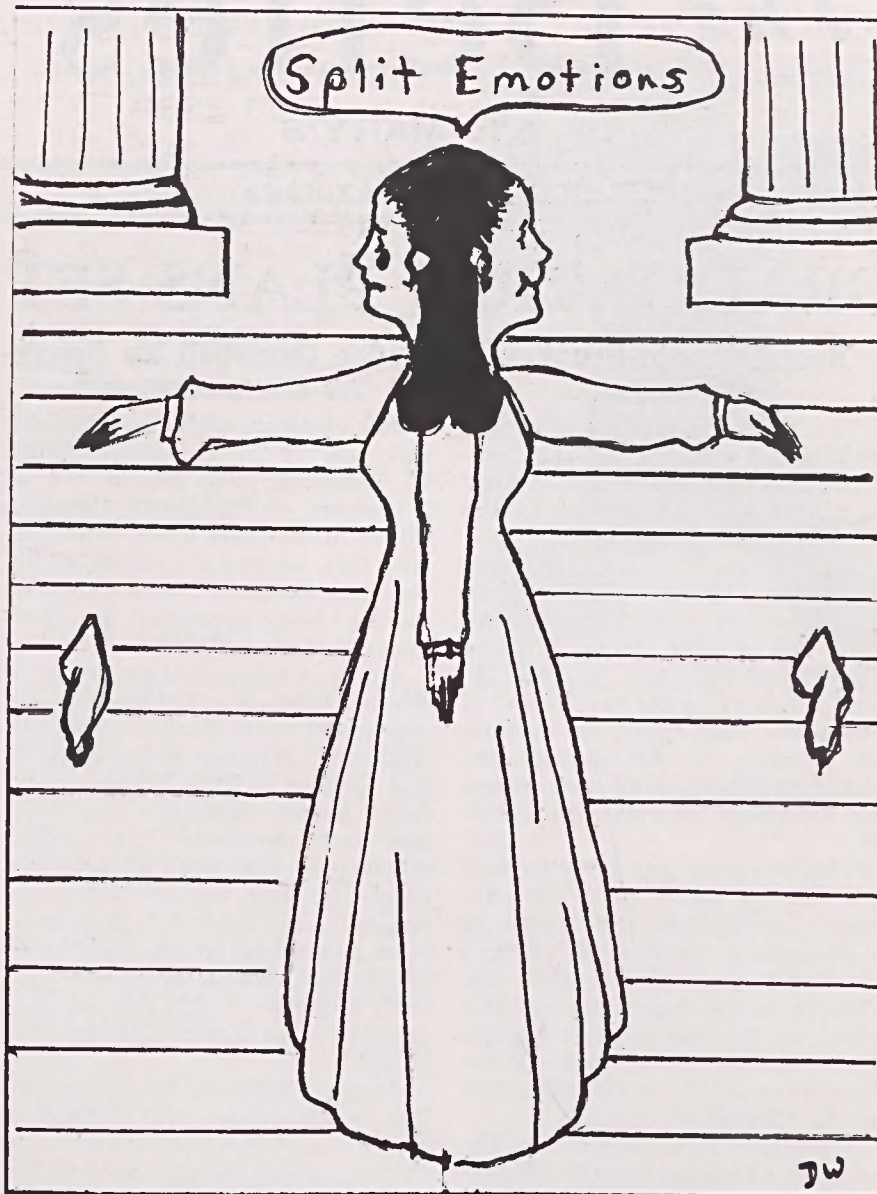
Baccalaureate will be held in the chapel Sunday morning. Following this the seniors will congregate in their caps and gowns for the class picture.

Dr. Richard G. Stone will entertain parents at a reception in Smedes on Sunday afternoon. This will be followed by step singing at 5:00 P.M.

The climax of the weekend will come at 10:30 Monday morning with graduation exercises.

JUST A THOUGHT

What we call luck
is simply pluck
And the doing things
over and over;
Courage and will,
perseverance and skill,
Are the four leaves
of Luck's clover.



EDITORIAL

Unfortunately, some of the teachers, alumnae, and students fear that the traditional "spirit" of the school has supposedly suffered because of the changes made this year. Of course, when Mr. Nixon was elected President, "some" of the Democrats' traditions and the Democrats' spirit certainly changed, but St. Mary's is not the political arena of Washington, although politics are practiced here, and it would not seem likely that all the "hip hurrah" would vanish just because a minimum of the archaic rules were liberalized. Still, onlookers claim that the students have been given the "inch" and have taken the proverbial "mile," losing all respect for rules and authority.

Perhaps the respect for pointless rules and meaningless traditions was never here in the first place. Perhaps it was only a myth, a facade finally broken down by a handful of girls who decided that they wanted to make a few decisions themselves and wanted a chance to assume the responsibilities of their decisions.

The confusing point is why the new rules should suddenly dis-

solve the St. Mary's "spirit." It seems that the rules would instead give students more spirit because the students could think of the school as a friend instead of an institution ready to punish them for their slightest offense.

Agreed that a person wants and needs discipline, but a person also needs to feel that she is a responsible human being capable of making a more complex decision than whether or not to break a rule. This ability to make decisions could increase spirit in a number of people.

The St. Mary's 1967-68 Catalog states, "the college recognizes the need of students for self-fulfillment and for preparations to assume the obligations that society places upon those who are privileged to have rich cultural background and high ideals of integrity." By giving the students the opportunity to make their own decisions, St. Mary's is fulfilling one of its objectives, and perhaps a true St. Mary's spirit, one that is felt by almost all students, will be found on campus again.

V. M. F.

TO CRAM OR NOT TO CRAM

(Reprint from the May 17, 1968 Belles.)

To cram, or not cram — that's the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to study
For Shakespeare tests the date before vacation,
Or to rebel against seas of questions,
And by finessing flunk them — to pass —
No more; and by an A to say the end
The heartache and the thousand fears of F's
Our minds are heir to. 'Tis a situation
Devoutly to be wished. To cram — to pass.
To pass — perchance a D. Ay, there's the rub!
For 'bove that 65, what grade may come
When we have shuffled off this hallow'd walls,
Must give us pause. There's the reason
That makes fruitlessness of an endless cram.
For who would bear the D's and F's of school,
The teachers' wrongs, the professor's
Tate's lack of mercy,
The pangs of despised work, the grade's delay,
The thanklessness of study, the sport
That tests make of our grueling hours of work,
When she might her vacation happy make
With a slight finesse? Who would studies bear,
To work and slave with death's pressure pressing on,
But that the chance of F's after vacation —
The average below C, raged from whose depths
No student can return — sear us to death,
And makes us rather bear the pain of work
Than flunk and maybe never graduate?
Thus grading does make coward of us all,
And all rebellions, tears and frustrations
With dexterity are quickly put to rest
And lose the name of Justice.
By Alice Calhoun

CIRCLE INDUCTS TWO

Monday, May 12th, the Circle inducted two new members from the junior class in their last walk of the year. The new members are Boyd Gregory of Weldon and Dru Haley of South Boston, Va. Emily Kilpatrick was elected as the President of the Circle for next year.

BEACON WALKS FOR FRESHMAN

The Beacon took in three new members from the freshman class Thursday, May 15th. The new members are Frances Capehart from Windsor, Dell Parker from Martinsville, Va. Elected as President of the Beacon for next year was Dell Parker.

DEDICATED TO THE
CLASSES OF '69 and '71