

SMJC Teacher Is Active Archeologist

By ANN TYNDALL

Mrs. Scoggin, one of St. Mary's new faculty members, pursues a fascinating job during the summer months. She takes an active part in archeological "digs" in the Middle East.

Mrs. Scoggin first became interested in archeology during her college years. Then in 1949, she got her first chance to visit the Middle East. At this time, she was doing research for her M.A. in the area of culture conflict. She was in Israel for five years. During that time, she visited such excavated sites as Megiddo, Bethshan, and Caesarea. Mrs. Scoggin stated, "Archeology is the national hobby of Israel." All of her work has been done in Israel.

For the past five seasons, Mrs. Scoggin has been engaged in the excavation of the site of Gezar, which was a strategically located town in the Ajalon Valley. She explained that in ancient times the town was located on a hill and guarded the valley. It was originally one of the passes from Jerusalem to the coast. In past seasons, Mrs. Scoggin has been both a volunteer worker and a member of the staff. She held the position of registrar for ceramic objects and was also supervisor of the pottery shed. This past summer she was the registrar for special objects which the diggers unearthed. These objects included such things as scarabs, ivory objects, copper-bronze ornaments, bones, and coins. Mrs. Scoggin explained that her job included cleaning and preserving the objects and registering them according to their function and probable date.

Mrs. Scoggin elaborated on the actual setup of an archeological excavation. The Gezar "dig" was funded by the Smithsonian Institute; its primary goal was to discover, if possible, the site of some sort of government building or temple. It was interesting to note that college students were involved in the actual excavating. College professors and persons working toward their doctorates served as area supervisors. They were engaged in conducting classes and holding lectures in the evening. The Gezar "dig" was set up as an academic program, where students engaged in

the actual excavating could earn up to four hours credit.

As in the case of other excavations, the Gezar site consisted of several levels of human occupancy. In one particular area, the excavations have gone down to the Iron Age level which dated from about 1200 to 930 B.C. Mrs. Scoggin used the latter date — circa 930 B.C. — as being during the Solomonic Age; and therefore, more correct. In another area, the Philistine level dated from around 1350-1300 B.C. Excavations of a cave from still another area yielded bronze artifacts from the Late Bronze Age, circa 1450-1400 B.C. According to Mrs. Scoggin, dating artifacts can sometimes become confusing, because "dating depends on how a culture moves." For example, one area may have developed the use of bronze before another. Thus the Bronze Age would have occurred in the first area before it occurred in the second.

Regarding the history of Gezar, Mrs. Scoggin said that the town had once been inhabited by Philistines. The town of Gezar was originally under the political control of Egypt, but it was given to King Solomon as part of the dowry of one of his Egyptian wives.

To date, the excavations at Gezar have unearthed the arch of a Philistine house and a Solomonic entry gate into the city. This gate had four smaller gates within the main gate. Mrs. Scoggin told what she considered to be the most interesting discovery. This object was a tool mold made of soft limestone. The mold itself was embedded in a huge rock and had even been tossed aside and broken, but fortunately a supervisor recognized the possible value of the rock and had it cleaned up. The result was a rock which contained etched out molds for a spear head, axe, and chisel! The etchings were still blackened from being scorched by many metal pourings.

Anyone who has an interest in the recent archeological discoveries of the Middle East should definitely talk to Mrs. Scoggin. She has many fascinating comments to make on the subject of archaeology in Israel.



Dr. Pisani and John Hill.

JOHN HILL RETIRES

After fifty-six years of service, John Hill retired from the St. Mary's staff. His retirement was officially acknowledged with a party on August 31 in the dining room. Many members of the faculty, staff, and student body attended and gave their best wishes to John.

John Hill was born and raised in Raleigh. He came to work at St. Mary's on Christmas day of 1914 as a water boy. He was fourteen years old. He was promoted to waiter and, finally, trained the waiters who served the girls. When the food service company took over the dining room, John would not work for them, preferring to remain in the direct employ of St. Mary's Junior College. He became part of the custodial staff and held this position until his retirement.

John has seen many changes occur at St. Mary's during his long tenure. He has seen "new" buildings such as Penick and Cheshire being built and old ones being razed. He has carried scores of trunks, suitcases, and hatboxes. He has seen the great flux of hemlines from short in the '20's and '30's, to long in the 40's and 50's, to very short in the 60's and then back down again. Despite all these transitions, John said that the St. Mary's girls have remained the same.

CHANGES MADE AT SMJC DURING SUMMER

Although St. Mary's is on the verge of an extensive building program, improvements and changes are constantly being made to make the present physical plant more livable and functional.

Improvements which have been made include air-conditioning in the chapel, a new ice machine in the cafeteria and two new laboratories in Cheshire. The chapel has also been recarpeted in St. Mary's blue and painted inside and out. Repairs have been made on the roof, and the kneelers are being upholstered in blue to match the carpet. The new flags were a gift of the Senior Class which graduated in 1970.

The new ice machine is in the entrance of the kitchen and is for student use. This replaces the 25-year-old machine that was used last year. Everyone is urged to use the machine before and after meals in order to minimize congestion around the serving lines and disposal line. Mr. Currin also requests that the ice scoop be left out of the machine for obvious reasons. Also, for the convenience of students who do not have 8:30 classes, a continental breakfast is being served and cafeteria hours are being extended until 8:30. Also of special interest are nine special events planned for the coming year. In September there will be a Plantation Breakfast, and a Soul Food dinner is planned for October. There will also be a steak dinner at the Hut and several ice cream carnivals.

As most of the old girls have noticed, Stone House no longer exists. In order to compensate for the space lost, several sets of bunk beds will be added to Smedes. In addition to being painted on the outside, Smedes has been completely repainted on the inside — classrooms as well as dorm rooms.

Two new laboratories being added to Cheshire will be completed in October when all the new equipment arrives. One will serve as a Biology laboratory and the other will be for Physics.

OUT, ABOUT, AND AROUND

Football Games

UNC		
Sept. 19	N.C. State	Home
Sept. 26	Maryland	Away
Oct. 3	Vanderbilt	Away
Oct. 10	South Carolina	Home
N.C. STATE		
Sept. 19	UNC	Away
Sept. 26	South Carolina	Home
Oct. 3	Florida	Away
Oct 10	East Carolina	Home

Concerts in the Raleigh Area

Raleigh Chamber Music Guild
Oct. 11 Sonta da Camera

The Bulletin Board

BE SURE to buy the
exciting!! Epic of
Old England, Beowulf,
on sale now at the
Bookstore.
Hurry while they
last — for an
exciting evening of
Reading enjoyment.
Thank you,
The English
Department

by KAY

HOLT TO BE RESTORED BY NEXT FALL

Attention sophomores! Those of you who will be returning as juniors next fall will have the privilege of living in modernized Holt Hall. The building will be completely air conditioned. Rooms will have wall to wall carpeting, and the bathrooms will be renovated.

Mr. Pisani stated that this is part of the school's development plan. Work on Holt will begin early this summer, and alumnae will be asked to help with the cost.

New juniors will be able to room in Holt, but preference will be given to old girls of the Class of '73.

St. Mary's Plans Development Of Campus

The development plans for the restoration and rebuilding of the St. Mary's campus are rapidly being shaped. Preliminary organization is almost completed, and the entire school will be invited to a party, possibly in early October, to announce the plans formally.

"The project will affect three phases of life at St. Mary's," said Dr. Pisani. "First of all, we are going to restore some of the old buildings and construct modern and more efficient ones; secondly, more courses are to be added to the curriculum and the faculty will be increased; and finally, scholarship aids are also to be expanded."

The official plans will be printed in the *Belles* after the formal announcement by the Development Office.