

## Ford's Smile Squelches Worries

by Greysen Gates

When a prospective St. Mary's student approaches the campus for her interview, she not only notices the "stately oak trees" scattered about, but also the ominous administration building, East Rock, with its foreboding admissions director who lurks inside waiting to impose all kinds of unanswerable questions upon the unsuspecting victim. All too soon, however, she finds herself stepping into the office of Mrs. Alice Anne Horne Ford and that her fears are most unwarranted. There are few smiles as warm and as bright as Mrs. Ford's because there are few people as genuinely in love with their work as she is.

Mrs. Ford came to St. Mary's by "a stroke of luck" as she puts it. Before coming here she was a dedicated twelfth grade English teacher who had to give up her profession due to vocal troubles. She was told if she wanted to teach, she would have to do so under restrained conditions; therefore, she would not be able to demonstrate her enthusiasm for the course without being able to project as she was accustomed to doing. She then enrolled at North Carolina State University where she earned her masters degree while also teaching emotionally disturbed children at Dorothea Dix Hospital. Not long after she got her degree a vacancy appeared in the admissions office here at St. Mary's in the fall of 1968. Except for a brief period last year, Mrs. Ford has interviewed hundreds of St. Mary's girls in the past six years.

Mrs. Ford says she enjoys her job perhaps more than teaching because there is more one to one contact with young people. She is able to meet and learn about the prospective girl by her interview and application. Some of the more important features Mrs. Ford looks for in prospective students are maturity, poise and sincerity. She believes that it is extremely important for the girls to see the school and to discover for themselves the unique combination of the social,

spiritual and academic union of St. Mary's blend with its own important tradition.

The office of admissions is referred to by Mrs. Ford as her own "baby" because prior to her coming, it was not an established office by itself as it was a combination of the registrar and the admissions director in one. Due to the rapid growth of the St. Mary's community, both positions became too great for one person to fulfill and Mrs. Ford took over the position of admissions director. She also

serves on the Board of Admissions as a well qualified member.

Mrs. Ford sums up her life here at St. Mary's in the word "love." She feels that what she has had to offer to St. Mary's has been repaid in the joy she finds in meeting the girls and their families and in being able to play a part in each girl's opportunity to find her own happiness here at St. Mary's.

Mrs. Ford's daughter, Bonnie, is junior class president at St. Mary's.

## Streisand, Trips Enhance Xmas

by Athalia Cooper

Christmas vacation is that wonderful time of year when everyone gets to go home to their parents, sit back, relax, play with their little brothers and sisters, and, even better, happily anticipate the arrival of their grades.

Unfortunately, the old home life was just a little too exciting for many girls. Participating in all of those neat family activities was simply wearing them out. So was all of that meticulous plotting and planning to discover the best way to intercept (and, if possible, to defeat) a certain piece of mail at the post office. Many people had to take a vacation from vacation.

One of these lucky girls was Lisa Showell. She and her family went to Florida; from there they cruised in the Caribbean, visited the Bahamas, and continued to South America. Afterwards, they returned to Newark on the Queen Elizabeth II.

Another person enjoying the sun over Christmas was Buffy Hazlehurst. She went to Miami on Dec. 28 to see her fiance, a musician aboard the Flavia. She cruised to Nassau, back to Miami, and then again to Freeport on a special New Year's cruise.

Some girls, however, chose the snow and celebrities over sun and sand. Ewing Schmidt and Elise Shelton stayed for over a week in Vail, Colorado, a fa-

## Future Appears Promising For Ambitious Seniors

by Kitty McKenzie

Many of the seniors have exciting plans for this summer and the following year. Not only will they be going to college and studying but they will also be traveling to various states and countries.

Cathy Shaw, who is majoring in art, plans to continue her studies at the Art Academy in Perugio, Italy. This summer she will work in Raleigh and in the

latter part of the summer she will travel through Europe.

In June and July Denise Howell and Fairlie Haynes are taking a Mediterranean cruise and touring through many countries in Europe. Denise will then be attending the University of South Carolina where she will be majoring in pre-medicine. Fairlie plans to attend the University of Alabama and major in botany.

Jodee Sanders plans to go to San Diego, California with Nancy Culpepper in May. Jodee also has made plans to become an apprentice to a leather crafter in Chapel Hill from June to August. After that she will attend Florida State University and study in Europe the following spring.

Susan Howland has made arrangements to live in Raleigh this summer and keep her job pumping gas at Exxon.

## Day Students Join In Boarder Antics

by Mimi Railey

Chaos prevailed as day students invaded Smedes Jan. 11 to celebrate Freshman Weekend. The purpose was to increase the spirit of the Freshman Class, and to get everyone ready to work for the Freshman-Sophomore Dance.

The highlight of the evening was a skit performed by boarders depicting the dormitory life. The skit was narrated by Ann Isenhower, and starred Betsy Bullington, Lisa Norwood, Ellyn Faircloth, Katie Cole, Holly Knagey, and Ann Woodruff. The grand climax was reached when class president Ann Woodruff led the supposedly unsuspecting day students outside behind Smedes where they were bombarded with water buckets. The day students managed to remain in good spirits, borrowing dry nightgowns from their boarder friends.

## With Love Come Lavaliers, Pins, Diamonds

by Nanci Kerr

There are few girls at St. Mary's that have not experienced the trials and tribulations of love. It is that "hard to live with feeling" that accompanies dating. It has its rewards but alas, its disappointments come also. Since most of us know all too well the sadder aspect, we will discuss the brighter side. That brings us down to the subject of lavaliers, pins, and finally engagement rings.

For the uneducated segment of the SMC society, the meaning of these will be explained. Everyone is familiar with fraternities. They have them at Carolina, at State, and probably elsewhere in the world. These fellows have a universal symbol to signify their affection for us, the lowly female. Their first step is to present the lavalier. Freddy Frat really likes Susie Society. They have been dating long enough for things to be quite serious. So, Christmas rolls around and he gives her his lavalier. (This is also a way to get out of buying an expensive Christmas present.) This

means that he really "cares something about 'ole Susie.'" It is also a public confession of his intentions with the girl.

Then time passes and Susie and Freddy get more serious. It is time now for the big step. The next holiday that rolls around (and Freddy frantically searches for a present for "his woman"), Freddy gives Susie his fraternity pin. They are now officially "pinned." Susie proudly wears his pin on her . . . shirt. This means that little Susie and Freddy are getting real serious. Some people even consider it being almost engaged. (It also gives the fraternity a good reason to tease Freddy—"cause he is hooked.)

Well, what follows the pin? . . . the engagement ring, of course. This takes a lot more thought than did the pin or the lavalier. (It also takes more cash!!) Freddy talks to his parents and his buddies. He then makes the big purchase! You can't be too careful about this kind of thing. The occasion arises and he asks Susie to marry him. This can be a romantic event or not—depending on the



**GOING TO THE CHAPEL . . .** Isabel Savage and Jodee Sanders jokingly proclaim their betrothal to each other, while Kathy Jordan, Beth Laws, Monnie Slade, and Amy Phillips display their engagement diamonds and Laura Grimes shows her pre-engagement ring.

couple. Then . . . we all know what follows that—the wedding and the babies.

It seems as though the love bug has hit around St. Mary's

over the holidays. He has scattered pins, lavaliers, and rings in his wake. The showers have been busy dunking the lucky girls. However, don't give up

hope if you didn't get a pin, lavalier, or ring for Christmas. Just remember that it happens to the best of us . . . so be patient!