

the

# BELLES

Wester Gregory

## STUDENTS AND FACULTY ENJOY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Reindeer, Snowflakes, Elves, Angels, Carolers, Holly leaves and numerous nightgowned Santa-awaiters locked into Smedes Parlor Wednesday night for the Annual Christmas Party. These students and others dressed as candles, packages, and various Christmas characters were presented with cake, drinks, potato chips and entertainment by a guest Santa, the Coldcuts and a special appearance by Ms. "hold onto your man" Duke. Mr. Tate ho ho ho'd his way through the parlor

throwing candy and good wishes to the cheering students. He made his way to his reading chair where he proceeded to recite "The Night Before Christmas" and in the excitement lose his beard.

The Coldcuts gave their rendition of several Christmas favorites such as Frosty the Snowman, Here Comes Santa Clause, Twelve Days of Christmas and White Christmas. They were followed by Ms. Duke singing her priceless version of "A Good Man is Hard to Find".

The SGA officers presented gifts from the student body to Mr. Dillard, Dean Jones and Mr. Rice. They received switches for their bad behavior, but the SGA decided to give them a second chance and found gifts for them as well. Mr. Rice and Dean Jones also received Beane Bluchers to help them fit in with the SMC scene a little better as their cohort Mr. Dillard has already done.

The evening sponsored by the Beacon and the Circle was enjoyed by all.



## St. Mary's Group To Visit Paris

Cafe, creme, chocolat chaud, croissants ... Some St. Mary's girls are excitedly applying for passports and making other preparations for an eight-day visit to Paris during the spring break. American Leadership Study Groups, of Worcester, Massachusetts is responsible for all travel arrangements; the group from St. Mary's is being organized and will be led by Dr. Jane Romer. Once in Europe, the group will have a European guide in addition to the accompanying teacher. According to Denise Landi, who has traveled with an ALSG group, the trip will be well-organized and enjoyable. While in Paris, Denise sat for a portrait at Montmartre, where one can find at least two dozen artists at work any day of the year.

The itinerary not only includes the well-known landmarks of Paris - Notre Dame and the Eiffel Tower - but also includes a visit to the Louvre museum, and to the spectacular chateau of Versailles, just outside Paris. The group will also have the opportunity to visit three chateaux of the Loire Valley and the magnificent Chartres cathedral, and to have lunch in Orleans, the city Joan of Arc liberated from the English.

For those who would like to polish their French, the trip will offer such an opportunity. For those who do not speak French, there is no need to worry, as long as they stay with the group! Who knows? The girls could return loaded with Chanel No. 5 and scarves by Yves St.-Laurent. Bon voyage!

## Songs For The Exam Weary

To the tune of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

You'd better not cut, better not cry,  
Better not beg I'm telling you why  
Teachers don't just give out those good grades.  
They're adding the scores checking it twice  
Giving you marks some naughty some nice  
Teachers don't just give out those good grades.  
They know you're over-sleeping  
In class you're not awake

And you're just ten minutes late they cry "For heavens sake"

Oh you better shape up, this is the crunch  
And if you don't it's the wrath of Ms. Bunch  
Teachers don't just give out those good grades.

To the tune of "Jingle Bells"  
Dashing through the halls  
I tripped and dropped my books

My teachers looked appalled  
And gave me dirty looks  
I tried to make them smile  
By grinning ear to ear  
But they were not to be

beguiled  
And I wound up in tears.  
Those damned exams, damned exams  
I wish they'd go away  
I think the people from Dix Hill

Are taking me today.  
A day or two ago, I took my Poly Sigh

One down and four to go  
French, English, Math. O my  
And then let's not forget  
My favorite course of all  
I may just be repeating Psych.

When I'm back here next fall.  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Is There A Santa Claus

Dear Editor:  
I am eighteen years old. Some of my friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in THE BELLES it is so." Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?  
Wimberly Burton  
308 Holt

Dear Wimberly:  
Your friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think nothing can be which is not comprehensive by their little minds.

All minds, Wimberly, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Wimberly, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would the world be if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Wimberly's. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance, to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign there is no Santa Claus.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives! He Lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Wimberly, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will still continue to make glad the hearts of children.

## Thomas Wolfe Essay Contest Announced

The Third Annual Thomas Wolfe Essay contest has been announced by Mrs. Barnhart of the English Department, who sponsors the contest. The subject is "The Legacy of Look Homeward Angel." Essays should be submitted in February, 1978; the specific date will be given later.

The winner of the contest will be given a \$50 cash prize, and 500 copies of the essay will be printed in booklet form for distribution to Wolfe scholars, libraries, and others. Essays will be judged by Professor Richard Walser of North Carolina State University.

Sue Uzzell, SMC Senior, won the first contest in 1976. She reports that she has received letters from Wolfe

fans in many parts of the U.S. about her essay, which was subtitled "A Window on All Time." The 1977 winner was Rebecca Procter, SMC Sophomore, with an essay subtitled "Antitheses in Look Homeward, Angel." Becky used her prize money to purchase something she had always wanted--two pet skunks. She named them after characters in the novel!

For further information, contact Mrs. Barnhart or your English teacher. Copies of the two previous winning essays are available on loan from the library or from Mrs. Barnhart, who reminds you that this award will be a very impressive addition to your college credentials.

## Students To Visit Washington & New York

On Thursday, March 2, Mr. Tate and about 25 students will leave Raleigh for the annual Washington-New York trip over spring break. The first stop is Washington where the group will be staying at the Presidential Hotel. They plan to tour the Capitol, the National Gallery, and visit Georgetown. Also they plan to see the N.C. City Ballet and the Kennedy Center and a production of Hamlet at the Folger Library. Then, on Sunday, March 5, the group will arrive in New York. There they will visit Chinatown, the United Nations, various museums, and the famous Trader Vic's after a long day of touring. They will see an assortment of plays and eat supper atop the World Trade Center. They also plan to do some shopping on Fifth Avenue. On March 12, after a week in New York, the group will return to Raleigh.

## London Trip Planned

Mr. Tate is planning a trip to London this summer after school is over in July. Any rising senior can go for their senior English credit, and any others going can take it as a college credit as an elective only. They will be in London for four weeks and plan to see all the Shakespearean Plays as well as others at the

National Theatre of the West End. There will also be a trip to Stratford for four days to see some plays and Shakespeare's birthplace. Trips to Oxford, Cambridge, the Windsor castle, Eton, Winchester, Salisbury, and Stonehenge are also on their agenda. It should be a great experience and lots of fun.

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
LOVE, BELLES STAFF