



The Belles of St. Mary's College

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ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N.C.

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Who's Who at St. Mary's

Each issue of the Belles will feature an interview with a special person at St. Mary's with whom every girl should be familiar.

This first issue's interview is with the President of St. Mary's, John Thomas Rice. Mr. Rice has been president of the school since 1976. In our interview he pointed out that he especially enjoyed working at an all-female school because of the ever-changing times, roles, and opportunities for women.

President Rice, a native of Virginia and an honor graduate of Virginia Polytechnical Institute, has many impressive credentials. He was the president of his class in 1961, a Cadet Major of the Regimental Staff in the VPI Corps of Cadets, and a Distinguished Military graduate; he was listed in the 1961 "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities"; he was a member of Phi Kappa Phi National Scholarship Fraternity, the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership

Fraternity, and the Scabbard and Blade National Military Society.

After graduating from VPI President Rice earned a Postgraduate Professional Certificate from Virginia, a Junior College Administration Certificate from Florida, and a Teacher's and an Administrator's Certificate from North Carolina. All these honors are an unbiased way to discover President Rice's brilliance.

However, there is also a personal side to President Rice for which certificates and honors are not distributed. He is a truly sincere man with a genuine (also rare) interest in everyone's well-being. He strives to please, at least a little bit, everyone—which all of us know is practically impossible—but which President Rice does very well. He is very fair and will always listen to both sides of an issue.

When asked what, specifically, his job is, he gave

a list of duties. First, he is in charge of all internal operations--i.e. day-to-day decisions, hiring or faculty when needed, forming academic policy, and planning of budgets. Second, he is responsible for projecting the potential of the college to the community; this involves "pep talks" to church and social groups in Raleigh and throughout the state and country. Last, and most important, he must help to obtain financial support for St. Mary's. Money is needed for such diverse aspects of the St. Mary's program as faculty salaries, buildings and supplies, maintenance, and food. The combined tuition of all the students alone is not nearly enough to cover these financial needs of St. Mary's.

In concluding our interview, President Rice pointed out, "The key to St. Mary's is its high academic quality." We must have high standards; everyone who is associated with our school must be special--because St. Mary's is special.



President John T. Rice

One of a Select Few

As a student at St. Mary's you are one of some 120,000 women who have chosen to attend one of the 122 colleges for women in the United States. Compare these figures with the 11.3 million enrollment at 3,000 coeducational institutions of higher education to see how select a group you as a St. Mary's student are a part of.

The first college for women was Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, founded in 1837. Because women were excluded from most major universities, the women's college movement spread rapidly. St. Mary's College, founded in 1842, is the oldest of Raleigh's colleges and universities and the second oldest college for women in North Carolina. Furthermore, St. Mary's has the distinction of being the only women's institution of its kind that serves the 16-20 age group.

Today of the 122 colleges for women in our country the largest is Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas, with an enrollment of 8,736. The largest of the private

women's colleges, Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, enrolls 2,561. St. Mary's is typical in size of the small woman's college, with 310 students in its college program and 200 in its high school.

The history of the women's college has not been easy. From its beginning the women's college was beset with more than its share of financial difficulties. The plight of many women's colleges intensified during the 1960's and early 1970's. In fact, between 1966 and 1976 more than one-half of the women's colleges were forced to close. But during the late 1970's the outlook for the woman's college has improved. Today most observers feel that closings are at an end and that the surviving women's colleges have a secure future. At least for the next few years there appear to be enough young women like those of you who have enrolled at St. Mary's who will choose the unique advantages that a woman's college can provide.

RULES STRICT?

Do you think the rules at St. Mary's are strict now? Let's compare the rules of St. Mary's from the past with those of the present before you render a final judgment.

First, in the past, girls at SMC had to wear a standard uniform, which consisted of a plain navy blue dress. Presently the uniform is blue jeans and a big shirt (preferably one of Dad's). In the past little jewelry was worn. Now add-a-beads are practically a necessity.

In former days beds were to be made every day and rooms kept neat and clean. Presently beds are never made and rooms should be

unenterable because of the mess. Also in the past quiet hours were to be maintained twenty-four hours a day. Now stereos are not to be played below maximum loudness. Formerly no romping or running was allowed in any of the buildings. Presently no walking is permitted except when going to class--late.

In the past students were supposed to be attentive in class, with no distractions permitted. Nowadays they must either write letters to boyfriends or daydream.

Once girls had to attend morning and evening prayer services. Now they are required to participate in evening and early morning

rap sessions. Formerly on Saturday they were required to devote two hours to needlework. At the present girls must spend at least two extra hours sleeping.

In the past fiction books were not to be read except on Saturday and then only those that were approved. Presently no non-fiction books are permitted except for an occasional textbook; only dirty paperbacks are approved reading.

The rules at St. Mary's have changed exceedingly over the years. Remember . . . things could be worse. In fact, they once were.



St. Mary's Girls?

1979-80 Calendar

August 23 - Arrival of Freshmen, New Sophomores, and Juniors
August 24 - Arrival of Returning Sophomores
August 25 - Classes Begin for Freshmen and Sophomores
August 26 - Arrival of Seniors
August 27 - Classes Begin for Juniors and Seniors
September 28-29 - Parents Weekend
October 12-16 - Fall Holiday

November 20-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
December 13-19 Examinations
December 20 - Christmas Holiday Begins
January 7 - Classes Resume
Feb. 29-March 9 - Spring Holiday
April 3-7 - Easter Holiday
April 18 - Spring Festival
April 19 - Alumnae Day
May 2-8 - Examinations
May 9 - Baccalaureate
May 10 - Commencement