



The Belles of St. Mary's College

VOL. XLII, NO. 4

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY, 1981

DAY STUDENTS GET INVOLVED

by Patti Drake

This year more than ever St. Mary's day students have made some terrific accomplishments with positive, permanent results. Together with more involvement in the school than previous years, the day students have succeeded in achieving a long list of activities.

For Thanksgiving, a favorite housekeeper, Naomi, was given an extravagant dinner with all the traditional treats included. Then for Christmas, Mary-Hunter Martin, after a few phone calls, was referred to Ms. Lattie Strickland of Hillhaven Convalescent Center. Ms. Strickland has no family therefore St. Mary's day students have made her personal welfare their

concern and have decided to 'adopt' her through visits and gifts.

For the Spring term, a raffle with a \$100 gift certificate at Jolly's Jewelers is being held, proceeds will be used for an Easter project. Following the raffle, the Yale Alley Cats will perform on March 20 in Smedes Parlor. This gathering promises to be a fun affair for all.

Finally, the Day Student House was redecorated over the summer, a long awaited event. A new carpet, new furniture and new decor all contributed to the house's new look.

1980-81 has been a very productive year for the day students and promises to continue with positive results.



Raleigh gets snow, snow, and more snow in January.

**In Memorial
to
Nancy
Elizabeth
Marlowe**

February 14th--How It All Began

by Sarah Rice

Every February 14, people exchange tokens of love-or wish they were exchanging tokens of love. But, do you ever stop to think where the custom of Valentine's Day began? The day of romance when sweethearts receive flowers, candy or cards began with the Romans. Valentine's Day was originally the feast of Lupercalia, a young lovers celebration. It was held in honor of Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage, and the Roman god, Pan, of nature. Partners drew names from a box, and then the Romans would exchange gifts with their partners. Later, the day became Saint Valentine's Day and was set on the date of February 14. The name was given in honor of two Christian martyrs who died for converting Romans to Christians.

Valentine's Day has many amusing customs. Girls would often write men's names on paper and roll the bit in a piece of clay. After throwing them into the water, she would

wait until the first piece floated to the top and then the name she'd unravel would be that of her valentine. Sometimes charms were performed to enable a girl to dream who her future husband would be. A popular tradition involves the drawing of names by social groups. After drawing, the men would wear his lady's name on his sleeve for days, and so the phrase "he wears his heart on his sleeve" emerged.

Gifts, flowers, and candy are traditional presents between valentines. Special messages are a custom that developed after the civil war. Some elaborate gifts involve presents of jewels, or formal balls given for valentines. So, this February 14, all St. Mary's will wait and hope for flowers from beaus. After most of us trip down to the switchboard we will probably find that the flowers are from our parents. But don't be fooled by an anonymous carnation. It is from a fellow SMC girl--the SGA is sponsoring a carnation sale.

A NEW FACE IN PR AT ST. MARY'S

by Mary Horton

What do you like best about St. Mary's? Linda Weiner likes the homey atmosphere. She feels that she is closer to the students here than she would be at a bigger school.

Who is Linda Weiner? She works in the public relations department here at St. Mary's. Mrs. Weiner takes care of all the St. Mary's publications. She writes the Close Up calendar. Mrs. Weiner is in charge of the writing of the catalogue, the student director, all the brochures, and all the material for the Admission's Office for prospective students. She also handles the public service announcements and the advertisements.

Linda Weiner is from Princeton, North Carolina. She attended the local high

school. Mrs. Weiner was always interested in writing and became interested in journalism during high school. She was co-editor of her high school newspaper. Mrs. Weiner attended the journalism school at the University of North Carolina. There she took the basic course of journalism such as: beginning reporting, political reporting, history of journalism, journalism and law, and editing and lay-out. This last course is the one that Mrs. Weiner enjoyed the most. She felt that it was the most challenging and the most creative class. Mrs. Weiner feels that the School of Journalism is very good at UNC. After just one writing course, she was able to take a job at a small town newspaper during a summer internship program. She won a North

Carolina Press Association Award for an article. Mrs. Weiner felt that journalism school was at a disadvantage because it treated going into public relations as a cardinal sin. It is very competitive in pitting students against one another. A great disadvantage of the school, Mrs. Weiner said, is that the stories are graded on how well the professor likes the story.

Mrs. Weiner worked in Public Relations at UNC and then moved to Wake Medical Center. She didn't like the hospital public relations and moved back temporarily to UNC. She was told of the job at St. Mary's, applied, and was accepted. She would like to work here or somewhere with a staff, so that the people on the staff could specialize in certain areas and not be spread too thin.

The Opera Comes to SMC

by Margie Morgan

On Wednesday night, January 21, St. Mary's was honored with a performance by the National Opera Company in "Don Pasquale." The North Carolina Chamber Players accompanied the Company in the fine performance. The Music Director and Conductor for the evening was Don Wilder. Founded in 1948 by A. J. Fletcher, the National Opera Company has performed over 2,300 times in 35 states.

"Don Pasquale" is the

story of an elderly, wealthy gentleman who is disturbed because his nephew, Ernesto, will not marry the young lady he has chosen for him. Pasquale decides to marry a young lady and disinherit Ernesto. Dr. Malatesta, a "friend" of Pasquale's, and in an effort to join Ernesto and his love, Norina, plots with Norina to marry Pasquale. Pasquale marries Norina, thinks she's Malatesta's sister, Sofronia. "Sofronia" makes impossible demands of Pasquale and his wealth. To

get "Sofronia" to leave his house, Pasquale must allow Ernesto to marry immediately. Pasquale discovers that "Sofronia" is really Norina, Ernesto's love, and is so elated, that he blesses the marriage of Ernesto and Norina.

The cast of the National Opera Company exhibited tremendous talent and St. Mary's night at the opera was an enjoyable one. It is hoped that the Company will return to St. Mary's with another opera in the future.