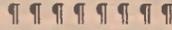


From the Editor



THE BELLES exists for you, the students of St. Mary's. If you want to voice your opinions or if you have any worries or concerns, do not just talk about it, rather put it into words and give it to any BELLES staff member. For the paper to continue, the support of the students is greatly needed!



Exam time is not that far away. Before you know, those nights of no sleep, headaches, etc. will be here. Try to start planning now, so there will not be such an end of the semester push to get the grades up. Organize your time now. Plan out a schedule for the up coming weeks so you will be able to budget your time wisely. Thus, you will then have time for all those activities that you really want to do! Good luck!!!!

Anne Raymer



It is that time again. 1984, an election year. Here is your chance to have a voice in government. You have the opportunity to vote for candidates who you think are capable of running our government on the local, state, and national levels. Do not just sit back and watch everyone else, exercise your right to vote as a citizen of the United States of America. The opportunity does not come everyday.

TO THE EDITOR

Being one of the 39 percent of the juniors at St. Mary's with failing grades, I have become increasingly concerned with the need to study. I decided therefore to do something about it. My first step led me to the library. I found, however, that trying to study in the library is almost as pointless as going into combat without a weapon. Between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. the library is as noisy as, if not louder than, Cruikshank. I did find a secret rendezvous, the second floor study lounge. Unfortunately, the freshmen and sophomores had claimed it first - the study room had been turned into a social lounge full of loud talk and giggles about General Hospital.

I have nothing against General Hospital, but for some reason it just doesn't seem important to me when I have 180 pages to read for Dr. Quinn's class the

following day. Hastily, I went downstairs to ask the librarians politely to quiet the soap opera digest. To my dismay I found that the librarians were also enthralled in a deep conversation concerning General Hospital. It is my opinion that there is something drastically wrong with the system when even the librarians are not concerned with keeping the library a place of rumination.

I realize that it has become a significant aspect of SMC to conduct a high school study hall. However, I feel it is conducted at the expense of the college students. St. Mary's is an institute of higher education that expects a certain level of performance in the classroom. Where are we supposed to go to concentrate when the library is continually a social festivity? It seems to me that it should be the responsibility of the administration to insure that the library is run like a library, hence a place to study.

Elizabeth C. Williams

(pianist). All three performers are faculty members at Wells College and are experienced in the art and performing field. They will hold, at 2:00 p.m. a master-class.

Jayne Lybrand will speak about "Taking Charge of Your Future", on February 25. She is a nationally known communication specialist who is widely sought after by educators, White House Administrators, and entertainers. She has become very popular with her appearances on many college campuses across the country.

Finally, on April 10, the Howard Hanger Jazz Fantasy will perform at 7:30 p.m. This group of four members is composed of five instruments: piano, synthesizers, guitar, bass, and percussion, plus vocals. Their sound is very imaginative and they are known for their excellent relationship with audiences.

FORUM ASSEMBLIES

by Jeri Toland

This year St. Mary's has put together a series of six programs for Forum Assemblies. Each assembly will take place in Pittman Auditorium. The speakers and performances will be unique as well as worthwhile.

On November 12, the speaker will be Gene Youngblood, an internationally known author, lecturer, and consultant in electronic art and technology. He will discuss "The Communications Revolution and the Future of Computers." There will be a Discussion seminar at 2:00 p.m.

On January 14, a music, drama, and poetry group called "Three For All" will perform a unique repertory. The members are Bruce Bennett (poet), Barbara Dickenson (dancer), and Carolyn Morgan

WHERE DO YOU STAND - ST. MARY'S?

[Continued from Page 3]

terms.

Cris Beetham commented, "It is scary to think about the combination of his seniority and his radically conservative views." Robin Smith, chairperson for SMC for Hunt, points to Helms' alliance with Jerry Falwell as a definite cause for alarm.

Elizabeth A. Williams is an active supporter of Governor Hunt. She praises Hunt for "his support of ERA ratification, and his support for state funding of abortions for medically indigent women and his opposition to James Watts' plan for wholesale oil drills off the outer banks, which Jesse approved." She also objects to Helms' voting to cut young people's minimum wage and to Helms' Right to Life Bill."

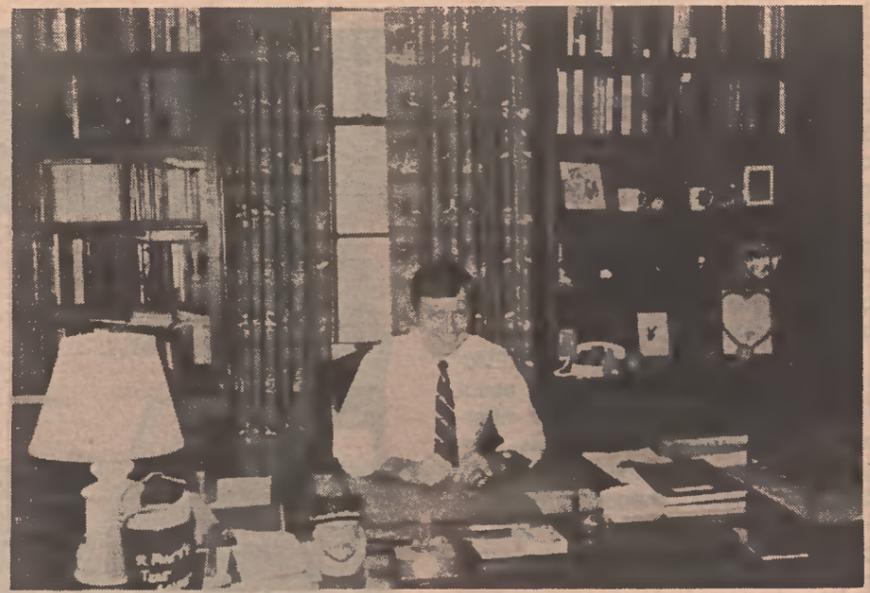
Anne De Rosset plans to vote for Hunt "mainly because Helms supports a constitutional amendment that would

deny women to have an abortion - also I believe that prayer in public schools is unconstitutional." She added, "Voting for Helms seems to be the upper-class-thing-to-do; people need to be aware of his record. Jim Hunt is the less of two evils."

Ellen McCallum also disapproves of Helms' stance on abortion, and prayer in public school. She also disapproves with his views on civil rights and ERA.

An SGA officer who chooses to remain anonymous is undecided but leans towards Hunt. She described him as "a racist who tends to be unfair towards minority groups." She also disapproved of his vote against the MLK Holiday Bill.

Robin Smith feels that "too many SMC students are unaware of Jesse Helms' record. Jim Hunt will make equal rights a priority. Also he has been a leader in education and economic growth for N.C.". She feels that he is the clear choice as the senator to replace Jesse Helms.



President John Rice

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

"PLAYTIME IS OVER"

October is one of the most beautiful months of the year to me. The colors, the gentle breezes, the football games, and the settling of the school year are all a part of October each fall in "The Grove". Patterns become established, and students, faculty, and staff adjust to the academic scene with summer only a distant memory.

October, however, ushers in a more ominous rumble - rather gently, but with firmness - as the campus re-organizes from Fall Break. Progress reports are mailed, and the true sounds of academe are heard by parents as well as students. Progress reports are not final grades. They are, however, warning notes played from the learning tower to re-channel and re-awaken the community to the true purpose of St. Mary's College.

It is so easy to find your activities and thoughts going astray from your educational goals here in the complexities and social events of October. There is simply so much going on all around us that we tend to put aside that term paper or that fifteen minutes after class to review our notes. It is so easy to try to "fly away to Never, Never Land", for there are Peter

Pans all around us trying to lead us away to more fun-endeavors.

Progress reports are just what their name implies, and they tell a number of us that indeed playtime is over. As I write, there are only four weeks until Thanksgiving and then two more weeks of classes after that before examinations. The time has come - while there still is time - to re-order priorities and learn to say no to social invitations, which tempt us to escape from our working obligations. It is not an easy task, I know. It requires self-discipline, self-respect, and a sense of moral responsibility. These, however, are the bases of our program and the essence of what October tries to teach us all.

Gear up your minds, and gear up your hearts. There is time, if you start now, and your Christmas will be so much brighter, if you face yourself and your studies - even amidst the beauty of the fall outdoors. We work together at St. Mary's College, and the time is now.

John T. Rice
President

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