

Editorial

Editor's Farewell

As one of the editors of the "Belles," I have learned many things about Saint Mary's and have enjoyed sharing my findings with other students. The paper is such an important part of communicating events at Saint Mary's. All students are able to read the "Belles" and find out what is happening at Saint Mary's. This year the staff has worked very hard to communicate all important events to the students.

The faculty and staff have been very supportive of our work and we appreciate it. I would also like to thank our staff because they have done a wonderful job this year. They have been very co-operative and have worked very hard.

The "Belles" has grown a lot this year. I hope that in the future the "Belles" will continue to keep growing and improving.

Sheri Roberson

Our Apology

We want to thank those few students who provided their ideas for our planned last will and testament section. However, we did not receive enough responses to allow us to run the feature.

Letters to Editor

Dear Editor:

I read with interest the article about security on campus in last month's paper. Based on the facts as stated in the article some of your concerns are valid. Mr. Conrad and Mr. Crawley also agree with you and have taken some steps to make sure that our mistakes are not repeated.

During this year, as a result of a night walk with students, we have improved campus lighting. By the start of next year, we hope to have in place a new security telephone system that will mean security can always be contacted by telephone.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to our attentions. With your help we will keep on trying to do a better job in keeping Saint Mary's campus safe and secure.

Sincerely yours,
Clauston Jenkins
President

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE

900 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1689



STAFF

Editors: Sheri Roberson and Jennifer Mason

Writers: Jenny Caine
Katherine Cloninger
Renee Dalla Pozza
Alicia Dyer

Elizabeth Evans
Carlyle Herbert
Kristie Hoffstedder
Tracy Morgan
Lisa Morris

Jenny Owens
Kelsea Parker
Suzanne Quebedeaux
Atussa Raoufian
Charlotte Sears
Elizabeth Stephenson
Ellen Zimmerman

Photographer: Katherine Cloninger,
Advisor: Michael Schroeder

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I was very disturbed by the article which attacked the validity of the Saint Mary's honor system in the last edition of the Belles. There has been a change this year in that "...nor have I seen anyone do so" has been removed from the honor code; however, that change does not relieve us of our duty to remain honorable. When this deletion was considered, I was initially against it because I felt as if the students would see it as giving in simply to avoid having the intolerable number of cheating cases that appeared before Judicial Board last year. But when I put it into the perspective seen by President Jenkins, I felt the change would coincide with the way we, as students, think today because we have a greater need to look after ourselves at this age.

The change placed a heavier responsibility on the individual since it is very hard to turn someone else in. Now we are no longer asked to pledge to do so; we merely pledge that we, ourselves, did not cheat. I would like to point out that at the beginning of the year each of us signed the honor pledge stating that we would do our best to keep Saint Mary's within a system of honor. Certainly, I can understand Miss Mason's uneasiness at seeing someone cheat during a test, but if the feelings were that strong then I strongly suggest that a person in her situation go to the teacher. The change does not discourage this action; we just do not have to pledge it any longer. In addition, I do not feel that Miss Mason can assume from that particular instance that Saint Mary's is full of "cheaters, liars, and thieves." However, Miss Mason is not the one of whom I wish to make the example. It is the cheater who violated the honor system.

During my Honor Week speech, I stressed the importance of an individual's responsibility to make the honor system work. The honor system, quite frankly, was under attack because it had been taken advantage of entirely too many times last year. As Chairman of the Judicial Board, I can speak for the entire outgoing SGA in that we made strengthening the honor system one of our top priorities. In evaluating the efforts that were made by the students and faculty, the Commission to Study the Honor System, composed of fellow students and faculty members, saw that progress has been made. The number of Judicial Board cases has tremendously decreased, as I hope will continue, and the overall atmosphere has been more honorable around campus. Certainly, there were some unfortunate cases in which the honor system has failed, and there is always room for improvement. Overall, the situation is much better than last year. I would also like to add that the credit goes to you, the students, because without your cooperation and support there would be no honor system.

Sincerely,
Ginny Dickens

EDITOR'S NOTE: Miss Dickens used my quote out of context! If you will reread the March issue of the Belles, you will find that I only said that St. Mary's will become a place "full of liars, cheaters, and thieves" if something is not done to improve the Honor System. The editorial does not say that I think that St. Mary's has already become this, as Miss Dickens' quote seems to suggest.

My Life at Saint Mary's College

By Tracy Morgan

My life at Saint Mary's has given me a chance to appreciate a college education, wonderful friends, responsibility and independence.

I came to Saint Mary's with goals to improve my grade points average, to meet new friends, and to be involved with school activities. With these hopes in mind, I have strived to do well in school, hold positions of leadership and to make by bed everyday. Accomplishing these goals has given me a sense of independence and responsibility.

I share a common distinction in that I am a Saint Mary's girl. I have learned that my actions and attitude affect not only me

as an individual, but also the Saint Mary's community as a whole. The independence and responsibility I have gained will be a valuable quality to help me throughout my future education.

The past two years at Saint Mary's have prepared me to attend a university where registration lines are long, and where there is not a Mrs. Petway's office for me to stroll into for help. Saint Mary's has prepared me to meet the many challenges that wait.

Time has gone by quickly and it is almost time to leave. I will leave Saint Mary's with pride because it is here that I accomplished many goals. (Hopefully I will continue to make by bed every day).

Help Was There!

By Jennifer Mason

I would like to respond to Suzanne Quebedeaux's article "Science Project: What For?" in the March issue of The Belles. Although Science projects are not popular and they are a lot of work, they are not as totally useless as some people seem to think! When done correctly, they are interesting, they teach you to think in a different way, and they can be fun! Which brings us to the idea of "if you know what you are doing."

Well, first, you could have taken a class that told you what to do, with guidance at every point in your project and help in making every decision. (This class only met for 10 minutes to an hour, depending on how much time you needed, once a week. For those of you who are taking science next year, I highly suggest you take this course!) How did you find out about it? I know that I was told by my physics teacher, but in any case, it was offered as a class and was listed in that big shelf of papers you all have just gotten recently in your mail.

But you did not have to take this class to get help on this project! If you were keeping up with deadlines and scheduled an appointment, no science teacher at Saint Mary's would refuse you help on this project! And if they did, they should not be working at Saint Mary's!! Now they would not have given you the answers, but they would have guided you. However, do not think that they were going to help you the day before it was due, or even the week before it was due, because they were not going to and you should know that by now! I was finished with my project a month before it was due so that I could get someone to read it and tell me if I knew that I was doing. I was certainly one of the minority.

To answer Suzanne Quebedeaux's question "High School Science Project: What For?" I would say that they are designed to help you learn at least the folly of waiting until the last moment to do a major project assigned six months earlier!!! But they also give you a look at another field that you might one day wish to go into. Nothing that you do here at Saint Mary's is for nothing -- you can learn something out of everything!

Parking-a Problem

By Tracy Morgan

It was not long ago when the back yard of Smedes and the front yard of Holt were demolished. This well-known area is now a parking lot. Even though the intention was to provide more parking places, I myself, as well as others, have a problem finding a space to park.

There have been many questions floating around the college like "where am I supposed to park at 1 a.m.?" Parking on College Street is not what I had in mind when I paid twenty-five dollars to secure a safe parking space close to my dorm.

It is time for a remedy to this problem. The high school students may consider parking on campus a privilege; however, the college students hardly consider it a privilege to park on the street.

Saint Mary's high school students in the past, and students at a majority of the prep schools, do not have the honor of having a car at school, much less on campus.

If the high school students are allowed to park on campus, then more parking is needed. However, until then, if fewer high school students were parking on campus, then maybe the college students could find a place to park.



Is a cluttered table a sign of a clear mind? Ask Dr. Hume.