

The Belles

of
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Hurricane Hugo

By Heather Scoggins

"Trees fell everywhere around my house," explained Bridget Butler when I asked her about the devastation Hurricane Hugo wrought in her home town of Charlotte. Many people were without power for a week or more. Saint Mary's students were affected by Hugo even though Raleigh emerged unscathed. We all know friends or have families whose homes and lives were damaged by Hugo in the hardest hit areas between Charleston and Charlotte, and they will be in our thoughts as they try to rebuild and replant.



Hugo destroyed Katherine Jordan's backyard.

The College Board Responds to Girls' Concerns About Gender Bias

Each year approximately two million students take the SAT and more than half of those test-takers are girls. Girls planning to take the test this year may be concerned about recent reports on gender bias in the SAT.

"A steady stream of incomplete and erroneous information has raised questions in the minds of the public about the fairness of the SAT for girls," said Gretchen W. Rigol, executive director of the Admissions Testing Program at the College Board, the organization that sponsors the test.

Some people believe the SAT is biased against girls because the national average score for boys is higher than the national average for girls. According to Ms. Rigol, research indicates that the differences in average SAT

"Everybody can do well . . ."

scores between men and women are **not caused** by the SAT, but rather, the test results **reflect** real differences in students' backgrounds.

The biggest difference cited by Ms. Rigol was that boys, on the average, take more college preparatory courses than do girls, including more advanced math and science.

The SAT is designed to measure verbal and mathematical abilities developed from a strong academic background. "If boys take harder courses than girls, then it stands to reason that the boys' average SAT scores will be higher, even though girls might get better grades," said Ms. Rigol.

Once the differences in students' backgrounds are eliminated and SAT scores of boys and girls of similar background and ability are compared, average score differences disappear on the verbal section and are substantially reduced on the mathematical section of the SAT.

Wake Up All You Sleepy Heads. . . Phi Theta Kappa will Get You Out of Bed!

By Valerie Cook

Phi Theta Kappa had its initiations on Friday, Sept. 29, 1989. Four of the six new members were awakened around 6:00 a.m. and taken to the Waffle House for breakfast. They were joined by Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Watson, Dean Hack and our advisor, Mr. Lee. The new members are Kelsea Parker, Yew-nee Teoh, Wick Dunlap, Brette Clark, Jennifer Jones and Alisa Evans. Congratulations to the new members of Phi Theta Kappa.

The officers are President Laura Blair, Vice-president Valerie Cook and Treasurer Shelly Nuttall. The officers thank Mr. Lee, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Watson and Dean Hack for their participation.



It's time to wake up, Yew-Neel!

Parents Weekend

By Carlyle Herbert

On the weekend of October 27th there was a little more activity than usual on campus. It was parents weekend, and wherever you went there were mothers, fathers, and siblings. The day began with shortened Friday classes, which parents attended with their daughters. After classes there was a lunch in the dining hall during which the Cold Cuts performed — not the usual Saint Mary's meal!

Saturday morning parents were able to hear Dr. Robert Grew, a Raleigh psychologist who works with children and teenagers, speak in Pittman. After this they all went their separate ways. As they left the campus they most likely had gained a much better idea of what day to day life was like for their daughters at Saint Mary's.

Later in the afternoon the Day Students held an open house, and the chorale sang in the newly renovated Smedes Parlor. In the gym dance groups performed for the first time this year. After a reception in the President's backyard, parents went to Vespers in the chapel with their daughters.