

RULES AND REGULATIONS RILE THE RIGHTEOUS

BY ELISE MORGAN
COLLEGE EDITOR

The beginning of each school year finds students hotly contesting rule changes that occurred over the summer. As times change, so do the regulations that govern behavior. Saint Mary's is in the unique position of having to meet the needs of both high school and college girls.

For the past 152 years rules of one form or another have shaped life at Saint Mary's and have helped form traditions. (Many students have balked through the years at required chapel attendance, only to find that chapel time and the singing of the Hymn is one of their most cherished Saint Mary's memories.) This year we have more new rules.

The changes that have created the most discussion are the new social rules for the college, the ban on smoking for the high school students and the more stringent rules for Day Students.

For the first time this year college students do not have a designated curfew nor are they required to sign in and out. The administration decided that strict rules for freshmen and sophomores

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Darien Alger, Sophomore

in college did little to prepare them for life on a campus where there were few, if any restrictions. It appears that students are in fact learning to use their time wisely and students themselves say they enjoy feeling responsible for themselves.

It is clear that the removal of the curfew is viewed positively by faculty and well as students. Dr. Steve Estheimer agrees. "I think it is a very good thing. It is going to teach the students to take responsibility for planning actions and that is what college is all about."

Sophomore Darien Alger concurs also. "I think it is great that we have been given the freedom to manage our own time."

Margaret McGlohan said, when asked her opinion of the rules, "I



Sophomores Alison Britt, Karen Work, and Megan Hotze go over revised rules and rejoice!
(Photo by Noel Hamlin)

think that they are appropriate for each group. It is making a separation, but I think it is a good separation."

The rule prohibiting smoking on campus by high school girls has created great controversy during the past few weeks. Danielle Little, a high school junior presents one side of the debate. "I think it is a little strict. It doesn't affect me, but I sympathize with the people who it does affect. It has caused a lot more problems than it has solved." She refers to the fact that, banned from smoking on campus, high school girls were

In 1944, girls were required to "dress appropriately for dinner with stockings or leg make-up"

going just off campus in the vicinity of the school to smoke. Once they realized that was not acceptable either, they submitted to the rule, but still grumble about it.

The faculty seems to feel strongly about enforcing the North Carolina state law which prohibits minors from smoking. Dr. Estheimer shared his views, saying "I don't mind seeing a restriction

on the smoking because of the obvious health hazards. I think that the difference of the treatment between the college and high school students is justifiable because I think that the younger students are more impressionable, more subject to the influence of advertising and peer pressure and these are the things that tend to make people start smoking."

Day students must sign in when they arrive on campus each morning. Seniors, in particular, resisted this new development, finding it difficult to remember in the early days of the school year. High school day students must sign out if they leave campus during the day and must sign back in when they return. Tenth graders are not allowed off campus at all.

No matter how restricted students of today feel, nearly fifty years ago they really had it tough. There were chapel services on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings and Thursday nights after dinner, with a student assembly on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Seniors got four "town permissions" a week, which meant they were allowed to go "downtown" from 2:45-6:00. Juniors only got three "town permissions" a week. No one

could take a week-end without written permission from the president, written permission from home and a written permission from the hostess! Dates were allowed on Saturday nights from 8:00-10:00 and had to be introduced to the faculty hostess.

Another requirement was "Girls dress appropriately for dinner, with stockings or leg make-up."

Among the items the 1944-45 handbook suggested a student bring to Saint Mary's were "Cottons for spring and fall, wools for dinner and dates, silks for concerts and dinner. . . scissors, clothes brush, sock stretcher."

Another practical admonition follows; "Of course since we are all females, we're expected to talk a good deal of the time, but that doesn't give us an excuse to talk all the time. Our tendency to exchange confidences should end when we're gathering for prayer, as we are six times a week in the Chapel. Smothered giggles and whispered word are not conducive to the spiritual atmosphere which should exist in our chapel. And while we're on the subject, that also goes for assembly and concerts."

It appears some things never change.

Do you have a couple of extra hours a week in your schedule? Are you looking for something fun to do? Then become a volunteer!

There are many opportunities for the SMC family to help out. You will not only be doing something nice for someone else, you will be learning something about yourself. At the first all campus chapel, Chaplain Watrous explained all of the volunteer opportunities available. Afterward, there was time to sign up for these programs. Chaplain Watrous was very pleased at the response of the young ladies, but there is always room for help. Her office has a list of programs which includes a contact person. Now that everyone's schedule is set, maybe some of you have come up with "down" time. If so, check in with Chaplain Watrous. She's got a job for you!

Amy Warren