Coed Dorms: No Big Thing

"I never knew girls swore so much," commented one Macalester gallant.

By Mierda and Gretchen

Rub the eyes irritated by the stench of unclean kitchen exhaust, and take a look into the distant present (not future) where coed dorms are looked upon as "no big thing." Yet, records of Virginia Minnesota concrete separate Carleton from the mecca of coed dorms, Macalester College in St. Paul. There, seventeen-eighteenths of the students live in coed dorms. More important, the college has dropped its "in loco parentis" role, allowing the students to take responsibility for governing their lives on campus and freeing the administration to handle students' personal, academic, and emotional problems on a more personal basis.

The big change took place last February when the faculty voted its powers for determining student social policies over to the Residential Hall Policy Committee (RHPC). This committee, composed of house presidents, three deans, and student representatives, became student-controlled with the relinquishment of the deans' veto rights.

RHPC's first move was to establish 24-hour open houses, followed by drafting a booklet on student rights, freedoms and responsibilities. After a questionnaire to determine sentiment about coed dorms, row draw was organized so that the student choosing was his choice of style of dorm.

In four halls, men and women are housed in separate wings or floors. Wallace Hall is the only dorm with men and women living on the same floor. Off campus houses and Bigelow Hall, which are strictly feminine, are the bastions of virtue at Macalester.

"Some students who opted for Wallace were shy, withdrawn kids, but, at the present time, it is not the most successful dorm," commented Director of Counseling Services, Mr. Larry Young. He informed us that rumor has it that students will pressure to change other dorms to this plan before the year is over. "But that's only rumor," he added.

One of two RHPC votes against the Wall plan came from the Associate Dean in charge of housing, James Mathews. "I think allowing off campus housing and must provide the most liveable conditions possible to keep students on campus. Third, support financially for Macalester-oriented dorms, not a more politically liberal vein. The basic difference is, however, a philosophy difference in administrations on the in loco parentis issue.

Several problems came with the inauguration of coed dorms. The gentle men in Turkey have difficulties with "woman power," since they are outnumbered 4 to 3 and the women can outvote them. For some ladies, coed living has paid its price in loss of mystique: "I never knew girls swore so much," commented one enlightened gentleman. Though these complaints only brought only five to seven letters castigating coed, 50 to 60 percent rallied on Parent's weekend and have presented themselves as a force to be dealt with. Transients, with their cost in thefts and possible rapes, are another problem, since doors are unlocked 24 hours daily; "service personnel" (actually security guards) will be hired.

Improving communication, encouraging a "degree of maturity which many students

The prevailing attitude was "drinking can't be controlled. For students and they are outnumbered 4 to 3 and the women can outvote them. For some ladies, coed living has paid its price in loss of mystique: "I never knew girls swore so much," commented one enlightened gentleman. Though these complaints only brought only five to seven letters castigating coed, 50 to 60 percent rallied on Parent's weekend and have presented themselves as a force to be dealt with. Transients, with their cost in thefts and possible rapes, are another problem, since doors are unlocked 24 hours daily; "service personnel" (actually security guards) will be hired.

Improving communication, encouraging a "degree of maturity which many students

The prevailing attitude was "drinking can't be controlled. For students and they are outnumbered 4 to 3 and the women can outvote them. For some ladies, coed living has paid its price in loss of mystique: "I never knew girls swore so much," commented one enlightened gentleman. Though these complaints only brought only five to seven letters castigating coed, 50 to 60 percent rallied on Parent's weekend and have presented themselves as a force to be dealt with. Transients, with their cost in thefts and possible rapes, are another problem, since doors are unlocked 24 hours daily; "service personnel" (actually security guards) will be hired.

Improving communication, encouraging a "degree of maturity which many students

The prevailing attitude was "drinking can't be controlled. For students and they are outnumbered 4 to 3 and the women can outvote them. For some ladies, coed living has paid its price in loss of mystique: "I never knew girls swore so much," commented one enlightened gentleman. Though these complaints only brought only five to seven letters castigating coed, 50 to 60 percent rallied on Parent's weekend and have presented themselves as a force to be dealt with. Transients, with their cost in thefts and possible rapes, are another problem, since doors are unlocked 24 hours daily; "service personnel" (actually security guards) will be hired.