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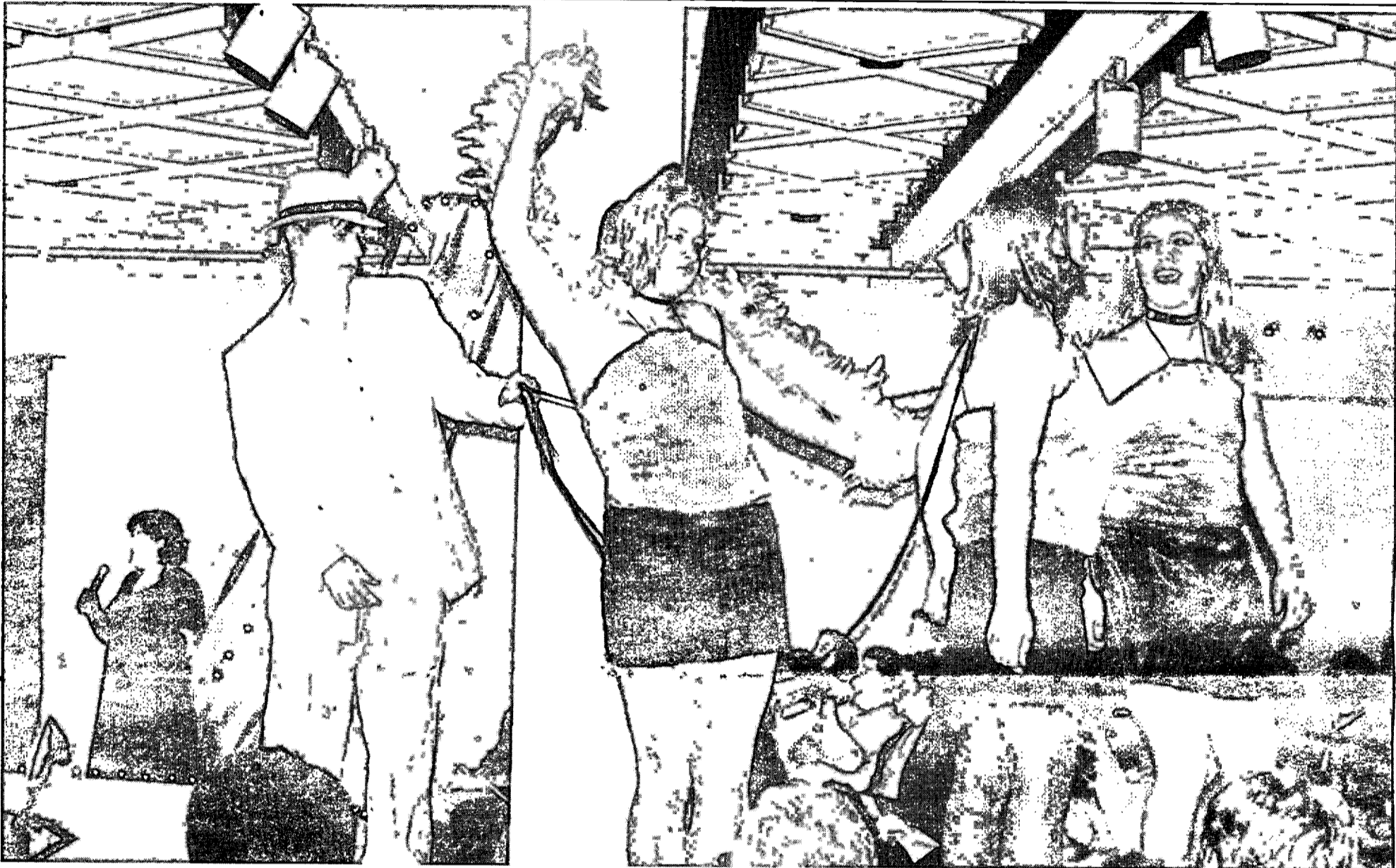
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Sallie McMurray

◆ Last Saturday, the 4th Annual FLAG Fashion Show transformed Chambers Gallery into a fanciful runway where students showed their enthusiasm through an array of creative performances and costumes.

RLO alters lottery system

By LAURA CRAVER
Staff Writer

The Residence Life Office will use the lottery system for housing again this year, but students will notice some changes.

RLO, in response to student complaints and advice, will shorten the length of the process and allow seniors access to lottery numbers before Phase 1.

Traditionally, the lottery system was divided into three "phases." During Phase 1, seniors received Martin Court Apartments. Phase 2 concerned seniors who had not received an apartment during Phase 1, rising juniors, and Patterson Court Apartments. RLO also processed requests to live off-campus during the second phase. Finally, Phase 3 was Open Lottery Night, where students assembled in Chambers to choose the remaining rooms, including single rooms.

Lottery numbers one-500 are assigned to seniors; numbers 501-1000 are given to juniors; and numbers 1001-1500 are left for sophomores.

The process began in January and ended in April, with each phase separated by approximately three-week interludes. Assistant Director of Resident Life Dee Jordan said she had received complaints from students that the process was too long.

"We heard comments from stu-

Residence Life revises the lottery system to reduce the length of the process.

dents," said Jordan, "that it was stressful to have the process drawn out so long and to not know (their housing status)." Also, Jordan said that the length of the process and the uncertainty made it difficult for students who were trying to secure off-campus housing.

In response, RLO has condensed this process. "In the past," said Jordan, "students had to keep up with what dates you could pick up the applications." To reduce this confusion, "stu-

dents can pick up any application for anything on Feb. 11."

Open Lottery Night will be held Mar. 25, keeping the entire process within two months. "Basically, we have combined Phases 2 and 3," said Jordan.

In Phase 1, seniors still choose

Lottery Night.

"(The process) starts later," said Jordan, "so that students who need to dispute their class status and get their accounts with the Controller's Office settled have time to do so." Previously, students with outstanding debts or questionable class status could not pick up their lottery numbers until these problems were resolved.

R L O has posted students' class status in a variety of places, including the Union and their new offices in the basement of Belk Residence Hall.

Beginning this year, seniors will also have access to their lottery numbers before Phase 1. RLO had declined to release these lottery numbers in the past, preferring that students decide their roommates regardless of lottery numbers. (To determine the group lottery number, the lottery numbers of the roommates are added together.)

The SGA's Residence Life Com-

mittee recommended that RLO release these numbers, leaving students to deal with potential problems themselves.

RLO hopes students find the revised lottery system less confusing and less stressful. In addition, a booklet concerning the new system and frequently asked questions is in the processing of being published.

"We haven't drastically changed the system," said Jordan, "but we've condensed it and simplified it."

For rising sophomores who have yet to experience the lottery process, RLO wants their first experience to be as positive and relaxed as possible. "It is my hope, and the department's hope," said Jordan, "that students will find (the process) more user-friendly."

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"The student body can expect some very good things coming out of us next year."

BUSTER BURK ON THE SGA IN HIS STATE OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS