

# PRO

by Lydia Torrance

Well my roommate Lucreesh is mad at me for saying she never studies, actually all I said was I didn't know *when* she ever studies, but she's mad. She says being an older student and all, I have some funny ideas, which surprised me very much. What I have is common sense and experience but she doesn't seem to appreciate that. She said maybe I studied all the time at Hecuba Normal for Women because that's all there was to do in those days, but now students have lots to do, there's dramatics and a big choir and illiteracy and hockey, and places to visit like the museum and the Room at the Top (it's a political club in Tory). And then that snippy little miss said: "And maybe you didn't do much dating either, or did they just bundle in your day?" And she flung herself out the door to go to her slumber party. Well! I can set that saucy baggage straight - Hecuba was a wonderful place to be. Yes, we dated, but since I had just finished up my marriage to Olaf, who was no Prince Charming, I can tell you I wasn't in college just to meet some nice boys. No sir, I was there to learn how to have a big career without them. Which reminds me of Ambrose Fierce, whose column is getting full of the most common things - like evangelical, street-corner religion! Why even *speak* of it when we all have nice churches to go to, and after all that's where the Lord dwells, not on Jasper Ave. and 102nd St! Now I know that Our Saviour went amongst the people that way, but then He didn't have much choice because Christianity wasn't as well known in those days. And there's a lot of difference between Jerusalem and Edmonton, especially down town, if you know what I mean. But now that there's a restful sanctuary for every different type of true Christian there's no need to be vulgar about it.

Now at Hecuba we had all different faiths living in abject harmony. I'm a Baptist of course, and not about to change either, but I can see the good side to other types too as long as they're sincere and rooted in Scripture. Like the RCs. We had a lot of RCs at Old Hec, but most of them can be good citizens in spite of certain things. They *do* go on about their saints, but then I think on John the Baptist, he was a saint, and he must of knowed what he was doing.

I recollect my coach at Old Hec was an RC, Sister Gertrude. She was very clean, more hygienic than a lot of them, though she did love football. The boys

called her St. Gertie of the Goalposts and kidded her about the Nine Innings of the Cross, but she took it, she wasn't all sour and sensitive like so many of them. When I was on the track team one year she started to call me "Sophia" in a far-away voice. Well, I didn't say anything at first, but finally I said "Sister, I'm Lydia, Sylvia flunked out last semester, it was Sylvia, not Sophia." She looked at me kind of surprised, and then she told me. Yes, she told me about her book, and her theory about St. Sophronisba, who was an Albanian martyr of the 5th Century A.D. This Sophronisba was the first Christian sprinter, according to Sister Gertrude and she was going to prove it. She lived in a cave in Albania when the Turkish hordes swept through during the Runic Invasion, despoiling the land and the children, you know how those things are, just terrible. And she'd have to sneak into the village at night to use the well. Now these Turks were laying for her and tried to kill her because they knew she was an adamant Christian and was setting a bad example for the other Heathens, she could elevate herself off the ground in certain holy moods (you have to hand it to RCs, they're clever as monkeys). So they tried to get her at the well, but she could outrun them the four miles back to the cave where she was translating St. Casbah from the Coptic. So after many frustrations they walled her in one day. And when the Christian hordes swept through some years later, killing all the Heathens and converting them (it's called the Triumph of the Holy Ghost, Sister Gertrude said), they found the impression of a running woman upon the sealed wall, and nothing inside, no bones or nothing - except a scrap of old paper which said on it: "I leap, I spring, O Lord, / I soar on gilded heels, my soul/ Doth upward rush. Embrace me Lord, the/ Decathlon of the stars doth/ draw me on,/ I break the rope: First Place, the heavens roar." Now this passage (I have Sister Gertrude's book right here) which isn't like any other Coptic writing found in Albania, nevertheless is very like the only papyrus which contains St. Casbah's mystical poem "The Olympiad of God", which proves that St. Sophronisba was transported by Forces and this note left behind to tell us what had happened. So Sister Gertrude felt that that saint should become the patron saint of all track stars, and was writing a book to prove it. And when I think what she had to go through, well I could cry.



2001

## DISCOTHEQUE

Hours:

Thurs - Sat. 8:00 p.m. - 4 a.m.

Sunday 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Non-Stop Dancing  
Snack Bar  
Dazzling Light Show  
Dress Pants Essential

THE NIGHT SPOT FOR STUDENTS

LADIES ADMITTED FREE ON THURS & SUN

between 8:00-10:00 PM

101 Street 82 Avenue

### THE LUTHERAN STUDENT MOVEMENT

Reformation Lecture Series

### LUTHER IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Professor John Kleiner, Saskatoon

October 31, 7:30 PM

Meditation Room, SUB

### Hair Art

by Michael Thomas

...Where your hair is as important to us  
as it is to you

8211-104 Street

433-0023  
433-4143

### COUNTER-MEETING

Friends of Canada present -

### "The MYTHOLOGY OF THOMAS ENDERS"

(U.S. Ambassador to Canada)

### Speaker: MEL HURTIG

New Education Bldg, Room 2-115

Monday, Nov. 1, 9:15 p.m.

Chairperson: Prof. Bruce Wilkinson



STUDENTS'  
UNION  
SPECIAL  
EVENTS

### at ratt

Friday, October 29 at Noon

Sharon Anderson

Saturday, October 30 at 9 p.m.

### KICKING MULE

Bluegrass Band

\$1 students, \$2 non-students

### in dinwoodie

Saturday, October 30

Forestry's  
Double Bandstand Cabaret

with

TACOY RYDE

and

SPIRIT RIVER STRING BAND

\$3 advance \$4 at the door  
doors at 8

### in SUB Theatre

Thursday, November 4 at 8 p.m.

### THE MAN & THE MIRACLE

a 70-minute multi-screen slide show on life in the People's Republic of China, with Tom Whitehead, Director of UBC's Instructional Media Centre.