

Love? Is there such a thing? Can one attend college, choose a career and maintain a successful relationship?

With divorce on the up and up, statistics screaming that young love rarely lasts, we are beginning to consider love nowadays as something that is as forbidden as an apple from Eden, and as unlikely as a good presidential candidate.

In our ever more complex world of hype and push for career and social or financial success, many brush off emotional fulfillment, believing it impossible to obtain in conjunction with a career.

But it can be done, with trust, hard work, and TLC savvy.

Living proof of such success can be found within Brevard's very own campus.

Mikell Clark-Webb, director of housing, finds much reassurance and support in her marriage to Jackie Webb, an engineer in Burnsville. Married for a year and seven months, the Webbs presently live most of their days apart. However, Mikell is confident, "It gives me strength to know there is someone there who puts me first in their life."

The Webbs reside in Weaverville and make it a point to be together every weekend possible.

"The distance isn't bad at all" Mikell says. "However the phone bill has become a problem!" Despite minute problems such as the phone bill, Mikell and Jackie continue on, pursuing their individual goals...together.

"Jackie and I act now the same way as before we were married." Mikell says "Marriage has changed a few aspects, though. Time for ourselves has taken more importance than ever before."

Jeff Turner, a first semester sophomore, also sees marriage as a step to "success." So gung-ho is this pre-Army man that he will wed Michele Chambers of Brevard this upcoming June.

Jeff feels that marriage, among other things, will bring about many emotional benefits.

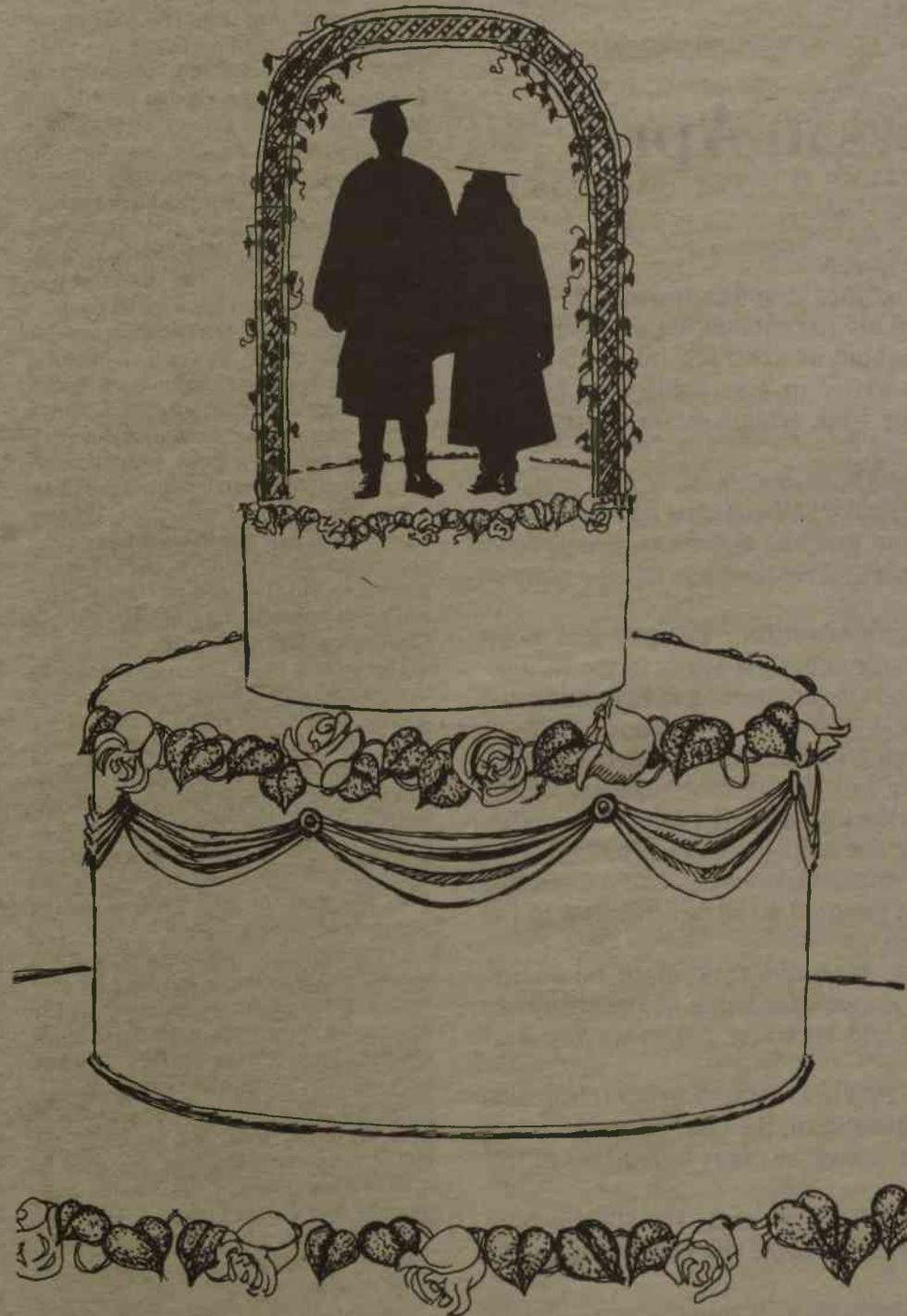
Jeff says, "To marry Michele this summer makes no difference than if we wait years from this summer. Just to have Michele there gives me so much support and confidence. I'll also feel much more relaxed once we're out on our own."

Goal wise, Jeff says that he and his fiancée intend to finish their schooling. "Michele is studying at ASU, and after boot camp at Fort Bragg, I intend to head to Columbia Seminary for a doctorate in theology.

Jeff says, "With both of us in school, we'll be able to see each other often and give each other support with our studies." He adds that he wants to further his Army career, including a move to Germany where he and Michele will raise a small family.

Marriage at BC begins with Student Affairs

by Heather Conrad



Sherri King, a day student at Brevard, has a success story to tell as well. Sherri and Tony Michael Anthony King, once high school sweethearts, married this past Valentine's Day, at age 19.

The two now live in Hendersonville, with Sherri attending classes and working at Belks part-time, and Tony working for Builderway Corporation in Hendersonville.

Sherri and Tony usually see each other only on Sherri's days off from work, but Sherri feels their time apart doesn't really inflict problems upon their marriage.

Sherri says "So many people ask, 'Why get married so soon?' I say, 'Well, why not?' If Tony and I waited, we would only miss out on more life together!" She smiles.

"Some may feel that 19 is a little too young to be getting married. Even I wouldn't recommend anyone else to marry so young. But I've been on my own since I was 18. Tony and I just seem to work out perfect. Our marriage was the right thing to do, the next step to take."

Sherri says she could compare Tony to a college roommate - only better. She says, "Tony supports me 100 percent. He's almost like my parents, always on me for my schoolwork. My grades are much better than before we were together, he really motivates me to do good."

But as with any marriage, problems do exist. Sherri explains that with school and work, time together for the two is scarce. "Time apart from each other is and will be a fact of life," Sherri says, reasoning. "As in any relationship, it must be worked around and dealt with. Tony and I don't look at the time we don't have, but at the time we do have together."

As for goals, Sherri feels that marriage hasn't really altered her plans, but has secured them. "Our goals have always been considered with the fact that we're married," Sherri says. "As long as Tony's there, I'm happy, no matter what I do."

"I guess marriage has actually become much more than I ever expected. Everybody would say, 'Don't get your hopes up, you'll be disappointed,' things like that.

"But I'm not disappointed. In fact, I had no ideal that it could be so good. Success and happiness are not really found in a great job, a nice car, or in money. The fulfillment comes from being with someone so special and sharing life together.

"Marriage really makes things so much more special. Tony, work, school...I have my cake and eat it, too! It's not impossible."

For a BLAST FROM THE PAST, turn to pages 6-7