

Ferguson survives 25 foot fall *Climber breaks ankle, dreams of next climb*

By Jeremy Isaac Witteveen

Last Sunday, Sophomores Mark Brennan, and Nathan and Tim Ferguson were climbing the south face of Looking Glass Rock. Nathan was leading and was having trouble getting over the crux (the hardest part of a climb). Suddenly, he fell 25 feet and broke his leg, suffering a compound fracture of his left ankle, and he sprained his right ankle.

"Two pieces of his protection popped as he fell, and he was caught by a hex (a climbing bracket)," explained Brennan.

"Fortunately, there were two other climbers near by, one had a cellular phone in his car," recalled Tim. "It took about 40 minutes before we heard sirens,"

During the wait, Nathan developed intense shock and hypothermia. "We prepped Nathan as much as possible before the rescue got there, elevating the leg, stopping the bleeding and whatnot," said Tim.

Meanwhile, Brevard Rescue Squad, Job Core, Transylvania EMS, and the Forest Service hurried to scene.

The entire procedure took almost four hours during the relatively fast rescue. One paramedic assisted, as Nathan was lowered by a pulley in a stokes basket.

The paramedics rushed him to the Transylvania hospital where an orthopedic surgeon inserted a plate and two screws in Nathan's leg. After the wound

heals, a cast will be placed on the leg for further healing. With the right ankle sprained, Nathan will not be able to walk for some time.

Nathan will return to campus after Thanksgiving, but his brother assured that he's in good spirits.

"When Nathan came out of surgery, the first thing he asked the doctor was, 'When will I be able to climb again?'" said Tim.

"We'd like to give special thanks to the Job Core, visitors, and those who sent greetings and prayers," said Tim and Brennan.

Fuller delays Fall drama production

By Heather Conroy

The Greybeard Players have postponed their production of "The Glass Menagerie" until February 5, 6 and 7. Originally, the troupe planned a December premier, however a late start and other difficulties warranted the delay.

Director Brian Fuller explains, "The delay was necessary. Many factors led to the decision. The development of the characters took more time than I allowed."

"The Glass Menagerie," by Tennessee Williams, is an autobiographical account of Williams' life struggles. He faced several home problems, such as dealing with an overbearing, southern-belle mother, his desire to care for his crippled sister, and his need for independence.

The four character cast includes Melissa Brown, Chet Landaker, Shayla Ghiotto, and Nathan Gragg.

Brown, who portrays Amanda (the over-bearing mother),

stated, "I think things are starting to fall into place. Had the play not been postponed, it would have been crunch time. Now, we have more time to perfect and polish the acting. I think the delay will benefit the audience."

Fuller continued, "We want a production that honors God. Through this experience, I learned more about 1 Cor. 12 that talks about bearing each other's burdens. The players' response to the delay has been very positive."

Set technician Margaret Harrison agrees, "The fact that it's pushed back should not hinder it. I think the play will be very powerful. It saddens me that we can't do it for this semester, but I think Brian made a wise decision."

Technical Director Sam Simpkins declares, "Everyone's working hard. We could have pulled it off this semester, but it would have been hell. I know on opening night all of the hard work will be so worth it."

Alpha Chi inducts new members

By Marcella Arnold

Last Thursday, Alpha Chi sponsors Dr. Stan Bamburg and Dr. Charles Risher inducted the top ten percent of the junior and senior classes into the academic honor society.

Alpha Chi is a coeducational society whose purpose is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students, and to honor those who achieve such distinction. "It's a great honor to be a part of Alpha Chi," says Gragg.

The new members are seniors Robert Farkas, Tim Hulse, and Jeremy Witteveen (secretary/treasurer). The fraternity also

welcomed juniors Katy Kirk (vice president), Allie Sitts, and Jeremy Toomy.

April 2 to 4, a group of delegates will be chosen to attend the regional conference in Montgomery, Alabama. These delegates have not been chosen, yet.

The focus of both the National Convention and the regional conventions is scholarly presentations by student members, who share their research, creative, or performance projects with their peers.

Active chapters are found on 300 campuses in 45 states and Puerto Rico.

Anderson to lead drama ministry team

By Ashley Eckler

Christian theater professional Carol Anderson is holding auditions for a student theater ministry, December 9 and 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The group will perform on campus, at regional churches and youth conferences.

"It's a tremendously fun and rewarding experience and a worthwhile commitment," she exclaims. Anderson, who has her MFA in acting from UNC

Chapel Hill, has headed Christian theater groups for 15 years. She and her husband Jim Shores, who is an Environmental Studies professor, travel around the country using theater to address tough issues on college campuses through their group "Acts of Renewal."

"Drama places words and pictures together so that the message becomes that much clearer," reaffirms junior Margaret Harrison.

As a part of the Fine Arts Division of the college, the group will include four to six people who will undergo a month of acting training. They will then go on tour performing pieces written by Shore and Anderson.

"I want to train students to perform and act well so as to elevate the view of Christian theater," states Anderson. "My desire is to have a student team to share the gospel through quality theater and promote

Montreat throughout the region."

Scholarships are available to each team member.

Anderson seeks people with a teachable heart and natural gifts to apply for the team. Eventually, she would like to see the students writing the material for the performances themselves. "It's an opportunity for people to use their God-given talents and promote the college," says sophomore Carrys Marion.