

The Whetstone

Montreat college's student voice

September 9, 2015
Montreat, NC 28757

Bible Verse of the Issue: "Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40: 30-31

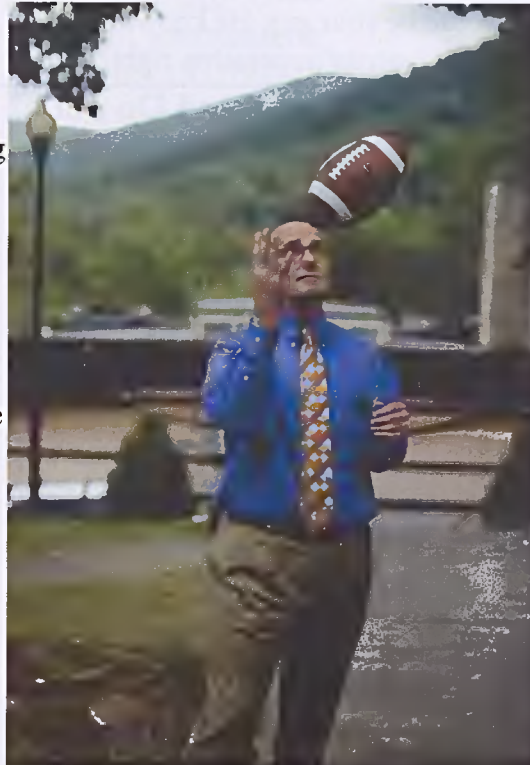
Two-On-One With The President

Cassidy'O'Brien
Perry Goeders

Perry Goeders and I sat down with President Paul Maurer on the afternoon of Friday, August 28. We both came in prepared to ask questions so you, the students of Montreat College, could get a better understanding of both Montreat's future and the man who stands behind that friendly smile.

Many of the new students have not been blessed with the wonder of Montreat's transition these past few years; however, those of you who are juniors and seniors can remember what has transpired in detail. President Maurer calls this a "turn around period." It is not over, and we have far more to accomplish.

For the returners who have noticed that the cafeteria is not only refurbished but congested at lunch and dinner, the enrollment of Montreat College has almost doubled. When we discussed the future and what Montreat should expect with enrollment, the president envisioned the number of student athletes remaining the same, but the percentage of student athletes to non-athletes to lowering over time. This is because the college cannot keep adding sports continually (we already have 17 sports on campus), so to grow as a



college, non-athletes need to be attracted here for a healthier ratio. Yes, I asked if football had a future here at Montreat and, as of now, there are no plans.

President Maurer is grateful to all the gift income we have received and for the help it provides. Two years ago the college received 1.6 million in gift income, the year after 4.1 million, and this year 9.1 million. He

humbly declined having to do with any of the ideas or refurbishing to any part of the college, and that God, the faculty, Board of Trustees and donors who persevered in the dark helped this turn around season for Montreat College.

President Maurer's vision for Montreat College is to become a leader amongst other private Christian colleges regionally and internationally. When I asked his plans for himself in the next 10 years, he expressed his love for the college and the Black Mountain range. He and his wife just recently bought a home here, where he lets students come over for casual swims. Maurer expressed he would stay as long as the board would keep him, adding that he would love to retire with this being his last college. Not only has Montreat been working on the fitness center, cafeteria, black box theater and sports complex, but Montreat is working to improve academics. Montreat College dean Dr. Greg Kerr has done a fantastic job improving academics and trying to expand and strengthen the majors. Kerr also has future goals of improving the graduate programs. Montreat has a great future ahead, with enrollment now at the most it's