

# OPINIONS

## SPIDER WEBBS

### Moving On

Amy Webb  
staff columnist

The end of this semester is here, and it is time to say goodbye to the graduating seniors. There will be a lot of tears and hugs. Many farewells and so longs will be said. Some seniors will leave this institution of college and enter the institution of marriage, while others will enter the "working world." It must be hard to have been with a group of people for four years and now go your separate ways. But seniors have gained lifelong friendships and memories to cherish forever. Really it's not the end; it's moving forward into the rest of their lives. They know it is time for them to reach their future. Seniors are leaving us behind to take up the torch. They've had their time of glory here at MHC. They shine brighter now than ever before. I salute all Seniors. May you grow and blossom no matter where you go and what you do. Seniors remember these words of a famous poet:

"There is a destiny that makes us brothers.  
None goes his way alone:  
All that we send into the lives of others,  
Come back into our own."  
God bless you all.

### Student Angered by Decision

Dear Editor:

First of all, let me congratulate those students who honestly received the positions of Resident Director, Resident Manager, and Resident Assistant. This is great news for students interested in obtaining any of the positions for next year. Let me inform you of what you must do in order to obtain a position. Kiss-up to, or see if your Residential Director or Assistant or Manager is on the same tennis team, sorority, or football team as you. Contrary to the Student's Handbook, the decision is not made by the Director of Residential Living, it is made by the Resident Directors and Assistants of the dorms.

Yours faithfully,  
Sherry Lynn Ball

### The Opinions Page

If you would like to submit letters to the editor or devotionals to Timeout, just mail them to:

The Opinions Page  
The Hilltop  
PO Box 1148-C  
Mars Hill, NC 28754

Remember, to publish your letter, we need to know your identity, so please sign your letters. Your name can be withheld by the editor. As always, the views presented on this page are not necessarily those of the Hilltop.

## Students Criticize Voter Apathy in SGA Elections

EDITORIAL:  
Julie Brittain  
guest writer

Students at Mars Hill College have been abusing their voting privileges for far too long. As the excitement from another SGA election winds down, this fact becomes readily apparent. Only a third of the student body voted, and this number, believe it or not, is one of the biggest turnouts in Mars Hill history. As John Snyder, a junior Math and CIS major so correctly stated, it's just apathy - pitiful apathy."

He is right; it is appalling to see how students demean the democratic process, under which our rights and privileges are exercised and protected, by simply not caring enough to vote.

Dear Editor,

The sole purpose of this item is to inform the student body of matters of which I think they should be aware. I constantly hear complaints that the student body is never made aware of things that are happening on campus or that things are never publicized. This is a publication and I am stating some opinions and facts which some students and I hold and we reserve the right to make them known.

The basis of my argument is this year's student government elections which took place April 8. If you are not aware, the five executive positions of the entire student body are currently and will next year be occupied by men. Moreover, it's not just the fact that they

are men, but that next year's representatives are members of the same fraternity. It is true, Greek organizations have their place; however, more than half of Mars Hill College has chosen not to participate in them. Therefore, five representatives who are within one similar group of people is not complete and equal representation.

I am not a feminist, but I do believe that the best person qualified for and job should get that position, no matter what race, gender, religion, or background. But did you as a college community vote for the person whom you believe would do the best job and is an individual who would represent this multi-faceted community of diverse individuals, or did you vote for someone who you knew as a personal friend or did you vote at all? Were you aware that speeches were held in order that the students could hear what these candidates had to offer? Or did you happen to miss the one sign placed in the cafeteria? I realize this is not the Presidential Elections of the United States of America, but you as a student who pays \$10,000 a year to attend this institution should be interested in what is taking place here. If you don't like the way things are run around here, then you have a choice-- a vote, but if you don't vote, you have NO right to complain.

Yes, I did run for an office and did not win, but that is not the issue which is at hand. I am not a "sore loser"; I just

Perhaps what is so sinister about voter apathy is that it is a subversive force which allows the gradual and subtle negation of democratic election. As fewer and fewer people vote, those who eventually get elected represent less and less of the general population. The end result is much the same as the end result of the SGA elections this very year. As the final results of the election were counted and tallied every single one of the elected executive officers of the SGA belonged to the same fraternity. The election of this narrow special interest group is the direct result of students just not caring enough to vote, thus limiting the range of representation for the whole school, and as student Andrea Deaton points out, allowing for a

breakdown of the democratic process as a whole: "The Articles of SGA plainly state that the SGA is to speak for and represent all the members of the entire student body, and they aren't doing that."

The fraternity in question cannot be held responsible or blamed for this breakdown. The results were fair by all the bylaws of the constitution. However, since such a small segment of the Mars Hill student population voted, the election is not truly representative of the student body at all. MHC lost its voice in government and the student body is indirectly to blame. This voter apathy, sadly, will not stop until everyone takes action. Mars Hill deserves to have an executive council that is truly rep-

resentative of the whole student body. Let us hope they will exercise their power wisely and see that next time the candidates' speeches are widely publicized and convenient to most student (including this event a green card not a bad idea). Let the executive council push other members to come to meetings so that a quorum can be reached. (SGA is notorious for not having enough members even show up to a meeting.) MHC students should lose their apathy toward the SGA and become involved. The SGA should not be a club with limited enrollment but should speak for the MHC's future needs and democracy elected and implemented and MHC quit abusing its voting rights and privileges.

want to see equal representation and qualified persons elected (executive officers in particular) who are genuinely interested in the student body and have clear leadership skills which will enable more things to be accomplished on this campus.

Are you aware that it is written in the Constitution of Mars Hill College, Article III, Section 9, that "the Secretary of SGA shall write a summary of ALL Senate meetings, which shall appear in EACH issue of the Hilltop?"


How many summaries have made it to the newspaper?

Are you aware that we (the SGA senate) have been working on proposals regarding a meal plan and extended visitation hours? We do meet on

a weekly basis (Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in Belk Auditorium) in a gathering which is open to the public and we occasionally do accomplish things. Are you aware that student fees next year will be increased by \$100 which will also increase the budgets for Student Government Association and the Student Union Board? This was one of the most recent decisions of SGA. One particular allotment in which the students should see a direct affect, is the \$500 which will be given to each class next year to spend on an approved activity for their class. Make sure this money is spent on you! This increase in fees is a great opportunity for many new activities and opportunities to be offered to you--the paying student--who should have a say in these decisions by your representatives whom you elected (you did vote right?).

I am not name-calling on any fraternity or type of student, of which I have been previously accused, rather, I am simply a concerned student who wants to see improvements made on this campus as a result of ideas of all types and all kinds of people who make up this student body. I hope you, too, are concerned about these issues which I have brought before you and that you will think about them before the next elections.

Earnestly,  
Andrea L. Deaton



# MARS HILL COLLEGE

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