

Mills and students carry cross across campus

Special to the Clarion
from the BC News Bureau

With spring opening leaves and flowers across the Brevard College campus, and Easter just around the corner, Brevard College Chaplain Ernie Mills decided it was time to go outdoors with his religion class and celebrate the Christian meaning behind the Easter holidays. So, with his typical creativity and energy, he convinced his class to bear a huge wooden cross across the entire Brevard College campus, with students taking turns at dragging the nailed-together railroad ties down the road.

Followed and encouraged by their peers (and three cars with horns blaring to announce the passage), the students got a chance to feel what Jesus felt as he bore the weight of persecution. "Easter weekend was approaching," explained Mills, "and we had just finished our survey of the four Gospels. What better way to combine the two than re-enacting the scene where Christ bears the cross?"

Mills did not tell his students what they were going to do before they came to class that day, and had concerns that many might be reluctant. "I was wrong; they all volunteered to carry this huge, rugged cross. It actually took two students to lift and carry it. Each pair would drag it about 30 yards, and two more would pick it up and move on. They took turns: black, white, male and female."

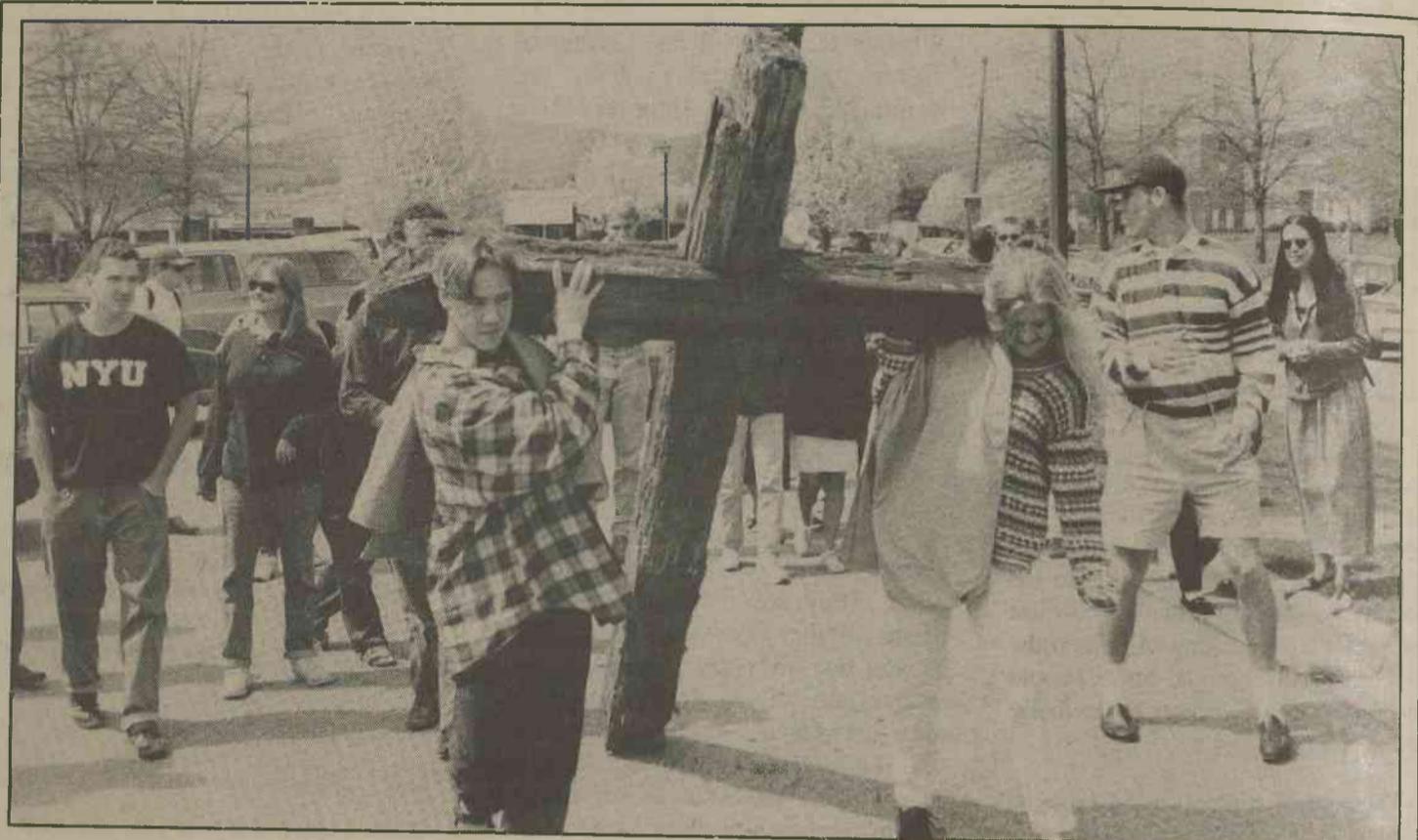
The fact that all the students participated was important to Mills, but

perhaps the most symbolic participation was from the women and blacks in the class. "The fact that we had women and blacks carrying the cross was very significant, because Christ's bearing the cross was what represented his

willingness to carry the weight of oppression, hatred and scorn.

"But Easter tells us that Christ was able to rise above all the hatred in the world, and so can we," Mills continued. "That is our cross to bear. I am proud of

these students; it meant so much to me to see them work together to bear the cross. I think that is was a moment that they are not likely to forget, and hopefully they will be able to take that lesson with them through their lives."



Henry Stepp/Clarion

Freshman Timothy Redman and Freshman Julie Myatt bear a cross across campus. The cross bearing was part of Ernie Mills' religion class.

'The Runner Stumbles' to be presented in the Barn Theater

The Brevard College Drama Department will present Milan Stitt's courtroom drama, "The Runner Stumbles," on April 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 in the Barn Theater on the Brevard College campus. Tickets for the show, which are available at the receptionist's desk in Beam Administration Building, are free for students. Curtain time is 8 p.m. for all shows.

Stitt's emotional drama of a priest's trial for the murder of a nun is intensified under the directorial hand of Brevard College Instructor in Drama Robert Allwyn White, who also designed the sets and costumes for the production. The drama, based on an actual courtroom trial in Michigan, explores the human side of being a member of the clergy and raises a number of social, moral, ethical and religious questions.

"This is a play that I have wanted to produce for years," says White. "It features strong characters and a twisting

plot with a very interesting ending, but it also helps provide a better understanding of the humanity of all people, regardless of their position or stature, especially members of the clergy."

For more information, call (704) 883-8292.

'Poets and Writers at Brevard' to host author Julie Suk

Brevard College and the Transylvania County Library will host author and poet Julie Suk for the seventh and final program in the 1993-94 "Poets and Writers at Brevard Series" on Thursday, April 21, in Room 118 of Brevard College's McLarty-Goodson Classroom Building. The program, which will begin at 7:30 p.m., is free of charge and open to the public.

POETRY CORNER

CHANCE BEFORE JUDGMENT

by Ashlie Hinds

You take a certain person and place them on a pedestal,
You judge them on their personality being empty or full,
How does one make assumptions about someone that is unknown?
For him or her it is relatively impossible,
Due to the fact that their knowledge of the person hasn't fully grown,
Look at the way she holds herself!
Listen to him! He must be gay!!
I bet you anything she's so stuck up she won't give you the time of day!
How can one enforce judgment by just observing from a distance,
It's so simple,
All you have to do is speak to this John or Jane Doe,
Fight the verbal resistance towards the individual you don't even know!
Judgment can be a weapon that can overcome anyone, disabling them the
ability to give chance,
So before you decide to use this oblivious weapon,
Do the other person a favor and let the act of kindness step in.

Do you have a poem that you would like to see published in The Clarion? If so, drop off your poem in the white box in the lobby of McLarty-Goodson or with Brad Kimzey on the 2nd floor of the Beam Administration Building.