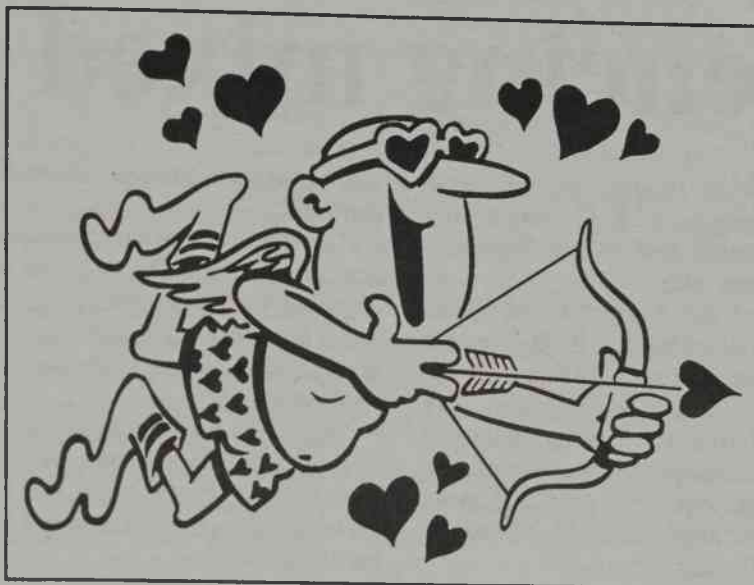


Microsoft offers Valentine's Day services

It's hard enough to find love, but on Valentine's Day — the most anticipated romantic day of the year — there's pressure to find the perfect flowers, a cozy restaurant and sometimes an intimate, yet not too expensive, gift that says, "I care for you deeply, but I am having commitment issues."

Making plans for Valentine's Day isn't easy, but whether you're a hopeless romantic or romantically challenged, MSN.COM (the Microsoft network of Internet services) will help you find the best information and advice to plan the perfect day. In fact, MSN.COM has declared the entire month of February Love Month and will even be available to help you survive the aftermath of the "day of love."

With MSN.COM, it's easy to sweep your valentine off his or her feet. Plan a romantic evening, choose the perfect gift, send a steamy poem, and even find true love online with MSN.COM, the only love potion needed this



Valentine's Day.

During the month of February, these new features will help you plan for the perfect Valentine's Day and ongoing bliss:

- **The Love Machine.** Whether you're a prince or a pauper, whether it's puppy love or pure passion, you can specify how much you want to spend and how romantic you want to be, and the Love Machine will help you plan the perfect Valentine's Day. Ideas include sending a virtual bouquet, planning a horseback ride at sunset, or scheduling a weekend getaway to Paris. Or, if this Valentine's Day is the time to break it off, check out the Love Machine's It's Over section for advice on the best way to sever those ties.

- **Romance-O-Meter.** Take the

King's speech inspired dreams

(Continued from Page 4)

children. We all know that racial hatred can suddenly fuel the pickup truck that drags a black man to his death. We know that a gay man can be beaten, tied to a fence, and left to die. We know that laws can be passed to punish the immigrant. We know how hard it is to speak with each other about these issues.

The reason King's speech still resonates is that it was not only about one moment in time. It has become an historical document because it also articulates the human endeavor itself — to better ourselves. Not everyone participates; none of us participates all the time. But as long as we have eyes to read and ears to hear his speech, King's words will help us make ourselves better. That this is true because we are not perfect doesn't matter — if we hear his words and dream his dreams.

MSN's Love Quiz and test your romantic quotient. Do you spout poetry like Don Juan or do you need a little help? MSN offers inspirational ideas to the hopeless romantic and gives tips to help the romantically challenged.

- **Cupid's Mailbox.** This

Valentine's Day, Cupid's going e-postal. Choose from a variety of electronic cards with different themes, including romantic, friendly, secret admirer, "Dear John" or "Let's just be friends."

- **The Love Cafe.** Stop looking for love in all the wrong places. Spend some time in the Love Cafe to get expert advice on love and romance, chat with others, and brush up on the history of Valentine's Day. Remember, you never know whom you might meet online.

MSN Love Month will run from Feb. 1 through 28. After Valentine's Day, come back to the Love Cafe to share tales of inspirational romance, amorous anecdotes, or sob stories. Then, if you've had bad luck in the valentine department, tune in for sure-fire ways to mend that broken heart with Dr. Pepper Schwartz.

Schwartz, professor of sociology at the University of Wash-

ington and author of "The Great Sex Weekend," is scheduled to conduct an online chat Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 6 p.m. Pacific time.

"There's a lot of pressure on couples and singles alike on Valentine's Day," Schwartz said. "MSN Love Month eases that pressure by helping to make the most of Valentine's Day."

Log on at <http://love.msn.com/> to talk about your Valentine's Day experience and listen to others' stories of romance or regret. If your Valentine's Day, like that of many others, turned out to be an evening of unmet expectations, flat champagne, and a starless sky, Dr. Schwartz has advice on ways to make it up to your loved one and rekindle the flame.

Or, if the Valentine's Day fiasco was the absolute last straw, don't look back. Dr. Schwartz will help you to pick yourself up and move on.

Bland Simpson to visit NCWC

Bland Simpson, novelist, musician, and writer of nonfiction, will present an evening of reading and song on Feb. 16 as part of North Carolina Wesleyan College's Visiting Writers Series.

The free event, open to the public, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Powers Recital Hall in the Dunn Center.

Simpson teaches creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His most recent work is "Into the Sound Country: A Carolinian's Coastal Plain," with photographs by Ann Cary Simpson (UNC Press, 1998), from which he will be reading.

His other works include "The

Great Dismal: A Carolinian's Swamp Memoir," "Heart of the Country: A Novel of Southern Music," and "The Mystery of Beautiful Nell Crapsey."

A former member of the celebrated Red Clay Ramblers, he also sings and plays the piano. Several of his songs accompany passages from his book.

Black History Month Calendar of Events

Friday, Feb 5, 8 p.m. — Movie, "Panther," in Powers Recital Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m. — "Battle of the Halls" quiz bowl 1st round in Hartness Student Center

Wednesday, Feb. 10, Noon — Chapel Service featuring Gospel Choir and Rev. Greg Brunson

Thursday, Feb. 11, 9 p.m. — Comedian Happy Cole in Hartness Student Center

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m. — "Battle of the Halls" quiz bowl 2nd round in Hartness Student Center

Thursday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. — Artist Reception featuring the art of Richard Wilson, Mims Gallery

Monday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m. — Seminar on 'Minority Concerns in the Workplace' in the Braswell Trustees Board Room featuring Alan Felton from the Career Center

Wednesday, Feb. 24, Noon — Chapel Service featuring Gospel Choir and Dr. Mae Parker

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 9 p.m. — Jabali Afrika Dance Troupe in Powers Recital Hall

Friday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. — Movie, "Ghosts of Mississippi," in Powers Recital Hall

Saturday, Feb. 27, 6 p.m. — A one woman play, "Sojourner Truth: A Woman Ain't I," in Powers Recital Hall

Trustees making plans for college

(Continued from Page 4)

our growth and must continue to be part of the College's plan. Members, however, decided to delay construction of Suites Three and Four since financing arrangements are not yet complete and, thus, the timetable for a Fall 1999 occupancy cannot be met.

- The Board approved an overall 6.5 percent increase for tuition, room, and board for the 1999-2000 Academic Year. This increase still places North Carolina Wesleyan among the most affordable independent colleges in the State while we continue to increase the value and overall quality of the educational and social experience.

The Board passed resolutions honoring the contributions and service of Dr. Mary Lou Steed and the Rev. Kirk Oldham.

The Board's Nominating Committee brought forward a slate for re-election. It is a sign of confidence in the College and our programs that each Board member eligible for re-election agreed to serve for yet another four-year term.

I would be happy to answer questions you might have about the Board meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the Trustees is April 29-30.

(Dr. John B. White is president of N.C. Wesleyan College.)