

Editorial: Commentary REVELATIONS

GO WERE

by John Mullins

Montreat-Anderson is a "Christian liberal arts" college, an interesting enough fact in itself. It suggests several questions worth asking and attempting to answer. Where is the line drawn between worldly concerns and the church? Should there be visible signs of Christianity on the Montreat? Who comes here as students? Lastly, what are the advantages peculiar to a church-related college like ours?

Let's begin by dealing with the first question. It's difficult to assess where the secular ends and the sacred begins at MAC. Actually, the two areas frequently impinge on one another. Some persons at this school possibly treat every aspect of campus life as touched by the spiritual. Others, who feel strongly in another direction, might regard all religion as hypocrisy and hokum and say so. Both types of people generally practice the hard sell and try to persuade others to their way of thinking. As a result, opposites may meet and attract or clash. Because the Christian espouses and the atheist crusades are at such extremes, they converge at the center.

We must conclude it's hard to say where the Montreat church ends and the other phases of life begin. However, you will please note that Montreat-Anderson College is not so hypocritical as to advertise falsely. The road sign in Black Mountain indicates Montreat-Anderson is two miles away rather than the City of God. Don't expect everyone here to be ready for canonization. No, one does not genuflect upon entering a classroom. How much should Christianity be manifested at Montreat?

Not everyone that applies and is accepted for our school in the valley has a firm religious commitment. That's all right. Wavering is permitted, if not encouraged. But, interested parties may want to look around for signs of the Christian presence. Certainly, one indication isn't the stone chapel. There are many other similar buildings in the world at large. Nor is the statement that we are all members of the SCA proof of piety. That may or may not be an expression of noble sentiment. Not to blaspheme, mind you, but why don't we make every student a member of the SAW (Student Atheist Wing) as well as the formerly mentioned group? Then, one can choose which organization he desires to take an active part in.

For Montreat-Anderson draws a variety of students. Looking only at geographical distribution, we can see this. Obviously, people from such a wide area have diverse backgrounds, regardless of where they come from or where they're going. To a four year college, presumably. This is their immediate concern. No one earns a visa to heaven with seats down in front because he happens to attend this particular college. So, no advantage is gained in the after-life investment area.

What are the benefits? We need mention only one. It suffices and gives MAC a true "raison d'être." A squat-bodied, pug-nosed Greek is credited with saying it. "The unexamined life is not worth living." Thank you, Socrates. You're MAC's ablest apologist. Montreat-Anderson can serve as a place of self-examination.

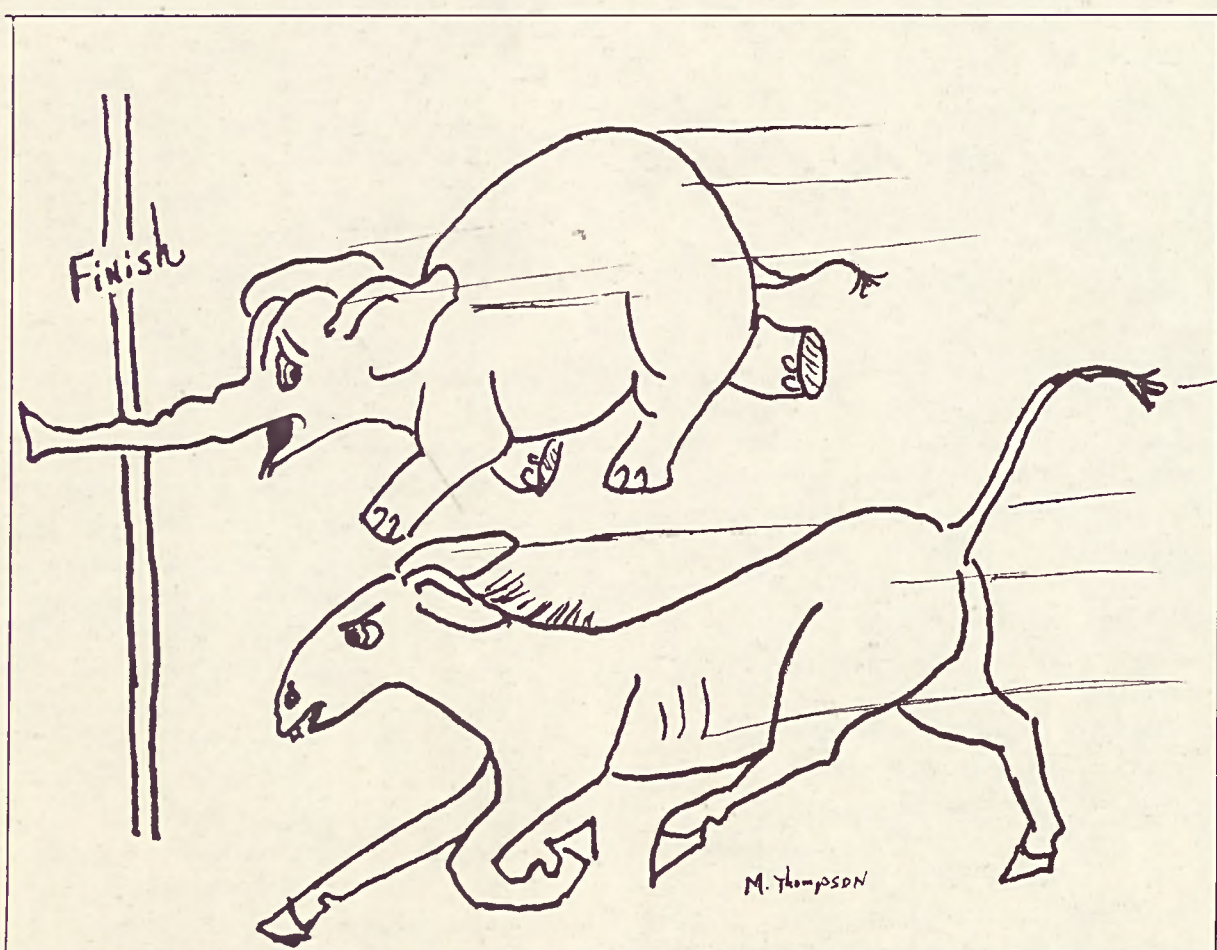
Each of us should mark the dates of November 17-19 on our calendar of events to look forward to. These are the dates when five students from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, will be on our campus. They will live in the dorms and eat in our cafeteria and actually become Montreat students for three days.

The team will begin by heading the Sunday morning worship service. Monday, and Tuesday nights, they will hold a coffee house type affair with group discussion and conversation with our students in the S. U. Monday and Tuesday chapel periods are on a voluntary basis when these five students will have the programs. These are to include personal experiences and panel discussions. Since the Union group will stay in the dorms, they also hope to meet with groups or individuals for late-night discussions.

The students coming here are Charles Raynal, Benjamin Kirkland, Sam Shumate, Doris Harwell, and Jackie Richards. The SCA will sponsor the program. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. Kercher are faculty advisors and Nancy Carlton is Program Chairman. Meg Grote is publicity chairman, and Stebie Wells and Danny Dixon are the chairmen of the Entertainment Committee.

Other members of these committees are Martha Groseclose, Al Wilson, Pam Whitelock, Charlie Lance, Greg Boyer, David Walters, Willie Faires, Linda Edwards, Beverly Hill, Sue Witmer, Pam Mayo, John Mullins, Doug Matz, Carol Winkler, Nancy Finley, Curtis Brooks, and Nancy DuPuy.

Look for next week's follow-up article for further details about the time and place of various events. Also, see the next issue for more on "Five Saintly Sinners."



on stage

Montreat-Anderson's leading organization, membership wise, is the Drama Club. The Club advisors are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Steil. They both are former MAC students and were in drama productions. Mrs. Steil has been in summer stock since she was 7. Her husband has been in a number of plays.

This year the club will get underway with three one act plays scheduled. They are: "If Men Played Cards as Women Do," "The Dear Departed," "Passion, Poison, and Petrification or the Fatal Gazogene."

The Drama Club's newly chosen name is the Greybeard Players. Casts for the initial plays include the following: Sam Fields, Dave Shafferman, Bill Howell, Jeff Garner, Rick Smith, Jim Sutton, Wayne Tarrant, Doug Matze, Cheryl England, Beverly Hill, Nancy Crooks, Laura Hall, Caroline McDonald, and Kathie Schob.