

# Romance..... you've got to be kidding

by Brian D. Fuller

I want to throw up.  
I look around and I see history tragically repeating itself. Guys and girls are paring up in dorm lobbies all over campus, looking lovingly into each other's eyes, expecting romance which will last a lifetime. Yecchh. I sat by idly last year and let it happen to some of my best friends. I let the romance bug take its toll in the lives of those dearest to me. Then I stay up nights with them, consoling their broken hearts ten days later. This year, things will be different. I will warn all of you before it happens and get my much needed sleep in the future.

Understandably, people leaving home for the first time (or the hundredth) tend to feel a little insecure. No one will admit it in public, and most folks won't even recognize this feeling. Yet, nevertheless, we are all insecure in a new and unfamiliar environment. As soon as we've had a chance to settle into our new sur-

roundings, we search for familiar fixtures to settle our restless spirits. A friend of mine went abroad this summer and found comfort in our favorite Golden Arches (McDonald's). Foreign students often decorate their rooms with reminders and remnants of their native countries. This is perfectly natural, and I don't see that it has any adverse effects on their personalities.

The problem is with those students who try to replace the love of a family setting with what they consider a "more mature" form of love... or *eros*. There is nothing wrong with *eros* in and of itself, when the participants are prepared for it and are not shoved into involvement by uncomfortable circumstances. However, the way I've seen it happen here all too often is awkward, and more times than not, disastrous. I cannot imagine that something as enjoyable and highly rated as romance could cause such grief among Montreat inhabitants...but it does.

Once romantic partners have fulfilled their use as soothing comforters, frictions occur in the relationship; frictions that result in some very nasty, unChristian behavior. One of last year's security blanket romances ended silently... the couple didn't speak for the remainder of the school year.

My final word of advice (as if I were the voice of experience) is this: As much as we all desire to grow up and be secure in our independence, let's be content with enjoying the company of many, many members of the opposite sex. We can find security in fulfilling our purpose at Montreat: being the best students we can possibly be, avoiding distraction from outside factors. Be content in knowing that God has chosen a time for us to blossom in romance... don't rush Him. Don't trick yourself into believing that your studies and personality will benefit from a romance speedily built on thin air.

# A Thought for the New Year

While contemplating the topic for the editorial of the first edition, I enlisted the help of a number of people. Consequently, I received a number of suggestions and soon became very confused, a state in which I reside much of the time. Suddenly I realized that this was exactly what I should write about. Confusion is what we obtain by constantly listening to others without listening to ourselves or to the Lord.

A problem in my life that I am trying to improve is the fact that I can be quickly persuaded. Let's face it, I'm easy. It seems as if I am constantly doing things I do not want to do as a result of someone talking me into doing them. I usually end up with regrets. For instance, I always go out, wasting tons of money, when I should be studying.

So many of us adhere to the selfish motives of others. We take advice so easily without testing it to see who really benefits from it. Our friends may think that they are helping us when they are actually helping themselves.

I do not mean to imply that we should not seek the opinions or advice of others. It is essential that we place a certain amount of trust in friends. It is also essential, especially now at the beginning of a new year, that we first seek the will of the Lord: "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matt. 6:33).

by Mike Yarbrough

# What I did this summer

by Brett DeBruyn

During the past three months, while all, or most of us either sat around watching television or worked at a summer job, some of the more adventurous souls of M.A.C. spent all, or part of their summer doing some very interesting things.

For instance, Mrs. Pearson, the school librarian, spent two weeks of her summer (the last week of June and the first week of July) touring Europe. Mrs. Pearson toured with a busload of both Americans and Canadians through seven countries. The trip started in Amsterdam and from there went to Austria. On they went to Italy where she saw Venice, Florence, Rome, and Malon. Heading back she stopped in Geneva, went through France, and finally London. She says the most interesting thing was the majestic Alps of Switzerland.

Mrs. Maxwell spent two weeks of her summer touring Russia. "Outside Moscow was the most in-

teresting," she says. Mrs. Maxwell found touring the medieval ruins very interesting. During her stay in Russia, Mrs. Maxwell had the opportunity of spending four nights out on the desert with a family of camel farmers in a yurt; or a tent made of felt with a stick frame.

Mr. Wolfe also had an interesting summer. Mr. Wolfe spent his summer days taking chemistry classes at Appalachian State, while he spent his summer nights dancing in the professional theatre, where he did his share of acting as well. The play he participated in is called "Horn in the West," an outdoor theatre located in Boone, N.C. The drama was about the conflict between the American and the British. While in the theatre, Mr. Wolfe says he got to meet many interesting and unusual people.

Mr. Wolfe says the theatre is "really a good place to witness because you have so many opportunities to speak with unsaved people." Mr. Wolfe also

worked with children at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church this summer.

Mr. Whipple spent his summer teaching Biology to three students here at Montreat at the beginning of the summer. Then he taught Biology at McDowell Tech. College to a group of adults. Then he went with his wife (an army captain-dietician) to San Antonio where she attended summer camp. After that, they drove to Ohio to attend his High School reunion. He returned and taught second semester at McDowell. During the last week of summer, Mr. Whipple drove to Grand Rapids Michigan to the annual meeting of American Scientists. By then it was time for school to start, so Mr. Whipple came back to begin a new school year.

Mr. Whipple has started running many of the mountain trails and challenges Roger Earp to any race he chooses. Furthermore, anyone wishing to call Mr. Whipple "Dad", must have at least a 3.0 average.

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