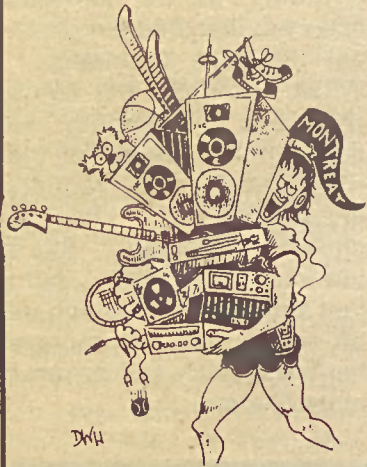


# ALETHEIA

## Back to School Issue

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## Discovery unveils quality

*How to maintain with a pain*

by Julia Stedman

Discovery is an 18-19 day trip offered by Montreat-Anderson College each spring immediately following graduation. The trip covers areas throughout Pisgah National Forest and includes hiking from the Mt. Mitchell State Park to Linville Gorge Wilderness area. Activities included in the Discovery program are 150

miles of biking, three days of white water canoeing, rock climbing and rappelling, orienteering, first aid, Bible studies, service projects, a three-day solo experience, and a 14 mile run back to Montreat-Anderson on the 1st day.

Through challenging experiences, Discovery helps a person unveil the qualities that form the basis for self-esteem and confidence, and an insight into that individuals inner qualities.

This past May, sixteen people from Montreat went on Discovery, including returning students James Cook, David Egelkraut, June Fennelly, Lois Hedges, Sarah Horne, John Jackson, Pamela Jones, Russell Kullmar, Wendy Rogers, Rae Sawyer, Ginger Stencher, Bryan Thomas and Eric Wilson. One of the most mentioned aspects of the trip was food -- or rather the food they did not have such as doughnuts and steak -- as

they ate peanut butter sandwiches and raisins. Because it rained the majority of the days, being wet and cold ranked as being one of the worst aspects of the trip. Despite these things the group learned a lot about responsibility and serving others. They encouraged each other and helped each other through times of depression and physical hardship. The group grew closer to each other, they grew closer to God, experienced His help and seeing many of the more remote areas created by Him. "It was easier to rely on God," several group members said, "away from the world."

The members of this year's Discovery gained much experience and knowledge about themselves, each other and God. Although it is not for everyone, it is recommended by group members to anyone who has a desire to improve and challenge themselves.

by Susie Sinclair

Everyone knows that I'm always right. I mean, there's nothing really hard to understand about that. I'm perfect and it's obvious. The only reason I find it necessary to assert the fact now is to emphasize the proper attitudes, as mine are, about rooming together. A case in point is my roommate this semester. She is invariably frustrating simply because she never thinks about things the way I do. If I were occasionally at fault I could grant her a wider margin of error, but luckily, unlike me, she doesn't have it together. Poor thing. I realize her misfortune and have become convicted. I should spot all of my roommate's defects and problems so that I can remind her of them often and do her the favor of making her realize that my ways are right after all, and hers are wrong. I am determined to make her stay with me profitable through seeing how wonderful I am.

If I weren't so understanding, she could really grate on my nerves at times. Like, when we sit at our desks, I'm the one to initiate friendly conversation, which she doesn't make any easier by hiding behind her barricade of textbooks, buried under papers. I don't know what she thinks she came to school for. You know, sometimes I think she actually believes that line those professors feed us about discipline and consistency in studies. I try not to be too judgmental though, realizing she is a little fluffy. I just try to help her out of the slump she inevitably falls into when she hits that desk chair by chatting about the day's events, or singing loudly with the radio so she too can learn the words to the songs, which I already know by heart. Sometimes I'll read my letters to her or write letters and ask her questions about them like spelling, the date or how something sounds...

(Cont. on p. 2)

## Gallup poll records

### religious renewal

#### Collegians Turn to Religion

A recent Gallup poll suggests that college campuses are becoming receptive to religious renewal. The survey shows:

Religious commitment becoming stronger...35%  
Religious commitment becoming weaker...16%  
Religious beliefs important...80%  
Religious beliefs not

important.....15%

Forty percent attend religious services at least once a week -- Christian, Muslim, Hari Krishna, Moonies, etc.

#### "No Sin"

Ninety percent of the French population no longer believes in sin. Although 82% consider themselves Catholic, 69% say they never have gone to confession.

## College enrollment levels off

by Mindy Maden

As the last of the "baby boomers" began marching through high school graduation ceremonies five years ago and as the Reagan administration started cutting back in federal aid to these prospective college students, many colleges began programs to re-evaluate admissions standards and practices. Here at Montreat-Anderson the Admissions Office views this potentially harmful combination of fewer students and less money as an incentive to refine the admissions process and to be better stewards of the College's resources.

According to Charles Lance, Director of Admissions, a committee was formed three years ago to review admissions standards and policies at the College. As a result of study and review by the committee, changes were put into effect to improve the selection and acceptance procedure for new students.

Because of these policies Montreat-Anderson did not accept twenty-five more students than usual that year, yet the College still had an enrollment of 407 students.

In considering someone for acceptance at Montreat-Anderson there are a number of criteria that are evaluated: SAT scores, high school grades, teacher recommendations and interviews are used to help determine if an applicant would be a successful student at Montreat. If it is judged that a student has potential but is lacking in basic skills they are given the option of acceptance to Montreat if they successfully complete recommended courses at their local community college. Approximately 10% of the prospective students in this category take this option and later attend Montreat.

Although enrollment has declined since 1980, it seems to be leveling off. The fall enrollment in 1982 totaled 388 and this year it

stands at 387. An interesting aspect of the enrollment figures is that fifty-eight of last year's new students did not return this fall. (Montreat presently has 223 new students and 164 returning students.)

Compared to other private, two-year Christian colleges, Montreat is holding its own in enrollment. Studies have shown that approximately one-half of these schools have experienced decreases in enrollment while the other half had increases in enrollment.

Academically the quality of student admitted to Montreat has also risen. The average SAT score for new students in 1980 was 756; the new average has improved the last three years and now stands at 789. Average grade point ratios have also increased.

Mr. Lance feels that Montreat's maintenance of both standards and enrollment is due to the quality academic program at the College and a professional admissions staff. How is enrollment? Good and getting better.



"How is enrollment? Good and getting better."