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Campus To Dance Night Away at Christmas Semi-Formal

By Sean Anderson

Students will dance until 1am tonight at the Christmas Semi-Formal located in Howerton Dining Hall. The festivities will begin at 9pm.

The activity was planned originally to be held at Dekko's night club in Asheville. However, there were conflicts over the cost of reserving the club for a non-alcoholic night. M-AC would have been charged \$2,000 to boogie the night away.

Student Amy Dill commented on whether it would have been beneficial for M-AC to have held the dance at Dekko's, "It could have given the college a bad reputation. The people on the outside, wanting into the club, would have been told that it was reserved for us. They would not have known that it was a non-alcoholic night. I don't think it would have been good for the school's name."

Sophomore Greg Steinbarger also added, "From what I've heard, Dekko's doesn't sound like a big deal to me. I'd like to have the dance in the traditional place anyway."

The Student Activities Commit-

Increased Police Patrol Discourages Speeders in Montreat

By Cara Weiss

A new luxury has brought about increased police protection. Since Montreat Road has finally been repaved, the community has found that it is more pleasurable to drive on.

Students have been taking advantage of the improved driving conditions by whizzing to and from the gate. The Montreat Police department has been discouraging this recklessness by issuing more speeding tickets.

According to Chief Ronnie Halford, the court cost and the fine combined add up to around \$75 per ticket. People receive these costly tickets for going ten miles over the speed limit. Offenders may have their license revoked for up to one year for going 15 miles over the speed limit.

Student Amy Standifer believes that other students should not complain about the speed limit, and should just be thankful that the road has been paved.

Montreat roads are patrolled city-wide, 24 hours a day. Along with speeding violations, car owners can also be ticketed, or even towed for parking illegally. Recently there has been some illegal parking, but Chief Halford defended, "I've seen a greater increase in obeying the law."

Tickets for parking amount to five dollars when paid within 15 days, however, \$10 penalties will be issued for late payments. The Buncombe County School system will receive most of the revenue from the speeding and parking violations.

Police officers have been seen occasionally venturing into the buildings on campus just to socialize. In the past, the old administration required police officers to call before entering dorms, however, the new administration encourages cops to be social.

Chief Halford claimed that there

has never been serious crime problems in Montreat due to continued police patrol throughout the Montreat community. Although the Montreat and Black Mountain Police Departments are separate, they still have a mutual aid agreement.

When asked if he thought increased police patrol was beneficial, M-AC student Aaron Shipp expressed, "I think it's a good idea because it keeps speeding down."

While another student anonymously disagreed, "I don't think they patrol enough. Usually they just leave their cars parked."

Any violation in driving, for example failure to stop for stop signs and not wearing a seatbelt, could result in a person receiving a ticket. Chief Halford reminds the Montreat community that driving a car is a privilege, and that the privilege can be revoked.

tee will be coordinating the dance. They will be in charge of setting up, decorating, and cleaning up afterwards. Dinner will not be served in the Dining Hall tonight so that the Student Activities Committee will have more time to set up for the dance. Dinner will be

held in the Cavalier Grill.

Student Activities Committee Chairman Rena Sawyer stated, "Every time we have an activity, there's a small group of people that always help. Anyone that would like to help decorate for any of the upcoming activities, please

join in. There will be signs posted telling when and where we will be meeting."

Some students really enjoy participating in the dances. Robby Suddeth contributed, "It's fun to dance with girls and get out there and act crazy."

President and Mrs. Hurt Offered Relaxing Study Break

By Kathryn Letterman

Last Tuesday night, December 7, students were invited with open arms into the home of President and Mrs. Hurt to take a break from studying and to enjoy relaxing fellowship.

Guests munched on cookies and sipped hot cider while gath-

Students Experience an Old-Fashioned Christmas

ered around the piano for an old-fashioned sing-a-long. Heath Peek and Brian McDonald tapped away at the piano, encouraging others to join in the celebrating.

Peek commented, "Their home was a warm haven for students to go to catch a little warmth

of the Christmas spirit." SGA President Jeff Reardon also agreed with Peek, "It was very warm and homey. Instead of feeling like a student visiting an administrator, I felt like I was visiting with friends."

Mrs. Hurt estimated that approximately thirty students partici-

pated in the event, and she expressed disappointment in the small number. Even though not as many people took part in the gathering, Mrs. Hurt was still pleased, "It gave us time to talk with the students, and that was the best part of the evening."

Confrontations Make Programs User-Unfriendly ...

By Cara Weiss

Microsoft Word is a new word processing option for the newly installed computer program called Microsoft for Windows. Many students have found it a confusing alternative to the old program, Wordperfect 5.1. Off-campus student Sheila Huntley stated, "With Microsoft Word, I'm totally lost. It's easier to let someone else type papers for me."

Sophomore Chris Holda complained, "If they want students to use Microsoft for Windows, they need to have a seminar on how to use it."

Microsoft for Windows has recently been programmed on every computer in the computer lab on the 3rd floor of the Belk Center. Pete McDanel, computer science professor, stated that some options for this program are still being installed.

McDanel realizes that many students are frustrated with the new program. He claimed that he did not mean to upset people by installing this new program. In reference to this, McDanel commented, "I didn't realize it would cause this much of a

Updates in Computer Lab Result in Frustration

problem. Anyone who has a problem with their papers should come see me."

McDanel's major concern is for the students who are taking computer classes. He is in the computer lab mainly to teach the new program to computer students, but anyone else who needs to type papers on the computer is welcome to ask for his help. McDanel wanted to install this new program because he believed that it was his responsibility to keep up with the new software, and he felt that Wordperfect was too old to continue to be a major program.

Although Wordperfect 5.1 is still listed as an option under Windows, it is only available on two computers in the computer lab. McDanel insisted, "Windows is the standard operating environment for computers." 40 million versions of Windows have been sold since 1990.

Microsoft Word is picture-based rather than word-based like Wordperfect. The mouse that is attached to the computer is used to select commands which format the document. Every command is a little pic-

ture inside of a box. The mouse can be moved to any box, and clicked on to choose a command. Some students appreciate this program because it is more advanced. Student Pharon Anderson assented, "I think it is better than Wordperfect because you have more options to enhance the quality of your work."

Senior Naj Alicea replied, "I like

the paintbrush program." M-A Hall resident Heather Rich also commented, "I only started working on it recently. If I don't go too deep, I understand it."

Since the new program has caused so much controversy, McDanel thinks that he should have waited until next semester to shock students with this element of change.

MACTEER Program Recruits Volunteers

By Anna Shimaya

M-AC has coordinated a new program called the Montreat-Anderson College Volunteer Program, or MACTEER. According to *This Month at M-AC*, a community relations newsletter, this program's purpose is to identify and to unite the talents and skills of the residents of Montreat, Black Mountain, Swannanoa Valley, and the greater Asheville area, with M-AC students. This program provides opportunities for those talented individuals to share their abilities as volunteers. These volunteers can benefit from the college's unique character and academic environment.

Participants in the MACTEER program will be appointed as academic or staff associates of the college. Also, they will have clearly defined responsibilities related directly to the mission of the college, and they will be recognized as active participants of the collegial partnership.

The faculty and staff have already identified over 30 areas in which a volunteer could share their skills and talents as Associates of the College. These areas range from a commitment of one hour per year as a guest lecturer to as much as several hours per week in a supporting staff position.