

THE WHETSTONE

Iron Sharpens Iron, So One Man Sharpens Another.
Proverbs 27:17

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First Day of Spring?

By Renee Pittman

When you picture the first day of spring, ankle deep snow does not immediately come to mind. This was however, the sight that greeted Montreat students on the first day of Spring 2001. The "snow line" told the blessed news to many overjoyed students' ears, that all classes were cancelled for the day. This is a very unusual event in that classes at Montreat have not been cancelled more than once in the history of the college. This snowstorm makes the second time the entire college has ever been closed for such a reason. If having a snowstorm the first day of spring is not ironic enough, the college closing at all is just as ironic. That is because the first time Montreat College ever closed for snow was right after Spring Break in 1993, according to Alumni Director, Bob Graham. Hmm...do we sense a trend?

Several upperclassmen were surprised to hear the news. This is possibly due to all the stories of professors coming in to class on cross-country skis and snowshoes. Much to the cha-

grin of the students, Montreat professors are notorious for the same dedication as befits mailmen. Neither wind nor rain nor sleet nor SNOW will keep the professors from fulfilling their duty of presenting knowledge to the students.

When asked how she felt about the snow day, Ms. Bonnie Whitworth, a junior, reported that it was wonderful to have this opportunity for fond memories and bonds of friendship to be formed, which has not been a possibility weather wise until this year.

The students spent their day off in several ways. For many, it was an opportunity to sleep or catch up on work that would have been late. A small gathering of students was seen in Howerton lobby before lunch watching movies, including the cult classic "The Princess Bride."

At Davis the "boys on the hill" were busy pummeling each other with snowballs. Billy May gleefully declared, "Snow is good!"

Students were seen throughout the day, taking advantage of the steep slopes that are abundant on campus.

Several cafeteria trays somehow mysteriously disappeared. This phenomenon seems to occur whenever there is a good snow. Also, many folks took advantage of the nearby golf course, which has provided the ultimate in sledding fun for Montreat college students for several years.

Montreat is a place full of surprises and beauty and this latest event has proved to be no exception.

You will be Missed...



By Aaron Gies

It was in Roanoke, Virginia, on a cold Thursday morning, that I heard Jeremiah James Jolly, my Freshman roommate, was dead. The choir rode for five hours that day, and I wrote for three of them, recounting all the times that Jeremiah and I had together, things I hadn't thought about for a couple of years.

Jeremiah Jolly came to Montreat College in the Fall of 1998, as an entering Freshman. He roomed with me in Howerton Dormitory, room 319. He didn't have a car, and, like me, he didn't know anybody, so we saw a lot of each other those first few months, going to the store, wandering the streets in Asheville, and talking late into the night. Jolly was blonde haired, blue-eyed, about five feet tall, and athletically built. He wanted to major in English and History, and maybe minor in Bible & Religion, Philosophy, Music, and about four other subjects. And he attacked his studies with frenzied energy, taking 18-plus hours a semester and staying up far into the night. For financial and academic reasons, he had to drop out at the year's end, but he always said he'd be back.

It was about a month ago when a van struck a car he was riding in as it backed out of a driveway. He suffered severe injuries and lapsed into a coma from which he never recovered. He died two weeks ago; he was twenty. Jeremiah was kind, intelligent, personable, hard working, energetic, honest, and a whole lot of fun. He had a genuine faith and a heart that radiated Christ's love, and I have no doubt that His eternity will be a happy one. Still, our lives were darkened as his light went out. They raise memorials at Colleges because students are very good at forgetting those who have gone before them. But even if there is no trace of his having been here but the odd photograph and some nail holes in the wall of room 319, I will always remember him. Jeremiah, Montreat will miss you.



Several friends of Brad Bullock transformed his Bronco into a North Carolina igloo.

Recycling in Montreat

By Donovan Campbell

Plunk...plunk...chink! Two quarters and a dime slide down the metallic innards of the soda machine. The button is pressed and a few seconds later a freshly awakened can of Coke lumbers out into the world. The tasty dark liquid gushes down some Montreat College student's warm throat and then the empty aluminum fellow finds himself sitting in the dismal depths of a smelly trash can. Where does he go from there? Why, to the dump of course. Isn't that where all trash belongs?

Some here on campus don't think so. Last Friday a group of ten individuals, including students Libby Pruitt, Jessica Gattenby, Laurel Southerland Kelley Cleveland, Nathan Tiefenbach, and professors Dottie Shuman, Don Yelton, and Mike Sonnenberg met to discuss a campus-wide recycling program. As some may remember, this is not a refreshingly unique idea. Similar attempts have been made in the recent past. However, things look much more promising this go around. "It's going to happen," freshman Libby Pruitt defiantly assures everyone.

How can she be so sure? For one, this same zeal seems to be shared by the Montreat Conference Center. Senior Daniel Lee accounts that he has been working with the Conference Center in researching the possibility of recycling throughout all of Montreat.

Of course there are financial concerns however coordination with the Montreat Conference Center helps alleviate some of these. The large compartmentalized recycling containers usually run somewhere around \$110 per month to rent. Depending on which disposal company you work with, there is another fee of about \$125 to haul the recyclable material away. On top of that, there is the cost for recycling cans spread throughout

campus and in each dorm room.

On the brighter side, the idea appears completely financially feasible, according to Libby. Aluminum fetches a price of \$.35-\$.40 per pound. Also, different government programs, state grants, and environmental organizations all offer funds for this sort of recycling endeavor. Professors Don Yelton and Mike Sonnenberg feel that the college might even be able to benefit financially from a strong recycling program.

Even though the idea is still in developmental stages, the future looks bright for recycling on the campus of Montreat College. The first major step, reports Libby, is to spend a week researching the trash on campus. That's right. The group needs volunteers to donate approximately 30 minutes a day next week digging through trash all over campus. It all has to be sorted and weighed in order to gain a good idea of exactly what types of materials and how much of them find their way into our trash. So, make sure not to miss the information meeting TODAY at 3:00 in upper Belk lobby.

Journalism Workshop

By Karen Neal

Last week, I skipped all my classes for three days in a row. Please allow me to explain what had been happening in the past week. Tory Albertson, Donovan Campbell, and I had the privilege to attend a five-day journalism workshop at the World Journalism Institute in Asheville in order to gain a greater understanding of eyewitness reporting and news writing. Various journalists came to speak on their experiences in the newsroom and about their perspectives on the media in America today. We encountered extraordinary speakers

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Jubilee not to be Forgotten

By Katie Learned and Jennifer Corsetti

Ten-thirty am Friday morning. March 23rd. While most of you were yawning in class we were on a van headed to Pittsburgh. It was JUBILEE time! After a 2 hour detour- thanks to Jeff Sheets, we made it to the Hilton at a late time, but with no high spirits lost. This place was huge, and with over 2,000 college students attending Jubilee, the place was PACKED. Missing the introduction speaker, we made it to the Vigilantes of Love concert.

Saturday morning, the keynote speaker, Tony Campolo, challenged us to use our personal field of study to help those in need. A task which may include going to the places that are less desirable to society, truly helps a servant of Christ and not of ourselves.

A variety of mini-sessions were available for us to choose from, all focusing on using talents and education to serve God in this world. Among our choices were Pop Culture, Stewardship, and Education. After a dinner break and some awesome praise and worship, Tony Campolo with his wit and intriguing stories, spoke, emphasizing service for Christ.

Many activities awaited us Saturday night, including games, a concert, and a coffee house.

Sunday morning was an incredible session that concluded the conference. The morning started with an incredible praise and worship session complete with colorful flags parading down the isles. If you have never been in a room with over 2000 people shouting to God, you need to experience it.

For the final time, Tony Campolo challenged us to use our talents and education to further God's Kingdom in this world.

After the morning session was dismissed, we bid goodbye to Pittsburgh as we boarded the buses. After a much shorter ride home, we pulled through the Montreat gate around 10:30pm. Our trip was over, but none of us will soon forget our weekend of Jubilee!

SGA Minutes

By Donovan Campbell

The SGA met last Sunday night to continue discussing student concerns. All of the SGA representatives were present except Adam Schultz (junior class rep. and SGA vice president) who was excused for SKILLS. Advisors Jonathan Bennett and Tory Albertson sat in and Libby Pruitt attended to discuss a recycling program. Her ideas were well accepted; the SGA unanimously offered its support.

The meeting began with a discussion of continuing issues. In order to finish reconstruction of SGA constitution, it was decided that time would be allotted in future meetings to work on this. The SGA continues to work on town relations. It has decided to help the town in blazing a new hiking trail, which will begin just inside the Montreat gate and join to Elizabeth Path. SGA President Jason Isler also reported that his meeting with the Cabinet proved successful and the student concerns are being worked on.

Most pertinent to the SGA was the upcoming Student Comment sessions to be held during Tuesday convocation time. These will be split into

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Spiritual Munchies...

By Jennifer Albertson

Have you ever been hit with something or put in some sort of situation in which you felt, at that moment, as if the whole world was closing in on you? Then, out of desperation you call on God to rescue you! A little while later the "crisis" is over and you seem to go about your way, often erasing the "crisis" from your memory and unfortunately, at times, forgetting to thank God for his refuge.

Regrettably, if you are like most of us, this is not an uncommon occurrence; trials come and go each day. But, what happens when this trial is more than the same ol' Joe Shmo everyday occurrence? What if it is that inner thirst or desire for God that is dry to the bone? Or doubt that God is listening or that He even exists? Or questions about the death of a loved one that you just do not understand?

Of course, definite answers to these trials in our life are often not revealed to us. But, it seems that in the midst of these challenges the ability to rejoice, be content and trust completely in the goodness of God, is exactly what we need to do! Anyone can be joyful, content and claim God's goodness when circumstances are good; on the other hand, when things are not so good we seem to forget the larger plan that God has for each of us.

We can "rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Romans 5:3-4). In the midst of your next trial or hardship, try giving thanks with confidence, knowing that God is much bigger than we are and has a much larger plan for our lives than we realize. Instead of focusing your prayers solely on the challenge itself, focus on God; GIVE THANKS!

Activity Schedule!

Saturday, March 24
Softball v. UVA Wise 1 pm
Lounge Night in Anderson 9 pm

Monday, March 26
Music Department Seminar
4:30 pm

Wednesday, March 28
Softball v. Brevard 2 pm
Chess Night 9 pm in the Grill

Thursday, March 29
Baseball v. Carson Newman 2:30 pm
Poetry Slam in Gaither Fellowship Hall 9 pm