

# The Montreal College Student Voice W H E T S T O N E

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## Smoldering Ashes Spark Blaze at Warren Wilson College

### -Staff Reports

Warren Wilson College's Schafer Dorm blazed to the ground minutes after 4:00 a.m. Sunday, January 19. Approximately half of the 118 beds were filled, but all students evacuated and only two were hurt.

Sophomore Maggie Taylor broke her wrist and is at home in Pennsylvania recuperating, according to Warren Wilson's Web site. "One girl cut up her face jumping from a second story window, but it wasn't too bad," mentions one student.

Warren Wilson's president, Douglas M. Orr, Jr., explains, "The fire marshal is in the final stages of investigating the cause of the fire, but the best evidence indicates that it was an accidental result of two students building a small outdoor fire (a violation of campus regulations) in the Schafer courtyard. The students extinguished the fire and placed the smoldering remains in a recycling

bin where the fire began a couple of hours later."

Katrina, a junior from Michigan, and resident advisor in one of the college's ball field dorms says she could hear the noise when the fire broke out. "I just heard people screaming and running around. I got up and started waking other people up too."

The college is "fully insured with a \$10,000 deductible" through Montgomery Insurance Company, President Orr assured those attending a community meeting Sunday afternoon at Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church.

"We plan to finish deconstruction and begin reconstruction of Schafer almost immediately," says President Orr.

College officials pursue quick healing for the campus wound. Students began counseling, and filing loss reports Sunday with the help of

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## Officer Swann 'Weeds' Out Narcotic Ignorance

### By Kortney Blythe

Illegal drugs seized from students over the years served as teaching guides on Monday January 13 when campus policeman, Tracy Swann, 'trashed' the naivety of the R.A.s concerning narcotics.

The Black Mountain campus gym reeked of marijuana after the hour-long summit where Officer Swann displayed marijuana, ecstasy (in pill form), crack, and drug paraphernalia (mainly pipes). As suggested by Assistant Dean, Tom Oxenreider, one of the objectives for the pre-semester counsel was to seal the distinct marijuana smell in the R.A.s' minds.

Officer Swann produced illegal substances and paraphernalia recovered from anyone in Montreat starting from the late 90's. According to Swann, "most of the problems with drugs occur during the summer months because of the large number of people coming and going for the conferences. However, that does not mean it does not exist during the school semester."

Anderson R.A. Bailey Massey recalled, "Tracy took out the first

joint and lit it but said it was too old to smell right, so he took out another one, lit it and said that one was too old, so finally he passed around the third one for us to smell. I was thinking, 'how much drugs has he got in there?'"

"We keep the drugs for two reasons," Swann asserted, "First, for legal evidence in a court case. And second, where else are we going to put it?" All confiscated drugs rest in an alarmed locker at the police station until the stale date, at which point the FBI disposes of them.

Meredith Fletcher, 5<sup>th</sup> floor Anderson R.A., revealed, "We had problems last semester with drugs, much of it involving visiting non-students, so the meeting was a good way to help reduce and avoid future problems."

Officer Swann exposed some of the drug names used only on the street among dealers and regular users. He justified the importance, "If an R.A. overhears a person saying they want to buy some 'dust,' for instance, it should raise suspicions and cause them to listen and watch that person closely."

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Three rock walls stand tall in the rubbish of what used to be Warren Wilson Schafer Dorm.

-B. Snyder

## Charlotte SPAS Sponsors Four Families for Christmas

### By Deborah Wright, Director of Charlotte Campus

My family and I usually try to do something at Christmas to help others. I have found that the experience and the impact for my daughter, lasts much longer than the toys she gets. This year the project was expanded and included my Montreat family - that is the students and staff that make up the SPAS program.

What started with a really good schedule and plan was soon in jeopardy after the ice storm of 2002. (Yes, it is already legend in Charlotte.) Thousands in Charlotte were without power, heat, and comfort in general, for days. Even after it was over, the loss was tremendous as people emptied out freezers and refrigerators.

How would we feed 4 families of 6 when so many of our own were struggling to replace items? Prayer works! I found myself remembering the disciples in Matthew 15:33-34 "And his disciples say unto him Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?" And Jesus said unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes. Well, we had seven dollars at that time!

By December 19, with the delivery date being the following day, we had raised \$950+ dollars. We had donations of food, gift cards, bikes, and clothes in addition to the money and all the items we had purchased. I

was taken aback by the offerings that were presented to me each day from cohort groups the previous night. Students were wrapping, staff members made beautiful delivery boxes and cards that all the cohorts signed. It was a miracle in the making

I made one of the deliveries on Thursday. The father was at the dialysis clinic that morning and their staff

were setting out Christmas goodies in the lobby. I left the box in the lobby for him, filled with gifts, and food and candy. I thought, "Won't he be surprised when he comes out?"

This year, as a campus, we did a good thing for a lot of good people I am so proud of everyone and I am thoroughly convinced that we are blessed to be a blessing to others.



Erik Chuprevich loads a bike for a lucky child's Christmas gift.

### Verse of the Week:

"As a church we lack repentance and we lack true affection. Not only in our minds but our hearts need correction. And man that's true religion, resignation and contrition. To love each other so much that we'd die before division"

- "Return of the Revolution"

Supertones