

The Montreat College Student Voice

W H E T S T O N E

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Mother and Daughter Graduate Together

By April Heyward

On Saturday, May 17, Janice Zellers and her mother Mary Zellers anticipate graduating together at Montreat's commencement ceremony.

During the ceremony, Janice will receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from the School of the Arts and Sciences. Her mother will earn a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Asheville School of Professional and

Adult Studies (SPAS) program.

Janice feels that it is unique that she will share the same graduation with her mother mostly because this situation "hardly ever happens."

Although both ladies consider graduating from Montreat an exciting event, Mary said she "was nervous about overshadowing Janice's accomplishments." In the end, Janice did not think the double graduation would be a problem.

Mary also received her Associates degree through the SPAS and has been in the program for over four years. Since she entered school around the same time as her daughter, Mary thinks that she "was able to relate to the workload more than other parents."

Mary thinks that "It's not usual for people to wait until their children to go to college" to start school.

While obtaining her degree, Mary said she liked the "accelerated pace" of the SPAS program. A person "can work full time and go to school and get a four year degree in four years." In comparison, "it could take a person about ten years to get the same degree."

In school, both Zellers excelled academically. Alpha Chi, Montreat's academic honors society, inducted Janice into their organization during fall semester 2002.

Through the SPAS program, Mary recently became a member of the Pinnacle Honor Society, an organization



Janice (left) and her mother, Mary Zellers, look forward to walking together at commencement, May 17.

Game Seven and Graduation

By Dan Hesse

1985 - The Kansas City Royals were facing the St. Louis Cardinals in game seven of the World Series; the game was a lopsided blowout as the Royals sacked the Cardinals 11-0. Saberhagen's dominating performance on the mound is not the point of this vignette into my mind, game seven was an abstract concept solidi-

fied deep inside me on that October evening. For the first time I sensed the intensity and brilliance of game seven, it represents the culmination and closure of an arduous journey littered with accomplishments and moments squandered alike.

Such is graduation, the end of a cumbersome trek whose prolonged

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Phonathon Boosts Scholarship Fund

By Emily Washburn

Thirty-one student volunteers raised \$15,753 for the Keystone Scholarship Fund during this year's annual Phonathon. Over 90% of enrolled students benefit from the fund, which Financial Aid disburses to various scholarships.

Fund giving increased 19% over last year. "In a year when many non-profits are experiencing reduced giving because of the weak economy, this is a great show of support from

our alumni," says Bob Graham, Alumni Director, "year-to-date alumni giving is up."

The Alumni Office hummed with activity from 6 - 9 p.m., January 27 - February 20 (with a week break for the seminar series Crossroads).

Sophomore Kortney Blythe "really enjoyed the interaction between [the callers]. It's like a big party in the office! And I liked talking with alumni and hearing stories about how it used to be." Blythe claimed the

title of "Top Money-Magnet" for the second year in a row at over \$4505!

Fundraisers who reached \$25 and \$50 goals won candy bars and t-shirts respectively, and all participants entered a raffle for free dinners and ski passes.

Alumni proprietors of the Red Radish, The Front Porch Grill, Perry's Barbecue, Domino's Pizza, and Duck's Hotdogs provided over 150 dinners for the volunteers.



Volunteer phon-a-thon callers gather to feed the keystone fund with fresh alumni donations

Freshman First to Include All New Students

By Lyndsay Mayer and Becca Snyder

This fall, Freshmen First joins Freshmen Orientation to foster immediate community building among new students.

This year's program will run from August 21-25, facilitated by a team of leaders from the faculty, staff, and student body. The week will be snapping with scheduled activities from group initiatives, Bible studies, team-building games, and elected smaller group excursions and projects.

Incoming students must pay a \$150 fee for the mandatory program.

Charlie Lance, Dean of Students, says "the group building and the chance for students to make a strong connection with Montreat College" as soon as they arrive on campus is a great strength of Freshmen First.

Solid relationships between new students and the rest of the Montreat community play an important role in student retention. President Lindberg revived the college's Retention Committee last summer. The committee initiated the revamping of the Freshman Orientation program to include Freshmen First for

all incoming students.

On their first day at Montreat, new students will have the opportunity to meet the faculty and staff at a picnic. Lance says intentional effort will be made to foster personal relationships between new students, faculty, and staff throughout the duration of Freshman First.

Freshmen Eric Spoon and Stephanie Myers attended Freshman First in the fall of 2002. "I think it's a good thing to go to, I enjoyed it and was so glad that I went but I wouldn't want to be made to go. I think that takes away from it," says Spoon.

"I had a great time," remembers Myers. "I didn't really feel like a college student, I felt more like I was at camp."

Both Myers and Spoon were paired with roommates who were unable to participate in Freshman First. When we went to dinner, [my roommate] Chris didn't know a lot of people. I knew everyone!" says Spoon.

Myers says she introduced her roommate, Alicia Kelly, to all the new friends she had made at Freshman First. "Alicia said she wishes she had gone, but she still fit in pretty well," jokes Myers.

Verse of the Week:

The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

-John 21
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