

The Montreat College Student Voice

# W H E T S T O N E

Volume IV, Number VII Montreat, NC 28757 February 6, 2004

## Search Yields New President, Struble

By Lyndsay Mayer

On Wednesday, February 4, 2004, the Board of Trustees announced the newly appointed seventh president of the college, Dr. Dan Struble.

Dr. Struble left his position as Vice President of Principal Gifts at the United States Naval Academy Foundation in Annapolis, Maryland to bring his vision and leadership to Montreat College. Dr. Struble, a Naval Academy graduate, designed the organizational structure and process for establishing the Foundation.

Before his involvement with fundraising at the Academy, Dr. Struble was involved in a major fundraising campaign at Occidental College in Los Angeles, where he taught "Intelligence

and National Security" as an adjunct faculty member. Dr. Struble also served as Assistant Professor of Public Administration in the ROTC department of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. While teaching at USC, Struble earned his M.A. degree in Comparative Politics followed by a Ph.D. in American Politics.

Struble brings a very strong fundraising background to Montreat, but the most important feature of his character is his commitment to Christ and "his commitment to Montreat remaining a Christ-centered college," says Board of Trustees chairman Bob Wynne.

There were a total of sixty men and three women consid

Continued on page 4



## Jubilee Carpool Leaves for 10th Trip to Pittsburg

-Staff Reports

Jubilee, an annual conference sponsored by the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO), scheduled for February 27- 29 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, engages students with topics on academic, relational, and spiritual commitments. Tom Oxenreider Assistant Dean of Students says, "this is the tenth year we have gone".

Social commentator, media consultant, and professional entertainer, Lakita Garth heads the conference as keynote speaker with music by Brad Yoder and worship leader James

Continued on Page 3

## Wilderness Journey Offered as Alternative to Discovery

by Lyndsay Mayer

The 21-day wilderness experience, known as Discovery, grew out of the Outdoor Recreation (now Outdoor Education) Department at Montreat in 1976 and has become a trademark course for the college.

Professor Jake Wetzel initiated the program. His vision for Discovery incorporated the beauty of God's creation in western North Carolina, with an intense discipleship program intended to challenge students physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

Today, the course curriculum

includes arduous backpacking over difficult terrain, a 2-4 day solo fasting period, and a 14-mile run from the top of Mt. Mitchell to the Montreat campus.

Until fall 2003, Discovery was a requirement for all Outdoor Education (O.E.) majors. The freshmen entering the department under the new catalogue are now given the option of participating in a different course entitled Wilderness Journey.

Wilderness Journey will take place in different locales around the world, starting with Bolivia

this summer. Starting next summer, Discovery and Wilderness Journey will be offered in alternating years, which means Discovery will not be offered the summer of 2005. This will be the first time in 29 years Discovery is not offered.

Associate Outdoor Education professor Jay Guffey described the department's decision as one that would offer "more autonomy in the selection process when students are picking out their classes." The O.E. faculty felt there would be more individual motivation to participate if students had their choice of discipleship programs rather than being required to take Discovery.

The Wilderness Journey program will offer a cross-cultural element to the discipleship program. "Rather than being uncomfortable in the wilderness, and experiencing change and growth that way," says Guffey,

"students will struggle with not knowing how to cook their food, maybe not even knowing what their food is because they bought it at the marketplace and don't speak the language of the woman who sold it to them."

Bolivia was an obvious choice for the department when considering locations for the pilot launch of the Wilderness Journey program. Wetzel and his family, after leaving Montreat College in 1984, became missionaries in Bolivia and have long-standing ties with both the Bolivian and Montreat communities. Students will spend three weeks in Bolivia; the same length of time students who opt for Discovery will spend in the wilderness.

Some Discovery alumni are unhappy with the choice to run Discovery every other year, even though it gives O.E. students more course options. Cass

Continued on Page 6



**VERSE**  
of the **WEEK**

*"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

**- Romans 8:38-39 NIV**