

montreat happenings

Business Students Study at Hilton Head

by Dr. J. Thomas Whetstone

Four Montreat College business students: Kevin Gibson, Jeremy Hurse, Tim Lewis, and Luke Mayes represented Christ and the college with enthusiasm, discussion skills, and panache at the 28th Annual Symposium on Ethical Values and Decision Making hosted by the Presbyterian Men of the Church on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, 3-5 November, 2005. Presentations were made by several experienced business and church leaders, including business ethics consultant John Di Frances, who gave the keynote address. The conference featured a series of group discussions of twelve ethics cases in which students representing thirteen colleges and universities offered solutions to the dilemmas raised. Each of the cases was based on actual situations that have recently challenged business organizations.

A highlight was the Friday afternoon kayaking for the Montreat team, including Dr. Whetstone. Two of our students

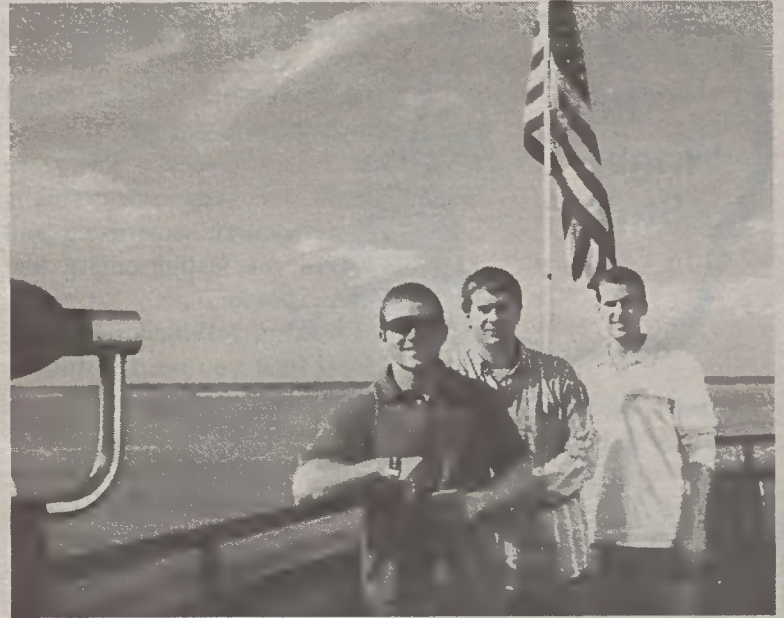
also went swimming, though unintentionally, when rammed by another kayak. The Montreat team also enjoyed a most pleasant supper and conversation at the beautiful home of church members Barry and Jane Payne. The students were accompanied by Tom Whetstone, Associate Professor of Business and Philosophy, who drove the van and participated in the faculty discussions, the latter wisely designed to segregate the faculty from the student discussions to promote challenging student engagement. Tours of the island, its beaches, and restaurants were added benefits of the trip.

Joining the students from Montreat College were students from Coastal Carolina University, College of the Ozarks, Eckerd College, Flagler College, Hampden-Sydney College, King College, Mary Baldwin College, Maryville College, Mount Union College, Presbyterian College, St. Andrews Presbyterian College, and Wofford College.

One of our students, Luke Mayes, describes his experience as follows:

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet students from all around the Southeastern United States. The discussion groups enabled me to see a clear picture of the steps needed to make an ethical business decision. The facilitators provided great insight on analyzing a business decision from an ethical, moral, and legal standpoint. It was obvious that the men of the church spent a great deal of time in preparation for this event. Everyone associated with the Symposium was first class and went out of their way to make sure we were as comfortable as possible. Also, it was a privilege to hear the keynote speaker, John Di Frances, relay his knowledge of business ethics from a Christian perspective. This was truly a once in a lifetime experience."

Kevin Gibson commented, "I enjoyed the Hilton trip we took as a group. We have met a lot of



new people and are still staying in touch with many. I am honored I was chosen to represent Montreat College. The cases that we went over were awesome to talk about. My group had good discussion on the different topics. The food was great, and the kayaking in the water was a great experience even though we did not get to see dolphins. If I had a chance to go

back, I would. I would encourage everyone to sign up, and do not miss a great opportunity like this."

The Presbyterian Men of the Church plan to continue these annual symposiums; the 29th will be held in the Fall of 2006. Recruiting for Montreat's representatives will start in August.

Former NFL Player Runs for Congress

by Joseph Chilton

Former NFL quarterback Heath Shuler has filed papers to the Federal Election Commission, allowing him to run for the congress seat in North Carolina's 11th Congressional district. Republican Charles Taylor, who is in his eighth term, currently holds the seat.

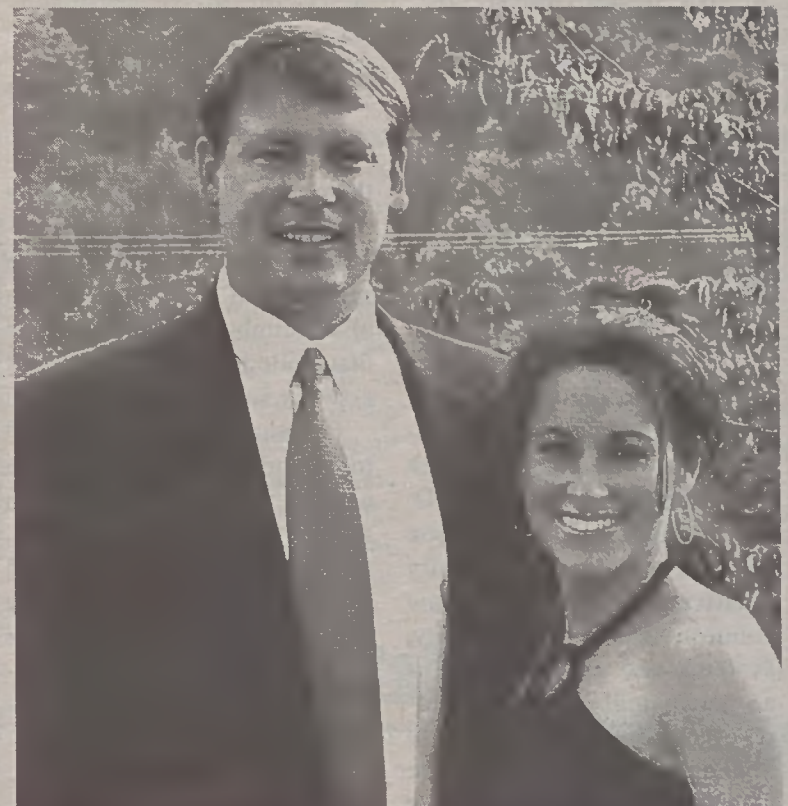
Shuler, who lives in Waynesville, is a former star quarterback

at Swain County High School in Bryson City, where he led the school to three North Carolina state titles. He then went on to the University of Tennessee, where he had a very promising career, and was the runner up for the Heisman Trophy in 1993. Shuler was drafted in the first round of the 1994 NFL Draft by the Washington Redskins, but

played only four seasons in a somewhat disappointing career.

As he now switches his career into politics, Shuler is running for congress as a pro-life Democrat. In a statement on his campaign website, Shuler sites his reasons for running for congress saying "far too many families in Western North Carolina are struggling to earn a decent living, educate their children, and pay for health care." Shuler goes on to say that he wants to move past partisan politics and focus on "creating jobs, protecting our Social Security, and providing quality education for our children."

In what political analysts are calling an increasingly Democratic district, Shuler has received a good reception to his campaign. He has currently raised over \$100,000 more for his campaign than the incumbent Charles Taylor has raised for his. If he is able to unseat Taylor in Congress, Shuler says that he wants to "take our Western North



Carolina priorities, our faith, and our values to Washington." If this happens, maybe he will have a longer stay in Washington as

a congressman than he did as a football player.

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