

DON'T MISS
THE PICNICS

The Hilltop

THREE WEEKS
TILL EXAMS

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'Mississippi Melody' Theme Of Mayday



The queen and her court who reigned over the May Day exercises this afternoon are, first row, left to right: Roberta McBride, maid-of-honor; and Barbara Barr, queen. Second row, seated, are: Pat Loving, Kitz Miller, Marianne Long, Martha Swanson, Lou Mary Switzer, Edna June Funk, and Mollie Fennell. Standing are: Toni Snider and Cathy Crain.

Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn Star In Operetta Based On Twain's Books

Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, Puddin'head Wilson and the rest of Mark Twain's famed characters sang their way through Charles Georges' "Mississippi Melody" in the college amphitheater this afternoon in a celebration of the annual May Day Festival. Preceded by the crowning of May Queen Barbara Barr, the two-act operetta was jointly presented by the athletic department and the touring choir, who furnished the chorus.

Graves To Speak At Honor Banquet

Dr. John Temple Graves, II, will be the chief speaker for the sixth annual Honor Clubs banquet, sponsored this year by the Business Club, to be held in the cafeteria on May 8, at 7:00 P.M. All honor club members are urged to attend this formal occasion.

Charles Bobo, Business Club president, and Peggy Huss, past president, will preside during the preliminaries of the program. Mrs. David Roberts is in charge of the music.

Dr. John Temple Graves, II, columnist of the Birmingham *Post-Herald* was educated as a lawyer, trained as a historian, prefers economics to either of these, but makes his living by writing. He is America's most ardent "Free Enterprise" columnist. He writes the widely syndicated column "This Morning" and "This Afternoon" for morning and evening papers. He is the author of the *Fighting South* and several other books.

Dr. Graves comes from a long line of writers and orators, his father having been one of America's greatest orators. He, himself, is one of the South's finest public speakers.

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Drama Group Wins Honorable Mention

The Mars Hill College Drama-teers won an honorable mention in the Carolina Dramatic Association's Drama Festival held April 21-24 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Their entry in the contest was "Corn Husk Doll."

Forty-two plays were entered in the festival, including 300 participants. High schools, junior and senior colleges, private schools and dramatic groups competed for highest awards and honorable mention, the second highest award.

Plays were judged on directorship, acting, costume, and choice of play. The comments of the judges on the Mars Hill production were favorable toward everything except choice of play.

Highest awards went to the following Western North Carolina schools: Appalachian State Teacher's College, for "Home of the Brave"; Asheville School, for "From Paradise to Butte"; the Plonk School, Asheville, for "The Spinners of Lusche."

Against a backdrop of the Mississippi river, a corner in a small Missouri town in the year of once-upon-a-time formed the setting for the actions of the mischievous Tom Sawyer, the unwanted Huck Finn, Sydney the sissy, Puddin'head the philosopher, motherly Aunt Polly, the sharp-tongued Widow Douglass, and numerous others. Dressed in gingham and overalls, and supported by the touring choir as a chorus, the troupe interspersed their spoken lines with solos, duets, and choral numbers as they depicted some of the adventures of the leading characters in Mark Twain's books *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn*, on which the operetta was based.

The opening processional of the May Queen and her court moved down the right aisle of the amphitheater to begin the festivities, and the Queen was crowned by May

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Easter Crowd Breaks Record

Records show that 495 college students attended Sunday School along with 309 townspeople as April 18 marked the opening of the new church. The newly installed Adult Departments were well attended. The Intermediate Department under the direction of Miss Virginia Hart and Mr. Robert Chapman was one hundred percent.

More than 100 chairs were placed in the aisles of the sanctuary which has a seating capacity of 1100. Many people turned away because of lack of space. Rev. Oscar Magnum, former pastor of the Rev. L. F. Sodeman, was on the platform along with President Blackwell and the Rev. Sodeman.

Training Union records show that 66 towns-people and 388 college students were present on Sunday night. In the Young People's Department B, nominating committees were appointed to nominate the officers for the coming year. Following the cantata by the Adult choir, 17 people were baptized during the evening worship service.

A group of rules and policies for the care of the church and the equipment was presented by the Rev. Sodeman at the Midweek Service on Wednesday night. This equipment is designed to meet the needs of community and college people alike. Everyone is urged to co-operate by following these rules.

Hough, Bishop To Lead Commencement Marshalls

Chief marshal for 1953-54 will be John Hough, with Louise Bishop as assistant chief. A law student from Goldsboro, John graduated from Tri-City High School. Louise is a business student from Hickory, where she graduated from Hickory High.

Other marshals are Charles Jenkins, of North Charleston, S. C., ministerial student; Shirley Styles of Burnsville, a business student; Mollie Parrish of Atlanta, Ga., a music student; James Beane of Lowell, music; Mary Martin, of Elkin, business; Lasell Light, of Old Fort, physical education; Charles McCall, of Lenoir, medicine; Kim Cole, from Asheville, ministerial student; Paul Gillespie, of Oxford, North Carolina, ministerial student; and Hannah Blackwell, of Mars Hill, liberal arts.

Music Students Present Recital

Four music majors presented their final recitals before the student body last Thursday evening at eight o'clock. George Payne and Erma Styles, organists, Barbara Gordon, contralto, and Agnes Congleton, soprano, gave selected classical numbers including works of Bach, Brahms, Mozart, and others.

Agnes Congleton, soprano, sang Mozart's "Non so prier," Hahn's "Offrande," Hugo Wolf's "Er Tst's," Rachmaninoff's "Oh Cease Thy Singing," Tyson's "The Lilies Are In Bloom," and Carpenter's "When I Bring To You Colored Toys."

Barbara Gordon, contralto, sang "My Eurydice" by Gluck, "Traumeri" by Wagner, "Slumber Song" by Carpenter, "Love Went A-Riding" by Bridge, "He's Goin' Away" arranged by Katherine Davis, and "Fog" by Roy Harris.

George Payne played Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor." Erma Styles played Bach's "Fugue in G Minor (Lesser)," Beethoven's "Prelude on an Old Folk Tune," Vierne's "Allegro Vicace" from "Symphony No. 1," Brahms's "Behold A Rose Is Blooming," and Farnam's "Tocatta on 'O Filii et Filiae!'"

Other recitals are planned for the near future.

Marshals are chosen from the members of the C-I class, and the choices are based on scholarship, leadership, and campus citizenship.

Recognition Day To Be Monday

The annual Recognition Day will be observed next Monday morning during the chapel period in the amphitheater.

At this time, all students who have taken part in special activities or have won various honors will be recognized before the student body. Those groups include the B. S. U. Executive Council; the mission council, the *Hilltop* staff, the *Laurel* staff, the Student Council, the band, the glee club, the football, basketball, tennis, track, and baseball teams, the W. A. A. officers, the M-Blem club officers and standouts, the commencement marshals, the Dean's list students, and others excelling in forensics, dramatics, and home economics.

Each group will be recognized by the faculty member who sponsors it. Outstanding officers, honorees, etc., will be seated on the stage.

News Briefs

The touring choir will engage in one more concert during the year. This concert will be held at the First Baptist Church at Rutherfordton, N. C., and will be sponsored by the Stringfield Music Club. Mrs. Dorothy Weaver Roberts will direct the group.

Temperance readings will be held this year May 4 and 5, during the chapel period. Readings for the young men will be held in the old church, and for the young women in the auditorium.

Jean Echols, a '53 graduate of Mars Hill College, is attending the University of Tennessee on the co-operative plan. She is assistant county agent, working with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Lennon Elected 'Miss Home Ec'

Miss Sybil Lennon, a sophomore from Whiteville, has recently been elected "Miss Home Economics" by Mars Hill Home Economics club.

Miss Lennon, a home economics major, was elected on the basis of activity in the club and loyalty to the college. During her two years at Mars Hill, Miss Lennon has served the club as reporter, vice-president, and is now president. She has served as secretary of the North Carolina College Clubs Division of the American Home Economics Association.