

Returning Coed Finds Courage To Be Herself

Two years ago I saw Mars Hill for the first time. I was completely alone for no one on the entire campus knew me or anything of my past. What a golden opportunity this was to become anything I wanted to be. I could create my own image; the slate was clear.

I wanted two things. I wanted to make good grades and to learn everything I could that would prepare me for future life. Secondly, I wanted to make as many friends as I could and to be "included" by the leaders of the campus. Hero worship plays a big part in our lives, but I was to learn that people often do not live up to the image I have of them.

Looking back, as I have done this past week, on my dreams of my freshman year, I can see a great deal that has changed my life. The hardest thing for me to learn has been to take life as it is. A good friend once told me that I must learn to take it easy. By this he meant that I should accept reality and make the best of situations in which I find myself instead of worrying about things over which I have no control. I must do this in order to be happy, he said. Previously I had become so wrapped up in the future and worried so much about the past that I never had time to live in the present.

It all seems silly to me now because I no longer try to change people to what I want them to be or to what I think they could be. It feels good to love someone for what he or she is, and it keeps me from being frustrated. In my more realistic moments, I pose some seemingly ridiculous questions: Do I want people to like me because I'm what they want me to be or because I try to give a certain untrue impression of myself? Do I want the man I marry to propose to me on the basis of my real personality, ideals, and interests or on the basis of the image I falsely try to convey? The answer is obvious.

It is hard in an unrealistic setting such as a college campus for students to avoid a certain amount of pretending. We are thrown together for one, two, or more years to live in a community. Naturally we want our peers to think the best of us, so we put our best self to the front in our contacts with our fellow students.

This summer I spent my time working as a waitress at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. There I had ample opportunity to stand off and look at my life and my image at Mars Hill College. The atmosphere was one which induced me to be myself and I really enjoyed the sense of freedom it gave. I was a happier person and as a result did not take emotional blows or disappointments quite as seriously.

No one can expect to be happy all the time as I used to try to pretend. Happiness or peace of mind can only come as we feel confidence in our own worth as an individual, not in comparison to the talents of other people.

As for the previously mentioned goals of my freshman year, in the first I have been relatively successful. The second has decreased in importance.

Perhaps these words will remain longer than my words:

"Whatever you are—be that
Whatever you say—be true
Straight forwardly act
Be honest, in fact
Be nobody else but you."

—unknown

—Dolly Lavery

Published by the Students of Mars Hill College

The Hilltop

Box 486-T, Mars Hill, N. C.



Second-class postage paid at Mars Hill, N. C. Published 15 times during the college year.

Volume XXXIX September 26, 1964 Number 1

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LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"AS A FRESHMAN, ALICE, YOU'VE PROBABLY NOTICED THERE'S AN ADJUSTMENT TO BE MADE FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE."

Letters to the editor...

Editor's note: The HILLTOP invites each and every student to use the "Letters to the Editor" column. It serves as your forum.

Letters must be typed or written in a legible manner. The editors reserve the right to edit and condense letters if necessary; however, we will retain the meaning of the writer. No anonymous letters will be published. The name of the writer of the letter will be withheld only if legitimate reason is given.

Dear Sir:

Please help me contact a young couple who has recently enrolled at your institution by publishing the following:

Notice to couple from Norfolk, Va., who purchased baby crib on Aug. 28 from S. W. Saunders, 110 Rollingwood Road, Chesapeake, Va. 23519 — please advise me of your name and address. I have two essential parts for the crib and am anxious to ship them to you.

—S. W. Saunders

Scratchpad Scribblings...

What has happened to the Young Republicans Club? Its absence from the campus scene is somewhat conspicuous in contrast to the organized Young Democrats Club.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Melvin, who now have a baby girl named Laura. She was born last week.

Mars Hill College was founded in 1856 by several devout Baptist men living in the community. One of them, Edward Carter, was born on Oct. 12 and the weekend nearest that date is celebrated as Founders Day. A special convocation is being planned for the chapel period on Oct. 8. Dr. Robert Seymour, pastor of the Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill and former pastor of the Mars Hill Church, will be the speaker.

It is good to see Vernon E. Wood around campus occasionally. Mr. Wood retired at the close of the summer session on Aug. 20, after 48 years of teaching, 33 of them at Mars Hill College.

Please be careful when using the stairs in the Administration Building for a slip can do serious damage . . . We don't have a Mars Hillian to spare.

Getting off to a good start is important for college students like everyone else. At least 175 — 154 of them freshmen or transfers — did just that by participating in a pre-school retreat planned by the college chaplain and the BSU council. There was plenty of time for worship, serious discussions, recreation and Bible study.

The campus seems amply endowed with talented beauties this fall. Eleanor Dianne Jaynes, who edged Jo Wells in the talent division of the recent "Miss Asheville" contest, received an MHC scholarship and is currently a member of the freshman class.

Mars Hill Worship Hour, a series of four Wednesday night worship services, has two more nights to run, Sept. 30 and Oct. 7. These planned-with-students-in-mind services are featuring some top notch speakers.

A campus-wide mock presidential election seems to be in order for the not too distant future. Interested students have asked the Student Government Association to look into the possibility.

The College Federation of Young Democrats is convening in Raleigh this weekend, and Mars Hill is well represented. The campus YDC elected officers earlier this week and some of them are attending the conclave. The officers include Reid Potter, president; W. M. Pruet, vice president; Jo Wells, secretary; and Tom Ashworth, treasurer.

Rat Week is close at hand. It should prove to be an interesting affair for all.

One of the first benefits MHC will realize as a new member of the Piedmont University Center will be campus lectures by several famous scholars. Among these will be Ferenc Nagy, former prime minister of Hungary. More about Mars Hill's participation in the Piedmont University Center in our next issue.

College Living Demands Honesty

You have chosen a new role in life—that of a college student. The task is not always easy nor is the load always light; but, the challenge is worthy of your best.

You are associating with a more mature group of students than you did in high school. Many of your old high school ways will have to be discarded for somewhat more serious attitudes. You may not be over your "goofing" days, but it will be different and less frequent, or you will not be asked to return after your freshman year. You will have fun, of course, but the more childish ways must be discarded.

Especially you will be called upon to take a new look at matters of honesty in your school work and in all of your dealings with your fellow students. Putting off assignments and getting caught in a jam and consequently tempted to take a short or dishonest cut should be guarded against. Much dishonesty in the classroom—cheating on tests and borrowing someone else's paper and appropriating it for your own—is brought about by procrastination, causing a last minute rush or shortcut.

Some colleges have a strict code of honesty. Mars Hill has one master-rule and that is "Do Right." As an institution dedicated to Christian ideals it is quite understandable that Mars Hill holds to the conviction that we as Christians must always strive for perfection in our living.

Some students think too lightly about their conduct in areas of square dealing while they are in college. They sometimes say that they are just doing these things in college to get by the easiest way and that when they get out into the "real" world that they plan to do better. The facts are that students set patterns of living in college which follow them all the days of their lives in most cases. There are some exceptions.

It seems hard for students to realize that they are "living" while they are in college. This period is just as important a part of your life as any other period and the sooner you realize this fact the better off you will be. College time can be a happy and profitable time if a student gets off on the right foot in his dealings with himself, his fellow students and his teachers.

I challenge you to face the tasks before you with determination and perseverance. When you grow weary remember the words of Thoreau, "Good for the body is the work of the body, good for the soul is the work of the soul, and good for either is the work of the other."

—Adapted from "College and Career"

Opportunity Beckons

If you look left you will see at the top of the masthead the slogan "Published by Students of Mars Hill College." This challenge of accepting the responsibilities and privileges involved in publishing a student newspaper was first accepted by the students of Mars Hill College in 1926. J. P. Huskins, the Hilltop editor of '26, is currently the editor and publisher of the Statesville Daily Record and Landmark. John A. McLeod of the English department served as faculty director.)

The world's foundation has been shaken a number of times during the past 39 years. But one thing which has remained intact is the challenge involved in publishing a student newspaper at Mars Hill.

There are several positions still open on the Hilltop staff. The paper needs a circulation manager, advertising manager, typists, good reporters willing to work and someone handy with a dictionary. Contributions of a creative nature—short poems, essays, etc.—will be accepted for publication in the two center columns of this page. They can be mailed or brought to the Hilltop office, which is located in the Montague Building.

All organizations are requested to appoint or elect representatives responsible for getting news to the Hilltop office at least one week prior to publication of each issue.

Publication dates for the remainder of 1964-1965 are as follows: Oct. 10, 24; Nov. 7, 21; Dec. 12; Jan. 16; Feb. 6, 20; Mar. 6, 20; Apr. 10, 24; May 8, 22.

—Steve R. Spain