



### Band Day Plans Most Elaborate

Today is Band Day on campus and, in terms of number of bands and number of persons involved, it is the largest such event ever slated at Mars Hill.

Five high school bands from neighboring Buncombe County are scheduled to participate in the annual event, which begins at 3 p.m. They are the Clyde A. Erwin band with J. R. Still director, the Charles D. Owen group with Richard Hipps director, North Buncombe's band with Mrs. Brenda J. Russell director, and the marching units from Enka and A. C. Reynolds schools, where John Lackey and Bobby Edwards are the directors.

The latter two men are graduates of Mars Hill and former members of the Blue and Gold band.

Including majorette squads, the total group of high school visitors at the game tonight will number approximately 400.

Band Day action begins with rehearsal this afternoon on the football field. A pre-game show will be presented by the Owen band.

At halftime the combined bands—including the college group—will perform. First they will play, "Hey, Look Me Over," while the majorettes from the various schools perform. Then they will play the march "Our Director" in honor of their musical conductors, and finally they will play the North Carolina state song, "The Old North State."

Robert Schwuchow, a new member of the music faculty, is director of the college marching band and is in charge of the Band Day program.

### WRA 'Very Active'

The Woman's Recreation Association is currently "very active," reports Miss Aileen Tyler, faculty advisor to the club. A tennis tournament is in the heat of competition as of now. Next week, volleyball competition will begin. This volleyball tournament is to be held similar to competitions held by the men's intramurals in that competition will be between dorms. This is an innovation for the WRA, according to Miss Tyler.

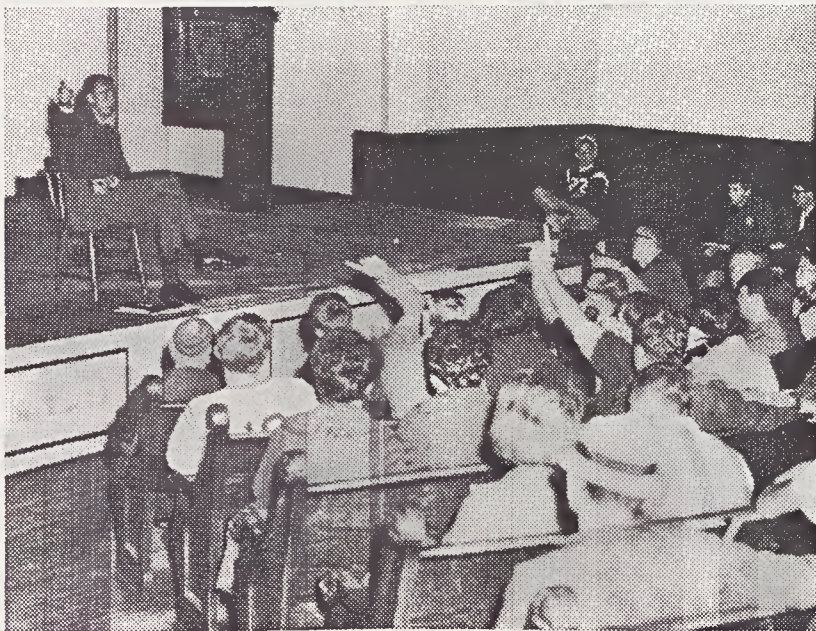
Archery is currently available to those wishing to participate in it. Times for this activity are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3-4 p.m.

Other activities planned for the year by WRA are a swim meet, and perhaps fencing. A track meet for girls is hoped for this spring.

The project of the year for WRA is the writing of a constitution for the organization.

Strictly an extracurricular program, WRA encompasses several hundred coeds who are interested in various types of activities for recreation and exercise.

The agenda for the year varies from hiking and crafts to softball and slimmastics.



This was the scene last week when President Fred Bentley engaged in a two-hour and 45-minute discussion of pro's and con's, facts and figures on football at Mars Hill. The setting is the Owen Building.

### Unique Musical Scheduled

"Curlew River," a music drama vastly different from most performances given by touring companies in the nation today, will be presented in Moore Auditorium at 8 p.m. Monday.

The original work by Benjamin Britten will feature members of the Little Orchestra Society of New York. The musical director will be Thomas Scherman, and design and direction will be by Vlado Habunek.

Based on the Japanese No-play "Sumidagawa" by Juro Montomasa, "Curlew River" is the simple but dramatic story of a distraught and obsessed woman in search of her lost child.

The English libretto by William Plomer unfolds like a morality play and its compelling drama is heightened by the stark economy of its stage movement and action.

All the members of the cast assume the roles of monks and the presentation begins with their procession into the theater. As the members take their places, the soloists don their Japanese

costumes and the music and action begin.

Scherman, who has presented distinguished performances in New York of such operas as "Die Frau Ohne Schatten," "Castor and Pollux" and "Ariadne," has solicited the first desk players of the Little Orchestra Society and members of the Concert Opera Association to assemble the finest musicians for the touring company of "Curlew River." The cast includes five vocal soloists, a male chorus and a small instrumental ensemble.

When the drama had its United States premiere last summer, it was hailed by music critics across the country as an excitingly different contribution to the world of music. Time magazine called it "a smooth melding into what is a new wholly engaging musical form."

Chosen as part of the college lyceum series for 1967-68, the performance will be open to the public as well as the student body and faculty.

### Thomas Discusses Cast, Theme of Play

James Thomas, of the Drama Department announced this week the cast for the department's third production of this semester, "The Subject Was Roses."

The play won the Pulitzer Prize in 1965 and was voted "Best Play of the Year" by New York drama critics. "The Subject Was Roses" will be performed arena-style on the stage of Moore auditorium on Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1, 2. Curtain time will be 8 p.m.

The three cast members include veterans of the Mars Hill stage. Perry White, senior biology major, plays John Cleary, the father. Perry, whose father is Executive Secretary of the Sunday School Board of the N. C. Baptist State Convention, is originally from Charleston, S. C. Last year he played the leading role, Captain Bluntschli in "Arms and the Man", and Feste, the clown, in "Twelfth

Night". This year he is the scenery assistant for the drama department, having served as technical director for the department's last production, "Antigone".

Wayne Slagle, a senior drama major, has had varied experience with the campus theatre. Last season he played Orsino in "Twelfth Night", and Tommy K. Djilas in "The Music Man". Slagle, who hails from Marshall where he has been a staff announcer with the radio station WMMH for several years, has considerable technical experience in the theatre, especially as sound technician. Wayne will play Timmy Cleary, the war veteran, in "The Subject Was Roses".

Mars Hill audiences will remember Katie Swofford as Ismene, sister of Antigone, and as the dark-haired beauty, Olivia, in last season's "Twelfth Night". Katie

### Demonstrations Evoke Lengthy Discussion

Boisterous demonstrations accompanied by frequent chants of "Whatta ya want in '68? Football! Football!" resulted in a lengthy confrontation last week between several hundred students and President Fred Bentley.

The results were apparently not to the liking of all for a majority of the students stalked out of the meeting after an hour or so to stage another demonstration.

The face-to-face meeting did serve, however, to produce some

much-desired communication between the student body and the chief administrative official of the college.

Sitting on the stage of the Owen Building and armed with a copy of the 1967-68 college budget and other materials, Dr. Bentley fielded questions from throughout the audience. He readily quoted figures to support his statements. Some of the students expressed disbelief in the accuracy of the figures.

The range of questions was wide. Many reflected an interest in the ultimate welfare of the college as well as a concern over the immediate question of dropping intercollegiate football. Some of the questions concerned legitimate problems and showed sound logic; others were unreasonable and simply emotional.

One of the first things the students wanted to know was what influenced the trustees to decide, during their May meeting, to drop football after the 1967 season.

Dr. Bentley explained that approximately \$50,000 is currently being spent on the football program and yet Mars Hill is unable to compete favorably with the various colleges on its schedule. He said information supplied to him by the Athletic Department indicates that in order for Mars Hill to compete successfully against such schools as Furman, Catawba, Western Carolina and Carson-Newman an additional \$50,000 would have to be put into the budget annually for football.

He explained that with its present income Mars Hill does not have this amount to spare. If this amount were appropriated for football, it would be at the expense of other aspects of the college program—primarily the academic program—he said.

He explained that the foremost objective of the college at present is to become accredited as a senior college and that this is requiring all the funds the college has. To take an additional \$50,000 per year from general funds for football would endanger the college's chance of becoming and remaining accredited, he said.

Faced with making a choice between the two alternatives, he recommended and the trustees agreed that football should be dropped, he stated.

One student commented that the range of social activities on campus is already too limited and that dropping football will further complicate this problem. Dr. Bentley agreed and suggested that students and the administration would need to work together in seeking a solution.

One coed asked if there were other colleges which do not spend large sums on football and which Mars Hill might play competitively with its present football budget. He replied that there are

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### Injured Pair Recovering

One of the Mars Hill students who was injured in an automobile accident two weeks ago has returned to classes, but the other remains in the hospital in Asheville.

William B. Pollard III, a junior from Black Mountain, returned to the campus Wednesday of last week and resumed classes Thursday.

His companion in the accident, Betty Henley, junior from Chapel Hill, is still in Memorial Mission Hospital in serious condition. She is slowly recovering from several broken ribs, a broken pelvis, a concussion and numerous bruises.

The two were injured when the car he was driving struck a bridge in a curve near the new four-lane highway at Weaverville. It is the same bridge at which Mars Hill student John B. Edwards was killed in November 1965.

The accident occurred on Saturday night of the homecoming weekend.

Both Pollard and Miss Henley formerly attended Montreat-Anderson College prior to transferring to Mars Hill in August. He also had attended Wofford College.