

THE BALTIMORE EXPERIENCE BY BELINDA SCALZO

For those of us who did not stay on campus for mini-mester - we had an experience that will not easily be forgotten. While most of the population of MHC was playing cards and trying to find things to do, a group of seventeen students set out on an adventure to Baltimore that, now, is still with us.

The trip started out like any other - a flat tire, two of our cars succeeding in getting stuck in mud (don't ask how!), and, as we reached our destination, the car pulling our overloaded U-Haul broke down.

We arrived tired and eager to explore our new "home" where we would live and work with seventh Baptist Church for 2½ weeks. We finally located our living accommodations and viewed them with sinking hearts. We were staying in three-story houses, which in the early 1900's was the rich section of town, built originally for one family but, now, broken up into five or six apartments.

The next couple of days were termed "orientation". We learned how to live in the city - about security measures, the language of the streets, and the attitudes of the neighborhood (which consisted of elderly people, blacks and wayward strangers)

The next two weeks were full of laughter, hard work, and having fun. We took tours of Baltimore which resulted, unintentionally, in seeing the whole city because we couldn't find our way back home!

Our work consisted of "plugging" into the church's ministries to the community. These ministries are (1) a Soup Kitchen which gives free soup and coffee to the community; (2) thrift shop which sells good clothes at inexpensive prices; (3) Day Care and Nursery School for the kids of the neighborhood; (4) St. John's breakfast for elementary school children before they went to school; (5) West 20 which is a high rise apartment complex for elderly people where we held evening worship services; (6) Rockwell Center which is a halfway house for mentally - out patients; (7) Luncheon for the elderly; (8) and work projects which consisted of renovating the house we lived in, (which the church had just bought), since they were publicly condemned!

Our intentions of going to Baltimore were, primarily, that each of us wanted to share and give away the love of Christ in us to others. We loved the people that we met and made many close friends. It was a joy and a blessing to be working for the Lord and to be placed in a new situation where we relied on Him and on each other. We all came back to Mars Hill with a new outlook on life, about each other, and a fresh feeling of strength in our faith.

And for those who complain about mini-mester - try something like the Baltimore Experience, I guarantee you'll be everything but bored!

BABELAY LEADS N. C. MUSIC CLINICS

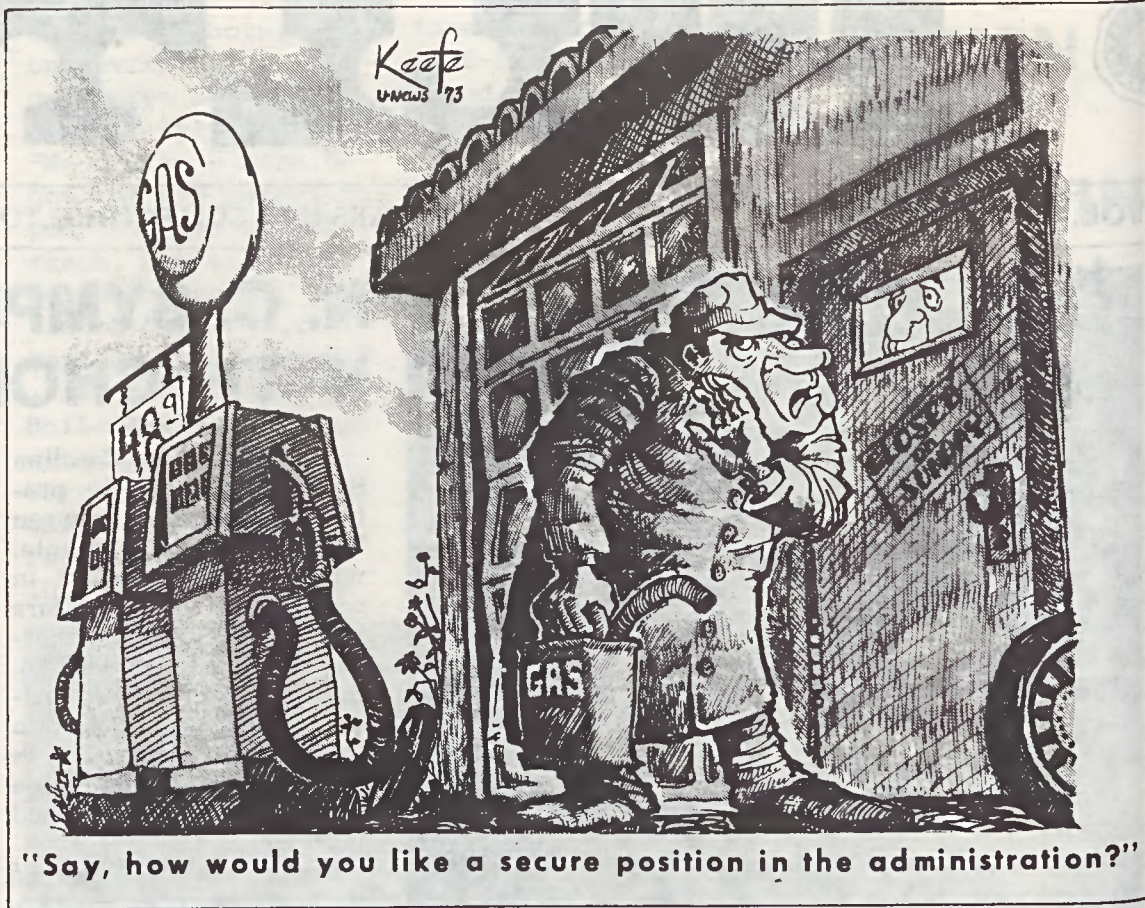
Ray Babelay, music instructor and director of the Mars Hill College Band, will be featured this spring across the state of North Carolina as guest conductor and adjudicator for several high school band clinics and contests. He has already conducted All-State Band Clinics at Kannapolis and Boone and, in the next few days, conduct an All-County Band Clinic in Lincolnton.



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The HILLTOP is published on a fortnightly basis by the students at Mars Hill College. Mailing address is Box 1148-C Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754. Rates for subscription are calculated at \$2.00 per year and advertising rates at \$1.50 per column inch.



LION CAGERS NEAR END OF SEASON, MAYBE

by Eric Garner

Three weeks ago the Lions came off a 9 game road trip which left their overall season record at 11-10. In the Carolinas Conference and District VI races, that record would probably have led most people to believe that this would be a short season and a short tournament for the Lions.

That record must not have phased the Lion coaches or cagers because since that time, their record has boasted to 17-12, third place in the Carolinas Conference and fourth in the District. Coach Jack Lytton has stated several reasons for the big turn around in the Lions season. "We have had more games at home and we have a home court advantage plus we are not tired from road trip excursions."

Possibly a very underrated reason why the Lion team has picked up it's winning percentage is the strength that has come from the bench. In two games most recently was the play of Junior guard

Derek Thomas who gave a spark in the game against Presbyterian and the inspiring play of Senior Bruce Murray in the victory over UNC-A. No one can measure the importance of the limited time these two guards played with key baskets, steals, assists, and rebounds.

Another reason that Coach Lytton feels the season has turned around is the ballance of scoring among the starters. "All five starters are capable of scoring 20 points or more per game" Lytton said. Bridges, Hayes, Ward, Earwood, and Graves have each had games this year with 20 points or better.

To make it into the

District VI tournament, we must beat either Wofford here or South Carolina State there. Since this article was written before the Wofford game it may be now that we will be in that tournament. In order to go to the NAIA finals you must win the district. If Mars Hill can make it to the District, we may have an extended season and a trip to Kansas City and the NAIA tournament.



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