



THE MARS HILL COLLEGE

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MARS HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1976

Largest Class To Graduate

Mars Hill College will graduate its largest class in the Baptist - related school's 120 - year history. The class of 1976 will receive degrees and diplomas during the college's commencement exercises Sunday, May 16.

Between 310 and 317 students are expected to meet graduation requirements, according to registrar Robert Chapman. The largest previous class was 1974, when 296 students were graduated.

The formal graduation exercises are slated for 3 p.m. in Moore Auditorium, with an organ recital scheduled for 30 minutes beforehand.

Baccalaureate services for the gradu-

ates and their families will also be held in the 1800 seat auditorium at 10:45 a.m. with the congregation of the Mars Hill Baptist Church. The Honorable Jo Graham Foster of Charlotte, a member of the North Carolina General Assembly, will deliver the address. Mrs. Foster is a member of the House of Representatives and serves on the powerful joint sub-appropriations committee as well as seven other important legislative committees.

The address by Mrs. Foster will mark the first time a woman has been invited to deliver the principle commencement address at Mars Hill. Her

address is entitled "Upon What Do You Base Your Values?" A native of South Carolina and the daughter of a Methodist minister, Mrs. Foster is a graduate of Columbia College, Columbia, S. C. She taught school in Sumter, S. C., Ft. Meade, Md., and at Thomasboro High School. She has served as assistant principal at West Mecklenburg High School and currently is an assistant in the Department of Management for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system.

She has served as president and also secretary of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg unit of the N. C. Educators Association.

She is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary teachers' society.

Mrs. Foster is active in the Dilworth Methodist Church, where she serves on the board of stewards, is a lay speaker, and teaches an adult Sunday School class. During the 1972 F.H.A. convention, Mrs. Foster was cited as one of the three most outstanding educators in North Carolina.

Saturday, May 15, will be Alumni Day with several hundred former students expected for a full agenda of events. The Alumni Association, which lists 18,000 members, will hold its annual business session at 3:30 p.m.



MRS. FOSTER
Commencement Speaker

in Belk Auditorium. Immediately following the business session class reunions will be held in Wren College Union. Those holding 5th-year get-togethers are the classes of 1911, 1916, etc.

The annual alumni banquet is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the college cafeteria. It will be the occasion for honoring outstanding alumni and making 25-year service awards to mem-

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College Costs Increase

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, acting on the recommendation of the sub-committees of the board, has approved the charges for the 1976-77 college year. (See Chart)

Even with these increases, Mars Hill College will remain one of the least expensive private colleges in this and surrounding states.

The cause of these increases are attributed to:

1) Cost of electricity has increased 100% in two years. The electric bill for the college next year is anticipated to be \$111,000 compared to \$75,000 this year and \$50,000 the year before.

2) Other utilities have exceeded the

budget by \$30,000 this year.

3) Telephone costs for basic service (excluding long-distance) has increased from \$24,000 to \$32,000 in 1975-76 and will carry over to 1976-77.

4) College insurance has increased by \$3,000 for 1976-77.

5) Social Security increases have cost the college \$4,000.

6) Though cost of living for faculty and staff rose by 12 per cent in 1975-76 and 9 per cent in 1976-77, the college was able to grant 5 per cent salary increases plus fringe benefits in each of these years. Even so the total costs of these increases amounted to \$180,000 for 1976-77.

7) The food cost incurred by Epicure have caused them to increase their annual costs by \$30 which is an actual increase of 4½ cents per meal.

8) Other supplies have increased by an average of 20 per cent.

9) Increases in fees by \$10. The money generated by this increase (result of student entertainment (concerts, dances, movies, etc.)

The net effect of expense increases means that the total college operating budget has increased from \$4,909,417 in 1975-76 to \$5,257,980 in 1976-77. Of the \$348,563 difference the student source of income will account for \$322,000 and the

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Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Six COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

MARS HILL COLLEGE

Friday, May The Fourteenth

4:00 P.M. Art Exhibit Opens, Fine Arts Building

Saturday, May The Fifteenth

10:00 A.M. Meeting of the Board of Trustees

12:00 Noon Joint Luncheon Meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Advisors

3:30 P.M. Business Meeting of the Alumni Association
Belk Auditorium, Wren College Union

4:00 P.M. Class Reunions -- 1911, 1916, 1921, 1926, 1931,
1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971

5:30 P.M. Alumni Banquet

8:00 P.M. Alumni Pops Concert
The Department of Music
Moore Auditorium

Sunday, May The Sixteenth

11:00 A.M. Baccalaureate Service, Moore Auditorium
Speaker:
Honorable Jo Graham Foster
North Carolina House of Representatives
Raleigh, North Carolina

2:30 P.M. Organ Recital, Moore Auditorium

3:00 P.M. Graduation Exercises, Moore Auditorium