

The Hilltop



Mars Hill, N.C., 28754

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The Inside Story

Your Money's Worth? From his own research, Michael Johnston explores how and where student fees are used. (Page Six)

Newspaper Serial-With an idea borrowed from the *San Francisco Chronicle* the *Hilltop* presents a new feature, "Pauline Pratt, Pauline Pratt". (Page Eight)

Passages- A book about human life cycles is reviewed by Joy Bridges. (Page Twelve)

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Boxes to unpack, clothes to hang, and posters to paste on walls were just some of the "fun" things awaiting eager freshmen during opening days of orientation.

\$2 Million HEW Grant Largest in MHC History

Perhaps the highlight of the summer season for Mars Hill was the reception of the largest grant in MHC's 120-year history. Congressman Roy A. Taylor of North Carolina's 11th district made the announcement in late May that Mars Hill College had been awarded \$2 million from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The award was made by HEW under Title III of the higher Education Act of 1965 through the Advanced Institutional Development Program (AIDP) and will help finance a five-year plan designed to help the school reach its full potential as a model senior college. The plan, which will emphasize ten major components closely related to the school's competence-based curriculum, involves the appointment of 16 persons to newly-created positions.

Dr. William P. Walker of Marion, who has been chairman of the Department of

Physical Education since 1966, was named director and coordinator of the AIDP project at the time the grant was received. He serves directly under the academic vice-president to relate the new project to on-going programs at the college.

Further development of the college's still new Learning Center will be made possible by the AIDP grant. Richard Getty has been named director of the Center, which consists of special laboratories for development of reading, writing, and math skills. He comes from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he directed special curriculum development similar to that at Mars Hill.

Mrs. Susan Kiser, a native of Burnsville and a former member of the college faculty who taught school at Madison High School, will return to the college staff to direct the math lab. Mrs. See *MENTORS*, page 9

Mentors Ease Transition

With boxes, luggage, and clothes piled high in dorm rooms waiting to be unpacked, incoming freshmen rushed off to meet their mentor teams Friday afternoon of Orientation Week. Even parents got into the act by accompanying their kids to the first session with the mentor group. Concurrently bombarded by questions that ranged from social to academic in nature, parents as well as students quickly became "oriented" to Mars Hill College. Long after the parents had gone, however, students found themselves involved in orientation seminars with their respective mentor teams. The orientation process proved to be quite a lengthy yet a complete one in that freshmen found adjustment to the first few days of school easier and less confusing with the help of their faculty and student mentors.

Saturday morning was spent with a series of placement tests which served as the young Lions first taste of academic life at Mars Hill. However, the freshmen recuperated from Saturday morning's ordeal with the help of a social activity with their mentor group Sunday afternoon. From watermelon, ice cream, and taco "parties" to campus hikes and town tours, the "mentees" relaxed and began to feel "right at home."

Monday brought more mentor meetings which tried to clear away the cobwebs about a competency-based curriculum for those unfamiliar with the program. Registration began later that afternoon for most freshmen, and continued on in- See *GRANT*, page 9