

# The Hilltop



Mars Hill, N.C. 28754

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## M.H.C. Receives \$2 Million Bequest

Mars Hill College will receive approximately \$2 million in a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Burette Myers of Statesville, who died December 12, according to an announcement this week by Dr. Fred B. Bentley, president of the college. It will be the largest bequest in the 123-year history of the Baptist college.

A preliminary estimate values the total bequest at 2.5 million. Included are Myers Oil Company, an Amoco dealership in Statesville, other business interests; as well as real estate and securities.

Under the terms of Mrs. Myers' will, the oil company is to be sold; and the college is to receive a share of the entire estate to be put in a trust, which will be administered by the First National Bank of Statesville. Income from the trust, which is conservatively estimated at \$140,000 per year, will be paid to

the college.

"This money," explains Dr. Bentley, "will go into the unrestricted endowment of the college."

Mrs. Myers, an alumna of Mars Hill, suffered an apparent heart attack on December 12 and was dead on arrival at Iredell Memorial Hospital. She was 79.

Her bequest to the college grew out of a long and close friendship between Mrs. Myers and her late husband and Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, president emeritus of Mars Hill. Dr. Blackwell and Mr. Myers were friends and classmates at the college during the school years of 1919-1922.

Mr. Myers founded the oil company soon after completing his studies at Mars Hill. He married Elizabeth Austin, also of Statesville and also a former student at the college. They labored together and became success-

ful business and community leaders in Statesville.

In 1945 Mr. Myers was appointed to the Board of Trustees at the college. By that time Dr. Blackwell had become president. He talked with Mr. and Mrs. Myers and reached a verbal understanding with them that the college would benefit from their accumulation of wealth and property. The Myers had no children.

In November of 1949 Mr. Myers was fatally injured in an automobile accident. Mrs. Myers was appointed to fill his unexpired term of the Board of Trustees. She became president of the oil company and continued actively in the management of the business. She was later appointed to full terms as a trustee before officially retiring from the board in 1974. A large men's residence hall built in 1956 was named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Myers and was dedicated during the college's centennial celebration.

Soon after her husband's death Mrs. Myers formalized the understanding which she and her husband had reached with Dr. Blackwell. She had a will drawn in which the college was named as her major beneficiary. In April 1977 she re-wrote the will, reaffirming her commitment to Mars Hill.

"Mrs. Myers was a wonderful woman and an interesting person with whom to work on the Board of Trustees," recalls Dr. Bentley. "Her business judgment was exceptionally keen. She and her husband were staunch in their friendship with Dr. Blackwell and generous in their loyalty to the college. It is extremely encouraging to me to know that their commitment to Christian higher education will continue to be felt through this generous bequest."

## T 4-Greg Plemmons — Extra Special



A young man who came our way, stayed awhile, and moved on, left many memories that only a gentlemen can leave.

A neat, kind, honest, respectful, athlete who hardly ever missed a class, who always had his assignments, and who never asked for special favors won admiration as A after A was recorded on his permanent record.

A believer who made his way to the church regularly on Sunday mornings an example that friends and peers might look up to and wish to follow.

A team man with a determination to carry his load in the game and in life. Those who knew him may wish to say, "Greg, I'm a stronger person because of you, and your influence will linger on both on and off the field."

## WANTED: NOT DEAD, BUT ALIVE

WE ARE LOOKING FOR  
Persons with the time,  
..... with the energy,  
..... with the ability and desire to have an  
impact on Mars Hill College.

With graduation approaching, positions will be coming available on the Residence Hall Staff. This means that the search is on for "new blood" for RA and RD spots. Believing that the Residence Hall Program is vital to the present operation and future development of the Mars Hill College community, interested students are encouraged to apply for a staff position. This is an opportunity to be innovative in a leadership role, involved with individual and group concerns, and actively striving toward personal, social, educational, and cultural values for a specific residence hall. That may sound dry to you. Actually, living and working in the residence hall is some philosophy, but

much more action! Responsibilities range from being a handy man/woman, to an advisor, to an activities programmer. In any of these roles, the major objective of the RA/RD is to make the hall living experience worthwhile for all residents. If the job is done properly, the residence hall becomes more than just a place to sleep.

The Resident Director and Resident Assistant are special people doing work that demands special attention. Rewards are both intrinsic and extrinsic. Although staff members receive a check each month, the real payment comes from the satisfaction of running an exciting building.

If you are interested in more details, feel free to talk with your RD. Beginning February 19th, the Housing Office will have applications available for all interested students. Come by the Housing Office because we want you "NOT DEAD, BUT ALIVE."

### S.G.A. SCHEDULE OF ELECTION

February 26 - March 2 — Petitions to obtain signatures for S.G.A. offices\*  
March 5 - March 9 — Campaign week for S.G.A. offices  
March 13 — Election Day  
March 12 - March 16 — Petitions to obtain signatures for class officers and campaign for office desired

\* For the offices of President of the S.G.A., Vice-President of the S.G.A., Secretary of

the S.G.A., Treasurer of the S.G.A., and Chief Justice of the S.G.A.

\*\*President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, plus Senators-at-Large from individual classes.

Petitions for all elected offices require at least two hundred signatures. If anyone has questions regarding procedures for the elections, contact Richard Heaton at the S.G.A. office (tel. 254).