

The Hilltop



Mars Hill, N. C. 28754

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Bascom Lamar Lunsford Festival and Homecoming Oct. 5-6

Do you have problems when you strain your cider or when you cook your lye? Or perhaps your troubles start when you split your shingles or hook your rugs. Well, whatever problem you may have with domestic mountain living you can be certain that Essie Hicks, Bunny Halton, Bashi King, or Stanley Shelton will do their best to assist you. These folks are just a few of those who will be on our campus October 5th, 6th, and 7th, during Bascom Lamar Lunsford's Eleventh Annual Minstrel of the Appalachias Mountain Music and Dance Festival.

The Festival was started in 1968 by Bascom Lamar Lunsford and Mars Hill pharmacist Ed Howard. The festival seeks to highlight mountain music, dance, and rural domestic traditions. Held each year on the first weekend in October, this "celebration of rural life" attracts hundreds of people to our campus. There will be approx. 22 (twenty-two) blue grass bands, 12 clog and smooth step dance teams,

and nearly forty-five individual craftsmen and women to take part in the celebration. The celebration begins Thursday night when Moore Auditorium will host mountain dancing. Both smooth dancing and mountain clog dancing will be featured along with a few "Buck" dancers. On Friday dance team competitions will be held. There will also be several collegiate musicians on hand to enhance the competitive spirit. Saturday is always the biggest day of the festival. The day begins with whittlers, spinners, quiltmakers, weavers, churners, woodworkers, apple-cider makers, apple butter makers, lye soap makers, shingle splitters, broom makers, chair caners, (note: not cainers) sheep woolers, log nochers, pillow makers, and rug-hookers setting up shop on the lawn directly in front of the Country Boutique. This provides ample opportunity for all area residents and Mars Hill College Students to actually observe native

mountain people performing traditions of Appalachia.

Bascom Lamar Lunsford dedicated himself to the glorification of mountain lore and this festival held in his honor is also dedicated to procuring respect for the traditions of yesteryear. What was once thought of as an unsophisticated, backwards lifestyle has proven to be an invaluable asset to Mars Hill College and to all America. Appalachian dances, folk lore, ballads, and customs are an integral part of our heritage and deserve to be celebrated.

Saturday will also be the day former students of the college return and celebrate Homecoming with a full slate of activities. Registration will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the first floor lobby of Blackwell Hall, and class reunions will start at 10 a.m. From 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., a Homecoming buffet will be available in Coyte Bridges Dining Hall, and at 12 noon, a special luncheon will be featured for the 50th anniversary class,

1929, and the Golden Years classes — all classes from 1900 through 1928 — will be held in the Blue Room of Bridges cafeteria. A Luncheon honoring the Alumnus and Alumna of the Year will also be held at 12 noon, in the Gold Room of the cafeteria.

The traditional Homecoming parade will begin winding its way to the athletic field at 1:15 p.m. and the football game between Mars Hill and Guilford will start at 2:30 p.m. An alumni dinner will be held in the gymnasium at 5:15 p.m. and the day's activities will wind up with a Theatre Arts and Dramateers alumna celebration in Owen Theatre at 8 p.m.

Additional information concerning the festival is available from Dr. Harold Herzog, chairman of the Lunsford Festival committee, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754, telephone 689-1332; and information concerning Alumni Day activities is available from the Alumni Office, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N.C. 28754, telephone 689-1102.

Community Meeting

On Sept. 12, a College Community Meeting was held in Moore Auditorium. The meeting was opened by a slide presentation given by Dennis Hill, Anne Davidson, the CSM Choir and Tim Taylor. A Community Hymn followed and then Dr. Richard L. Hoffman spoke about renewal, welcomed new students and faculty members, gave the upcoming calendar of events and introduced the meeting's speaker, Dr. Fred B. Bentley - the President of Mars Hill College.

Dr. Bentley's topic of discussion was "Faith and Our Future." He gave a short history of the school and then continued his speech. Early in the context of his speech he gave a statement to all prospective students - "Mars Hill will help you on the way to true success, and if you are willing to do right and want to make the most of your time: in a word, if you make something of yourself worthwhile, you will never regret coming to us. But if you have time, character, and money to waste, Mars Hill is no place for you."

He then proceeded to relay to the audience the guiding principles of the Mars Hill College Community. They are: 1) Commitment to the integration of the Christian faith and learning, 2) Commitment to the people of this region, 3) Commitment of teachers to their high calling, 4) Commitment of students to personal and community development, 5) Commitment to a broader world view, and 6) Commitment to scholarship.

Dr. Bentley explained his view about the college community's commitment to a broader world view. He said that we would need to pay close attention to the third world countries because we will probably have to deal with them within our lifetimes. He also discussed the need to "bridge the gap between the Appalachian Region and the Third World." Here, he told the audience his plans for starting a third world research center at Mars Hill College which would be made up of students and faculty alike.

Later at the rap session at Peterson Conference Center in Blackwell Hall, Bentley got the chance to still expatiate more on these ideas. "We are giving too much concern to the Appalachian Region," he stated.

He then went on to explain the benefits of a Third World Research Center at Mars Hill. Dr. Bentley felt that the college should advocate year long internships for students to explore the cultures of foreign countries. He saw two distinct advantages to these internships -

1) A chance for the student to get exposure to and first hand experience with another culture and 2) Upon the students return, he would enrich the entire college community to the foreign culture. Programs are currently being organized to get this "third world center" started.

Future community meetings will be: Oct. 17, with guest speaker Dr. John Claypool; and Nov. 14, with guest speaker, Grady Nutt.

Learning Institute

MARS HILL - A wide variety of educational experiences awaits persons 50 years of age or over attending the Learning Institute for Elders (LIFE) at Mars Hill College during the fall season, Program Coordinator Raymond C. Rapp has announced.

The first term classes will be held on Tuesdays from Sept. 25 to Oct. 30, with the second term Nov. 6 through Dec. 11, also on Tuesdays.

"These classes provide a sharing experience, with each student also a teacher in that he will contribute his own learning to the classes." Rapp said.

The classes, he said, are for persons seeking new outlets for their skills and interests and who are willing to share their knowledge and experiences with their peers.

The program, he continued, features non-credit courses, field trips, theater tours, exercise classes, "rap sessions" with students and faculty, free access to the college library, special collections, swimming pool, and other facilities at the college.

The LIFE courses are held during the mornings and early afternoons of Tuesdays. There are no exams, no grades, and no required homework, and the setting is strictly informal.

Courses scheduled for the first term are:

—"The Fine Art of Effective Communication," instructor, Mrs. Elizabeth Watson, formerly of the English Department, 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.; class designed to instruct and challenge in principles

and practices of effective communication. —"Writing Your Autobiography," Pauline Cheek, adjunct faculty member, instructor; 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; creative writing training, and review of value of memoirs and autobiographies.

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Senate Meets

The Senate convened for the first time this year on Wednesday Sept. 12, 1979. Two important topics started the meeting; the McConnell Gym and the Bahamas cruise for Spring Break.

The McConnell Gym Project is a renovation of the whole gym area. It will be used for concerts, dances and all student activities. It is a campus-wide project, and the committee heading it up is composed of members from the SGA, CSM and Student Activities. If you would like to donate some time for painting and other odd jobs, we would love to have you. We will keep you posted when we have work days.

The Bahamas Cruise is going well, but a few problems have developed. Other cruises are being looked into, just in case something happens, but hopefully it won't.

The Senate Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights in Belk Auditorium, and are subject to change. Please feel free to join us, and let your senators know any ideas that you may have.