



# THE HILLTOP

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Serving the Mars Hill College Community Since 1926

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## Mars Hill Becomes Active in North Carolina FICUS

By Linda Judge

The North Carolina Federation of Independent College and University Students (FICUS) is quickly becoming an important means for increasing the productivity of student government at independent schools. FICUS is a body of independent government representatives from independent colleges and universities across the state.

These schools include Duke University, Meredith College, Belmont Abbey, Catawba College, Lenoir-Rhyne College, Sacred Heart College and Mars Hill College.

Mars Hill sophomore David Wachter, attorney general for the Student Government Association, recently attended a meeting of FICUS on Feb. 11 and 12 at Greensboro College. David was

one of 12 representatives at the conference.

FICUS is concerned primarily with issues that directly affect students. One of the main issues at the conference was the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Aid Grant. At the present time students who attend private institutions of higher learning may receive \$650.00 toward payment of their tuition. The state legislature is not planning to increase this amount; however, FICUS passed a resolution asking the legislature to increase the tuition aid grant to combat budget increases at private schools.

Several other issues were discussed at the conference. The controversial matter of raising the drinking age to 21 is a concern of many college students, and FICUS passed a resolution supporting

the current drinking age. Since college students of age 18 are allowed to vote and some students under 21 who work in establishments which serve alcohol would lose their jobs, FICUS decided as a body that the age should not be raised past 19. They focused on other issues including visitation policies and alcohol policies.

According to Wachter, FICUS is a good organization and Mars Hill needs to be more involved in it since it deals only with those state and national issues which pertain to college students.

FICUS has established a treasury which will insure its existence. Its permanent offices are located in Raleigh. It works along with the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

## news briefs

### COLORADO BACKPACKING EXPERIENCE

The Colorado Outward Bound School has announced that courses are open for the spring and summertime. When you enroll for a standard course, you will share your 23 day backpacking experience with eight to ten other students learning the skills necessary to safely and comfortably enjoy the backcountry wilderness areas.

There are two 10-day coed backpacking courses offered in April and May in the Canyonlands area as well. Send for a free catalog from the Colorado Outward Bound School, 945 Pennsylvania, Dept. P-83, Denver, CO 80203, (303) 837-0880. Financial aid is available.

### ESCORT SERVICE ESTABLISHED

The SGA Senate is sponsoring an escort service for ladies wishing to be escorted across campus between the hours of five and 11 p.m.

The service will begin March 7 for girls who don't want to walk across campus alone. You may obtain a male escort by calling the information desk in the union (#135).

Other campus organizations are encouraged to join in on this project. You may do so by calling Danny Garrett at the student union desk.

## Brass Clinic To Be Held

A clinic for brass musicians, featuring E. Garvin of Hendersonville, will be held Saturday, March 5, sponsored by the college's Department of Music and Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity.

and renewal credit is available for those participating.

Following a luncheon break, a master class will be held in which students may perform a solo or etude for critique and comment by Garvin in three categories: high school students, honors band candidates, and college students. Later in the afternoon, there will be a massed brass ensemble practice; and at 5 p.m. the college's brass groups will perform in a concert open to the public as well as clinic participants.

In addition to the clinic activities, Dunham's Music House will provide a display of brass instruments in the lobby of Moore Auditorium during the day.

Cost for the clinic is \$2 for those who register before March 5, and \$3 on the day of the clinic. Directors who are accompanied by five students will be admitted free. Further information is available from A. C. Himes, assistant professor of music.

The clinic's activities will begin with a 9 a.m. registration in the lobby of Moore Auditorium, where all of the instruments will be held. The first class will be held with Garvin as the band director, with Garvin discussing his approach to and philosophy of teaching. Ample time will be allowed for questions and answers.



"DELIVER!" The RC truck obviously had a mind of its own on Thursday Feb. 17, as it slipped out of gear as it was parked in front of the library and rolled down the bank. It took a 4-wheel drive pickup and a tractor to get the big truck out of its predicament and back into working order again. Not as much could be said for the telephone pole.

Photo by Steve Ferguson