



What's Happenin'

By CHRIS HARRISON and SCOTT BARRON SGA Vice-President SGA President

It is hard to believe how fast this November 12, at 7:00 pm. Be there is always something else to do. Get improving our campus. thee behind me procrastination!

The Senate has also been working alot. With work yet to be done on the next OPEN FORUM, Spring Formal, improving the campus, and much more, there is no time to rest. The next OPEN FORUM will be held in order to discuss the physical condition of the campus: dorms, classrooms, grounds, etc. We do want to emphasize that OPEN FORUM is not a gripe session! The last Forum ended up being a time where students complained about assorted things they disliked, but the grievances made known were for the most part irrelevant to the subject at hand. S.G.A. created OPEN FORUM to be an opportunity for students and faculty to constructively work together on making Mars Hill College a better place. Please keep this in mind at the next Forum. OPEN FORUM will convene on Monday, and enjoy fellowship together!

semester has gone thus far. There so that we can all work together in

We also want to encourage students to take advantage of the opportunities available here on campus. It is easy for students to ourselves to be, and scientifically be appathetic toward what is happening. Many, many times there have been programs planned either by the Residential Living Staff, S.G.A., the Union, or other organizations, and students have not attended for one reason or another. Ironically, many students complain that there is nothing to do on campus. These programs are planned for you as students and are for you to enjoy. Please use these opportunities for your benefit. If there is something that you would like to see done or perhaps changed let us know! Only then can anything be done about it. Take pride in yourselves and in this college in order that we might work together in making Mars Hill the place to be to learn, have fun,

U.S. Department of Transportation Ad

ith me.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS FROM FRIENDS TO FRIENDS. I'm perfectly fine. I can drive with my eyes closed. There's nothing wrong with me. Are you joking-I feel great. What am I-a wimp? I'm in great shape to drive. You're not serious are you? What's a couple of beers? Nobody drives my car but me. I've never felt better. I can drink with the best of them. But I only had



clouds hang low, the tops of distant mountains swathed, as it were, in gauze. The few remaining leaves on the trees, wet and heavy from last night's rain, give the landscape the appearance of old, worn-out tapestry. The morning air is still and quiet. No sound of bird or of insect breaks the stillness. It is a time for turning inward for reflection.

Sophisticated though we think advanced, we fall, nonetheless, under the spell of nature, especially at the changing of the seasons. We intuit some mystery beyond our empirical knowledge of equinoxes, lunar phases, and planetary rhythms, something Goethe called "the weird portentous." Walt Whitman captured the spirit well in his poem, "When I Heard The Learn'd Astronomer'':

When I sitting heard the astronomer where he lectured with much applause in the lecture room, How soon unaccountable I became tired and sick, Till rising and gliding out I wandered off by myself, In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time, Looked up in perfect silence at the stars.

Human beings have stood in awe of nature for a long time. So wonderful did the world seem to be that many primitive societies worshipped the sun or stars or other natural phenomena, attributing them to divinity. The American Indians on our own continent did not worship nature as such, but held it in great respect and honor. Sitting Bull, renowned Sioux warrior, was described by his biographer as hav-

The Whole World: Whose Hands In

By REV. MARIE BEAN Contributing Editorialist

ing "a love wholly mystical" for his native soil. "he use to say (that) healthy feet can hear the very heart of Holy Earth....Up always before dawn, he liked to in the morning dew."

The ancient Israelites, living among people who worshipped many nature-gods and goddesses, recognized (though not always perfectly or faithfully) the distinction between Creator and creation. In one of the earliest documents of the Bible (Judges 5), Deborah sings a song in praise of Yahweh's intervention on behalf of his people. When he appears, the earth trembles, the mountains quake. But he is not the mountain or the earth.

The Psalmist might praise the Lord as "a sun and shield," but there was no confusion in his mind regarding the object of his devotion. The Lord God, Wholly Other, was the maker of heaven and earth, the One who set the sun in the heavens. In fact, declared the author of Genesis 1 and 2, and God, whom the Hebrews worshipped, created everything.

And he took pleasure in his creation, as a gardener delights in her garden, or a craftsman, in his artistry. The name of the garden in which he placed the first man and woman comes from a word which means "delight." Furthermore, when he instructed the man regarding its care, the words used suggest tender, loving care. The word translated "to till" is actually literally "to serve"; and "to keep" is literally "to guard," "to protect." There is nothing in them granting license to exploit, to plunder, or to ravage.

Today humankind has the knowledge and the power to destroy God's creation at the mere push of a button. And not only that, but considers the possibility

were our prerogative to return the earth to chaos.

Where did we get the idea that the earth belonged to us to do with as we choose, and if the business of bathe his bare feet, walking about living and, especially, of waging war, involved destruction, well, that was just the nature of things. According to God's own word, that is not the case. Even in waging war, he declared, an ethic of conservation should prevail. Listen: "When you besiege a city for a long time, making war against it in order to take it, you shall not destroy its trees by wielding an axe against them; for you may eat of them, but you shall not cut them down. Are the trees in the field men that they should be besieged by you? Only the trees which you know are not trees for food you may destroy and cut down that you may build siegeworks against the city that makes war with you, until

it falls" (Deut. 20:19-20). Paul, in his monumental theological work, the letter to the Christians at Rome, sets forth what we might call an "ecology of redemption." He writes:

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God (Romans 8:19-21).

In his award-winning book, The Lives of A Cell, Lewis Thomas declares that it is an illusion for human beings to think they have invented an existence above the rest of life. "Man," he writes, "is and tingles with the embedded in nature," Created winter's magic. Soor peration from the dust of the earth, the Bi- will fall. The snor IH-FM, ble says, and to dust we shall down. And again, as dio st return. We are bound in some un- it all for the very for m fathomable way to this material earth-creatures, too top 1

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DRINKING AND DRIVING CAN KILL A FRIENDSHIP

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universe we call home. Would that wonderment.



I'M SORRY. Two simple words, and yet so very hard for most of us to say. Two words which could heal and soothe, and yet so many things (pride, stubbornness, fear) prevent us from uttering them. Elton John knew what he was talking about when he wrote his song "Sorry Seems to be the Hardest Word."

Back in the mid-70's there was a blockbuster movie called "Love Story." Maybe some of you remember the classic line from that movie "Love means never having to say you're sorry." At the time it seemed like a very clever line. The more one thinks about it and experiences it, however, the more untrue the line becomes. Thus, many of us laughed a few years later when Ryan O'Neal and Barbra Streisand did a movie together (I think "What's Up, Doc?" was it's title); he sententiously spoke the

The Counselor's Corner

By MERRY BURGESS Contributing Editorialist

line "Love means never having to say you're sorry" and she replied "That's the dumbest thing I've ever heard!" You should be extra careful to admit wrong and say I'm sorry to those you love; those words should never be taken for granted.

It takes a big heart (and small ego) to be able to say I'm sorry. You have to admit to not being perfect, to having made a mistake in what you did or said. You become vulnerable, human, fallible. But making a mistake does not mean you are worthless. It is okay to be human! When you say "I'm sorry" (and mean it) you begin the process which heals wounds, restores trust and friendship, and which makes you a better person. People really do not look down on strength of character.

"Pride goeth before a fall." Ad- souls we know we are wrong. Billie

mitting we are wrong is difficult to Holiday, a black 18 when do, but necessary if we are to grow. The difficulty is our pride. the big ego. Our emotional growth is equal to how readily we accept our humanness, how able we are to ourselves and other possible be wrong. With humility comes a softness that smooths our every experience, our every relationship. Pride makes us hard, keeps others sorry," is a hard becam

away, and sets us up for a fall. Struggling with others and with ourselves takes it's toll. As we try to prove how smart and clever, and how much better than others we are (usually at the expense of others), we create irreparable rifts. When pride gets in the way, we become defensive (there's no way I'm going to admit I'm wrong!), and a friendship goes down the drain. We let pride push us into you for saying I'm sorry. Quite the behavior we are not proud of, and contrary, they will admire your then pride will not let us back down-even when deep in our

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