

OPINION

Tomorrow Can Be Ours

By DAVID WACHTER
Executive Editor

As I close out my term as editor of the Hilltop and turn over the editorship to next year's co-editors, Judy Smith and Pam Kish (soon to be Pam Brown), I would like to consider for a moment the potential for the Hilltop in the years ahead.

First, the Hilltop has the potential to be one of the primary mediums of communication on the Mars Hill campus. Virtually every student (commuter or resident) reads the Hilltop, so what better place for a club or organization to publicize its events.

What can make the Hilltop this type of paper?—Three things. First, students at Mars Hill must actively support the paper by becoming involved in writing letters to the editor. Second, campus organizations must let the Hilltop staff know about what they're up to. Third, the paper should be given the budget to allow it to become a weekly instead of a bi-weekly. With the paper as a weekly there would be no need for the announcements and many of the other newsletters done on campus by various departments and offices.

Another area of potential for the Hilltop is subscriptions to alumni. Coordinating with the alumni office, the Hilltop could be mailed to those alumni wishing to subscribe for a small fee per year. This would be in addition to the alumni quarterly that is presently mailed

to alumni.

Having the alumni receive the Hilltop would allow three things. First, the alumni would be more aware of what is happening on campus week-to-week. Second, alumni would be able to share more closely our triumphs, our defeats, our sorrows and our joys. Third, and as a direct result of points one and two, the alumni would be able to lend assistance when needed and would better understand the reasons why we need their assistance when the annual phone-a-thon rolls around.

The final area of potential for the Hilltop that I would like to consider involves not only Mars Hill College, but the town of Mars Hill itself. The town of Mars Hill is growing, and as it grows it will soon want and need its own newspaper. The Hilltop has the potential to be this paper and here follows three reasons why the Hilltop could serve both Mars Hill College and the town of Mars Hill.

First, Mars Hill College is a vital and important part of the town of Mars Hill as is the town of Mars Hill a vital and important part of Mars Hill College. With this close interdependence already established, a shared newspaper is a natural and will provide an important channel of communication between college and community. Students would be more involved in town activities, and more aware

of the town's needs and concerns. Community members, on the other hand, could take advantage of campus activities and would better understand the needs and concerns of students at Mars Hill College.

Second, one newspaper instead of a town paper and a campus paper eliminates duplication and allows the most efficient allocation of resources. The result from this is a better newspaper for all concerned.

Third, the idea of a shared newspaper is not entirely unorthodox. Chapel Hill's newspaper is also the newspaper for UNC. The Daily Tarheel is done by the university, but it is read by both students and town residents, and contains news and information for both. Sure, we cannot operate at the same level the Daily Tarheel does, but we can get some valuable insights and ideas from their example.

Anything is possible, and the Hilltop along with Mars Hill College itself has the potential for greatness. What is needed is people with foresight and the courage to try new things. Think about it, the future is tomorrow and tomorrow can be ours. All we have to do is dream, and then work to make those dreams real.

Thanks for a great three years Hilltop and Mars Hill College. You have given me valuable experience I'll never forget.

By GRAY SMITH
Contributing Editor

Is there anything good about Mars Hill College? This is a question that I have been asking myself a lot lately. Students have been haranguing me to "Write something good" about our college. Everyone has dismissed me as a kook who does nothing but complain about the school. All of this causes me to want to be only negative about our school. After all of the controversy I have been involved in during the past four years and especially this Spring semester, can I honestly write something good about Mars Hill College?

The answer is a difficult, "Yes." I can write something good about my soon-to-be alma mater because I see many good things about it. I don't want to say something good just to get the heat off my back, nor do I want to say something good in order to make folks think I am o.k. or that I am sorry for all of the criticism I have made about the place. I want to say something good about my college because I truly love her and have tried my best to serve her with all my zeal and passion. This is why I am such an outstanding critic of our school. I really do care about it and am dedicated about it although my methods of demonstrating my care are not suitable to many people. With all this in mind, I have three things about Mars Hill College that I believe are good.

First, there is our past. Our school began with a most worthy purpose in mind: To educate ministers so that they could more effectively spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our school, in the past has expanded this mission so that it includes all areas of ministry whether it be in the field of religion, science, business, theatre, teaching, physical education, etc. This college began and continued to be a place where Christians could come and receive excellent Christian training in their field. The many social and religious contributions made by our college and her students since 1856 are something about which I take much pride.

Second, there is our present. I see great potential for our school if we will tighten our grip on the social, economic, and spiritual crisis at hand in our college com-

munity, our land and our world. Many of the underclassmen show great leadership potential which can be revolutionizing and revitalizing for our institution if they will utilize their potential. Also, despite my criticism of my professors, I have yet to have a professor that I didn't learn a great deal about life, knowledge and humanity from their class and person. Believe it or not, but my professors have been my greatest inspiration and help while I am here and away from here. I talk about them constantly outside of class and while I am at home. They have challenged me to grow intellectually, personally and spiritually. I love my professors as people and respect them a great deal even if I get irritated by their views. I wouldn't trade my professors for anybody in the world. I will never forget them after I leave and I hope that someday I will be someone that they are all proud to have taught. My professors have had as great of an influence on my life as my parents. If anyone doubts this fact, they can talk to my friends, family and fiancée. So presently, I take great pride in my friends who are students here and their potential as well as the other students here who show such promise for our college's future improvement. I also take great pride in our professors who have so graciously spent many hours in prayer, class and private discussions with my good in mind. I also appreciate the many other staff members of our school who have shared so much of their lives with me. These are people who work in the bookstore, library and other campus facilities. I am proud of them as well. Without them, my stay here would be less meaningful.

Third, there is our future. Our college has great potential for having a great future. We need to plan and hope for a great college. We must turn back to our past for our values of Christian education and apply them to the twenty-first century. We cannot secularize and help educate young people to help guide the future world. Neither can we compromise Christian zeal and evangelistic emphasis for a more liberalized faith. What we must do is to develop young Christians who will delve into the Bible with a new and creative approach based on the best scholarship of all eras in the

past and of all vic present. This must disciplinary approach life and Christian capture a vision of College which sends tian graduates in the into the world to lawyers, actors, tea people, preachers, scientists, etc., then citing future in stor as Mars Hillians. ours if we are Chris me greatly and it sh entire community College. We need to for "Where there is the Lord, the peop

Many people understood my pro lege. Much of the because my passio the Lord and our s quick to anger. H people who criticize time to talk with me. Many of them for they would ra secret than to love am not a mad per devil. I am not the son here, nor am I man who has been grace of God and do and be the b wherever I am. mistakes. I have However, I do tr than a lot of peop

I shall always b Mars Hill College on May 19. I shall so. However, I will love for the colle from the college's change. Love is n according to Script ion. I have taken a ly way I know and the only manner due to the fact that the elitist students influence at our co see Mars Hill Col Christian College not be so as long faults and prais things about her. do well to learn fr 3:1-8 that life is fill and negative action in our history, it time to uproot, tim to mourn, time to search. It is not reality.

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Sincerely,
A Concerned Senior

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DRABBLE ® by Kevin Fagan



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Forum

Dear Editor,

As I look back over my four years here at Mars Hill College, I see all of the many wonderful ways in which it has affected my life. The Christian atmosphere, the challenge of the professors, and the cultural events have helped me grow as a Christian, a student, and a person. Recently, however, I was asked if there was one thing I could change at Mars Hill College what would it be? After giving this question serious thought and realizing all of the good things about Mars Hill College, I came to the conclusion that there was a part of Mars Hill College I would change. The atmosphere of the Memorial Library.

The atmosphere of the Memorial Library is atrocious. I have been in the libraries of several major and small colleges around the country and I have yet to find one with the type of social atmosphere I find within the walls of the Memorial Library. Until four

years ago I had never seen a library that came complete with a stereo system and fifty screaming students upstairs; added to a Quiet Room buzzing with the latest gossip downstairs.

The Memorial Library should be the academic center of the Mars Hill College campus where students may go to find a tranquil atmosphere in which they can enlighten their minds. It should be a refuge for those who need to write papers, do research or simply enter the world of literature. However, when one enters the Memorial Library for these purposes he begins a mad safari through a jungle of social activities in an attempt to find even one small sanctuary where he can hear himself think.

Finally, I regret to write that the Memorial Library lacks many of the volumes necessary to make it a completely useful tool to the Mars Hill student. I realize that it takes a great deal of money to stock a

large collegiant library and years of generous contributions from a number of caring alumni have made the Memorial Library useful. However, I also realize the great amount of books that are carried out by students who fail to check them out and sometimes to return them has decreased the volumes the library does have. As a result, many students have to do without books they need to further their education.

Is this the kind of academic environment we want the Memorial Library of Mars Hill College to display? I certainly hope not! We are all guilty of exploiting the potential usefulness of our library and we are all responsible to help make changes for the better. I acknowledge that my time at Mars Hill College is ending and with it my chance to make the proper effort to improve the Memorial Library. However, I regret that I never had the courage to call for any changes in the atmosphere of

the library, but I returning student the academic face will make an effort part in making Library the center Mars Hill College. Memorial Library be proud of!

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HILLTOP is the official student newspaper of Mars Hill College and is published every other Friday through the academic year from September to May except during scheduled holiday and examination periods. The HILLTOP office is located in the Publications Area of the Wren College Union. Students are encouraged to submit their opinions in the form of a letter to: Forum, P. O. Box 1148-C. All letters must be signed, and requests to withhold names will be at the discretion of the executive editor. The mailing address for the HILLTOP is P. O. Box 1148-C, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, North Carolina, 28754.

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