## FEATURES

## RETREAT

(continued from page 2)

re aware pulaski, a type of rake which rter suspend Several had never heard of, and s feel that y fold to follow their guide up the are entitled inountain.

"Some parts of the trail were communid Narrow and I was afraid I was gord the chapting to fall off the mountain," nni. In oய <sup>(Said</sup> Janine Lankford of Spruce hout thinkin Pine.

to account "At many points the branches mbership. Were at eye-level," said Tripp the letter to Green, from Greenville, S.C. "So narrow <sup>of went</sup> ahead with a hand ax and was received knocked the branches back. Ford stereotypic lunately there were not any e to apolog snakes hanging from the uish this lest bushes," he added, with more of a grimace than a grin.

n excellent Although many had concerns ald never prabout snakes, bees were the blemish main problem. Richard Hoffe or its idea man, profesor of political nnot "und Science and assistant to college owever, we president, was stung several over, we stimes. Was stung several over APO. Ledger, was chased by bees dents and one bee flew up the pants leg of llege and that this is one bee the came to attention very hat this is quickly, but handled the situae and bright ton well.

Divine intervention was frequently called for: "Lord, take me away from here!"

One young lady sat down on a rock, not caring if there were Shakes underneath or bees above, and said, "I'm not going any farther." But after a few okes, some encouraging words n Andersoft and several smiles, she conterine Manning words

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n Campbel

The last day the group worked on campgrounds, digging a new campsite and painting picnic tables. "Shoveling the rocks was not one of the easier jobs, so the guys got stuck doing that," said Phil Turner of Raleigh.

"Painting the tables was probably the easiest job I did, but it ruined my jumper," said Ronda Evans, through gritted teeth. "If it hadn't rained," said Harrel, "it wouldn't have been so bad. I had to re-paint a whole table!"

"There are several purposes for the retreat. One is that it creates a bond amoung the scholars," said Tom Plaut, professor of sociology and coordinator of the retreat.

"At the beginning the students do not know each other but by the last day they do. They have lent a helping hand to one another when it was difficult to take the next step up the mountain and seen each other at their low points," Plaut

"It also makes the freshmen

more sensitive to different people's needs. If someone thought physical labor was beneath them, their outlook has probably changed. They respect the people who do this type of work."

"It helps each person see his or her own capabilities. They do things they previously thought they couldn't. This also helps train them for the classsroom. Many courses they take will require the scholars to put forth an all-out effort, just like climbing a mental mountain," Plaut

"And it gives students the opportunity to see the beauty of the area and see the needs of the people," he said.

Many said they had never done manual labor before -- they have now. "My body felt as if I had been whipped and drug over that mounatian," Asheville's Lynn Miller.

But all the scholars had a common comment at the end of four days in the mountain wilderness: "I can't wait to get in a hot shower!"

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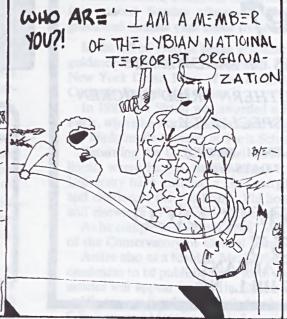




JOHN CONNIFF

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