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# THE HILLTOP

*Serving Mars Hill College*

Vol. LX, NUMBER 8

## \$25,000 RECEIVED BY MHC

## NEW TRUSTEES ANNOUNCED

MARS HILL- Mars Hill College has announced the nine appointees to its Board of Trustees Class of 1990. The Board of Trustees is the official policy-making body of the college and divides its 36 members into four "classes" of nine members each. The trustees, who serve four year terms, have to be N.C. Baptists and are chosen by the N.C. Baptist State Convention.

Three of the Class of 1990 are serving their first terms on the board. They include Justus M. Ammons of Raleigh, Robert L. Merrill, Sr. of Brevard, and Lyndall G. English of Spruce Pine.

Ammons is general contractor and land developer in Raleigh and a graduate of N.C. State University with a degree in agricultural engineering. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh where he held several positions. He is also a national director and past president of the Home Builders Association and is executive secretary of the Mid-Dixie Federation of Beagle Clubs.

Merrill is an alumnus of Mars Hill and is a masonry contractor in Brevard. He and his wife sponsor the W. Scott Merrill Scholarship in memory of their son who was a freshman at Mars Hill when he was killed in an automobile accident. He is a member of the First Baptist Church in Brevard where he is a deacon, Sunday School teacher, and a member of several committees. He is also a member of the Transylvania Shrine Club where he has served as president, the Masonic Order, Chamber of Commerce, and a 10-year member of the Transylvania Board of Education, where he has served as vice-chairman.

English is also an alumnus of Mars Hill and is owner of Mountaineer Ford Subaru in Spruce Pine as well as several other WNC Ford dealerships. He is an active member of the Grassy Creek Baptist Church where he is a deacon and has been involved in lay missions work including building mission churches in overseas sites. Ammons, Merrill, and English have all served as members of the college's Board of Advisors prior to being named trustees.

Others who have served previous terms and were named to new terms include Dr. W. Otis Duck, well known Madison County physician and former chairman of the board; Mrs. JoAnne Alexander, self employed business woman from Statesville, the first woman named chairman of the board; Rev. Ronald O. Brown, pastor of the Cumberland Baptist Church in Asheville; George M. Trout of Durham, president of Trout and Riggs Construction Co.; Robert L. Rowe, retired postmaster from Marion; and Baxter J. Kiger of Yadkinville, and executive with Haynes Knitwear Corp.

The board approves all major policy decisions, adopts the official budgets of the college, and rules on other matters of business. Authority for the day-to-day operation of the college is delegated to the president. The full board meets in regularly scheduled business meetings in December and at commencement in May.

MARS HILL - Mars Hill College has received \$25,000 from the Cannon Foundation, Inc., to complete renovations and improvements to two of the school's residence halls.

The Cannon Foundation was established by the late Charles A. Cannon, president of Cannon Mills for more than 50 years. His commitment to the people of Cabarrus County and the State of N.C. was demonstrated through his philanthropy in health, education, and religion. To ensure the continuation of this commitment, he established the foundation which has offices in Concord.

The foundation funds projects in higher education and health care primarily, as well as in other areas such as

religion, science, cultural and community service. The grants are used for capital improvements or special projects rather than operational uses.

Mars Hill will utilize the grant to complete improvements and renovations to Melrose and Brown Residence Halls. Both are two-story brick structures, built in the mid-1920s. Both were extensively refurbished in the 1950s and are structurally sound. Improvements include new plumbing, bath areas, and new metal doors for all the rooms. Both are men's residence halls with Melrose housing 84 and Brown housing 82. The major portion of the labor will be provided by the school's physical plant employees.

## SITTON IN CONCERT

Michael Sitton, a member of MHC's Class of 1980, will return to the campus for a free concert Sunday afternoon, February 15, at 3 p.m. in Spainhour. Sitton graduated *summa cum laude* from Mars Hill, with a Bachelor of Music degree.

In the fall of 1980 he began graduate study at the University of Kentucky under the guidance of pianist Nathaniel Patch. During his work there he won the 1981 Triennial New York Debut Prize of the Leschetizky Association, and presented as a result a Carnegie Recital Hall debut.

In 1982 Mr. Sitton was awarded a Harriet Hale Woolley Fellowship for study in Paris, where he worked with pianist Gaby Casadesus. Under her direction he received the Diplome de Concert at Paris Schola Cantorum in 1983.

Returning the U.S., Michael enrolled for doctoral study at the University of Illinois, where he has studied with Prof. Kenneth Drake. Academic honors at the University have included a University Fellowship awarded by the Graduate College and election to the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. He performs frequently in Illinois and elsewhere as a soloist, accompanist, and in chamber ensembles.

As he completes doctoral work, Michael is presently a member of the piano faculty of the Conservatory of Central Illinois in Champaign.

Active also as a scholar, Mr. Sitton is the author of an article on Mozart's original candenzas to be published in a forth coming issue of *The Piano Quarterly*, and other articles will appear in 1987 in *Clavier* and *The American Music Teacher*.

His concert Sunday will include selections from J. S. Bach, Frederic Chopin, Franz Schubert, and Maurice Ravel. A reception will be held in Edna Moore Parlor following the recital.