

HILLTOP

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Big Brothers / Big Sisters: Giving Love

by Lisa Childers
Staff Writer

...re all responsible for giving a
...of the love we've received back
...community; this is a great way
...said Jon Diego one of the two
...sors of a new program for
...Hill College students.

...Diego and Lisa Rhodes are two
...ts who have taken their service
...community seriously. Together
...have begun Mars Hill College's
...rother/Big Sister program, and
...helped other students to get in-
...ed in the community in this uni-
...d way.

...purpose of the program, Lisa
...to promote positive relation-
... between the college and com-
... and to help children by "plan-
... some seeds" within them—to en-
... ge them to believe in
... selves.

...Jon, one of the most important
... of the program is to "give the
... someone to look up to."

...the fall semester of 1986,
...and Diego have devoted a great
... of time to organizing and direc-
... this service to families in the
... community. They first considered the
... ability of having a Big Brother/Big
... program when discussing with
... ideas for service projects.

...Plaut lined them up with a
... man in the Ivy Ridge (govern-
...-subsidized) housing project who
... interested in seeing something
... for the children of the

neighborhood. Once a contact was
... established in the area, the program
... was practically off the ground.

"At first, people were a little ap-
...rehensive," said Diego, referring to
... the hours he and Lisa spent knocking
... on doors to find out which families
... would be interested in their son or
... daughter having an "adopted" big
... brother or sister. "Now they're really
... cool about it."

"We've gotten nothing but positive
... feedback from the parents," said
... Lisa.

As coordinators, Diego and Lisa
... are responsible for every aspect of
... the program. This includes meeting
... families who have expressed interest,
... talking with students who would like
... to be big brothers or sisters, pairing
... up the college students with the
... children, and overseeing group ac-
... tivities. To insure that operations are
... flowing smoothly, Lisa and Diego
... periodically check with parents,
... children, and students, keeping up
... good lines of communication between
... all involved.

What exactly does a big brother or
... big sister do? They commit them-
... selves to spending at least one hour a
... week with their little sibling. Special
... outings, helping with homework, or
... just going to visit are good ways to
... spend that time together. Big
... brothers/sisters are encourage to
... utilize the facilities and opportunities
... on campus, such as basketball games,
... tennis courts, Timberline entertain-
... ment, and special concerts. Off-
... campus activities like going out to din-

ner or making a trip to the circus also
... work well.

"The best thing to do is just spend
... time with them," said Jon. "It isn't so
... much the money involved, but the
... time."

Most of the fourteen children cur-
... rently involved in the program come
... from low-income, single-parent
... homes. The opportunities that are
... opened to them and the positive in-
... fluences they find in an older
... "young" person can and do make
... some dramatic differences in
... children's lives.

Qualifications for prospective big
... brothers and sisters are few but vital.
... The student must be committed and
... responsible. A job such as this re-
... quires one to be dependable.

"They need to be organized and
... have their priorities in order," stated
... Jon. "If they're interested in serving
... the community and showing some
... love, it's well worth their time."

Lisa stressed the importance of
... dedication as well. "If you have an in-
... terest, make sure it's something
... you're going to go through with. It is
... excruciatingly painful to the kids
... when there's no consistency. You're
... talking about little kids' lives here,"
... she said.

Other characteristics of big
... brothers and sisters should be a deep
... sense of caring and patience. It would
... be helpful if the student had some
... type of transportation, though it is not
... mandatory. Other than that, students
... should simply remember that they are
... role models.

"It's good for the students and the
... kids," Lisa said.

Lisa and Jon agreed that there was
... a real need for more students to
... volunteer their time.

"We need guys desperately," Lisa
... said. "But with the constant moving
... of people in and out of Ivy Ridge,
... we're always needing more volun-
... teers, both male and female."

Favorite moments for Lisa are
... when she sees positive results in the
... children she works with.

"They start running to you with
... report cards, and they see possi-
... bilities of fulfilling their own goals
... and dreams in life. When you hear
... kids from this kind of background say-
... ing 'I think I want to go to college,' it
... really means something to you."

"One little girl that is about five
... years old—just a little tyke—went
... with us when we all went bowling.
... She bowled with a granny shot that
... took fifteen minutes to get down the
... lane. But when it did, it knocked down
... about half the pins. She was
... ecstatic."

That story seems typical of the Big
... Brother/Big Sister program. With a
... little patience and a whole lot of
... determination, children are given a
... positive influence and the extra push
... they need to see their own worth and
... begin to reach for their potential.

If you are interested in becoming
... involved in the program, just call Lisa
... Rhodes (at 1107) or Jon Diego (at
... 689-9908) and let them know of your
... interest.



"Big Brother" Don Bradley with his "Little Brother," Billy.

Chapel Doors A Labor of Love



by Laura Smithwick
Staff Writer

...Broyhill Chapel promises to be an
... exciting part of Mars Hill College's
... future, and an exciting feature
... of the chapel will be the mahogany
... doors hand-carved by President
... Bentley.

The job of carving the panels was
... demanding and consuming for Ben-
... tley, who was "totally outside of
... himself" while he worked. The doors
... were completed February 27, after
... hundreds of hours of carving. Bentley
... also devoted a great deal of space in
... his home to the project, and he and
... Mrs. Bentley worked hard to keep the
... place wood dust-free.

"I (did) a lot of vacuuming, my wife
... (did) a lot of vacuuming, and still
... there (was) dust," he said.

According to Bentley, the hardest
... part of the undertaking was deciding
... which events from the Bible to depict
... on the panels. He chose 21 Old Testa-
... ment scenes and 21 New Testament
... scenes, with seven rows of three
... scenes each on both doors.

Another challenging part of the
... project was working with the grain of
... the wood. In the scene of Adam and
... Eve in the Garden of Eden, Adam was
... originally going to be in the
... foreground looking off; because of the
... pattern of the grain, it made more
... sense for him to look out forward.

"There is a bush to hide his
... nakedness, of course," Bentley
... reassured.

There were slip-ups in the process,
... too. "I cut off Christ's arm once,"
... Bentley remembered. The particular
... scene was Christ as a child in the
... temple with his arm raised. Bentley's
... chisel slipped and whacked the arm,
... so now the carving shows Christ poin-

ting at the people instead of off into
... the air.

Once they were finished, the doors
... were coated with Tung oil and hand-
... buffed. Additional panels will be ad-
... ded surrounding the carved part
... before the doors are in place.

Bentley conceived the idea of car-
... ving the panels to contribute something
... personal to the chapel. "The chapel
... will be a strong symbol of the reli-
... gious heritage of this college," he
... said.

Also interested in pottery, etching,
... and oil painting, Bentley's artistic
... abilities are varied. Wood particular-
... ly fascinates him, however, and in
... spite of two panels he carved for his
... Lake James house and an office
... screen carved of basswood, the
... chapel doors are by far his most
... challenging project.

For the bigger parts of the carving,
... Bentley used chisels, and more de-
... tailed work was done with a smaller
... electric drill. He received no formal
... training in woodcarving, but a wood-
... carver named Dr. Collett heard about
... the doors and volunteered some
... technical tips to enhance them.
... Bentley learned to use a microchisel
... to carve eyes clearly in a character
... no larger than a dime, and he used
... other techniques Dr. Collett showed
... him to highlight the figures in the
... scenes.

The chapel will also feature stain-
... ed glass windows, exposed wood
... beams, and beveled glass light fix-
... tures, but greeting each person who
... enters will be the building's most ex-
... traordinary distinction: mahogany
... double doors carved by Mars Hill's
... own Dr. Bentley.

On The Brink of Graduation

by Laura Smithwick
Staff Writer

For the 202 Mars Hill seniors on
... the brink of graduation, the excite-
... ment and anxiety are mounting. "I'm
... obsessed with (graduation); I dream
... of being robed in black and crossing
... the stage, and everybody in the whole
... auditorium stands and claps," said
... Jennifer Ledford.

Most seniors are looking forward
... to the big event. Shannon Gerhardt
... commented, "Mars Hill is a great
... place, but I've been here for a long
... time, and I'm ready to graduate." James
... Hudson summed up his feelings with
... "Thank God," and Chip Perry
... sighed with relief as he said, "I am
... very happy to be graduating."

For some seniors, happiness is mix-
... ed with impatience. "It just can't get
... here soon enough," complained
... Tracy Jarrett, and Wendy Mangum
... said she is "just counting it
... down—alleluia!" A couple of
... anonymous seniors shared that "get
... me out of here" has been their saying

for the year.

Feelings about graduation are con-
... flicting for John Edwards, Treva
... Miller, and Jennifer Ogle. Edwards
... explained, "You're ready for a
... change, but you don't want to leave
... that security." Miller said she feels
... she's "in a double bind" dealing with
... anxiety about the future and happy

For some seniors,
... happiness is mixed with
... impatience.

feelings about finishing at Mars Hill.
... Ogle said simply, "I'm excited, but
... I'm sad."

Many seniors are afraid as they
... face graduation. Some fears include
... not finishing final assignments and
... getting an "empty diploma envelope"
... as a result, leaving the familiarity of

Mars Hill, not finding a job, and, in
... the words of Shelwyn Klutz, "getting
... ready for the world." Amy Aitken
... also expressed her anxiety: "I've got
... no money in the bank, I'm not
... qualified to do anything I want to
... do...and these are the best years of
... my life."

Seniors Beth Estep, Tim Burnette,
... and Tom Cabaniss see graduation as
... a milestone. As she trembled with an-
... ticipation, Estep said, "You've put
... your life on hold until this moment."
... Burnette explained that his "parents'
... main goal in life was to see (him)
... graduate," and Cabaniss called his
... graduation "the greatest achieve-
... ment in (his) life."

Whatever seniors' feelings are as
... graduation approaches, Mars Hill
... has afforded them life-changing
... education and opportunities. "I'll
... miss my family here," lamented An-
... drea German, and Donna Satterfield
... said, "I'd like to take everybody with
... me."

Stop the World Set to Open

by Becky Horner
Staff Writer

Have you ever had one of those
... days when you're certain that you are
... the only person in the world who has
... ever experienced the things that you
... are going through? Are you tired of
... television sitcoms that do not even
... come close to reality? If your answer
... to either of these questions is "yes,"
... then the MHC production of *Stop the
... World, I Want to Get off* is just the
... thing for you.

Stop the World tells the story of the
... life of Little Chap, an ordinary man
... who continually finds himself caught
... up in the problems and dilemmas of
... everyday life. He struggles in just the
... same way that all of us do, and
... everyone who sees the play should
... find at least one situation in his life to
... which they will be able to relate.

The show is a love story in the
... tradition of musical theatre, but it
... does not fall into the usual trap of
... overdone romances. The plot is un-
... complicated, yet the action is in-
... teresting and exciting. *Stop the
... World*, which was written by An-
... thony Newley and Leslie Bricusse,
... features songs such as "I'm Gonna
... Build a Mountain" and "What Kind
... of Fool Am I."

An added attraction to this show is
... that it will be the final MHC per-
... formance of senior musical theatre
... major David Baldree, who will play Little
... Chap. This role will give him a "fine
... opportunity to show off all of his
... talents," according to Director John
... Oertling.

The show will run April 15-19, with
... shows at 8 p.m. nightly, and a 2:30
... p.m. Sunday matinee. Tickets are
... available through the Owen Theater
... box office (689-1239) daily from 1-5
... p.m. beginning April 11, and reserva-
... tions are necessary since seating is
... limited. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4
... for students and senior citizens, and
... MHC students will be admitted free
... of charge with valid ID.

Chapel Construction Detailed

by Lisa Ramsey
Staff Writer

Construction on the Mars Hill Col-
... lege Chapel and Fellowship Hall is
... well underway. According to Presi-
... dent Bentley, the foundation and
... underground work will be completed
... by the middle of this month.

On April 19, volunteers from the
... Baptist Men of North Carolina will ar-
... rive to begin the actual work on the
... structures themselves. They will be
... working on both buildings at the same
... time with as many as 40 men working
... at all times. President Bentley said
... that he hopes students will also help
... with the construction when they can.

The completion date for the project
... is scheduled for July 15, 1988. The
... buildings will be officially opened in
... early September, but will be in use
... earlier.

The Fellowship Hall and Chapel
... will be connected by two covered
... walkways with a prayer garden
... separating the two structures. This
... garden will be filled with small trees,
... shrubs, and seasonal flowers. In the
... midst of this natural center will be
... places for students to sit to study, talk
... to friends, or simply to think. The
... prayer garden will be a memorial to
... Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh English, who
... donated the land on which the project
... is being built.

The fellowship Hall will be a place
... for receptions and other organiza-
... tional get-togethers. It will have a kit-
... chen and a room for bridal prepara-
... tions. It will also have an office for
... the chaplain and six other rooms for
... various other purposes. The floor will
... be vinyl tile.

The Chapel will be a special place
... to have chapel services that are
... presently held in Moore Auditorium.
... It will seat 350 people in moveable
... wooden/upholstered chairs. President
... Bentley believes the use of the
... moveable chairs will be very effective



Early work on Chapel ground is completed.

since they can be turned to view
... either the front altar or the balcony,
... whereas pews could not be moved. It
... will have a natural slate floor. Also,
... it will house a prayer room for groups
... like the FCA and two other rooms. A
... balcony will be built in the chapel on
... which a special, custom-built organ
... will be placed; however, the installa-
... tion of the organ will not take place
... for 12 to 15 months. A large stained-
... glass design will be installed near the
... back of the chapel with measure-
... ments of six feet in width and sixteen
... feet in height. The design will be like
... ribbons twisting upward and the col-
... ors will be brilliant blues and crim-
... sons. Tapestries in the chapel will be
... a seven-foot long cherry table for
... communion services. It will have
... three stained-glass spheres backed by
... foil for sparkling effect on both of the
... sides, lengthwise. The Chapel will
... definitely be beautiful, according to
... President, Bentley.

INSIDE

Editorials	p. 2
Just the Facts	p. 2
Culturefest Review	p. 3
Briefly	p. 4