New Mars Hill Program Brings Quick Results

A new academic program at Mars Hill College has produced quick results for one of the first students to enroll in it. Andy Behl, freshman from Springfield, Va., has been accepted to work as an athletic trainer at the Olympic training center in Squaw Valley, Calif., this

Andy is one of four students currently enrolled in Mars Sports Medicine Program, which is in its first year of operation. Dr. John Wells, associate professor of physical education and supervisor of the new program, doesn't have any apprehensions about Behl's capabilities at the Olympic training camp despite his freshman ranking.

"Andy can do anything they ask him," he states; "in fact, Andy's problems have been that he tries to do too much." Dr. Wells continues. "He has been known to promise three coaches that he'd do something for each of them on the same day. He gets so wrapped up in the training room that he was on the verge of putting his other classes in jeopardy."

Behl began his career as an athletic trainer at West Springfield High School. "I always liked being around sports, but I never had the size or coordination to make the teams," he states. So he started as many trainers do, by managing the team's equipment. He attended two

Foreign Investors Register

Claude A. Cody, chairperson of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, states that all farmland owned by Foreign Interests must be registered at the County ASCS office where the farmland is located.

Foreigners who owned or had a 5 percent interest in farmland on Feb. 1 must report ownership to ASCS by Aug. 1. Those who acquire land after Feb. 1 must report it within 90 days.

All ASCS offices have the necessary papers for registering foreign owned

A study conducted by the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry revealed that foreigners purchased 826,543 acres of U.S. farmland between January 1977 and June 1978, with heaviest activity being in the south and southeast. During this period 15,800 acres of North Carolina farmland was purchased by foreigners.

The report of farmland owned by foreigners or foreign investors is required by the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of

Stephen Fish

Selected For

Symposium

Two high school students from Madison County have been selected to participate in a week-long symposium at the prestigious Smithsonian institution in Washington,

Stephen Pierce Fish, Mars Hill, is among 45 students from across the state who was chosen by a panel of judges to attend one of three special attend one of three special seminars sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives and the Smithsonian, and aided by a grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

Stephen, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Fish, will attend the seminar "The Planet Earth," to be held May \$-16.

is unable to make the

summer sessions on athletic training and then performed the job of trainer for his high school football, basketball, and baseball teams his last two years of high school.

At Mars Hill he has worked with the football and tennis teams in the fall, both the men's and basketball teams during the winter, and the tennis, track and baseball teams this spring. It is easy to see why Dr. Wells has worried about his class schedule.

At Squaw Valley he will be working either in the central training room where the athletes come for treatment of various ailments, or with a team in the field where they will be competing. He will also be evaluated by the permanent staff at the center, and these evaluations will partially determine his chances of attending the 1980 Olympic games at Lake

Placid, N.Y., next February. Wells has been

particular types of injuries sustained by skiers and skaters so I'll know what to expect and how to treat it." he comments. "I feel I have as good a chance of going to the Olympics as anyone

Behl has also applied to the NCAA Track and Field Championships to be held this summer at the University of Illinois and to several professional baseball teams that have students trainers programs, but he has not

heard from them yet. His ultimate goal is to become a trainer with a professional football team. "I think you're more useful with

more injuries in that sport, so you get more use from what you've learned." Before he can reach this

goal however, he'll have to complete a rash of classes since the sports medicine program is not an academic college's athletic teams. major but a "concentration"

Theortically, a student can major in anything he wants to and also take the sports medicine program. Because there are so many physical a football team. There are education and associated courses involved with the program, however, a student might as well major in physical education. There are also 800 clock hours to be spent in the training room or on the field with one of the

> After graduation must pass

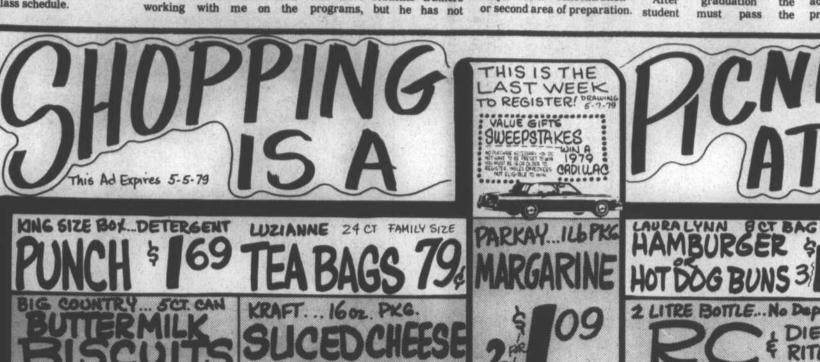
National Athletic Trainers Association's certifying examination.

sports medicine program is one of several new academic programs at Mars Hill that were funded by a \$2 million Advanced Institution Development Program grant received in 1976. Dr. Wells has been surprised at the speed with which the program has been established. "At the last school I worked with, it took three years to get the program established, mainly because we were fighting the administration. Here, the administration initiated the program and we get very

strong support from the faculty and administration. We are starting out much faster than other schools because of this support." There are approximately 50 schools in the United States

offering a sports medicine program on the undergraduate level. Although four colleges offer a program in North Carolina, Mars Hill is the only private school among them. With four students currently in the program, Dr. Wells hopes to add four or five each year until there is a total of 16 to 20 students involved in the various levels of the program.

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