

Editorial Page

THE CLARION

December 9, 1975

Editorial

What Is Christmas?

Do you believe in Christmas? I've never been asked that question before. Many times I've been asked, "Do you believe in Santa Claus?" or "Do you believe in Jesus?", but never once have I been asked if I believe in Christmas. What is Christmas? That's a good question.

Christmas is many things to many people; but mainly, the fact that has been looked over so much lately, Christmas is the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. So many people have come to forget the real meaning of Christmas. It has been turned into a commercialized season for merchants to do business. The business the merchants receive is all based on the spirit of giving which comes from the gift that God gave to us, his only son.

Do you believe in Santa Claus? I believe in Santa Claus, at least I believe in his jolly spirit, his love for children, and his kindness to mankind. Santa is a tradition of Christmas, to bring out the meaning of true gift-giving. But even Santa has become overly commercialized. On every street corner you see a different Santa Claus. Travel from one store to another and see a different Santa each time. This definitely ruins the entire affect that the Santa figure is trying to bring forth.

Year after year store's bring out Christmas earlier and earlier. I could hardly believe my eyes when I went to Sky City two weeks before Thanksgiving and heard Christmas Carols playing. To top it off Santa was making his rounds in the stores that same night. I don't understand what's happening to this country. Everyone is so money-hungry that nothing is sacred any longer. Maybe someday people will look back and realize that Christmas is a time for loving and giving of one's self and for thanking God for his most precious gift of all.

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Evening Courses

For Spring

Brevard, N.C. — Evening course offerings at Brevard College will feature two prominent Brevard professional leaders, according to Dr. Branson L. Thurston, Dean of Brevard College. Mr. Richard Voso, Principal of Brevard Elementary School, will teach a course in education. Dr. James Hughey, practicing psychologist, will teach a course in psychology.

The psychology course will be "Parent-Adolescent Communication." The course will carry two hours credit and will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. According to Dr. Hughey, the course will study interactions between parent and adolescents. Participants will also experiment with new methods of communication.

Mr. Voso will be teaching the course, "American Education." The course will carry three hours of credit and will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Mr. Voso indicates the forces that have lead to present conditions and those which are likely to lead to change." Topics to be discussed will include: theories of learning, philosophies of education, curriculum, instruction, and other topics.

Dr. Hughey holds the B.S. from Towson State, the M.S. from the University of Montana, and the Ed. D. from the University of Northern Colorado. He is affiliated with the Newland Clinic and has been active in various community mental health programs. Prior to moving to Brevard, Dr. Hughey was Associate Professor of Psychology at Gardner-Webb College. He is a member of the Brevard Rotary Club.

Mr. Voso is known throughout the county for his educational column in the TRANSYLVANIA TIMES, as well as for his leadership as principal at Brevard Elementary School since 1972. He holds the B.S. in Elementary Education from New Paltz State Teachers College and the M.S. in Education from Syracuse University. He has done additional graduate work at Hofstra University, Nova University, and Western Carolina University. His teaching and administrative experience includes positions in New York state and the Bahamas, in addition to Brevard. His civic activities include Brevard Rotary Club, the United Fund and the Transylvania County Bicentennial. He is advisor to the Catholic Youth Organization at Sacred Heart Church and serves on the Board of Education for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Persons interested in enrolling in the courses for the spring semester should contact Brevard College now. Information can be obtained from the Office of Admissions at Brevard College, 883-8292, extension 53. Courses begin on January 6, 1976.

Inside Scene On Transfer Policy

With the confusion of mid-terms over and pre-registration rapidly approaching, students have become concerned with the various aspects of their grades and transcripts. The "grapevine" seems to have distorted much information associated with transcripts. All students are urged to reread their catalogs and Student Handbooks and to consult their advisers, the Dean of the College, or the Associate Registrar concerning questions they still may have.

Transcripts are records which are kept of courses for which a student registers, and the grade, hours, and quality points he receives. Brevard releases transcripts only upon the written request of the student involved. An official transcript is sent directly from school to school and bears the Brevard College seal and Signature. The unofficial transcript may be given to a student and does not bear the school signature or seal.

Contrary to belief, mid-term grades are not recorded on the

transcript. These grades are primarily used to show teachers, students, and parents where the student stands in his academic work.

Students who drop courses with the permission of the instructor within the first seven calendar days of a semester will have no record of the course on his transcript. If the student withdraws from a course any other time prior to the three weeks before the beginning of examinations, his record will be taxed with a W/P or a W/F depending upon whether he is passing or failing at the time of withdrawal.

Also, students have found, when applying to many four year colleges and universities, that some of their courses may not be listed on the suggested guides which the school may send them. This does not necessarily mean that a course is "non-transferable." The Office of the Dean of the College has often found upon checking with these schools that the credits will indeed transfer, although they may transfer as an elective.

"Mornings With Monte"

Freshman Editorial By Cheryl Wallace

As I dragged myself out of bed the other morning, I happened to hear "Morning with Monte" on WFBC. I became more and more irritated as I listened to him babble on concerning a trip which he planned to take to Philadelphia for a special Bicentennial Broadcast. The more I listened, the surer I became that this grown man was really a little kid. His actions perturbed me and I began to wonder exactly why he was so excited.

As the day progressed, the subject stayed on my mind. During the morning, I had been ready to say I was sick of hearing of the Bicentennial, but then, suddenly, everything seemed to fall into place. It hit me that we are here today because of yesterday and although we can't live in the past, in order to understand our lives, we must know what we, as a nation, have been through. People learn from experiences and looking back to our past can help us plan our future.

The next morning, I looked forward to Monte's Bicentennial Broadcast. I was up early and shared feelings. As the broadcast progressed, I felt an inner stirring at the history and events of the Liberty Bell were told. It now rang in loud and clear what millions of people had been through to develop this country.

I realize now that after all we have been through, we should be a close nation rather than the restless people we have been for the past decade. Although the Bicentennial will not work any wonders for the nation, I believe it will pull us closer together as a whole. If you are tired of hearing of the Bicentennial or don't really know much about it, get into it because I did and am glad of it.