

BC Has Its Own Haunted House!

by Walter Hackett

So, what have you heard about Ross Hall? It may be some sort of cinema-created imagination fluke, but I know that the first time I saw the old, seemingly dilapidating, gray building sitting atop the hill behind the baseball field I felt an uneasy feeling in the pit of my stomach. There is just something about Ross Hall that stirs Norman Bates images, and plants seeds of supernatural presence in the mind. Of course, there are rumors and stories of ghosts within the history of Frances H.E. Ross Hall, ghosts that bang on pipes, ghosts that mysteriously move alarm clocks, books, and other items around rooms, and others.

The most common rumor surrounding Ross Hall is that it may have been a hospital and morgue during the civil war. The actual building is not nearly old enough to have served this purpose, however, it is possible that the house was rebuilt on the foundations of an older structure. The story is that a soldier, wounded from battle, and a nurse who had saved his life fell madly in love and planned to be married. Just before the soldier was to be released, the building caught fire and burned



down. Supposedly, the soldier ran into the burning building to save his love and both were burned to death in the flames. It is said that both wander the halls of Ross Hall, one ever in search of the other, never to connect.

The written history of Ross Hall is very elusive and of thin subject matter. No one knows exactly when the building was built. The land was owned by a Mr. Earle, who was a farmer, and was sold in 1905 to the Zachary family who planned to use the house as a summer home for tourists. It is supposed that the Zachary's built half of the

building that now stands. There is no real evidence as to whether the family lived in the house year round or rented it for part of the year. In 1921, by the money raising efforts of Francis Ross, treasurer of the Brevard Institute, the house on the hill was bought by the college for use as a Boys Dormitory. Thirteen rooms were added to the thirteen already standing (a rather suggestive figure for a house like Ross Hall) and students lived there at until at least 1935. In its years of ownership by the college the house has served as a President's home, faculty apartments, storage, and is now home to Brevard's Wilderness Education department headed up by Clyde Carter.

According to Jennifer Jaynes in a 1991 *Clarion*, "many people have experienced sensations that something, though non-living is in their presence." Anyone who has lived in Ross hall will attest to the haunted and even scary nature of Ross Hall. There is one ghost named "Clanker" who, in the dead of winter, will beat on the radiator pipes to no end. Mrs. Francis Ross herself is said to visit the gouse as well to take care of those who live there. It is rumored that members of the Zachary family still reside within the walls of

Ross Hall. I have personally heard a first hand account of someone sitting in the first floor lobby of Ross when a translucent young man carrying books came rushing through the room, out the front door, slamming it behind him on his way to a class that may have taken place fifty years ago. It has been said that the whole Brevard College campus is haunted, and there are definately many accounts of plausible interactions with ghosts, both good and bad. Neva Corbin, in the 1972 *Pertelote*, tells of a ghost that sits on the front porch of Ross Hall, looking over the college and all it's inhabitants and "threads the particulars of each human destiny at Brevard College into the whole of exhistance, and dreams the dreams of ideals as yet unrealized." There is definately an underlying inner working to the way Brevard College runs that has brought us all here together to learn from this remarkable place and all of its remarkable people.

November Schedule of Events

- 3-Faculty recital: Amy Shook, 8Pm
- 6-Region X-Country Champs
Student Fall Concert, 8Pm
- 7-All Night Videos, 9Pm, Coltrane
- 9-BCO, 3:30
FUM Church
Campus Worship
- 10-Gospel Choir Tryouts, 7Pm
- 11-Author Yung Krall, 8Pm
Men's B-Ball, 7Pm
- 13-Pianist Joan Yarbrough, 8Pm
- 14-Laser Tag Lock-In, Asheville
- 15-Men's B-Ball, 3Pm
Women's B-Ball, 7Pm
- 16-Campus Worship
- 18-American Clarinet Quartet, 8Pm
Women's B-Ball, 6Pm
- 19-Men's B-Ball, 7Pm
- 20-Rich Ames, Magic/Escape Artist
Sierra Club, 7Pm
- 21-Disco Dance, 10Pm, Coltrane
- 22-Open Campus Day
Women's B-Ball, 2Pm
- 23-Campus Worship
- 24-Women's B-Ball, 6Pm
- 25-Thanksgiving Break!
Women's B-Ball, 6Pm
- 30-Back to School!

Wilderness Ed Acquires New Professor

by Chrystal Rollison

Along with the construction of the new performing arts center, Brevard College faculty has a new addition. Mark Wagstaff has joined the Outdoor Wilderness Leadership Program after recently receiving his doctorate in Education from Oklahoma State University. Although Wagstaff prefers smaller towns than Brevard, he is enjoying the vast national forest. In the wilderness program, Wagstaff's specialty will be teaching experiential education and leadership skills. As for BC's curriculum he states, "There aren't many choices for this type of degree, it prepares people as professionals to work in a

number of related jobs such as guides, environmental educators, and leaders in wilderness therapy." In the future Wagstaff forsees growth and possibly a graduate curriculum. "It's amazing how people are seeking us out now that outdoor pursuits are so popular. We expect our graduates will be people who will make a difference."



NOTE- All students are invited to visit the Wilderness Program

located in Ross Hall

Chiaroscuro

The Brevard College Literary Magazine is getting started on it's 1997-98 book. The magazine consists of Poetry. Prose. Short Stories. Photos. Art of any kind. and pretty much any sort of creative anything will be considered. Turn in submissions to Dr. Hamlett, Jamie Tomasello, or Walter Hackett. Submissions can also be sent through College Mail to Box 5591B or 5767G.



Vietnamese Author To Visit College

by Walter Hackett

As part of Brevard College's yearly theme, *Explore the Rim*, the college's Season's Series brings to the campus Yung Krall, Vietnamese author of the novel "A Thousand Tears Falling", a true story of a Vietnamese family torn apart by war, communism, and the CIA.

Ms. Krall grew up in south Vietnam throughout the French occupation and subsequent U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Her Father was a leader in North Vietnam's communist government that eventually forced his family to leave the country and settle in America.

Yung is scheduled to speak in Dunham Auditorum on Veteran's Day, November 11, at 8:00PM. The presentation is free to the public and any additional information can be acquired by calling 704-884-8333.