

An Interview with WCC's President

Because you asked. . .

By BECKY JOHNSON

VOICE: What are your feelings about the play *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

WILSON: Good success. Libraries and schools were both invited. The play was great for the area.

VOICE: Have you ever read, *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

WILSON: Yes, I think in high school.

VOICE: What makes your job important?

WILSON: The college is a very integral part of Wayne County. Wayne Community College trains and educates students for work or to transfer to 4-year schools.

It gives people a second chance for GED of high school diplomas. There are plays and other opportunities for the county.

VOICE: Why will North Carolina's community colleges never be 4-year colleges?

WILSON: The main reason is that 65-80% of the jobs that will be created over the next 5-10 years will request post high, but not necessarily 4-year degrees with skills that are needed for jobs. That is where we need to be.

VOICE: What makes WCC an excellent college?

WILSON: One, the faculty and staff are good, dedicated people. Second, facilities are unmatched in North Carolina. Third, we try to be responsive to the needs of individual students. Finally, smaller classes.

VOICE: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

WILSON: Play golf, see grandchildren, go to Carolina games and, when possible, travel.

VOICE: What was your favorite pet and why?

WILSON: A collie named Lassie. He was a companion and was always there.

VOICE: What are the most important things for a student's success?

WILSON: To acquire basic skills for a career and be good citizens.

VOICE: In your spare time, do you read more fiction or non-fiction?

WILSON: Spare time? Fiction.

VOICE: What are you most proud of about WCC in this year so far?

WILSON: How the dental clinic and the Childcare Center are online.

I am also very proud of how well the play and other programs dealing with the Countywide Read went.

VOICE: Who were your biggest influences in your life?

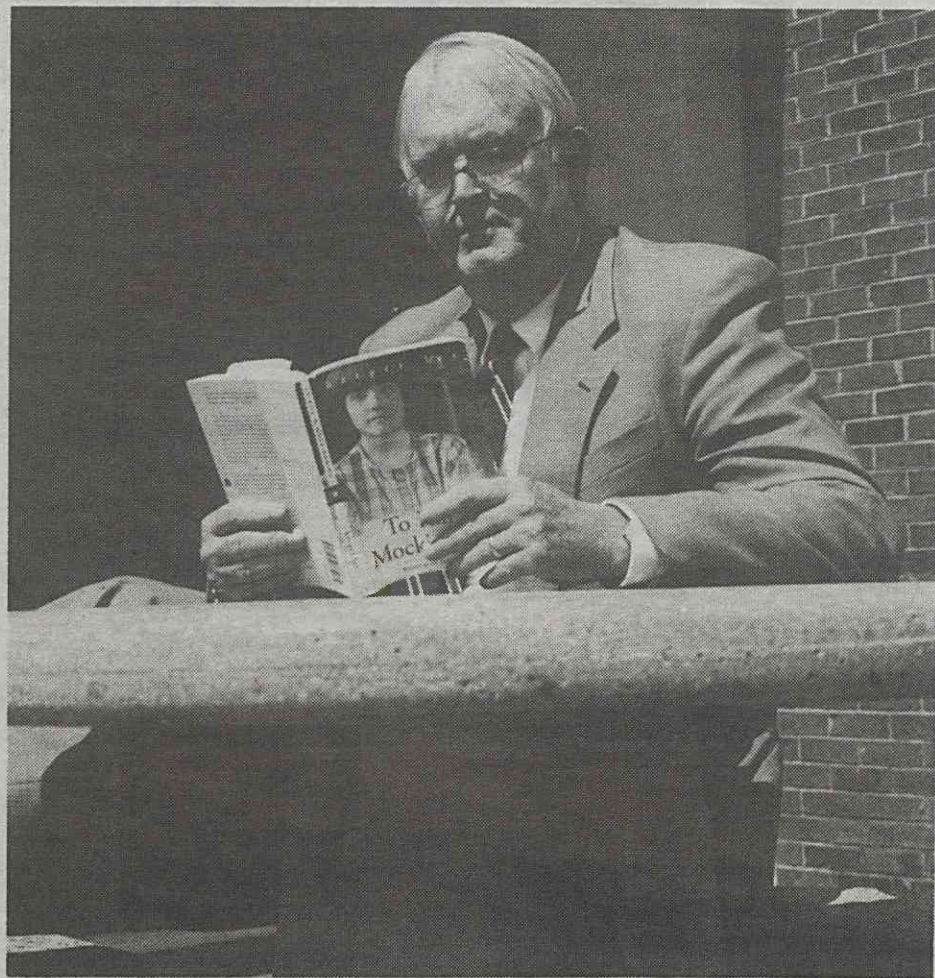
WILSON: Definitely my parents, especially my father for encouraging me to go into education. He also was an educator.

My first boss, Carl Mills of Cary Elementary, who allowed me to do a lot as Assistant Principal.

Another influence was Gov. Bob Scott.

VOICE: Please explain what the self-study/ SACS visit tries to do and what it means for WCC?

WILSON: SACS means Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Its intent is to make sure we are providing quality programs and that we are dedicated to improving learning programs. They also make sure we meet accreditations for financial aid.



WCC President Dr. Ed Wilson enjoys Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* during his lunch hour.

PHOTO: BECKY JOHNSON



President Ed Wilson, right, congratulates Xiaojuan Li, winner of the Math Department contest and a \$100 check.

Number of students assigned to read the novel or the play *To Kill a Mockingbird*: 306

Number of times the novel was checked out from the WCC Library: 64

Number of times the film was checked out: 4

In Memorium

Tim Hudgins, also known as "Huggy Bear" and "Norm" after the character on *Cheers*

- he shared his gifts
- he was a reliable, hard worker
- he was a positive person
- he will be missed