



The Cougar Cry

THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE



VOLUME 8, NO. 2

WILKESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

NOVEMBER 1, 1977

New Buildings...When?

Preview: The New Buildings

With students and faculty anxiously awaiting the completion of two new facilities on the W.C.C. campus, a description of the new buildings is certainly at hand. Both buildings will add greatly to the campus in function and aesthetics, and a quick survey proves we do indeed have a lot to look forward to.

Although neither building has been given an official name at this point, the buildings may be referred to as the Physical & Life Science and General Studies Division and the Automotive and Diesel Mechanics Division.

The Physical & Life Science and General Studies Building will house the following facilities.

-An official size gymnasium which will be at the home of the W.C.C. Basketball Cougars. The gym will have a lighted clock and scoreboard, lockers, storage space, and bleachers (in the future) to accommodate students and faculty.

-The Tory Oak Dining Room which will provide practical experience for students in institutional food preparation and service, but will not serve as a community restaurant.

-The Day Care Center will facilitate the teaching and training of students in the Early Childhood Program by providing laboratory experience with pre-school children. A user's fee will probably be charged although a policy for community use has not been set.

-A new Student Commons, carpeted and with nice furniture, to be designated as a "quiet area" for study or leisure.

-Laboratories for both the Nursing and Drafting Departments.

-Faculty offices for the Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and General Studies Divisions, as well as new vending services for a quick lunch.

-The Automotive and Diesel Mechanics Building is divided into two sections. One side will include sophisticated machinery for auto-mechanics work, while the other side will provide expensive machinery for testing diesel and truck engines. The building will provide valuable lab experience for students in the respective curriculums.



New Buildings Delayed

The completion date of two new Wilkes Community College facilities, both expected to greatly enhance the physical and academic growth of the campus, has been delayed from the original completion date, October 4 to early Winter.

One facility, which will house the new Power Mechanics Division, is 95% complete and should be ready by early November. The other facility, which will house the new gymnasium, a student commons, and several other general study areas, is 79% complete and should be ready in early January.

Dr. Conrad A. Shaw, Vice President for Administrative Services, has worked very closely with the planning and construction of the new buildings, and he cites three reasons for the delay. The first is the inclement weather suffered by all last January and February which strongly hindered

working conditions on the site. Secondly, some materials ordered were delayed due to limited stock and various other reasons. The third reason can be attributed to a breakdown in Duke Power's special machinery for an underground power cable.

Dr. Shaw stated, "The delays are realistic and to be expected." He went on to say, "Delays are something we have to live with, especially since we don't want to short change quality with hurried effort." The delays will result in no extra cost.

Dr. Shaw noted a fine job by the Horticulture and Farm Departments for sewing the grass around the buildings and saving the College an extra contracting cost.

Arguments start as conversations with each speaker trying to get the last word in first.

School Calendar Revised

Students have been wondering what happened to the break between Summer and Fall quarters at W.C.C. In an attempt to clarify this, Tom Whittington, Dean of Instruction, gave the following explanation.

When W.C.C. changed its calendar year two years ago, the directors thought it would save money. However, this did not result and other problems did arise. Students taking courses during the summer couldn't complete them in time to coincide with returning to other schools in the fall. Students are "geared up" and wanting to start to school in September and graduate in May. Those wanting to work during the summer found that most of the summer jobs had already been filled by the time the Spring quarter had ended.

In addition to not having a quarter break between summer and fall, students and faculty will be getting only two days for Thanksgiving and one week for Christmas.

It will take approximately one year from Thanksgiving to complete the transition due to the fact that it takes fifteen months to gain one month, which is the length of time W.C.C. is behind other schools.

When the revision is completed, school will again be starting in September, graduation will be in May, and the annual number of holidays and quarter breaks will be the way they were two years ago.

Changes From The Top

We have not had a Dean of Instruction since 1972. Tom Whittington has been doing most of the duties normally handled by a Dean of Instruction, so his upward flow into the position was only a paper formality. He is now the grand overseer of both academic and vocational studies. Doctor Daniel has a great deal of "respect" for his abilities.

Bill Davis move to Pres. Advisor, a position humorously referred to as ("Doc's Bert Lance"), basically is a fitting of skill to job. Mr. Davis will be involved in grantsmanship. He has already been involved in the schools getting two grants.

Howard Blackburn's promotion to Acting Director of Life Science is again only a paper formality, he has been doing the job for some time.

"The changes have been well responded to everywhere" according to Doctor Daniel. Doctor Daniel is very happy to have such a "competent" staff to rely on. The staff in Life Sciences have commented that "Mr. Davis is now operating in a field where he has considerable expertise."

The only question left unanswered by this non shakeup is does Kurt Vonnegut's law apply to the administration of W.C.C. Vonnegut's law states: "No one in charge of anything ever really knows what's going on."

Dr. Shaw Receives Appointment

Dr. Conrad A. Shaw, vice president for Administrative Services at Wilkes Community College, has been appointed by the State Board of Education to serve on the new Community College Advisory Council, according to an announcement by W.C.C. President, Dr. David E. Daniel.

Dr. Shaw's appointment is for a

two-year term. He is one of 15 named to the new body which replaces the old 160-member board termed "unwieldly and ineffectual" by SBE Chairman David Bruton and Gov. James B. Hunt. Dr. Shaw is the only community college administrator named to the Advisory Council and one of only three community college employees who have been appointed to the council. The

remaining five (of a total of eight) appointees who are associated with community colleges and technical institutes are trustees of their respective institutions.

In commenting on Dr. Shaw's appointment, Dr. Daniel said: "This is quite a tribute to Dr. Shaw's capabilities and quite an honor for Wilkes Community College."