

## Editorial

### The Secret Behind Christmas

By: Bruce Groce

Well gang, once again the time has rolled around for our longest holiday. It is also when ole St. Nicholas visits each home and leaves each his own special treat (which, by college standards, is probably a stereo instead of a train set). Our calendar is hectic to be sure. First things first, we just have to check and see who is at the WCC Christmas Dance and hope that our own special someone will check in. After a few good-byes, we're off on our well deserved break (if we've made it this long!) Soon, your family gathers around a delicious table of food. Then after you get your very reluctant younger brothers or sisters to sleep (finally!), you doze off with the thought of opening your gifts the next morning and calling your closest friends and saying, "Guess what I got?"

For most of us, this is what we always associate with Christmas. While we celebrate our Christmas though, let's also say a prayer for those who never had a Christmas such as this. They wake to just another morning, without a mad rush to the pile of presents. You see, some have never had presents or a massive family feast with loving relatives. They give thanks mostly for life and of course, no school. This Christmas, let's first give credit for what we have and then realize that we have much in common with the less fortunate. It all goes back to the first Christmas when a certain child was born in a manger and also had very little.

No matter how you spend your holiday just realize that though you may not know it, we all have at least one thing in common. No one can spell Christmas without spelling Christ.

### Student Activities

Christmas Door Decoration Contest will be held December 3-14. To participate sign up in Student Development, there is a .50 registration fee. Judging will be held on December 14. Prizes are 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$10, and 3rd place \$5.

First annual WCC Rook Tournament begins December 5. Prizes will include trophies for the winning team.

Intramural Basketball begins December 10. Basketball is the most popular of all intramural sports. We are hoping to have a women's league this year if enough teams sign up. Rosters are due by 3:00 p.m. Dec. 6.

January 2, 1985 - Hangover Day! Free coffee, beverages and donuts for faculty, staff, and students.

## Letters To The Editor

To The Editor:

I'd like to express my appreciation to the staff of the COUGAR CRY for their hard work in providing this needed service to the students of Wilkes Community College. In looking at the finished product, it's sometimes easy for us to overlook the effort necessary to prepare a college newspaper.

The COUGAR CRY is important to our students because it is a means of keeping everyone informed and it provides an opportunity for individuals to express their opinions. Your editorial staff encourages input from the readers and this is needed for a strong newspaper. I hope that more of us will accept your invitation to contribute to the COUGAR CRY. It's good for the newspaper and the college.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Caudill  
Counselor, Student Development

Dear Editor:

You and the COUGAR CRY staff are to be commended for the recent edition of the campus newspaper. With almost an entirely new staff having little experience with a college publication, you overcame these odds to publish an edition that portrayed a varied cross-section of Wilkes Community College life.

The COUGAR CRY is sent to many high school students who have never been on our campus or talked to any of our staff. The major portion of those students will be first generation college students whose parents have not had college experience. Your portrayal of WCC might very well be the deciding factor for enrollment here.

Please accept my appreciation of your efforts and success.

Sincerely,

Barbara R. Holt, Ed.D.  
Special Services Director

Dear Editor:

I am speaking as a member of the COUGAR CRY Staff and I would like to say that I think the first publication of the student paper was "A JOB WELL DONE." And I am glad to hear the positive remarks of our work.

However, I have heard some negative remarks, and I would like to make it known different. First of all, let me say that we, the staff are practically all new members with little or no experience, we are just learning. Also, we have a new editor and he has more responsibilities than just making sure that we meet our deadlines, he has duties also in making sure that our paper is the best ever!

So, let's put this negative criticism to an end, and support our publication. After all, YOU the student is who makes the paper, and we depend upon you for the support, and it is really unfair when you hear fellow classmates criticizing hard work, time, and effort.

Sincerely,

Regina Elliott, Student  
Cougar Cry

### New WCC Data

By: Pat Snow

New on the campus of WCC is the DPMA, the Data Processing Management Association. It is open to all data processing students and is now offered to those studying pre-computer science. The purpose of this organization is to introduce the members to the working world of data processing. This includes guest speakers in such fields ranging from computer operating to systems analysis management. The DPMA WCC student chapter is a branch of the much larger Tarheel Chapter that meets in Winston-Salem.

The current officers of this club are as follows: President - Sandra Lunsford; Vice President - Robert Handy; Secretary - Pam Edwards; Treasurer - Cindy Adams. Sandra Lunsford was also this year's recipient of the DPMA scholarship, a \$300 award given to a WCC freshman for use in their sophomore year. This scholarship is sponsored by the Tarheel Chapter. The \$12 fee that is required of the members enables them to attend the meetings of this larger chapter. All members also receive a subscription to a data processing management magazine. The club meetings are the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The club advisor, Jim Payne, stated that he was pleased with the response he has received from the data processing students and expects a great year with the new club.

### Phi Beta Lambda

By Teresa Shepherd

The past few months have been busy for all PBL club members. We've attended a state conference, sold Reece's Pieces, and we've been planning a trip to Wilmington, N.C.

Have you bought a Reece's Cup

yet? Any PBL member would be happy to sell you one. Hurry and get yours soon, Reece's Cups and Reece's Pieces go fast!!

On November 17, 1984, Phi Beta Lambda went on the road to Hickory. Farly Call, Terri Spears, Gail Jordan, David Whittington, and Teresa Shepherd went to a PBL State Leadership Conference held at Lenoir Rhyne College. Our club advisors, Randy Joyner and Jim Barrow led the way that cold, cold morning. Throughout the day we met our buddy chapter, our PBL state officers, and attended workshops on publicity, fund raising, single and group competition, and others. At high noon, we took a lunch break for fried chicken and ham with all the trimmings. We left with many thoughts and ideas, but we were mostly excited about state competition in March, 1985. The competition will be held in Wilmington, and we plan on doing two things -- winning and having fun! If you would like to join us, drop by at our next meeting. We meet every Thursday at 1 p.m. in room 145. Hope to see you there!

Make someone happy this Christmas. Don't be a pest of yourself.

Do it right the first time; avoid the extra work.

### FEELING #234

With Christmas sounds and signs,  
do homes prepare  
to feast and gift and, too, rejoice.  
Time now to join  
the rushed faces  
crowding stores throughout the  
land.

Then, time to think  
that more than holiday  
is this most holy day . . .

Above the tinsel joys  
one hope:  
that man can live in peace.

Help others know this:  
all are brothers, sisters;  
all, His children.

With peace and goodwill, then,  
be merry this Christmas, 1984,  
for the beauty of its reason.

### TO BE FOR OR AGAINST . . .

It's easy to be *against* someone or something. Anybody can do it. But it's equally easy to be *for* someone or something. Anybody can do it, too.

Those *against* negate that which is. Criticism is their joy and they anticipate failure.

Those *for* appreciate that which is. Construction is their work and they rejoice in success.

For!  
Against!  
Choose . . .

## The Editor Speaks

### Christmas Glows Warmly

Christmas is a warm feeling - even if it's cold and the streets are covered with ice . . . It's the season for many a tired Santa standing in front of some department store and smiling - just because . . . . . It's the sound of rushing, happy people making sure they've gotten every just right gift.

And I rush along and I am warm . . .

I buy a plastic wreath - not really what I wanted - because the quite old man selling them explains that he's a volunteer helping to collect money to support a facility for unfortunate somethings or others. But buying that ridiculous wreath gives me a good feeling, a warm feeling . . .

And I feel warm, thankful when a package containing a sweater arrives from Aunt Bertha. She knitted it herself, she notes on her little Christmas card, and she hopes I like the color. I like it very much, indeed, for Aunt Bertha is not well; and holding knitting needles must have been difficult for her.

And I feel warm, when Uncle Jim gives me the ivory chess set he treasured because, as he put it, "I don't play no more and I want you to have it." It was a treasure I could not refuse.

And, of course, there's the warmth of home and my family and more gifts and even excuses for gifts. The gifts really do not matter. Only the people who celebrate Christmas with us matter.

Yes, we all went through the same routine last year; and yes, the same thing will undoubtedly be repeated next year; but that certain magic of Christmas is ever new, ever warm. It's good to feel warm, to be alive, to enjoy the foolishness and fun with family and friends . . .

May all of you enjoy the warmth of Christmas, too.

### Just Thinkin'

\*This Christmas, I resolve to start saving money regularly for next Christmas.

Even the worst hour of my life can be only 60 minutes long.

There are many reasons why a free press is vital to our country. One important reason is that it keeps the politicians informed as to what the government is trying to do.

\*I know there's a good answer to every so-called clever remark. Trouble is I usually can't think of it in time.

I am not in *Who's Who* either, but I try to know what's what.

\*When possible, I try to wait for a brainy day to solve a difficult problem.

