



The Cougar Cry



THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 2

WILKESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 16, 1989

President's Message



Dr. Jim Randolph
President

As winter quarter approaches, it's evident this will be an outstanding school year.

You have proven to be enthusiastic students with high standards in your desire for education. Your extracurricular efforts are also to be commended.

Projects like the reorganization of the Criminal Justice Club; and Phi Beta Lambda and Baptist Students Union's aid to hurricane victims show initiative. I'm sure more projects are underway that deserve equal recognition.

Our 25th anniversary theme is "Excellence in Education." That is what the faculty, administration staff strive for at all times. It's

rewarding to see that philosophy also reflected by WCC's students.

Important changes have taken place in recent months. One is the opening of Daniel Hall, which gave several programs some much needed elbow room.

Changes in the administrative structure and employee policies are in the works. Most of them won't affect students individually. But hopefully, they are steps toward making WCC a better college as a whole.

That is our goal for this academic year, and we expect to meet it. I wish you success in meeting your own goals at WCC.

"Enrollment Increases"

Enrollment rose more than ten percent at Wilkes Community College this fall, compared to last fall quarter.

The new school year began with 1,950 students enrolling in credit classes at the main campus and at satellite centers in Ashe and Alleghany.

"It's encouraging to have an increase in our enrollment," said WCC President Dr. Jim Randolph. "Now our objective as an institution will be to retain the students and help them achieve their goals."

Eighty percent of the students are from Wilkes, Ashe and Alleghany, which is WCC's designated service area.

Nineteen percent are from other N.C. counties and one percent, or sixteen students, are from out of state.

True to recent trends, females outnumber males 1,192 to 758.

Most students are enrolled in two-year technical programs, which is also typical for WCC's enrollment. A total of 1,109 signed up in technical programs, while 654 enrolled in college transfer programs and 187 are in one-year vocational programs.

Calvin Dull, dean of continuing education, said he expects enrollment to be higher in non-credit programs also. Tallies are not in because some classes are still registering students, he said.

Non-credit programs include industry training, adult basic education and high school, avocational classes like crafts and music, fire and rescue training and other courses that do not

count toward degrees.

The increase in enrollment will mean an increase in funding next year, Randolph noted. The college's budget is based on a formula that used FTE (full time equivalent) students as the basis for state funding.

This is the second year WCC has seen an increase in enrollment after some decline. Some of this year's additional funds have gone toward a new English teacher the college is in the process of hiring.

Six percent pay raises were also given to all full-time employees and other salary adjustments were made to bring salaries in line.

Lynn Worth
Director of Public Information

Hugo Hits Hard



Results of "Hugo"

On September 22, 1989, Wilkes Community College received an unexpected vacation day due to a storm. Not just any storm, however, a hurricane. Yes, that's what I said, a hurricane. The storm was a major event for us because it is very strange for a hurricane to hit so far inland.

Needless to say, trees were damaged extensively in Wilkes and surrounding areas. Power lines were downed, trees were snapped like toothpicks, and homes and cars were damaged. Along with Wilkes County, Mecklenburg County was also hit hard by the hurricane, alias

Hugo. Even weeks later, Charlotte and surrounding areas are still cleaning up after Hugo's visit.

Even though the inland areas of North Carolina were hit hard, nothing compares to the damage sustained by Charleston, Myrtle Beach, and other coastal areas. Entire houses and buildings were leveled to the ground as Hugo slammed against the eastern coast.

A storm such as Hugo makes us realize the power and fury of nature and will help us to once again fear the power of God.

Carol Blackburn

Visiting Artist's Corner



Peter and Bonnie Lindblom

Visiting Artist

Peter Lindblom, the visiting artist at WCC, has been busy the first part of the quarter performing and planning for the upcoming events. Peter has been traveling to schools and different communities to perform. He performed for eighth graders at Millers Creek school, played at the Greenhouse Craft-house in Glendale Springs, NC; performed Moravian trumpet music in Winston-Salem on September 14; and played at the gazebo on eight different occasions. He has been rehearsing twice weekly with the Wilkes Brass Band and the Jazz Ensemble for the upcoming concerts, worked with the group for the Shakespeare Festival, and played at the Apple Festival.

What he plans to do the rest of the quarter includes: a midday concerts series with all kinds of music the last of the month and the first of November; perform in churches, perform at First Baptist Church in December, and conduct a High School Brass Clinic for the area high schools.

When Peter Lindblom chose a trumpet to play in his school band because it looked neat, he never realized that it would be what he would be doing for a living--now it is his way of life.

Literacy Enrollment Is Up

One in four North Carolinians is functionally illiterate, meaning that he or she cannot read and write well enough to fill out a job application, read a prescription label, or take a driver's license test without assistance. In Wilkes County, the statistics are even more alarming: the rate is one in three!

In order to meet this challenge, the literacy department is stepping up its efforts to meet the needs of our citizens, both onsite here at the Learning Center at the College, as well as in industry, senior and community centers, and night classes in high schools throughout our three county area.

In our Learning Lab, we offer instruction in Adult Basic Education, teaching adults to read, write, and do math. We offer instruction in GED Certificate preparation, and a curriculum for the Adult High School diploma.

In addition, we currently have ongoing onsite industrial classes, classes at night at various locations

throughout the three county area, all offering ABE, GED, and AHS instruction.

Our most unique challenge arises from a new and growing population of legal aliens from other countries who must learn to read, write, and speak English in order to assimilate into our culture, country, and in some cases, in order to be able to remain in the United States. For these students, we offer a course of instruction approved by the Immigration Department, in English as a second language.

Enrollment is up considerably from last year in all our Literacy programs, and we've added classes and personnel to handle additional students. Recruitment is ongoing and intensive, but locating and identifying the people who need our services is difficult. So help us--and spread the word! Anyone who needs information about any of our programs may call Kay Cunningham at 651-8716.



*Age can't stop you from gaining
useful knowledge at Wilkes Community College.*

*If you think college isn't fun,
try attending with your son.*

*It is a pleasure to attend a college
where you're known as an individual;*

*Not just a number - never too old -
to learn and gain useful knowledge.*

Thank God for Wilkes Community College.

Brenda Sales
(Son - Tim Sales)