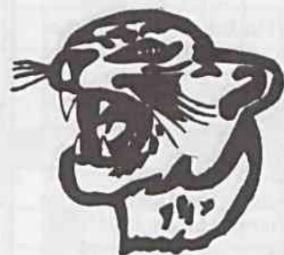




# The Cougar Cry



THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1

WILKESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

AUGUST 30, 1990

## President's Message



Dr. Jim Randolph  
President

As the new school year approaches, I would like to welcome the new and returning students! The faculty and staff of WCC are delighted that you have chosen Wilkes Community College. We are always available to assist you in meeting your educational and career goals. WCC is a pleasant place to learn. Our facilities are appropriate, our equipment is modern, and our programs are current. Most important is the well trained and dedicated faculty that we present to you. They represent the very best in community college education and will challenge you to meet those important goals.

I challenge you to complete your program of study. Certainly many pressures may deter you. But persistence is the key. Statistics plainly show that completers get better jobs, earn more money and have a sense of personal and professional accomplishments. When you are tempted to leave your studies for a temporary and less rewarding respite, just remember that the long-term goal of completion is worth your best efforts.

We are proud that you have chosen Wilkes Community College! This college belongs to you!

### A STUDENT

When William James, the psychologist, and Henry James, the novelist, asked their father (a man of independent means) what they should tell people who asked what he did, he replied: "Say I'm a philosopher, say I'm a lover of my kind, say I'm an author of books, if you like; or best of all, just say I'm a student."

## Computer Phobia

The Computer Writing Center, 818 in Tech. Arts Building, has the answer for you! Any students attending Wilkes Community College is welcome to use the center after a 30 minute certification, that begins with "How to turn on the computer". After certification, students may use the center for everything from practice typing to writing a novel. The center is open 40 hrs. a week, the Fall schedule will be posted on the board outside the center door.

By: Sherry Miller

# "Welcome To WCC for Fall Quarter 1990"

## Need Help - Visit Student Support Services

Students Support Services -- the name fits so well. Students are their business and supportive services their daily aim.

With a staff of three full-time and several part-time employees, Student Support Services is committed to serve a select group of 175 students each year. Their goal is to assist these students through tutoring, counseling and other programs, insuring that the students have the best chance possible to complete their degree program and enter their chosen career.

Beginning its twelfth year on the WCC campus, Student Support Services is funded through a combination of a federal grant and resources allocated by the college itself.

Students who are chosen to participate in the program must meet one or more criteria: first generation college student (neither parent has a degree from a four-year college); eligible to receive financial aid; have a physical disability or learning disability. Students must also show academic need.

Dr. Barbara Holt, who has directed Student Support Services for a total of ten years, coordinates the popular tutoring program. She hires student tutors who have demonstrated excellent performance in their specialty areas and who come highly recommended by their instructors.

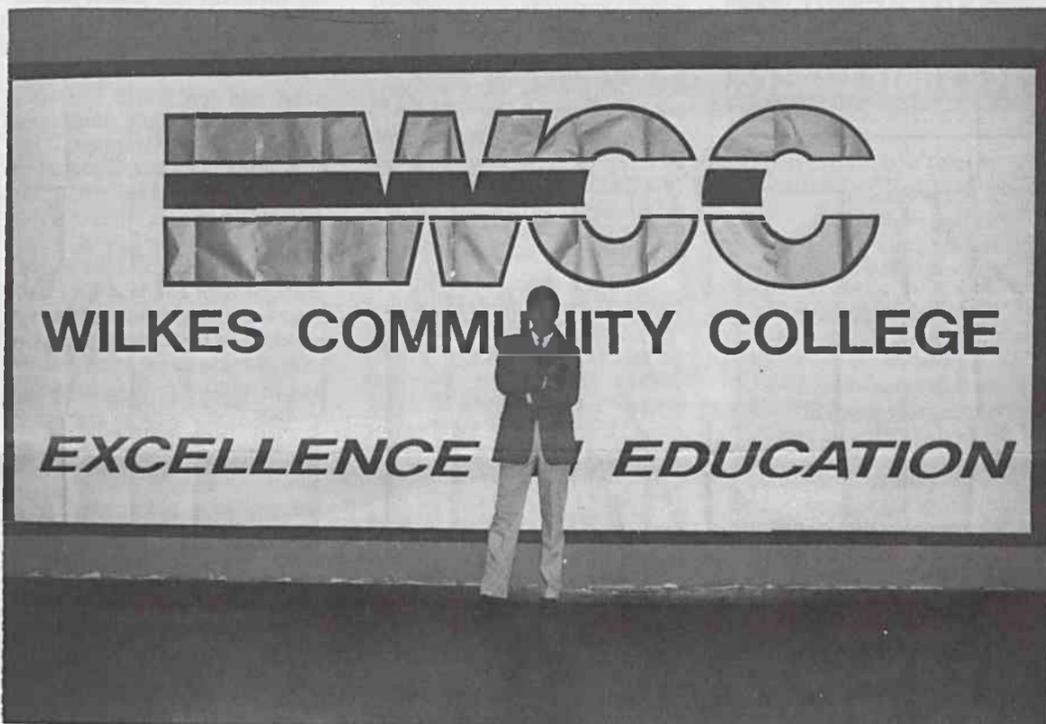
Though requests for math and science tutoring are most frequent, help is also available for the majority of courses taught.

Starting her fourth year with Student Support Services, Cassandra Lanier is the program's counselor. Whether discussing academic difficulties, career goals or personal problems, students find this a supportive and confidential setting in which to explore their concerns.

For almost four years, Gayle Byrd has served as the program's secretary, keeping up with the mountain of student records and paperwork required by any federal program. Always ready with a cheery greeting for students and staff alike, she is indispensable in keeping things running smoothly.

Exciting new programs and membership benefits are on the agenda this year. A quarterly newsletter will keep members informed of these special opportunities.

For the first time, Student Support Services members can buy tickets to performances at the Walker Center for the lowest advertised rate. For example, if a child's ticket is the lowest rate for a show,



a Student Support Services student can have that rate as well. In addition, a season ticket can be purchased for the child's rate of \$46.

Also planned for this year are visits to several area four-year college campuses, tours of local business and industry, and a mentor program to match students with community members who can help with their career development.

Another program in the works is a peer counseling program, utilizing students trained in helping skills to assist fellow students.

The Student Support Services staff is enthusiastic about these big unique plans. They invite interested students to join them for a year that will enhance their learning experience at WCC.

Offices are located in Daniel Hall. Drop by or call 651-8751 for an appointment.

## Building Your Future

Although students sometimes have a difficult time realizing that writing skills are important, the English Dept. is available to help develop writing skills. The English classes are mainly located on the 2nd floor of the Technical Arts Building, as are the instructor's offices. The department has many fine instructors: Brenda Moore, Blair Hancock, Ann Moffett, Diane Wagner, Becky and Pete Mann, and the latest addition, Carol Moore. All these instructors are readily available to help students conquer the quest of their writing fears.

It has been recommended by the

## 1990-91 Financial Aid Information

Many financial aid opportunities exist for students to attend Wilkes Community College, but for some reason many eligible students never apply. Some students just assume that they will not be eligible. Others think that they cannot receive help because of the low tuition costs. Only those that apply for aid can receive assistance. Most students completing the application process actually are approved. Also, the funds received can be used to help students meet costs for housing, food, travel, books, supplies and child care as well as tuition. Students can receive assistance from more than one program to meet their needs.

**What's Available?** Financial aid programs available through the college include grants, scho-

larships, part-time employment and loans. See the list below for specific programs offered.

**Who's Eligible?** Awards are made to students based on financial need (living contribution) and academic potential. Also, students not eligible for grants, scholarships, or part-time work usually are eligible for loans.

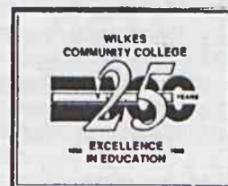
**How Do You Apply?** Complete a Financial Aid application which is available in the Financial Aid Office. Processing time is approximately 3 weeks.

**Financial Aid Programs Available At Wilkes Community College.**

Pell Grants (formerly called Basic Grants) provide "free" money to eligible students based on financial need. For 1990-91 the maximum Pell Grant will be \$1,590 and the minimum Pell Grant will be \$200 per year. Eligible applicants must be working toward a degree or diploma in either technical, college transfer, or vocational programs.

**Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants** are awarded to students based on financial need. Unlike Pell Grants, fund-

Cont. page 2



By: Sherry Miller