

Wilkes Community College holds 17th Dental Assistant Pinning

By Art Menius

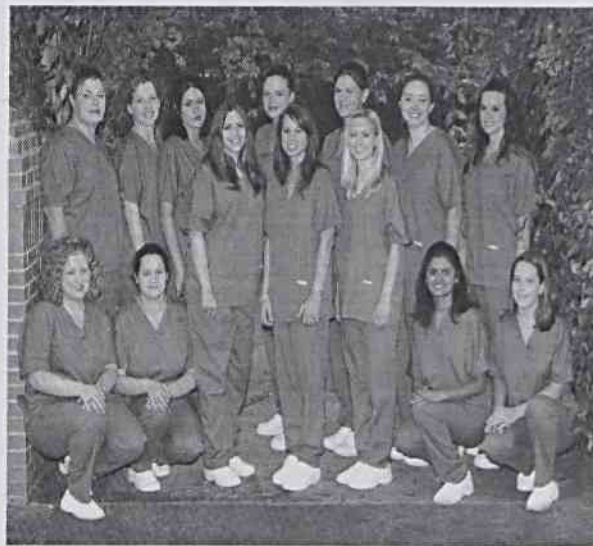
The Wilkes Community College Dental Assisting Program presented pins to fourteen graduates during its 17th annual pinning ceremony at 7:00 PM on Friday, August 5, at the Pit Auditorium in Thompson Hall. The pins signified successful completion of the one year diploma level program. Delilah Christie, Amanda Church, Sara Roten, Cassie Staley, and Julie Triplett earned the Top Clinic Team Award. During their WCC clinical rotation, the team achieved a 94% efficiency rating. Ms. Lolly Johnson, representing the Blue Ridge Dental Assisting Society and Proctor & Gamble, presented the Patient Care Award to Amanda Church and the Outstanding Chairside Assistant Award to Jessica Dagenhart. Guest speaker Dr. Brad Shinaman, a general dentist from North Wilkesboro, presented the Scholarship Achievement Award to Cassie Staley on behalf of the Blue Ridge Dental Society.

Dr. Harry Baldwin opened the program with the invocation. Larry Taylor, chairperson of the Health Sciences Division at Wilkes Community College, extended the welcome with WCC President Dr. Gordon Burns greeting the attendees. Martha Townes, lead instructor of Dental Assisting, recognized the faculty and staff that support the program and the more than forty dental offices that serve as affiliating clinical sites.

Brenda Bryson of the Health Sciences Division announced each graduate as Martha Townes and Lynn Clayton presented the pins. The majority of the graduates have also successfully passed the national exams to be Certified Dental Assistants. Priti Patel, president of the Dental Assisting Club, gave class acknowledgments before Dr. Keith Bentley closed with a benediction.

Besides Christie, Church, Roten, Staley, Patel, Triplett, and Dagenhart, the 2005 Dental Assisting graduates included Renea Anderson, Brandy Bowen, Meleah

Gambill, Amber Kever, Sheena Payne, Molly Plowman, and Christina Saxon. The Dental Assisting faculty for 2005 consisted of Dr. Harry Baldwin, Dr. Keith Bentley, Dr. Larry Cook, Dr. John Cox, Dr. Mona Currin, Dr. Eric Grimes, Dr. Wayne Hollar, Dr. Dean Powell, Dr. Emily Ruda, Dr. Brad Shinaman Lynn Clayton, Carol Gregory, Jennifer Hastings, and Martha Townes.



Dental Assisting Graduates: Front row, L-R: Brandy Bowen, Amber Kever, Christina Saxon, Sheena Payne, Meleah Gambill, Priti Patel, and Molly Plowman. Second row, L-R: Amanda Church, Renea Anderson, Delilah Christie, Cassie Staley, Julie Triplett, Sara Roten, and Jessica Dagenhart.