

Christmon Tree Decorates Chapel

By Jayne Peacock

Approximately 25 students helped the Campus Christian Association decorate a Christmon tree in Howard Chapel. A Christmon tree is interdenominational and is the heritage of all Christians. It proclaims Jesus through the use of symbols.

A Christmon tree is decorated in white and gold. The white refers to Christ's purity and perfection. In Western culture it is the symbol of joy. The gold symbolizes the glory and majesty of God and the Son of God. The evergreen tree symbolizes the eternal life which Christ won for mankind. The tiny white lights speak of Him who is the Light of the World.

Many of the decorations on the tree are rectangular blocks called cornerstones, which symbolize Christ Himself who was called the cornerstone of the Christian faith. These corner-

stones have different symbols of Christ on each side.

Many of the symbols on the tree are crosses. The cross is a reminder of Christ's redemptive sacrifices by which mankind receives forgiveness and salvation. Different designs of crosses have been used to depict various aspects of Christ's work. The cross used most often today is the Latin cross.

Many Greek monograms are used to represent Christ. The most widely known Christmon is the Chi Rho (XP), the union of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ. IHC are the first three letters of the name Jesus in Greek. Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the greek alphabet are often used to represent Christ, the beginning and the end. NIKA is the Greek word for conqueror or victor.

One of the most commonly used symbols of Christ is the fish or IXOYC in Greek. The fish

was a secret sign of Christians during the early persecutions. On catacomb walls, the fish pointed to places of worship. The use of the fish was and is a strong confession of faith and affirmation of the basic doctrine of Christianity.

Other symbols are the circle, which represents eternity; the triangle and the trefoil, two symbols of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the butterfly, which symbolizes Christ's


resurrection; the descending dove, which represents the kingship of Christ; the chalice (cup), which symbolizes the Last Supper or communion; the lamp, which symbolizes divine inspiration, truth and knowledge; the anchor, which symbolizes the cross of hope (the Christ Child is the hope of the world); the scroll or book, which represents the written word of God (the Bible); and the stars formed by crosses set at various

angles, which show the close relationship between the birth and death of Christ the Redeemer. The number of points that a star has indicates a specific meaning. Five points—the epiphany star—represents Christ the Savior, the Son. Six points—Creator's star—represents God the Father who created the world in six days.

Everyone is invited to stop by the chapel and look at the Christmon tree closely.



The Campus Christian Association decorated a Christmon tree in Howard Chapel. Each of the handmade ornaments is symbolic of some aspect of the Christian faith. [Photo by Harold Williams]



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Boxes to Help Distribution

By Tony Turley

Six boxes are under construction in which to place future Collegiates for distribution and pick-up. These boxes are being designed and built by the English 013 Stage Craft class. These six boxes will be put at the following locations: Hines Hall lobby, Hardy Center, Hackney Library, Hamlin Student Center, the cafeteria and Moyer Science Building.

Dennis McDowell, instructor of the course, was asked to build these boxes by the Collegiate editors. He then devised a plan so this project could be the class's final exam. The final drawings from each of the six members of the class were due

Tuesday, Dec. 8. Now the choice design will be used. McDowell is drawing up a design himself just in case none of the students' are adequate. He has said that this will be their first design project. Then on Dec. 10, the selected plan will be presented to the class and, over the weekend, preparations for the building of the boxes by each of the students will be taken care of i.e. tools, pieces of wood honed down to the required size, etc. The boxes will be built on Monday, Dec. 14, during the two-hour final exam period set aside for the class. The participating students are Burton "Trip" Campbell, Hugh John-

ston, Bob Poole, Kevin Rouse, Alan Winstead and Robert Worton.

The general restrictions for the design include the time allowed for its planning and building; the budget, which is \$100 for six boxes; the amount of labor that will be put into the project; and the hope that their use will be permanent. The individual considerations involve the problems of making the box functional and economic. The ideal box would be big enough for the newspaper to fit in, sturdy and long-lasting, using the materials to their greatest advantage, and worth the initial investment.



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