

## Open Letters

### Thanks for Giving

As the holiday season rolls around, people are once again uniting with their friends and loved ones. Never before has such happiness and love been shown as it is during the holidays. People give thanks for many things. Some are thankful to have a home, a family, and food to eat. Others are thankful to have a two-room shack, a meal once a day or even a pair of shoes that was given to them by a friend. Some people count their blessings by the great words they have achieved, the honors they have attained or the status they have acquired in society. Others count their blessings by the progress that have been answered, the loved-ones who have returned home or the laughter upon the faces of children as they snuggle close to one another trying desperately to keep warm.

As I look back on years when I was a child, I remember the hard time that grand-ma had making two ends meet. She'd come home from work and be so tired that only comfort she found was through singing a song about the Lord or watching us as we fought over who would hang up her coat. The holidays always meant that grand-ma and grand-dad would caution us to behave, or else Santa would not visit us. I realize now, that those years are gone, but the holiday still brings us

closer and we often talk about those past years.

I can not explain why I feel this inner joy. Perhaps it is because I have experienced a new style of life. To a child, Thanksgiving only meant watching grand-ma cook all night Wednesday and hearing those same old words "I don't know who will eat all this stuff." And Christmas only meant receiving a bundle of toys and pretending that Santa really existed. These were happy times, but now that I'm grown I realize the true meaning of the holidays.

Thanksgiving is no longer a food-feast. It's now a day to give thanks to the one person who deserves all the thanks in the world. For God gave me eyes that I could see, feet that I could walk and a soul that I could give back to him in return for his goodness and love. He gave me mama, daddy, grand-ma, grand-pa, two brothers and a cat named Felix. He gave me friends, relatives, teachers, and every good thing upon the face of the earth. But, he didn't stop there. One day when I was feeling like I had lost everything that I had to live for, he told me to pray. He made me look at myself and see that life was really worth living. He made me feel that I was truly somebody. He told me that he was about to give me the greatest thing on the face of this earth.

Time stood still. I was too afraid to look back and too unsure to hope for a better tomorrow. As tears flowed and an inner joy came into my life, I felt reborn. I had been blessed.

And now, Thanksgiving is a time when I can say "Thank-you, Lord, for life, happiness and the warmth that flows within families all across the universe. But thank-you most of all, for the person who made that warmth possible - Thanks for Giving - Jesus!"

Beverly Blackwell

### Rams Lose

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winning points.

Winston-Salem was unable to move the ball at all for the next 15 minutes, until Jones ripped off an 18-yard run to put the ball at midfield with three minutes to go, reviving Hayes' hopes of an upset over the MEAC power. On the very next play Blount was hit hard by defensive end Ervin Parker and fumbled again, with Anthony Clay recovering for South Carolina.

When Anderson skipped for 34 yards on the following play, the Rams appeared finished. But the defense stiffened, held, and gave Brewington that one final shot... which, considering the upturn in Winston-Salem's football fortunes under Hayes over the past two years, at least gives the Rams and Hayes a goal for next season.

Winston-Salem State 7 0 0 0-7.  
South Carolina State 7 0 3 0-10  
WSS-Jones 1 run (Brewington kick)  
SCS-Rivers 64 run (Montgomery kick)  
SCS-FG Montgomery 25 A-14,000

Winston-Salem  
Rushing  
Bolton 13-86, Jones 14-59, Blount 19-27, Newsome 1-1.  
Passing  
Blount 2-8-18-1  
Receiving  
Howard 2-18  
Punting  
Howard 4-36.  
S.C. State  
Rushing  
Rivers 16-134, Anderson 18-89, Burgess 16-86, Reed 7-23, Abrams 1-7, Brather 2-20.  
Passing  
Rivers 1-2-5-1, Prather 1-2-20, Phillips 2-1-0-1.  
Receiving  
Pringle 2-25.  
Punting  
Montgomery 3-32.6  
First Downs 14 16  
Rushing 12 14  
Passing 1 1  
Penalty 1 1  
Rushing Attempts 48 77  
Yards Rushing 206 373  
Yards Lost Rushing 32 87  
Net Yards Rushing 174 286  
Net Yards Passing 18 25

## Parking Problems at WSSU

Like all other institutions, W.S.S.U. has its good points and its problems. One of the major problems here at W.S.S.U. is parking. The main problem with parking is finding a space. There are far too few parking spaces for the amount of cars on campus.

Students driving cars on campus are forced to purchase parking permits at \$25.00 a year or \$12.50 a semester. I feel that this is entirely too much money to ask of students when these students do not have assigned parking space. Students who drive cars on campus must search for parking spaces among broken streets and large holes in the pavement. Twenty-five dollars is a lot of money to pay for parking conditions such as these. If the students don't get on campus early they can't even find a parking space in one of the holes.

Many students really don't have \$25.00 to spare once their tuition is paid. It is hard enough for them to raise the money for tuition let alone \$25.00 extra.

Then there are our friendly campus cops who have nothing better to do, but stroll around campus all day and put tickets on students cars. On the days when our campus officers are

extremely bored and have written all the tickets they care to write they call up Davis Garage and have them tow away about 20 cars. This adds a little excitement to their day. It also creates an air of excitement (if you can call it that) for the owners of these cars as they figure out how they will get home and how they will get their cars back.

Our campus cops never seem to be around when they are really needed. Perhaps the reason for this is because they are always entertaining themselves by writing tickets.

I think that all of the administrative people in Blair Hall get a big kick out of seeing that Davis Garage tow-truck pull in at W.S.S.U. I imagine that their eyes trinkle and their spirits lift everytime they see a car being towed away because they know it won't be long before there is \$25.00 in the till.

I really feel that the administration of W.S.S.U. should reduce or perhaps eliminate the \$25.00 parking fee entirely until the university is able to provide suitable parking lots for its students.

Cheryl Brandon

## Band Leaders Graduate

December 3, 1977 marked the final performance of the Dynamic Duo. The performance was successfully and professionally done in Richmond, VA. The occasion was the Gold Bowl.

The drum-major and head majorette got together a couple years ago. They make each halftime performance an explosive act. The head majorette, Miss Geraldine Gates is a native of Wilmington, Delaware. She is a high school graduate of Pierre S. DuPont where she also served as head majorette. Miss Gates was born on the 17th day of March in 1956, under the astrological sign of Pices. The poised young lady is also the president of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship Inc., works on the yearbook staff and loves the sport of football. She is an intermediate education major with Social Studies and Mathematics as her minor. Miss Gates future plans are to enroll in graduate school and live successfully as well as happily.

She had the great honor of being photographed with the President Jimmy Carter at Piedmont Airlines in Winston-Salem, NC. Miss Gates commented that she was grateful for having had such an

opportunity and that working with Dr. Fred Tanner, director of the Marching Rams, was very enjoyable.

The distinguished gentleman who led the Marching Rams was Richard Baxter, better known as Reb. He came to WSSU from the Queen City of the south, Charlotte, NC. At West Mecklenberg High School he was drum-major and this fact along with being rhythmically inclined qualifies him for the position at WSSU. Baxter was born on May 17, 1956 under the astrological sign of Taurus. Playing tennis, swimming, and being actively involved with the student body are some of his favorite past times. Richard Baxter is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, a Political Science major and an Urban Affairs minor. His plans for the future include law school. Baxter commented that he would like to see the student body become more involved and show more enthusiasm. He has proven his leadership ability during the last 3 years by serving well in his position as drum-major.

Both Geraldine Gates and Richard Baxter will be graduating in May of this year.

Phyllis Battle

## Yuletide Greetings

YULETIDE GREETINGS TO STUDENTS:

May the true spirit of this Christmas Season... its joys, its beauty, its hopes, and above all, its abiding faith, live among us...

-Maryjane Hooper Tonn

Excellence at Winston-Salem State University is our mutual responsibility.

Through your academic involvement, participation in out-of-class activities, committee

memberships, work in student organizations, and (most of all) your splendid cooperation, you have helped to enrich the quality of life at "WSSU". For all of your contributions I am deeply grateful.

And, as the new year dawns, and we commence the second half of this school year, I wish for each of you an abundance of the precious things of life: Success, Health, Happiness and Enduring Friendships.

Douglas Covington  
Chancellor

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