



Editorial Comment

Hi there Freshmen,

There are about 300 of you and chances are that there are just that many different thoughts, perhaps I should say questions going through your minds right now. It is, of course, only natural that you should have questions. In fact, that is the reason we, THE COUGAR CRY staff, are putting out this special issue of our paper - to answer some of your questions and to try to tell you some of the things we would have liked to have known just about a year ago.

Most of the Sophomores would agree that the thing we remember most clearly about the first bewildering day of college is that all freshmen were ignorant, but we were afraid to ask questions - even though we had many of them.

None of us seemed to know that freshmen were expected to have questions. You must realize, however, that no amount of parental briefing can cover all the experiences that one faces in the first few weeks of college. No one and certainly no handbook can tell you how to be a success in college. No one person can answer all of your questions or give you all the advice that you need. But, asking questions of fellow novices, of administration, teachers and passersby, can be a great help.

To make it easier for you to get some of the answers you need, the administration, faculty, and some of the sophomores have planned ten days of orientation. During this time deans and advisors will say many things which freshmen, to their sorrow, ig-

nore. Please listen to them.

Another memory was the excitement of meeting new people and making new friends. Instructors and fellow students introduced us to new ideas that made us question many of our comfortable convictions. As one student later stated, "all of this was confusing - so confusing that I might not have been able to put these new ideas into proper perspective had I not had the security of some of the people and things that were familiar to me." This, we decided was one of the main advantages of attending a community college. They found also, that while we might be missing out on a few of the things that are a part of "campus life" we had certain advantages. One of these was the size of classes. Classes were small, smaller than most high school classes.

Also, while our freshmen friends at larger colleges and universities were having to take places at the bottom of campus organization and social activities, Wilkes Community College freshmen are free to take part in all of the activities that we have: newspaper, yearbook, drama, dances, and a student center (keep your fingers crossed.) In fact, we would be delighted if each freshman would choose one or two of these things and really give them his support.

Perhaps the most important thing we would tell you would be that it is the scope and variety of choice that distinguish college from high school. College presents you with enormous choice of courses, of teachers, of friends, of outlooks and the choice is all yours. That is what makes college the adventure that it is and why it is impossible for parents, counselors or even other students and recent college graduates to be of help in more than a general way. They can point out some of the pitfalls, be candid about their own experiences and give you a glimpse of the challenge that college is. After that, you are on your own. Good luck!

Message From The President

Wilkes Community College starts its second year of operation with classes commencing on Thursday, September 21. For the second consecutive year the College will be using borrowed spaces in Wilkes and in the three contiguous counties of Ashe, Watauga, and Alleghany.

According to Dr. Thompson, President of the College, "Wilkes Community College will be offering course work in probably the most comprehensive series of two year programs to be found in the State. The Adult Education program will also be broader. This year one may undertake work in any of twelve technologies, six vocational trades, as well as in the college transfer program. For the first time courses will be offered toward associate degrees in Agricultural Equipment Technology, Hotel-Motel Management Technology, Court Reporting and Construction (Buildings) Technology. New programs in the area of the one year vocational trade will be Carpentry, Masonry, and Drafting-

Building Trades."

Construction on the College's three-building complex is moving along in spite of the many interruptions due to inclement weather. The buildings are expected to be ready for the opening of the College's 1968-1969 school term.

Fifty-three full-time instructional and non-instructional staff members will be on hand to start the college year. These will be supplemented by some fifty to sixty part-time personnel who will be brought in to teach in their specialties.

College officials are aiming toward a full time equivalent quota of some 725 students, which means that the College expects a non-duplicated head count of 2000 students.

"If, the FTE figure of 725 is reached," added Dr. Thompson, "then it is feasible to believe that Wilkes Community College will have more than one thousand FTE in 1968-1969 when the new buildings will be available."

Letters To The Editor

Policies of THE COUGAR CRY concerning letters to the editor are as follows:

(1) Letters must concern present affairs of Wilkes Community College or articles of recent publication.

(2) Letters must be signed.

(3) Letters must be in the Cougar Cry box one week before they are to be published.

(4) The staff reserves the right to print letters in part or in their entirety.

(5) The staff reserves the right to print letters alone or with a reply.

(6) Letters printed do not necessarily express the opinion of the staff.

The Cougar Cry

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Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Editor.....Becky Landreth
Assistant Editor.....Elizabeth Parks
News Editor.....Deborah Lomax
Business & Circulation Manager.....Jim Harris
Feature Editor.....Shirley Steelman
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Linda Watson
Linda Myers
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This
College
Is Yours.

Treat It
With
Respect!