

## OPEN or CLOSED

One is continually asked to make comparisons with our "own students" and students of institutes and universities visited. Therefore, let us assume the position of the student . . .

In Imelda Institute, Brussels, Belgium, a post-secondary technical institute with curricula similar to own Secretarial Science Technologies, students pedal bicycles instead of arriving in cars (for gas is 92c per gallon, and no parking spaces are readily available anyway). Students are single and from ages 17 to 25 (no married or "old" students). In order to get a position with a starting salary of \$213 per month (and the living costs are comparable to ours), Direckion (Executive) secretarial students must pass examination in skills of no less than 65 words per minute in dictation, transcription, and typing in French, Dutch, German, as well as English — on manual typewriters.

In Hogere Technische School, Amsterdam, chemical and engineering sciences are the main programs. Matriculation in the school is by examination and the equivalent of an engineering degree is all one can obtain. Courses sound like these: Thermodynamics, Heat and Mass Transfer, Digital Technics, Engineering Drawing and Design. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; mode of transportation is almost 100% bicycle (a few motor-bikes).

And you are here because you are above average, but cannot qualify for the Agricultural University at Wageningen where students are expected to put in 40 hours per week for a 40-week year in classes, research, and examinations. Sometimes a single class is a full 10-hour session in a laboratory. It takes 10-12 years to receive a doctor's degree after high school if one goes full time; and there is no transfer from Hogere (HTS- to Wageningen (TH), the Scientific University.

In the 23 components of the Polytechnic of Central London, entrance is by rigid examination, followed by competitive interviews. If your education is necessary, the government pays (two years' training as a marine biologist or four years to prepare to be a barrister (lawyer); if your education is not necessary, you pay. Library facilities are almost nil in the institutions; therefore, you buy books or find them elsewhere. The main theme seems to be that if a student can "cut the mustard" academically, an education is provided at little or no cost; however, there is no place for the underachiever or the "late bloomer." It costs just as much to feed and clothe oneself over there as here; but you will be in better physical condition because you will either walk or pedal a bike.

But you know — I wouldn't trade places with a single director of any institute visited, for I feel that our philosophy of the "Open Door," a place where any student can enroll who can profit from our type of education and training, is the best kind of education beyond the high school!

—Dr. Howard Thompson

(Dr. Thompson recently returned from a 17-day European trip where he investigated programs in technical institutes and universities in Belgium, W. Germany, England, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands).

## SIX ELECTED

A recent election produced a "first" in WCC's history! This "first" is a "Mr. Cougar" to represent the school, a position proudly filled by Bill Devereux, a college freshman. Bill is a graduate of Mount Holly High School and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Devereux of Mount Holly.

Reigning with Bill as "Miss Cougar" is Betty Jo Johnson. Betty Jo is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Johnson of Moravian Falls and is a graduate of Wilkes Central High School.

Chosen to serve as "Miss WCC" was Shirley Glass. Another former Wilkes Centralite, Shirley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Glass of North Wilkesboro.

Named "Miss Technical" was Vicki Broyhill, who came to us from West Wilkes. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Broyhill of Millers Creek.

The title of "Miss College Transfer" went to Sandra Jones, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jones of Todd. Sandy is a graduate of Watauga High School.

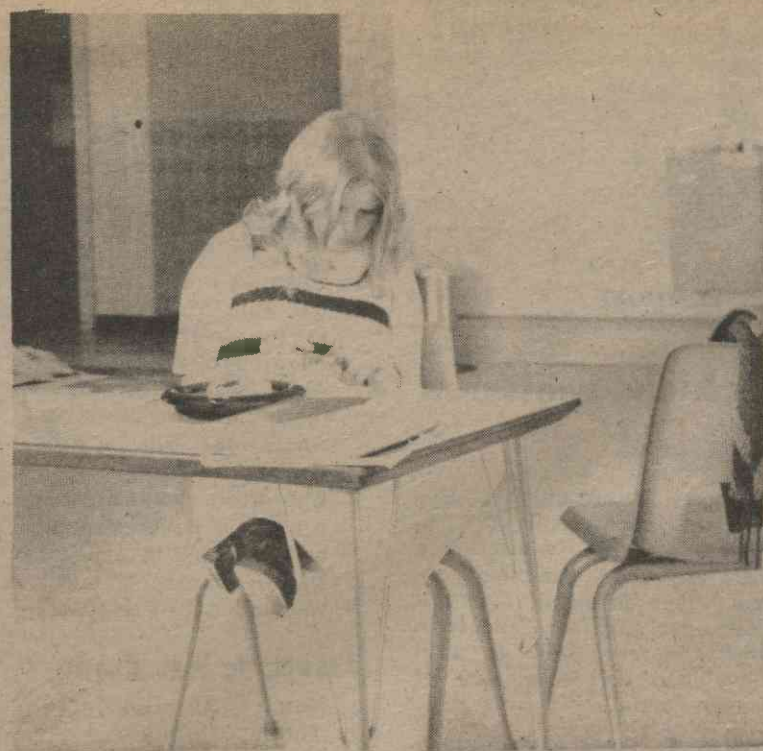
Mr. and Miss Cougar, Miss WCC, Miss Technical, and Miss College Transfer are elected by popular student vote, and the elections are under the direction of the SGA.

Elections were held by Circle K also, and the all-male club chose Patsy Teague as Circle K Sweetheart. Patsy is the daughter of Mr. Edwin Teague of Taylorsville. A college freshman, she is a 1972 graduate of Alexander Central High.

The Cougar Cry staff congratulates these six honored students.



NEW REIGNING HOMECOMING QUEEN Miss Jennifer White; Miss Peggy Byers, last year's Queen, and Dr. Thompson presenting the New Queen her crown.



## THOUGHTS ON EDUCATION

Concerned mother: Isn't this toy rather complicated for a small child?

Sympathetic clerk: It's an educational toy, madam; it's designed to adjust the child to live in the world of today. No matter how he puts it together, it's wrong.

The greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children.

— William Harvard

Education is how kids learn stuff. — unidentified 7-year-old.

I'm still waiting for some college to come up with a march protesting student ignorance.

— Paul Larmer

Imagination is more important than knowledge.

— Albert Einstein

## So This Is WCC

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single girls and why all these little groups at the table? Very seldom do I see a student walk to another student and ask her to sit down. I thought all this snobbery was left behind in high school. It seems the older the student, the friendlier. Even the teachers are friendlier than most students.

WCC I am here, and I am here to stay. Thanks for making that initiation hard. It made me want knowledge more and know if I can survive the first hard weeks, I can make it.

By: Claudia H. Woods

