



# The Cougar Cry



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## "Winterfest Queen Chosen"



### Crowning of Queen at Winterfest Dance



Tamera Stokes, Winterfest Queen; and Tanya Stewart, runner-up

Nominations for Winterfest Queen ended January 18th. On January 24, the Winterfest dance and crowning of the Winterfest Queen was held in the John A. Walker Community Center from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. The dance was semi-formal and featured N.C. number 1 top 40 band "North Tower". Tamera Stokes was crowned WCC's Winterfest Queen for 1989, and Tanya Stewart was runner-up.

At WCC Tamera Dawn Stokes is a full time student in the College Transfer program. She is a sophomore and will graduate in May with an Associate degree.

During her high school years, Tamera was actively involved in many activities. Tamera was athletically inclined. As a captain of each, she participated in basketball, volleyball, and softball. She was a member of the Executive Council, and Student Council. She was also a participant in the Ski Club, Spanish Club, SADD, Junior Achievement, AFS, and the chorus called Hi-Lighters. Her selection into Who's Who Among American High School Students was an honor given her. Among her achievements, she received athletic awards including the Principal's Award, Basketball Coaches Award, and Softball Most Improved Award. Her academic awards included a Journalism Award, Student Leadership Award, and a Scholarship Award.

Finally, Church Youth Group was also among her many involvements.

Here at WCC, Tamera's activities have been just as numerous. For the year '88-'89, she was elected Miss WCC and also Winterfest Queen. She is a member of the Executive Council and SGA secretary. As the reporter, Tamera is a member of the Phi Beta Lambda Club. She is a member of the college volleyball and basketball teams which compete in the Uni-Four College Tournaments. She is also on the Yearbook and Newspaper Staff. Among the honors given, Tamera has been selected in the Who's Who Among National Junior College Students.

Tanya Renee Stewart was runner-up Winterfest Queen for 1989. Tanya is a graduate of Northwest Ashe High School. During her high school years, Tanya was actively involved in sports including volleyball, basketball, and softball; captain of the Rifle Corp.; Pep, Travel, French, Fashion, Monogram, FBLA, FCA, and SADD clubs.

Here at WCC, Tanya is a member of the Volleyball Team, Ski Club, and SGA's Freshman Secretary. She enjoys singing, dancing, and spending time with Rodney, and spending time with family and friends. After graduating from WCC, Tanya plans to begin a career in the medical field.



### History of Valentine's Day

Each February 14th, many of us celebrate Valentine's Day. Often the ritual of sending flowers, candy, or a greeting card to our loved one is performed on this day. But what is the origin of this special day and what were some of the old customs?

According to the World Book encyclopedia, Valentine's Day began in various ways. Some trace it to the Roman festival called Lupercalia. This festival was celebrated on February 15th to ensure protection from wolves. Young men would strike people with strips of animal hide. The women would take the blows because they believed that whipping made them more fertile.

Another origin of Valentine's Day comes from the story of two martyrs, both named Valentine, of the early Christian church. It is said that on February 14th these two martyrs were beheaded. One was reportedly martyred for secretly marrying young couples, which was in disobedience of a law made by Emperor Claudius II. This law forbade young single men from marrying because the emperor believed that single men made better soldiers. The other martyr reportedly made friends with many children. The Romans imprisoned him because he did not worship their gods. The children missed Valentine and tossed loving notes between the bars of the prison cell window. In A.D. 496, Pope Gelasius named February 14th as St. Valentine's Day.

Another origin tied to Valentine's Day comes from an Old English tale of birds choosing their mates on February 14th. In the 1300's, Chaucer wrote in Parliament of Fowls, "For this was on St. Valentine's Day/When every foul cometh there to choose his mate".

Valentine's Day was celebrated in England as early as the 1400's. The sending of verses was started by a Frenchman named Charles, Duke of Orleans. He was captured by the English during the battle of Agincourt in 1415. On Valentine's Day he sent his wife a rhymed love letter from his cell in the Tower of London. Another old custom was drawing slips of paper, with women's names on it, from a jar. The woman's name drawn by a man became his valentine.

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### Who's Who



Front row (left to right): Janis Harless, Brenda Joyce, Shirley Welborn. Second row: Jamie Hamlin, Ramona Burke, Jeff Clark, Matthew Shaw, David Oliver. Third row: Janice Bard, Tamera Stokes, Andrea Dawn Alexander, Albert McGee, Donna Garris, Diane Absher.

On Thursday January 12, 1989, fourteen students were announced to represent Wilkes Community College in a significant honor. The students were informed that they have been selected to appear in the national publication of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. The students were selected by a committee composed of representatives from the college faculty, staff, and the student body based on citizenship, leadership, scholarship, college and community activities, and future success.

Congratulations to the following: Janis Harless graduated from Ashe Central High School in 1979. She is currently in the college transfer program. Janis is the current president of Phi Theta Kappa, 1988 Chief Marshal at the Commencement exercises, and a recipient of the Ron and Ennis Davis Scholarship as well as the Community College System Scholarship. After graduation, she plans to transfer to ASU to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in English and Secondary Education.

Brenda Joyce graduated from North Surry High School in 1980. Brenda is a college transfer student, and her activities include Editor of the *Cougar Cry*, Public Relations Secretary of Phi Theta Kappa, and 1988 Commencement Marshal. After graduation, Brenda plans to transfer to ASU and double major in Health Education and Athletic Training.

Shirley Welborn graduated from Starmount High School in 1968. Her current curriculums are Accounting and Business Administration. Shirley is involved in the Phi Beta Lambda and Phi Theta Kappa Clubs. Shirley also placed second in the State Competition of Accounting and competed at the national level in 1988. After grad-

uation, Shirley plans to major in Accounting with Gardner Webb and pass the CPA (Certified Public Accountant) exam.

Jamie Hamlin is a 1987 graduate from Wilkes Central High School. Jamie is currently in the college transfer program. He is involved in activities such as the vice-president of Phi Theta Kappa as well as co-editor of the yearbook and a 1988 Commencement Marshal. Jamie plans to transfer to ASU and major in Graphic Arts.

Ramona Burke graduated from Alexander Central School in 1987. Ramona is in the Accounting curriculum. Ramona is president of Phi Beta Lambda. After graduation, Ramona states that she "plans to continue her education, earn my CPA license, and become wealthy".

Jeffrey Clark is a 1987 graduate of Wilkes Central High School. Jeff is in Electronics Engineering Technology. Jeff is a Phi Theta Kappa member. He plans to continue his education at UNC-Charlotte in Electronics Engineering Technology.

Matthew Shaw is a 1987 graduate from Starmount High School. He is currently in the Hotel-Restaurant Management curriculum. Matthew's activities include the 1988-1989 president of Ye Host, Ski Club member, BSU member, SGA Sophomore Treasurer, and employed at JAWCC. Matthew states, "I have learned so much, met some good friends, grown so much, that I feel college was worth every bit of my time and money".

David Oliver is a 1987 graduate of Starmount High School. David is in the college transfer program. David has been a member of the wrestling team for two years, SGA senator for one year, and a member of the Ski Club. After graduation,

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