



# The Cougar Cry



THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 1

WILKESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 4, 1991

## "WCC Is The Place To Be"

### President's Message



Dr. Jim Randolph, President

As we enter into another school year, I would like to welcome new and returning students to WCC. The faculty and staff are delighted that you have chosen Wilkes Community College. We are always available to assist you in meeting your educational and career goals.

I think you will find that WCC is a pleasant place to learn. Our facilities are appropriate, our equipment is modern and our programs are current. Most important, however, is the well trained and dedicated faculty that await you. They represent the very best in community college education and will challenge you to meet your goals.

I also want to challenge you to complete your program of study. Many pressures may deter you, but persistence is the key. Statistics plainly show that completers get better jobs, earn more money and have a sense of personal and professional accomplishment. When you are tempted to leave your studies for a temporary and less rewarding job, just remember that the long-term goal of completion is worth your best efforts.

We are delighted that you have chosen Wilkes Community College!

— Dr. Jim Randolph

### Criminal Justice Instructor

Mike Archenbronn has recently joined WCC as an instructor in the Criminal Justice program under the supervision of Bud Rhodes.

Recently married in April, Mike and his wife reside in Wilkesboro and attend Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. Originally from Jacksonville, Florida, Mike attended Florida Junior College where he received his Associate in Arts degree, from there he went on to Florida State University where he received his B.S. degree in Criminology and thereafter to Wake Forest University where he received his law degree. Mike has worked as a reserve police officer at the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as well as an Assistant to the State Attorney in Jacksonville. During this time, Mike was referred to an ad about a teaching position here at WCC passed along to him by his father-in-law and as a result is now an instructor.

Effective Fall Quarter, the Criminal Justice degree program will be placed into the Business Department. For the past several years, the program was the only one without an instructional department and was under Continuing Education. In addition, Mike's office has now been moved to Room 144 of Thompson Hall. According to Mike, Dean Randall helped in bringing the program back to the main curriculum.

Mike Archenbronn should prove to be a vital asset to the Criminal Justice program, as well as to Wilkes Community College as a whole.

*It's been five years since I've been in school.  
One day I was thinking, what shall I do,  
Going back to school sounds mighty fine,  
For my education is on the line.  
Years from now what do I see,  
A waitress, that's what I'll be.  
I told myself no, you can do more,  
That is what WCC is for.  
Now I go to class, so much that I learn,  
The teachers there are full of joy and concern.  
I walk down the halls and as I pass,  
I see classrooms full of students,  
with many laughs.  
Going back to school was no mistake,  
It's taught me a lot and made me feel great.  
So come on, take my word,  
For you probably have heard,  
WCC is the place to be.*

by April Mitchell

### "There Are A Few Problems"

For about fifteen hours, I sat in my seat on the plane from Narita Airport in Japan to Atlanta Airport. Because I couldn't arrive in North Carolina directly, I stayed overnight in Atlanta and arrived at Wilkes Community College the next day. It was a long trip.

"How did you choose Wilkes Community College?" I am always asked this question since I came to the United States. I don't know exactly why I chose WCC because we don't have very much information about small colleges in Japan. Therefore, I just read the college or university's guide book, considered the TOEFL score, the number of students, and the tuition. The United States has many colleges and universities, so I decided on the state, North Carolina, first because the climate is similar to that of Japan. All I could figure out about WCC was the address, the telephone number, the tuition, and the number of students. Now, I think that it's a miracle to be here, in a way.



Neelam Atit

### "Student From India"



India, it is often said, is not a country but a continent. From north to south and east to west, the people are different. The languages are different, the customs are different, the country is different. There are few countries on earth with the enormous variety that India has to offer.

India is the home of one of the world's "great" civilizations - its social structure as it exists today can be traced back thousands of years.

India is second only to China in having the world's largest population. In 1961, it had 439 million and by 1981 the figure had increased to 687 million and now is estimated to be over 800 million.

India's major religion, Hinduism, is practiced by approximately 80% of the population, over 500 million people.

There is no "Indian" language. In all there are 14 major languages in India and probably over 200 minor languages and dialects. The most important Indian language is Hindi, although it is only spoken by about 20% of the population. Hindi, the national language of India, is the predominant language in the north and also related to other northern languages such as Gujarati (3%), Urou (4%), Punjabi (2%), Bengali (5%), and so forth.

Now that I have told you about my country, let me tell you a few things about myself. My name is Neelam Atit. I have enjoyed living here for the last six years. I've been attending WCC for two years. I had planned to go to a four year college, but my parents and grandparents arranged my marriage. In India, we have arranged marriage customs. My parents chose my husband for me. I didn't like the idea either, but after I met my husband, I knew they had chosen the right one. I met Dev (my husband) in June 1989 and we got engaged on July 10, 1989. I came back here and started college. We stayed apart for one year and six months, then I went back to India in December of 1990 and got married on January 21. I am very happy with my marriage. My husband is the world's greatest person.

I came back here in April to finish college. I'm leaving to go back to India in September 1991. I'm going to miss all my friends and teachers. I want to thank a very special friend who taught me how to say "van." I love all of you. Take care!

— Neelam Atit



Neelam's Wedding Picture

## Why Are We At WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE?



TECHNOLOGY



COMMUNITY



COMMITMENT



ACADEMICS

## Good Reasons For You To Be There Too!

Fall Quarter - 1991

Freshman Registration - Sept. 4

Regular Registration - Sept. 5

1st Day of Classes - Sept. 9

### French Lesson

*Like many foreign-language teachers, I stress the country's culture and customs as well as its language. Last fall, I gave my beginning-French class a test, which I expected to take up the full period. To my surprise, one student finished in only 20 minutes. When I asked him if the test was too easy, he shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Piece of quiche."*

### Campus Comedy

Our assignment in writing class was to describe a romantic setting. As volunteers read their efforts aloud, I heard many common details - crackling fires, dimmed lights or soft music. Only one woman had visualized an unconventional scene. It began: "The house is quiet; the children are not at home."

In general, we Japanese study English for six years in junior high school and high school because English is a requirement. However, most students cannot speak English and listen to English, but writing skills (especially grammar) and reading skills are necessary to pass most examinations in school. In fact, I couldn't speak English and understand well what native speakers said even after graduating from high school; therefore, I entered Temple University in Tokyo, Japan, whose main campus is in Philadelphia and studied practical English as a second language. At Temple University, Japan, all teachers are native speakers, but 95% of the students are Japanese so we usually don't speak in English. So my speaking skills still weren't getting any better. Then I thought that it would be good for me to study abroad. Now, ten of my Japanese friends also study in the United States.

I am very happy that I am here because people are very kind and Wilkes County is a nice place to live. I think that I made a proper choice. However, I have a few problems. One is to sleep on the bed because I am not used to sleeping on the bed. Whenever I am sleeping on the bed, I am afraid of falling off the bed. In Japan, I always sleep on the floor which is not made of wood, but straw. It's cool in the summer and warm in the winter so it's comfortable for me. Usually when we get up, we store all bed clothes in a closet.

The other problem is that I cannot get fresh raw fish here. Maybe it's because Wilkes County is near the mountains, not the sea. My home town is near the sea and it takes about 7 minutes by bicycle. Sometimes my father goes fishing and cuts the fish to remove the bones and scales from the fish. As soon as he finishes cutting the fish, we eat the raw fish with soy sauce and wasabi, a Japanese horseradish. I love the raw fish such as tuna and gray mullet, a sea urchin, and salmon raw. I'm sick for these foods and I also like pinto beans and green beans because they are common foods in Japan.

One day, being asked what I ate for breakfast, I answered that I ate pinto beans for my breakfast, so the people laughed but I didn't know what was so funny. Later I understood that American people usually eat pinto beans for lunch or dinner.

Sometimes it is hard for me to understand how people behave or what they think because of different customs, cultures, and social circumstances. In addition, I still have a language problem; however, I will try to understand and I hope that you have enjoyed reading this article.

— Ikuko Nitta