

Career Information For Students With Disabilities

As students begin to consider vocational choices, the first step is to seek out as much information as they can find about the careers that interest them. People with disabilities are capable of performing a wide range of jobs. Students can and should first evaluate their interests — then narrow down their choices by weighing their vocational abilities with possible limitations imposed by their disability (keeping in mind that technological adaptations and worksite modifications can be made. After identifying vocational areas of interest and ability, students will be better prepared to explore the array of vocational opportunities available. A good way to start the process is to meet with a counselor in the Student Development Office who can direct the individual to career sources and provide help in how to use them. Important career books which are helpful in the career planning process are the Dictionary of Occupational Titles and the Occupational Outlook Handbook.

The Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) describes the occupations within our economy and provides information about the physical demands, working conditions, and aptitudes required for a specific job. The Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) is published every two years, providing the most current employment data and trends concerning more than 850 occupations in a variety of major industries. Specific information provided for each major job includes: job duties, personal training, and educational qualifications for the job, salary range, advancement opportunities, and additional information sources. The DOT and OOH are published by the U.S. Department of Labor. These as well as other publications such as How to Choose a College: Guide for the Student with a Disability and Job Strategies for People with Disabilities are available in the Counseling Center. Contact Cathy Annas for Career Planning Services in Room 234 or call 651-8629.

Student Profile

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She also possesses a sense of purpose and direction which is rare for a person of that age. I know that with time comes roadblocks. But is it not great to know that she, at this age, is quite capable of overcoming these obstacles?

Carrie was born on August 30, 1975. She is the daughter of Barbie and Gray Ashburn. Her outside interests include running and dancing. Her career interests have not been etched in stone, but a degree in Business with a computer background is not out of the question.

Like I mentioned before, Carrie and I met in a most interesting way. It has, however, been a privilege for me to know this girl. She is unique, not only through her intelligence, but her personality as well. She is someone with everything going for her, but does not assume it will always be this way. It saddens me somewhat knowing that life has many curve balls to throw at her, however, I believe she wields the bat that would knock any curve ball out of the park!

It has often been said to listen to our youth, for they are less inhibited in their thoughts and ideas than us "older" folks. But it is a shame that we tend to lose our ability to dream as we get older. Carrie's dreams are great and some of this potential to dream has spilled over to me. Thanks for coming into my life, Carrie, and I'll be pulling for YOU!!

— J. Correll

There and Back Again

*Sunny day, good mood,
the wind gusts, my red kite soars.
Few clouds, no rain, lots of sun,
it's a good day to fly a kite.
I'm happy, my kite is happy,
who could ask for more?*

*Cloudy day, bad mood,
the wind stops, my black kite falls.
No wind, no sun, lots of clouds,
it's a bad day to fly a kite.
I'm mad, my kite is mad,
and rain threatens.*

*Rainy day, sad mood,
the wind sighs and my blue kite's wet.
Little wind, no sun, lots of rain,
it's too wet to fly a kite.
I'm sad, my kite is sad,
how bad can it get?*

*Sunny day, a change has come,
the wind gusts, my kite should fly.
Rain stops, sadness ends,
time to fly my kite again.*

— Andrea Hollifield



News From PTK

A Wild Weekend At Myrtle!

Three students and an advisor went to the Phi Theta Kappa Regional Convention on the weekend of March 5, 6, and 7. Representing the WCC Chapter were Bruce Monks (President), Greg Green (Vice-President), and Brett Cothren (Treasurer).

This year's convention offered a wide range of Mental catalysts. Topics ranged from "How to Jump-Start your Brain" (Charlene Swansea) to "Music and the Dynamics of Discovery" (Dr. Orin Anderson). Also included were some suggestions to help one study. Several awards and scholarships were also presented.

This New Year brings a New Honors theme and a new service project. Our Honors theme is *Balancing Unity and Diversity*, and our new annual service project is *Promotion of Community Colleges*. Two themes that offer interesting challenges and endless possibilities.

When asked to summarize what they retained from the convention, our representatives unanimously agreed that they got a better view at how our organization functions on a regional level and they are better able to direct our chapter in the coming years.

Candy Sale

A quick word of thanks to all those that helped in the February candy sale. With your help we were able to raise the money needed to send our representatives to regional convention. It was a big success, but frankly, I hope I never see another "Blow-pop." Once again, Thanks for your help.

Car Wash

Bring your dirty cars and trucks to the Walmart parking lot on Saturday, May 8. Members of the WCC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter will be washing cars to your satisfaction. The cost is a mere \$3.00, which seems like nothing when you consider that a portion of that amount will go to help the *Children's Miracle Network*. Proceeds will be distributed to our nearest children's hospital. We hope to see you there.

We're Out Fer Blood

Thursday, May 6, you will be able to donate a pint of plasma to the American Red Cross. Each and every spring, Alpha Kappa Omega — WCC's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, sponsors a blood drive. At this time, we ask each and every student, staff member, and faculty member to Give the Gift of Life. Last spring our goal was 75 pints — which we busted by finishing out the day with 81 pints.

This year with your help, we hope to break our goal of 100 pints. Keep in mind what it's for and who it helps. Also keep in mind that if you're giving blood you are excused from class!!!

In all seriousness, come on out and help us help others.

— Bruce Monks

Giveaway of \$50.00

All students and staff members are encouraged to buy your raffle ticket today. See any Phi Theta Kappa mem-

ber for your chance to win a \$50.00 gift certificate from the Wilkes Community Bookstore. The drawing is set for May 3, 1993, so hurry to purchase your ticket while you can. Tickets are 50¢ each.

— Dana Severt

SGA News

SGA Update

WCC SGA sponsored two dances this winter. For Valentine's Day the SGA hired a local DJ for an impromptu Sweetheart Dance in the Gym. On March 9, SGA hosted their annual Winterfest Dance. The theme was Mardi Gras/Masquerade. This dance was a semi-formal held in the Walker Center. Sound Entertainment from Statesville provided the music. Thanks to all who attended and made it a good time.

In April, SGA students are going to help the children at Boomer-Ferguson celebrate Easter. WCC students are going to hide eggs, participating in the school's annual Easter-egg Hunt. On April 2-4 several SGA students, along with their advisor, traveled to Charlotte for the NC State Community College SGA Conference. They attended workshops and spent time with students and advisors from other community colleges in order to learn how to better serve the student body at WCC. Also in April the SGA will be preparing for upcoming elections. All students, who meet minimum qualifications, may become involved in the SGA — through the ballot or on the ballot! Look for information about elections to be held in early May.

Leprechaun Spotted

The Shamrock Day Hunt, rescheduled because of the "Century's Worst" snow storm, was held on Wed., March 24. The Leprechaun's (a.k.a. Sam Sink) clues were mind-benders but in the end all prizes were found. Congratulations to Steven Hall and Janet Gryder who found the \$50 Grand Prize and a \$10 prize. Congratulations also to all who participated.

WCC's Own ACC

On March 23 Student Activities finished up 8 weeks of intramural basketball. It was an exciting season. Seven teams participated along with many faithful fans. Thank you to all the students and staff who gave their time and sweat playing ball. Special thanks to Coach James Jones and Richie Greer for all their hard work which made the season possible. This year's tournament winner was the "X-Men." Team members included Shane Jarvis, J.P. Perkins, "Peanut," Scott Horton, Derrick Johnson, B.J. Coles, Melvin Roberts, and Brian Cornett.

The Student Activities Office, this spring, will be sponsoring a Talent Show and League Bowling. The talent show will be held the week of Apr. 19. Polish your tap shoes and get involved! Bowling will begin April 7. Contact Kathron Richards in TH Common's for these or other Student Activities.