

Our Time In Eden

The anticipation was almost over: touchdown in Los Angeles. After running the usual gauntlet of baggage claim, Phi Theta Kappa International Convention delegates Don Whitten and Jason Maloney were faced with their final hurdle: getting from LAX to Anaheim. After much deliberation, it was decided to opt for the "Door-to-Door" van service which is so prevalent in the area. An hour and a half and a mere nine dollars each later, the frugal, yet exhausted delegates were finally in Anaheim.

At the recommendation of the most helpful van driver, the delegates registered at the PennySleeper Inn, an aptly named motel across from Disneyland and a few blocks from The Anaheim Hilton Towers, the site of the convention. As they had arrived a day early, they had an evening to relax and unwind from the long flight from Charlotte. So, after an outstanding meal at the Acapolco, a mexican restaurant, they decided to turn in early and sleep late to ensure maximum energy for the next few days.

Fully rested, but still valiantly fighting off intense jetlag, they headed out on foot with luggage in tow to their awaiting accommodations at the Hilton. After a fine breakfast at Denny's, a long twenty minute walk, and the hassle of checking-in at both the hotel and the convention, they proudly exclaimed "Look out PTK, Wilkes Community College has arrived!"

The first business session found the delegates bored with the usual welcomes and announcements, but pleasantly entertained by a roll call consisting of the presentation of the state flags of every state represented at the conference, and the national flags of not only the U.S., but of Canada and Germany as well. Following this, vot-

ing delegate Jason, with the hapless Don in tow, attended an Ice Cream Social/Meet the Candidates event to learn the qualifications of those running for international office. This was followed by the ever present Mixer Dance.

Day two of the conference found the delegates busily attending various workshops, candidate speeches and caucuses. This was followed by a second business session, which included "The Great Debate," a political debate of current issues between Senator George McGovern and Edwin Meese III. This proved to be most entertaining and enlightening. The day was concluded by a most enjoyable, for everyone but Jason (who found it tedious), "PTK Evening at Disneyland."

Day three found Don sleeping-in while Jason attended an early-morning voting session to elect the new year's officers. This was followed by more workshops and a third business session. The key speakers at this session were author Ray Bradberry and noted psychologist Dr. Joyce Brothers. Next on the agenda was the Society Awards Banquet, followed by the Individual Awards presentations. Here it was, the moment they had waited for and the reason for them being there. Would Alpha Kappa Omega (WCC's PTK chapter) win anything? YES! AKO had won the most coveted of all awards: The Most Distinguished Chapter Award. This was given to only twenty out of over four hundred chapters, so Don and Jason were most proud to accept it on behalf of their entire chapter.

Day four consisted of packing up, saying good-bye to new friends, and returning home. It was a time neither Jason nor Don would ever forget.

Month of Career

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programming students from 8:00 am until 12:20 pm in Thompson Hall, Room 136.

A session for secretarial students is on Wednesday, April 27 from 8 am until 9:00 am in Thompson Hall, Room 145.

Also on Wednesday, April 27, a session for early childhood education students from 9 am until 11:00 am in Hayes Hall, Room 416.

For WCC students interested in interviewing skills and resume writing, there were two workshops availa-

ble. "Writing a Resume" was offered on Thursday, April 14 from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm in Hayes Hall, Room 316.

"Interviewing for a Job" was offered on Thursday, April 21, from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm in Hayes Hall, Room 316.

All programs are free and open to all Wilkes Community College students. For more information on any of the career programs mentioned above, contact Betty Brame 910-651-8665.

NAME THAT STATE

The answer to each definition below is also the Postal Service's abbreviation for one of these United States. In the blank provided, give both the abbreviation and the correct full spelling of each.

Which state's abbreviation...

1. is a family doctor? _____
2. is very fashionable? _____
3. is an expression of surprise? _____
4. is either's partner? _____
5. is part of professional baseball? _____
6. stands for a supreme or civil one? _____
7. is a greeting? _____
8. is in business? _____
9. means a group for veterans? _____
10. is an advanced degree? _____
11. is a magazine associated with Gloria Steinem? _____
12. stands for a kind of attorney? _____
13. is a direction? _____
14. is a large California city? _____
15. is a personal pronoun? _____
16. means something costs nothing? _____
17. is a Freudian term? _____
18. is the third tone of the musical scale? _____
19. stands for a language other than English? _____
20. comes in front of Everest of Fuji? _____
21. means approval or agreement? _____
22. stands for someone's method of operating? _____
23. is a prefix for light, fault, or note? _____
24. is a form of transport? _____
25. stands for the UN organ with veto power? _____

(Answers on page six)

A Fresh Start to the U.S. Toxic Trade Debate

Under the former leadership of U.S. Presidents George Bush and Ronald Reagan, toxic exports from the U.S. soared. Hazardous waste exports rarely occurred before Reagan assumed office in 1981. By 1992, the Reagan-Bush era left a legacy of toxic waste dumping on every continent.

"Presidents Bush and Reagan never had any intention of stopping their corporate friends from dumping poisons on other countries," said Sandra Marquardt, a Greenpeace Toxic Trade campaigner who organized opposition to pesticide exports during both administrations. "The new Clinton-Gore administration, however, brings a fresh attitude to the issue, and provides us with some hope that U.S. toxic exports will decline, or even end."

This hope is based on the broad support demonstrated by members of the U.S. Congress, and new Vice President Al Gore, for ending toxic waste and pesticide exports.

Vice President Gore helped form a coalition of environmentally concerned parliamentarians from 42 countries in 1990. Last year, the coalition, Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE), called upon its members to urge their governments to adopt a ban on exporting hazardous wastes to devel-

oping countries. Now, Vice-President Gore is in a position to help implement such a ban.

Last year, 44 members of Congress co-sponsored legislation to ban all U.S. hazardous waste exports and imports. Representative Edolphus Towns' Waste Export and Import Prohibition Act gained much more support in Congress than two rival bills. The other bills allowed waste exports to continue under U.S. standards (26 co-sponsors), and under Basel Convention standards (no co-sponsors). Rep. Towns plans to reintroduce his legislation this year.

It is likely that another important piece of toxic trade legislation will be reintroduced in the U.S. Congress this year. The Circle of Poison Prevention Act (COPPA) which bans the export of unregistered pesticides, had wide support in both houses of Congress last year. The Circle of Poison occurs when pesticides too toxic for domestic use are nonetheless exported and used overseas, only to return to the U.S. in the form of residues on imported foods. Two sponsors of the legislation, former Senator Gore and former Representative Leon Panetta, are now key members of the new administration. Mr. Panetta is director of the Office of Management and Budget.