



The Cougar Cry



THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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WILKESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

JANUARY 16, 1995

"Have A Good Year"

Note New Year Customs

The New Year has been celebrated as a holy festival since early times.

The Jews kept the Feast of Trumpets; the Druids made sacrifices, sometimes human, to their gods. In many counties gifts were exchanged on the New Year, and in Scotland it used to be allowable to ask for a gift on that day.

The open house custom is English. The doors of all houses were opened at midnight on New Year's Eve so that the spirit of the Old Year might go out, taking old habits and foolish mistakes, and the spirit of the New Year might come in with bright new resolutions.

Dean's List

Wilkes Community College's dean's list for fall quarter includes 153 students.

To qualify, full-time students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or more out of a possible 4.0. Students who qualified are as follows:

North Wilkesboro

Mary Elizabeth Absher, Lora Joanne Adams, Crystal Dawn Barbour, Sherry Braswell Barrier, Christy Darlene Blevins, Sherrie Lee Boggs, Billie Jo Bullard, Melinda Cherice Elledge, Patricia Jennings Freeman, William Edward Hall, Matthew David Hoggins, Pamela D. Huffman, Amanda Jean Johnson, Lance Eugene Love, Jason Paul Maloney, Henrietta Martin, Brian Vincent Mathis, Robin Allena Nance, Norma Jean Osborne, Rajeshwari Pravin Patel, Stephen Wayne Patrick, Sosandra Arletta Roberts, Barbara Kemp Shatley, Kristee Leigh Shumate, Tina Sue Smith, Rebecca M. Taylor, Christopher Dee

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This Christmas I went to Barcelona, Spain and I visited one particular church that gave us the word gaudy. Mr. Gaudy designed it and needless to say his name describes it. There were many colors on the steeple such as blue, pink and green. The church has designs with many people and pine trees with doves on them. Among other things there was a magic square on the wall which I learned how to complete in my Precalculus class.

Attention: Students Planning to Graduate From WCC In 1995

The 1995 Commencement Ceremony is set for Friday, May 26, 1995 at 5:00 p.m. in the JAWCC Van Every Auditorium. Planning is already underway for the many details to be executed.

Please keep the following checklist nearby as a reminder:

- Feb. 2-6 Spring Quarter schedules to be mailed to all residents in our service area and other appropriate students.
- Feb. 14-17 Early Registration Spring Quarter Complete Application for Graduation and Pay Graduation Fee
- March 6 Spring Quarter Registration Day Complete Application for Graduation and Pay Graduation Fee
- March 7 Spring Quarter First Day of Classes
- March 13 Deadline for Payment of Graduation Fees
- May 26 1995 WCC Commencement Ceremony

Chechnya Affairs

In late 1991 Chechnya declared its independence from the democratic Russia. This move, which was led by Chechen president Jokher Vydayer, was overshadowed by Russia's conversion to democracy after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Chechnya, a providence of Russia, is a small country at the southwestern tip of Russia which makes up about 1% of the Russian Federation. Chechnya's first efforts to secede itself from the Russian Federation began in the last century with Czarist Russia, which launched a 47 year war. In 1991 Chechnya proclaimed its independence from Democratic Russia. Negotiations to disrupt the bid for independence have remained peaceful.

But last fall Moscow began to meddle in Chechen affairs, which led to 21 Russian soldiers' capture. After Chechen forces threatened to execute the soldiers Moscow threatened to intervene. On December 11 Yeltsin sent in as many as 40,000 troops, into Chechnya. After both sides appeared to be retreating due to the blood-soaked battles, Yeltsin issued an ultimatum for the Chechens to surrender their weapons or he would issue missile strikes on strategic targets in Grozny, the Chechen capital. On December 16 Chechen president Dudayev agreed to reopen negotiations. But not a single weapon had been surrendered and the missile strikes began.

Yeltsin had significant motives for ordering the invasion. Chechnya is vital to the unstable Russian economy. An essential oil pipeline and railroad line run through the center of Chechnya. It is also the center of the Russian mafia which controls the army and drug flow into Russia, which will have to be terminated. But Yeltsin also probably saw this as an opportunity to boost his popularity with the Russian people, which had dropped from 61% approval to 40%. Yeltsin's move has ultimately backfired.

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