

## Student Leadership Institute



Scott Michael and Carrie Rogers from Wilkes Community College graduated from the prestigious Student Leadership Institute (SLI) on July 23, 1999 at Peace College. The SLI was funded by a Reserve Fund Grant from the North Carolina Community College System Office, and only 29 students were selected from those nominated by the 58 community colleges in the state.

The week-long SLI provided intensive study into leadership skills. In addition to creating group campus projects that will be offered to all colleges in the system, students produced a leadership newspaper (The Lead Story), and participated in a variety of workshops including Dr. Ben Bissell's "Dealing with Difficult People," etiquette and professional dress, parliamentary procedures and communication skills.



The SLI is a pilot program that is committed to training NC community college students and potential leaders in the skills employers are demanding. The institute resulted from years of planning and preparation by Karen Yerby, director of student support services at Stanly Community College in Albemarle, NC, and Joan McLendon, counselor at Johnston Community College in Smithfield. There are more than 750,000 students in the North Carolina Community College system, and the founders are determined that such a presence in the workforce needs support and leadership training.

Graduates of the program will return to their campuses and provide training outlets for their student bodies.

## Seven WCC Freshmen Participate In First Annual L.E.A.D. Retreat

*By Scott Johnson*

The Student Activities Office sponsored the (Leadership Exploration And Development) Weekend Retreat for a selected group of incoming freshmen on July 23-24. The purpose of this retreat was to bring together students from the various high schools and information sessions about issues related to college life. Topics that were addressed included leadership training and student services available through the Student Services Office as well as the overall college; career exploration; and a variety of team building activities which were supportive of leadership development. In order to be eligible for consideration as a participant in this retreat a student had to meet the following requirements:



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1. Be an incoming freshman at WCC for the fall of 1999;
2. Have a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative GPA from high school ;
3. Have demonstrated leadership potential in high school; and
4. Be willing to assist in the development and implementation of 2 student activity programs during the 1999 fall semester.

The retreat was held in Boone, NC on the campus of Appalachian State University. This program was organized and conducted by Scott Johnson, Student Activities Coordinator, and Dr. Lynda Black, College Transfer Counselor. A brief description of each student that was selected to participate in this retreat is listed below.

Derick Bell is a graduate of North Wilkes High School and is the son of Ricky and Cheryl Bell. While in high school he was active in the Beta Club, X-Cel Club, Law Enforcement Explorers and Drama Club. He also served as vice-president of the Student Council. Derick plans to enroll in the associate in arts program at WCC.

Breanna Jolly is a graduate of East Wilkes High School and is the daughter of Bobby and Helen Jolly. While in high school she was involved in the National Honor Society, Academic Club, Key Club, FCA, SADD, Latin Club, French Club and Madrigal Singers. Breanna plans to enroll in the associate in arts program at WCC.

Angela Martin is a graduate of West Wilkes High School and is the daughter of Pat and Deborah Martin. While in high school she was involved with track, Girl Scouts, Student Government and the Key Club. She is also active with her Youth Choir. Angela plans to enroll in the associate in arts/pre-major - nursing curriculum at WCC.

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