

MOVIE
8:00 pm

Christmas

HILLTOP

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WEEK

Opinions

BETTER from a recent graduate about the problems of racism in our society and TAKING OUT looks at Christmas.

Sports

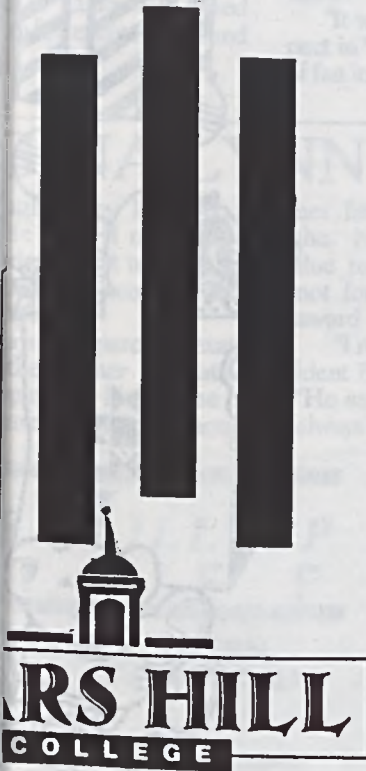
FUZZY SKIBBLET!

...winning and the season eat. One story focuses on our win over WCU, another is a from the Asheville Citizen-

...also take a look at the recent the head football coach.

Fourth Page

Vienna Choir Boys will be here in January, get a pre-also, SART and MHC will co- the premiere of SLAVERY IS. Don't forget to do the WORD COMPANION, too!



AIDS Awareness Program Warns of Spreading Virus

by Freda Banther
staff writer

An AIDS Awareness Program as a part of World AIDS Awareness Week was presented in Belk Auditorium on Monday night, November 30, 1992.

The program began with some very important words from Nathan Shook, director of the North Carolina AIDS Awareness Coalition and a freshman at Mars Hill College, about how quickly Human Immune Deficiency Virus (H.I.V.) is spreading, the ways it is spread, and how people can protect themselves from the deadly and incurable virus.

Two H.I.V. positive panel members were provided by the Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP): Chris, age 28, who is one of the case managers at WNCAP and counsels others who are H.I.V. positive, and Cindy, age 32, who has chosen to speak out in an effort to

make others see the great need to protect themselves from the virus. (They choose not to release their full names.)

Cindy, who now has full-blown Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome, told of her painful daily battle with this disease which has made her body defenseless against virtually every form of sickness.

All three speakers were deeply concerned about the huge number of people who are infected with H.I.V. and are unknowingly spreading it to others. They encouraged everyone to be tested for the virus so as to easily prevent possible spreading of it.

They also emphasized that the abbreviation H.I.V. stands for HUMAN immune deficiency virus, pointing out that it is rapidly spreading in all demographics of our population, regardless of age, gender, race, or sexual preference.

Though the program was put together quickly and therefore advertising gave short notice, the response exceeded Nathan Shook's expectations. "Having over 50 [students in attendance] was a big success," said Shook.

Shook also felt that an even bigger success was that those in attendance eagerly took part in the program when they were encouraged to ask Chris, Cindy, and himself questions and to voice their concerns about AIDS.

Students wanted to know both what is currently being done about the disease and about how they can help people who are suffering from it.

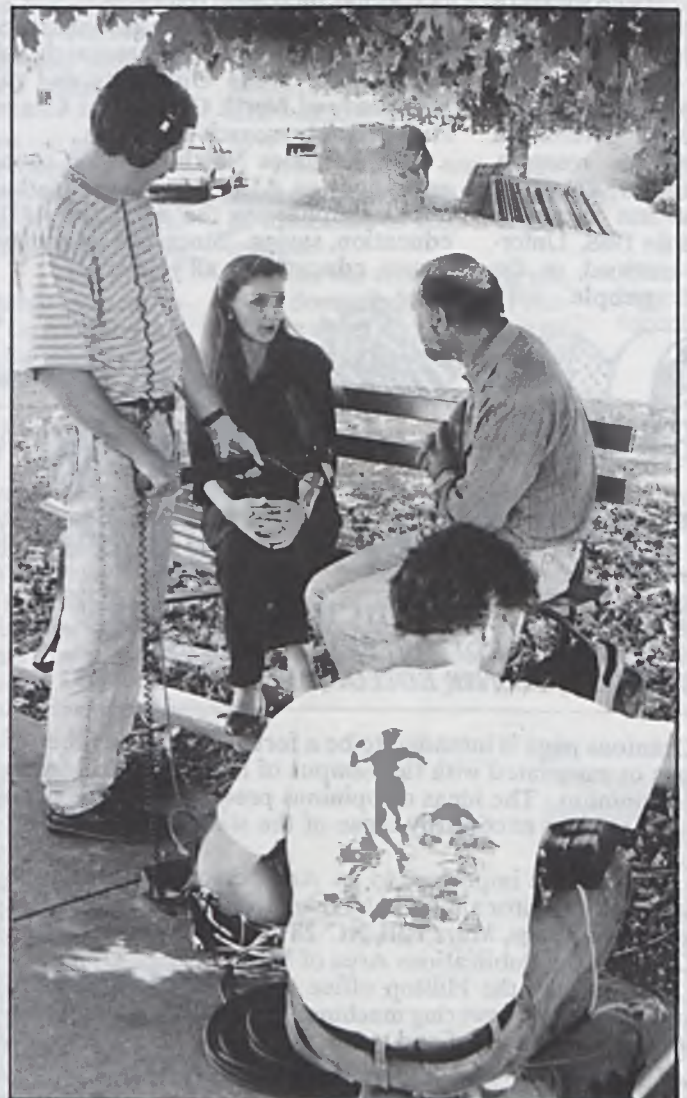
The North Carolina AIDS Coalition and WNCAP promote and offer AIDS education, as well as assistance to those with the disease. Volunteering information can be obtained by calling WNCAP at 1-800-346-3731.

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STUDENT REGINA LYNN WINS NATIONAL LITERACY AWARD

by Kelly McElveen
assistant editor

President Bush presented Regina Lynn, a student at Mars Hill College, with a National Literacy Award at the Third Annual National Literacy Honors on Nov. 22 in a special White House ceremony that will air on ABC Dec. 26 at 9 p.m.



But the story isn't only in the honors Lynn has received; it's also in the struggle she has endured as she fights against a cycle and keeps her children from falling into the same cycle.

Lynn, a straight A student from Mars Hill, had not always experienced scholastic success. As a third generation high school dropout in the tenth grade, college was not at the top of her priority list as she married and had four children.

That was until she came home one day in 1988 to find a pamphlet about a family literacy program in her door. The program offered transportation, food, and child care for those interested in getting a GED. Lynn had run out of excuses.

Mildred Shelton, Mars Hill Alumna, was to become Lynn's teacher and mentor as she pushed her to her limits.

"Each time I said 'I can't do this', Mildred said 'Yes, you can'," Lynn said. "I credit her with saving my life."

After obtaining her GED, Lynn visited Mars Hill with Shelton.

"I thought that I dared not dream this big," Lynn said. She not only dared to dream it, she achieved it.

Once in college, Lynn found time to study and take care of her four children. In the meantime, she quietly made it to the top of her class, becoming a college marshal and a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

But Lynn decided to not be so quiet about family literacy. She has become a spokeswoman for the cause that brought her to college and shares her experience with others.

"I learned that it was never too late to learn," she said. "There is never any dumb or smart, just potential."

This is the message she carried to a family literacy conference where she was the guest speaker to a group of CEO's of the top Fortune 500 companies. Lynn told them that everyone needs a second chance in life and family literacy is one way it can be achieved.

Through the family literacy program, Lynn has learned the impact she can have on her children, ages seven to fifteen.

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