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THE BELL TOWER

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Country Boy Brings Laughter to F-HC

Randy Baumgardner
staff reporter

Last Friday night, around 8 p.m., a very large man in a bright red suit came hollering across the Loyd Auditorium stage, much to the delight of about 1,300 people.

The event was the Silver Anniversary Freed-Hardeman College Advisory Board Benefit Dinner; the man was Jerry Clower.

Clower, famous for his authentic brand of story telling and outrageous comedy, has spoken at just about every Church of Christ school south of Chicago. "But I saved the best for last," he said.

He began his talk by stating that his purpose in life is to stamp out negativism, and much of his act was centered around this idea.

"I saw Dan Rather on TV last night," he said. "From listening to him you'd think that nothing good happened in the world in the past 24 hours. He was so sad he looked like he's just gone through hookworm surgery."

Clower's stories ranged from southern traditions such as eating grits, to his driving pastime of scattering hitch hikers along the road, to his popular characters about John Eubanks and Clovis Ledbetter.



His central theme was love. "I love ya'll for three reasons," he said. "I love ya'll because you're not pessimists, I love ya'll because you're giving folks, and I love ya'll because you're working folks."

Clower's deeply religious nature was revealed throughout his speech. "It

bothers me when Christians are negative," he said. "Negativism kills graveyard dead."

"You're school president told me something I want to share with you," he said. "He told me that you're just as holy laughing as you are when you're crying. Ain't it the truth? I think

that some people get so heavenly-minded that they ain't no earthly good." He also said that Hell is the only place where there is no laughter.

Clower poked fun at health-conscious people, professing that food doesn't cause high cholesterol levels, but that it is hereditary.

"My friend eats Big Macs, greasy fried chicken, eggs, and chocolate cakes and his cholesterol level is 131. My doctor has me eating boiled mocking birds and my level is 251."

Clower frequently speaks at schools and benefits around the country and he gives a free show once a month. "I think that folks who don't get aln't giving, so I do my best to give."

The Benefit Dinner is the largest single fund raiser of the school. Over \$50,000 was raised this year.

After the dinner, President E. Claude Gardner was presented with a golden plaque in honor of his years as president and in anticipation of being chancellor.

Clower, who will speak next in Ardmore, Oklahoma, said that F-HC was "super dyna wopping. This place here is what it's all about," he said. "If everybody would practice the principles that are taught here we would have a beautiful United States of America."

Student Organizations Share Holiday Cheer

Rod Priester
staff reporter

As the Christmas Season approaches, Freed-Hardeman College is alive with talk of finals and Christmas vacation. To help F-HC get into the Christmas spirit, the Student-Alumni Association and the Student Government Association made plans for the coming holiday.

S-AA worked with SGA on some activities planned by SGA. Some of

those activities included a reception in the commons, the lighting of the commons, and caroling. This year's Christmas party was held in Bader Gymnasium with the well-known hypnotist, John Kollisch, performing. The Christmas party was held on Monday, December 4, and began at 8:30 p.m.

Ginger Graham, S-AA representative said, "I think this year's festivities proved that working together we have made this year surpass all expectations."

SGA sponsored the annual food drive on Wednesday, November 29, and Thursday, November 30, from 11 p.m. till midnight in each dorm. Each participant that brought a canned food item received 10 additional late minutes. No student was allowed to receive over 30. Janet Todd, SGA representative, said, "I was very excited about the food drive, it will help many needy people and that's what the Christmas spirit is all about."

SGA also sponsored the dormitory window judging, in which the best

decorated windows belonging to a male and female were chosen and the winners received a free pizza. SGA also had a Christmas party Tuesday, December 5, in East Gano Dining Hall where the members exchanged gifts with each other.

Jenny McDowell, S.G.A. representative, said, "I was excited about working with S-AA. Together, we made this year's Christmas a very successful one."

Opinion

Views Differ Toward Campus Renovations

Ronnie French
staff reporter

With the many improvements that can be seen across the campus here at Freed-Hardeman College over the past several years, it leaves a person to wonder what will the next step be? Our campus has progressed with several additions and renovations including the F-HC Book Store and Literature Supply House, the Burk Center and Gano Dinning Hall renovations, and the tennis courts. There has also been much work done to the greenery and landscaping of our campus.

Although most students seem to agree that we are blessed at F-HC with a beautiful and more than satisfactory campus, there is one very strong opinion among students as to what the next step should be. The suggested area of improvement, which is already being planned by our administration, is within the athletic department. The improvement will come with the addition of a new gymnasium and health complex.

This gym and health complex is intended for the benefit of the entire student body and not just the athletic teams. It will also relieve some, if not all, of the scheduling conflicts that occur with the different athletic groups as well as intramural and student needs concerning the present gymnasium.

There is, although, another opinion for an addition to our campus. That is that F-HC should put its funding towards the construction of a new humanities building. This building would take the classroom and office duties from the Old Main building and supply our humanities department with its needed space for the future.

Now the question arises as to which of these two opinions is the most beneficial for the immediate future of F-HC? There are very good arguments in favor of each. Some feel that our focus here at F-HC should remain on academics and not on athletics. Others feel that a new gym is a need that is long over due and would benefit every one while providing an added attraction for student recruitment.

This question was debated in a

recent philosophy class taught by Ralph Gilmore. Suppose that a very wealthy man, out of the goodness of his heart donated \$5 million to F-HC for the construction of a new building to be named in his honor. The school is instructed to spend the money on one, but not both of the options. Should the money be spent constructing a new gym and health complex or Should it be spent towards the construction of a humanities building? Both options were discussed, with no clear answer decided upon.

In a recent poll, over 100 faculty members and students were asked these same questions. Out of that number, 97% were definitely in favor of a new gym and health complex.

Senioritis Afflicts Students at Freed-Hardeman

Todd Music
staff reporter

Every year there is a disease which finds its way into the hearts and souls of a certain group of people who spend their time in educational institutions across America. This illness affects many people in many different ways and is feared greatly by those who teach at these establishments. This dreaded disease is most commonly known as SENIORITIS.

We have all heard of this fearful sickness that starts in the minds of the upperclassmen and gradually develops into the controlling factor of their lives. There have been a number of studies conducted on this illness and the only results that have been reached have been nonconclusive. The only link that has been established is that of the senior status of these students. There are a few rare cases, usually self-induced, which have appeared in the lower classmen, commonly known as under-over-achieving-classmen.

There are also exceptions to every rule and the exceptions to this disease, or at least those who seem immune, are education majors, medical students, and law students.

It, unfortunately, is inevitable for those who are in the vast majority of normal BA and BS students. As we

have said this is a compound disease which begins in the mind and ends up controlling the actions of that person. Some signs of the mental side of this illness are an increased ego, which can be noticed through small slurs and slams against the upperclassmen not to mention the phrases of superiority which occasionally drop in and out of the conversation. Once the sickness has progressed into behavior modification it has almost become irreversible. The behavior which follows the mental stage is represented mostly by extremely loud and obnoxious outbursts which seem to increase in intensity if there are attempts to stop them. There is also a great negative connotation placed upon the word "freshman" in any of the speech uttered from their mighty jowels.

The final stage in this never-ending battle of the unidigital IQ's is all around lethargy and a general conveyance of "I don't give a flying leap," attitude. Once this has been reached, there is only one hope for these suffering souls and that is...graduation.

If you see someone suffering from these and other symptoms the best thing to do is to have them to report to their most difficult teacher who will in turn guide them to realize that without a good grade in their classes, they will not graduate. If this does not work then try to put them in a situation



to display superiority over the senior, and if this does not work then do everything you can to see that they get their diploma so that they will no longer be a pain to you or anyone else

who should happen to fall into the path of this diseased individual. These people are not to be taken lightly and all should be on the look out for them.

World Evangelism Enhances College Experience

Dowell Flatt
Bible Department Chairman

One of the methods which can be used in an effective way to evangelize, edify, and educate is BIB 296/396/496. This is a field lab experience taught under veteran preachers and missionaries. Under the oversight of the Estes Church of Christ and supervised by Evertt Huffard, this has become an excellent work. Earl Edwards, Director of Missions, offers his keen insight and supportive help. This program lasts for twelve weeks and one receives college credit for it.

During the summer of 1989, five F-HC students (Randall Atkins, Randy Barber, Wil Perkins, Brad Blake, Linda Record) participated in effective field labs in three different countries. They all returned home very tired yet very happy.

Randall Atkins, a junior Bible major from West Memphis, Ark., worked as a youth minister in Gainesville, Ga. He organized the youth activities, planned a youth retreat, directed the mother's day out program every Wednesday, and taught in a Bible camp. Atkins said, "Youth ministry is not a hobby; it is not just an adventure; it is a way of life."

Randy Barber, a sophomore Bible major from Little Rock, Ark., worked with Campaigns Northeast/Southeast. Under the oversight of the Sylvan Hills Church of Christ in Little Rock, Owen Olbricht has directed this excellent program for over twenty-five years. Freed-Hardeman College faculty member Sam Hester, a former campaigner in this special work, is the faculty sponsor of this group.

Randy worked in Albany and Staten Island, New York, Lancaster, Pa., and Lithia Springs, Ga. His key works involved door knocking, home Bible

studies, preaching, and teaching classes. His most memorable experience was "watching a lady I had talked to being baptized," said Barber. His efforts helped bring twelve souls to Christ.

Wil Perkins, a junior Bible major from Newell, W. Va., spent ten of his twelve weeks in Singapore. The other two weeks were spent in Malaysia. Wil worked with a former missionary-in-residence, Gordon Hogan.

It was a personal joy to work with Wil for two weeks in Singapore and Malaysia. By his second week, he was making major adjustments to become an effective worker in an Eastern culture. His key activities included working with youth groups, door knocking, preaching, and teaching classes. "My most memorable experience was when we were in Malaysia and were told that if we were caught talking to a Muslim about Christ that we would be put in jail," said Perkins. It was worth it all; over forty people were added to Christ during the summer at Singapore. Wil is planning a return trip to Singapore in the summer of 1990; he is looking for additional workers to go with him also.

Brad Blake, a senior Bible major from Lebanon, Tenn., spent the summer in Nigeria. Lord willing, he hopes to take others with him to Nigeria in the summer of 1990. Brad spent his time in follow-up work of the World Bible School, teaching classes in a secondary school, open air preaching, conducting chapel at a government-operated college and home Bible studies. His work helped to bring about seventy-five new souls to Christ.

Linda Record, a senior social work major from Benton, Ky., worked for twelve weeks in Nigeria. Though it can be hard for a Christian lady to raise money for mission work, it can be



Front row left to right: Randy Barber, Linda Record, Evertt Huffard;
Standing: Dowell Flatt, Brad Blake, Randy Atkins, Wil Perkins

done. Linda's home congregation helped her pay her way. Several young children brought dimes and quarters, "to help Miss Linda go to Nigeria."

As Chairman of the F-HC Bible department, one is often asked by sincere people, "Since a woman cannot preach, what can she do on the mission field?" The basic reply is, "She can do far more than is being done!"

A few of the things which Linda did included teaching children's classes, teaching two teenage girls' classes, working as a helper in home Bible studies with Brad Blake, working in the follow-up program of World Bible School, and working in the Nigerian Christian Hospital by participating in mobile clinics. A woman can do some of these jobs far better than a man.

When asked to list some key thoughts, Linda replied: "I learned more about myself than anything. I appreciate missionaries and their families more.

The Nigerians are such a serving, caring people."

All of the F-HC students said that they would engage in their evangelistic activities again. They highly recommended this type of endeavor to others. It will be a real challenge. The hardest thing was "being homesick." One gave the wise comment, "It is lonely. The glamor wears off very quickly."

No major health problems were encountered. In contrast to the typical view of some in the United States, Singapore is a much cleaner place than any section of our great nation.

Though one may find flaws with any method, he should be slow to criticize until he does it better some other way. Wil Perkins likes to cite the statement of Rick Pinczuk, missionary in Slavic countries, "The one who says it can't be done should never interrupt the one doing it!"

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Out of State Students Face Perplexing Dilemma

Bob Noland
staff reporter

There is a major problem that some Freed-Hardeman College students face every time they come back to school from a break or for the beginning of a school year. F-HC students are not permitted to enter their dorm until 2:00 p.m. of the Sunday before the break is over. Some students live too far away and must make the decision whether they will miss church or will get back after curfew and possibly be put on restriction. Another option that students have is to come back and stay

in their dorm on Saturday, but, they are charged \$20.00 for the inconvenience that is put on the school for opening the dorms early. What is not considered is the students inconvenience of driving on Sunday and missing church services.

Jenny McDowell, Hall-Roland Hall underclassman representative, recently brought this problem up at a Student Government Association meeting and proposed that the dorms be opened for students who live extreme distances from the school. McDowell said, "This is a problem that should be looked into and alternatives should be considered because of the students who do live so far away."

This is a problem that not everyone

realizes is a problem, because a majority of students live close enough to the school and can come back at any time.

In response to the question about the feelings about the service charge returning early, Rod Priester said, "I feel that the service charge is not necessary for the students who have so far to travel. I am from Pennsylvania. I start my trip at approximately five in the morning. If I stop for church I will not make it back in time for curfew, and if I make it for curfew I will be unable to attend church." Wil Perkins said, "I think that the \$20.00 charge should be eliminated for those students who have to travel a half a day. It would be much easier if we were permitted to

come back on Saturday so that we could obey the speed limit and go to church. a lot of times, even if you try to go to church before returning, your mind is on trying to beat curfew instead of the service itself. Many times you have to leave the morning service early and skip the evening service to come back."

Many students face the dilemma of not attending services and making curfew or facing restriction because they decided to worship and to still try to get back on time. Although not everyone faces this decision, it is a problem that some students are aware of and wish that they did not have to deal with this every time they come back to school from a break.

Discipline Emerges From Clapton's New Album

Ron Gray
staff reporter
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The last release from Eric Clapton was a "greatest hits" set which covered a span of about twenty-five years. How does an artist follow up after something like that, especially when he is Eric Clapton? Well, he apparently takes an attitude of discipline and creativity.

Clapton has taken 12 songs and has given a personal and distinct feel to each one. The album, "Journeyman,"

starts off with a song familiar to something from August, 1986. With the horn section and Clapton's straight ahead guitar work, the songs pull together in a package containing music tightly fit into a pleasing arrangement. The song concerns emotional troubles in the marital world.

The producer of "August," Phil Collins, appears on the album filling the duty of the drummer on "Bad Love." "Bad Love" has a toe-tapping pace filled with variations of victory in the game of love. Clapton looks back on all the bad love in his past. However, the darkness has been cancelled by the light of love. "Oh what a feeling I get when I'm with you, you take my heart into everything you do, and it makes me sad for the lonely people, I walked that road for so long, how I know that I'm one of the lucky people, your love is making me strong."

There are two blues-based numbers

on "Journeyman"—"Running on Faith" and "Hard Times." "Running on Faith" is a gentle and tender song of hope. The song conveys feelings of an anticipating love waiting around the corner. "Lately I've been running on faith, What else can a poor boy do? But my world will be right, When love comes over you." The second blues tune is a Ray Charles classic called "Hard Times." Clapton takes the song by the throat and hands it back to the listener with blues riveting his guitar as well as his vocal cords.

"No Alibis" is a powerful song featuring harmony vocals from Daryl Hall. Clapton tends to restrain his talent on this song in order to present the song as a total effort of musicians rather than Clapton standing in the foreground with his fret-bored finger tip dancing. "No Alibis" is kind of a continuation of "Pretending." "Don't give me no alibis, no untrue stories

your trying to justify, don't want no alibis, just another reason for another lie."

The only ballad on the album is called "Lead Me On." Angelic melodies and flowing percussion glide through the song making it a candidate for radio airplay.

The highlight of this album is Bo Diddley's "Before You Accuse Me." What sets this song apart from the rest of the album is Clapton's decision to unleash his passion. Robert Clay is also ax-slinging on the song. Clapton and Cray engaged in a "dueling banjo" scenario with the listener emerging as a winner. The album is Clapton's best since "Slow hand" was released in '78.

The eighties found Clapton straying from the roots that made him the original guitar hero. "Journeyman" restores him back to the business of creating music for the sake of aesthetic and emotional appreciation.

Johnson Honored as Teacher of the Year

Palge M. Kittrell
staff reporter

The best method of teaching has been the age old subject of debate. However, there are some principles, like communication, motivation, and innovation, that we use to evaluate and honor teachers. Dr. Steve Johnson's mass media research class honored him by nominating him for the teacher of the year because of the way in which he uses these principles. Johnson

received the award plaque during chapel on November 15.

Stuart Hames, a student in Johnson's class, said he appreciates his teacher because, "He really knows how to get on our level to explain things and he is extremely helpful." Todd Fulkerson said he really enjoyed Johnson's sense of humor.

Johnson is perceived by many of his students as dedicated to his profession. Johnson said that he has always wanted to teach. He said he has been teaching or tutoring since his sophomore year in

high school. "My father was a preacher so I grew up with a strong motivation to help people," he said.

Johnson said he does not teach any differently from other teachers but that he uses different combinations of various methods. "Everything done in the class should help the student to learn," he said. "Testing is a way of prompting students to learn. In the lower division classes, I like to motivate them to think on tests. The students in upper division classes should be able to take the technology

and apply it on the test even if they have to figure it out when taking the test," he said.

Johnson said he is motivated when he explains subjects to students and he sees "the lights come on." He said he hoped that each student left his classes with the idea that learning is continuous and that "they need to know more."

Dr. Johnson's dedication to helping students has helped them to keep playing in the right mud puddles in any subject he teaches.

Garofalo Retires After Eighteen Years of Service

Palge M. Kittrell
staff reporter

After eighteen years of service, Mrs. Helen Garafalo will retire December 22, 1989. She came to Freed-Hardeman on August 1, 1971 to be the secretary for Mr. Brad Brumley who was the newly appointed dean of students. She had been his secretary at their church in Columbus, Miss., since 1968. She will retire as administrative assistant of student affairs. Garafalo and Brumley started out in the two offices now occupied by the Student Government.

"What all of these people (student affairs staff) know now we did then and

did then without knowing what we were doing," Garafalo said.

Mrs. Garafalo, however, caught on to the job quickly. She has been indispensable to F-HC. Her duties include the secretarial work for the vice-president and deans of student affairs; transcription of correspondence tapes; disciplinary report typing; and all housing duties including lectureship and general visitor housing.

In addition to all this, she has full disciplinary authority when the vice-president and the deans are out of town. "If you can believe it, I have worked under and helped train two vice-presidents, two deans of women,

one dean of men, and four deans of students," Garafalo said.

Garafalo said she has seen quite a few changes at F-HC. The two biggest changes were disciplinary actions and dress codes.

Garafalo, who is a 1940 graduate of F-HC, said, "It's been wonderful to come back and renew old friendships." She said friendships she has made with the students while working in student affairs have been long lasting. "I don't know how many students I've been a mother to or a Mee-Maw to their children," said Garafalo.

Garafalo said her favorite memory of F-HC will be "the comradeship of the

people I work with and of course, the students." Mrs. Garafalo plans to stay in Henderson. "I'm going to stay close to the school," she said.

Garafalo said a few words of caution to the person who will replace her about the sometimes frustrating job. "Don't let anything irritate you enough that you lose your temper. Let everything roll off your back. Give everyone the benefit of the doubt. Be loyal to the school. And you must be honest with everybody," she said.

Whoever will replace Helen Garafalo has a big pair of shoes to fill. Mrs. Garafalo's patience, friendliness, and experience will be missed.

Basketball Games to be Broadcast on WFHC

David L. Hale
staff reporter

The Freed-Hardeman radio station, WFHC, will be broadcasting several of the Lions and Lady Lions basketball games this year.

The broadcast team is headed up by Sports Director Jeff Higdon. Team

members include WFHC News Director Todd Music, Remote Technician David Smith. Former F-HC Lion player Brian Maynard is also helping in some of the ballgame coverage.

There is something new this year to the sports broadcast team for WFHC. There are two female sportscasters on the team. These are Jennifer Mitchell and Tina Taylor. These two will be assisting in covering the Lady Lions ball games.

Coverage this year will consist of all Lions and Lady Lions home games.

These will be broadcast live from Bader Memorial Gymnasium. Selected away games that are within the TCAC division will also be broadcast if sponsors can be found to cover the cost. The overall cost to broadcast a game is about \$50. "If this money can be raised, then the away games will be broadcast," said Higdon.

The team is made up of mostly

beginners in the broadcast field.

"Games broadcast do far have been great considering the experience of our staff," said Higdon. "I can see the sportscasts only becoming better." The team members are working to improve their broadcasting skills.

"Listen in to your Lions Sports Station, WFHC 91-Five for all of the Freed-Hardeman basketball coverage this year. We expect a great year!" Higdon said.

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Dorm Mother Reflects on F-HC Motherhood

Ron Gray
staff reporter

July, 1973 was a learning experience for Ms. Margie Allen. In that year she became a mother to about 300 girls. Ms. Allen started a new profession: dorm supervisor or what is commonly known as a dorm mother. She began her career at Hall-Roland Hall at Freed-Hardeman College, but she now performs her duties at Brigrance Hall. Ms. Allen loves her job which like that of any good mother is a 24 hour a day job. "The deans assign us (dorm mothers) time off from 1:30 to 5:30 in the afternoons, but, of course, you can't put a stop-watch on motherhood," said Allen.

Ms. Allen left her work in 1982 because she felt she needed to be closer to her own family. Ms. Allen said that after a week away from the "young people" at F-HC, she missed the other family. After three years away the deans invited her back to fill a capacity she knew as well as anybody: being a mother. She gladly accepted

the invitation.

Ms. Allen has worked in every dorm on campus with the exception of Paul Gray Hall. "I hope before I retire in May they'll (the deans) give me just one day to work in Paul Gray so I can brag and say I worked in every dorm on campus," she said with a smile and a hint of pride.

When asked which was her favorite dorm, she, like any good mother, declined to claim a favorite. However she did say, "I haven't had any better than Brigrance."

When Ms. Allen reflected over the last 14 years at F-HC she recalled good times. "I've had my problems, nothing major or serious, but when I look back, all my years here have been good."

When asked what has changed the most over the last 14 years she said, without hesitation, "The rules," she went on to give an example, "If you wanted to go downtown in Henderson, you had to sign out, no matter what time of day it was."

When I asked her to give an example of a typical work day she said with a chuckle, "There isn't a typical work day." Her job consists of

checking rooms for cleanliness, keeping track of paperwork such as maintenance requests, waking up at 5:45 a.m. to unlock the front door and performing motherly duties such as opening a door for someone who has locked themselves out of their room to taking care of her sick "fellows" as she likes to call them. She is a dorm mother in every sense of the word.

But all is not roses for Ms. Allen. When asked what she likes least about her job she said softly, "Graduation." She explained, "I guess it's like cutting the apron strings to your own children, you get attached to the ones you take care of day after day, after you get to know people you really miss them."

One thing she says that has helped her to be more understanding and caring around the dorm is her experience with her own children. Ms. Allen has four children, David Allen of North Carolina; Mike Allen of Huntsville, Ala.; Sharon Walker of Fayetteville; and Brewer Allen of Centerville. Ms. Allen has 15 grandchildren including F-HC's own Tony Allen. Ms. Allen's husband died in 1972.

Ms. Allen talked of the benefits in being a dorm mother: "I get free room and board plus I receive a salary. Also the spiritual benefits are overwhelming, there is not another job in the world where you can worship the Lord with 1200 other people everyday at 10:30."

Ms. Allen has spent a few of her summers on the road with missionary groups traveling to Spain, England, Scotland, and other foreign fields. Things that highlight her years are Makin' Music, homecoming and any event that brings a lot of people to the campus. "I love the people," she said with a gleam in her eye.

So where does she go from here when she retires in May? "I will be moving to Huntsville, Ala., to be with my son and daughter. I hope to do some volunteer work at one of the area hospitals."

When I asked other dorm mothers at F-HC about Ms. Allen, Rose Shoulders of Benson Hall said, "She is a wonderful person, caring, giving, always thinking of others. She has an attitude of being a servant, truly a Christian."

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Keith Martin
staff reporter

The time has come again. We are nearing the end of the year and the last holiday of the year—Christmas. It is a time of festivity and it brings with it many special things.

It is a time stringing Christmas lights that brighten the blackest of evenings and put a smile (maybe even a tear) on someone's face. It is a time of groups, young and old, getting together and carolling around town. It is a time of snow that brightens the gloomiest of those cold days.

It is a time of the Christmas tree. There is nothing better than getting the family together and trimming the tree while singing those Christmas tunes that have been sung for such a long time.

It is a time of Christmas meals, including the turkey or ham mother has prepared. It is a time of the Christmas puddings and cakes to enjoy after the main course.

It is indeed a special time for the children, because it means that Santa will soon be visiting, stuffing presents under the tree and filling stockings to the rim with all sorts of neat things.

The idea of giving presents goes back to the Romans. During the festival of the Kalends (January 1) new consults were inducted into office, and the festival lasted for three days. The houses were decorated with lights and greenery—this may very well be partly responsible for the modern Christmas tree. The high-ranking officials of the Imperial Administration, as well as the people, were expected to present gifts to the Emperor. The Emperor Calligula presented an edict which stated that he must be given presents and stood on the porch of the palace to receive them in person. Such gifts, not only presented to the Emperor, but frequently exchanged between private persons, were called *stranae*.

Originally these presents were only branches of evergreen picked from the grove of the goddess *Strenia*. Then the Romans gave gifts of honey and cakes that the New Year might be full of sweetness, and gold that the New Year might bring prosperity. The legend of "Kris Kringle" is related to the infant Jesus himself delivering presents; this helped to fix Christmas Day as the occasion to exchange gifts. At first, presents were very modest: things like money, cakes, apples, nuts, dolls, small toys; useful things such as clothing; and things that belong to teaching, obedience, and discipline such as Bibles, writing materials and alphabet books. These were the traditional Christmas gifts of a child in the Middle Ages, arranged in the stocking with an apple at the top and an orange in the toe and a new sixpence (six pennies) in between.

Other items that make great gifts for 1989 are clothing, leather purses for women, and Paul Harvey says, "For the man of the house that works outside, give him an Alladin Stanley Steel Thermos this Christmas to keep his coffee hot."

However, much has changed since then and with the technology we have today, there is a much bigger demand of better things. There are some real popular gifts that will be selling this year from stores world-wide. For kids in the toys department, these are the hottest selling items of 1989 according to Gina Riggs, a clerk at Wal-Mart: —For girls: Riggs said, "Any new dolls that require batteries, such as Oopse Daisy Doll and P. J. Sparkles."

—For boys: Riggs said, "The Ninja Turtles are selling like crazy, and anything that has to do with Batman."

In the electronics department, the hottest selling gifts of 1989 according to Coszet Rhodes, also a clerk at Wal-Mart, are: "The Nintendo games power glove, keyboards among high school age students, camcorders, and the best selling of all things is the Batman movie at \$15.86." Leslie Ziller, assistant manager of Wal-Mart adds, "Computers are a popular favorite for families."

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However, besides some material gifts there could also be the giving of our inner emotions. The greatest gift that we could ever give someone is love. After all, didn't God do the same for us? So, why can't we give it to someone else? Famous singer Pat Boone says, "There are things you can do that will be appreciated more than

things money can buy."

Author, Dr. Wayne W. Dyer, lists his ideas of what he feels are 10 perfect gifts one could give for the holidays to those they love (especially for the children):

- 1- "An unquestioned acceptance of everyone as a valuable person.
- 2- "Show by your example that seeking approval is not necessary.
- 3- "Show that failing is not only all right, but sometimes necessary.
- 4- "Show others how to enjoy the present moment.
- 5- "Show them how to avoid worry.
- 6- "Show them how to avoid any labels and role stereotypes for themselves.
- 7- "Let them welcome the unknown.
- 8- "Give them a guilt-free life.
- 9- "Show them how to avoid being dishonest.
- 10- "Show them how to be fully alive."

Christmas is a time of spending precious time with the family. The exchanging of gifts at Christmas time brings a closeness to the family. There are many material possessions that one could get for a loved one, and there could be the gift of love that one could give without any kind of material possessions. No matter what it be the process can be a meaningful thing. Pam Ferguson, a student, said what the exchanging of gifts in her family meant to her: "Being able to give gifts at Christmas time is special to me because it's a time of sharing. Yes, you could give gifts every day, but there is something special about having the whole family together and exchanging gifts especially when it's the gift of love."

2,500 Attend 1989 Homecoming Activities

Mark A. Barber
staff reporter

Relations, said that the committee had been planning on this past year's homecoming activities since the end of last year's homecoming.

Whittle said that this year several changes were made as far as the order of activities went. The biggest change was the early chapel program. In the years past chapel has been at 10:00 a.m. but this year it was at 9:00 a.m. Instead. "We were skeptical about the number of people that would attend the early chapel, Whittle said. There were close to 1,000 people in attendance at the beginning of chapel and by the end there were close to 1,500 in attendance. Keith McDonald was in charge of keeping chapel moving smoothly. The coronation of the queen and her court was one of the activities which was moved to Saturday morning.

This year many departments held

their own reunions. The Department of Communication was one of these. There were close to forty graduates in attendance at the reunion held within the department. The majority of the graduates were those who had graduated in the 80's. Within the department there was a reunion of the Pied Pipers Company II who had been in existence for the past twenty years. Other departments which held their own reunions included, Math, Health and Physical Education, Biology, Physical Science, Education, Bible, and Music.

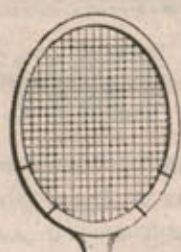
For the first time there was a reunion for the graduates from the year 1954 and every five years in between. Among the 2,500 visitors, 300 came back for the reunions.

This made the second year for the Department of Alumni Relations to be in charge of the homecoming activities.

In years past student services had been in charge of the activities.

Entertainment on campus included a concert by the 1980 band from F-HC "Petra," and a concert by both their Chorus and Sonshine Singers. It has been estimated that at the Petra concert alone Friday night a total of 500 people were in attendance. The homecoming committee for next year has already started working toward getting another performing group from the past years here at F-HC.

"I would like to express my appreciation to the fine student body of Freed-Hardeman College for making this year's homecoming a great success. Without your help we would not have been able to make this year a year to remember," said Whittle.



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