December 7, 1994

First Annual

Holiday Issue

of

The Tiger

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Established in 1907, South Carolina's Oldest College Newspaper

Christian holiday tradition

by Chauntel Blend

This is the common cenario for many families during Christmas Eve: lights are strung up around the house, Mom cooks a ham dinner and bakes a cake, and the family gathers around and sings Christmas carols.

Everyone may exchange a few gifts and greeting cards. The children then go to bed and wait in anticipation for Santa Claus to come from the North Pole on his sleigh, come down the chimmney, and leave gifts for them.

These and many other traditions are practiced around Christmas time. Christmas is the time of the year that is widely recognized as being the holiday commemorating the birth of Christ,who many Christians believe to be the Son of God.

But as you eat that ham dinner that Mom has prepared or put up lights around the house or exchange gifts, have you ever stopped to wonder why we hang up lights this time of the year or eat a poultry dinner, or Santa Claus?

One must ask himself,what is the basis for exchanging gifts for Christmas, or putting up lights around the house or Santa Claus? Believe it or not,many of these traditions are based on a pagan heritage.

First of all, the date of Christmas has an ancient Roman pagan background. The birth of Christ is recognized the Christian community as a whole on December 25 but this date is very difficult to ascertain because of the dearth of any evidence determining his birth. This was a dissenting issue among the leaders of the early Christian church.

The date was probably by the early church leaders chosen in opposition to the Roman pagan celebration called the Feast of the Invincible Sun.

Before the Christian era began, Dec. 25 was the date that celebrated the former date of the winter solstice.

According to Roman pagan dogma, the sun god was responsible for this event that brought the coming of more light on the earth. The baking of cakes, singing Christmas carols and making meat dinners can also be related to this ancient festival.

Similar traditions such as these were done by the Romans during this holiday because this feast was considered by the Romans to be a festive occasion.

The concept of Christmas lights is also related to a myth of the winter solstice.In Northern Europe,Christmas is celebrated for twelve days from Dec. 25 through Jan. 6,which is the date of the Epiphany which is believed to be the date when the Magi Kings brought gifts for the Christ child.

In old Northern European folklore, the twelve days between Christmas and Epiphany,is the date when evil spirits converge on the earth trying to prevent the coming of spring.

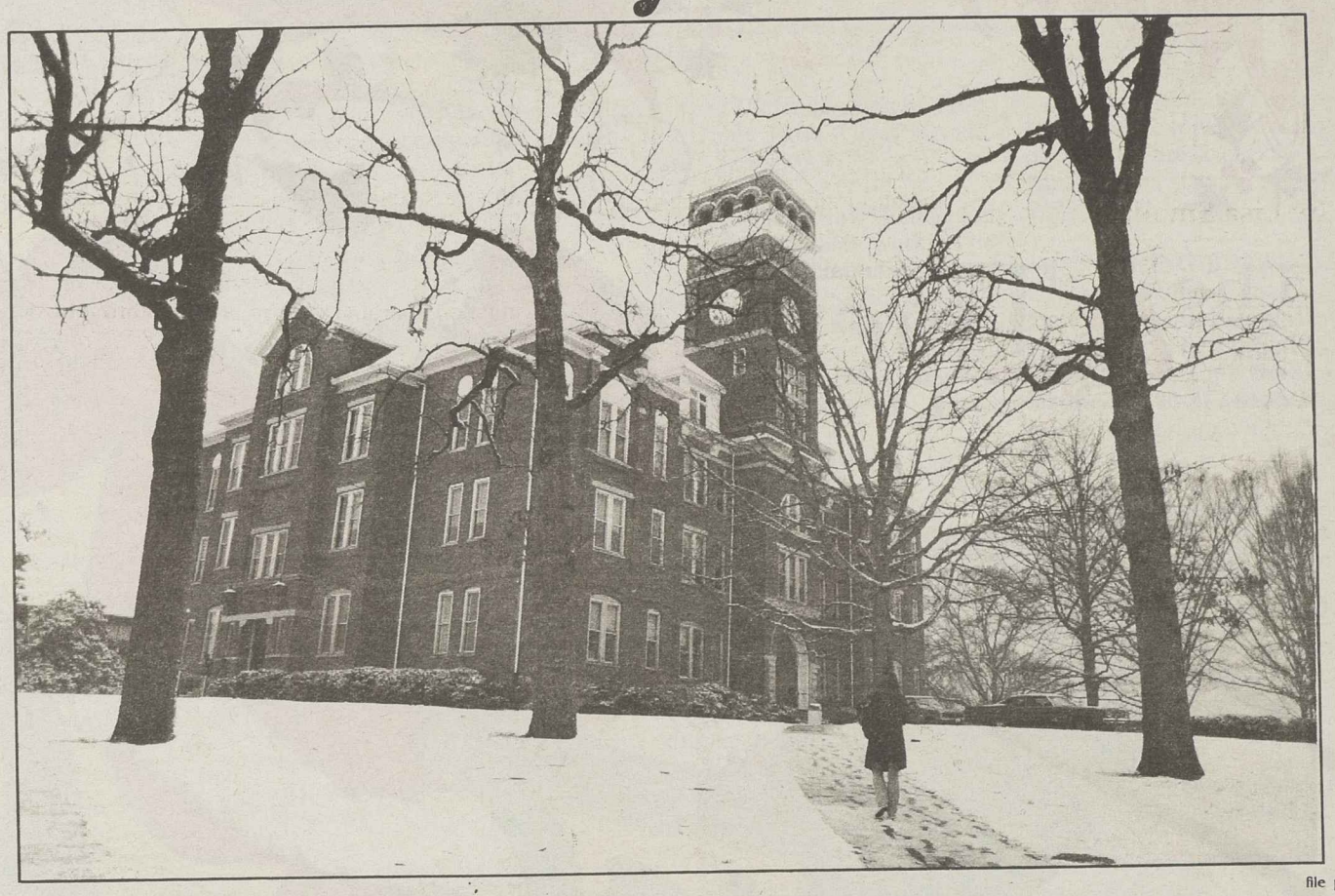
Christmas Eve is known as the "devil's funeral.''.In order to try to commemorate this victory over winter's death,homes are decorated with lights and evergreens in this darkest time of the year.

The exchange of greeting cards began around the 19th century in England. But this tradition is believed to have begun in another Roman pagan tradition of strenae or their custom of exchanging gifts around the New Year.

And finally, even though Santa Claus is primarily an American innovation, he too combines elements of Christian and pagan culture.

But.Santa Claus combines the qualities of Nicholas of Myra, the patron saint of children, with the German god of fire Thor, who fought through ice and snow in order to get out of his home which is located in the polar areas of the earth.

So from now on, the next time you and your family sing "Jingle Bells''or put a star on top of the Christmas tree or give gifts to each other,you can now stop to think, is what you and your family doing of God or gods?



file photo

Many students and faculty are hoping to relive a 'White Christmas' for it looks like it has been years since Clemson has ever received such a snow storm.

Different beliefs prevail in season

by Karla Jensen

It is December and Thanksgiving is over. For many people this means going out and buying a Christmas tree or putting the tree together, as the case may be. It also means buying mistletoe and other decorations to display the Christmas spirit. Some churches even have a special service to celebrate the decorating of the sanctuary with holly and Christmas trees.

The irony is that the most recognized symbols of the Christmas season, next to the Nativity, are pagan symbols incorporated into Christianity by missionaries during the middle ages. Holly, for example, was used by Romans to ward off evil spirits and was at one time banned in churches for their relation to paganism.

The bans were pretty much ignored, and today holly is one of the first items of greenery to be put up in the church during the season. It was approximately 400 years after the birth of Jesus (earlier if one takes into account that Jesus was actually born four years earlier than what we now believe) that various Germanic tribes celebrated the winter solstice around December 25 by having winter festivals.

These festivals involved celebrating the presence of the evergreen plants and trees such as the mistletoe and the fir tree. These "evergreens" remain green throughout winter, hence the name, and to the pagan's, according to Professor Dennis Paz, of the History Department, "they symbolized the belief that from the midst of winter spring would arrive," that after the cold of winter new life would appear.

These greens were also seen as signs of peace and fertility, and the pagans believed that the gods lived in the groves where these plants and trees "lived." They would hang the mistletoe from the ceilings in their homes for happiness and romance as well as to ward off attacks, and they would decorate the trees with ornaments of fertility.

Near the trees they placed food and burnt offerings, gruesomely resembaling our modern tradition of placing Christmas gifts under the tree.

Sometimes they would offer up prisoners of war as human sacrifices. When the missionaries were sent by Rome to convert pagans to Christianity.

They saw these rituals and realized that some of them were similar to Christian ideas, like the idea of new life coming from winter. In this sense they incorporated aspects of the Christian religion.

Having these seimilarities made it easier for the pagans to be willing to convert, for they knew that they could keep some of their rituals.

It is an interesting notion, though, that as people place the ornaments on their trees this season, they are giving an offering to fertility. This a season in which many new and different traditions are learned by many people. It adds a little finesse to the holidays.

Christmas around the world

by DeAnna Norris

Using evergreens, flowers, berries, garland and candles for special occasions dates back thousands of years and is a custom all over the world. Traditional plants used in America and throughout Europe have special meaning and significance. The candle, a common Christmas symbol, represents a variety of beliefs.

Holly, a very popular decoration, is especially significant during Christmas. The name "holly" is said to be derived from "holy." The Druids considered holly to be sacred and used it to heal sick people. as well as repel evil spirits and protect houses from lightening. They also believed that if holly were hung around the stable and barn where it could be seen on Christmas Day, the livestock would thrive. Holly with heavily spined leaves is referred to as "he," and the type with smooth leaves is "she." The type brought in for Christmas determines who will head the house for the coming year.

Another superstition says leaving holly up after New Year's brings bad luck, hence the ritual of the burning of the greens. Also throwing holly away brings evil spirits into the home.

Ivy, decorating many homes during the holidays, also has a special reason for being a Christmas decoration. During the Middle Ages people thought of ivy as a symbol of love because of its clingy growth.

Using mistletoe dates back to Scandinavian mythology. Myths warn that the plant must remain suspended to bring good luck; otherwise, the plant would bring destruction.

The Druids used mistletoeto cure many illnesses. Combined with holly and other plants, the decoration provided shelter for spirits in the winter.

Rosemary, a lightly scented shrub, reportedly once had white flowers. However, when the Virgin Mary spread Jesus' newborn clothes on it to dry during their flight from Egypt, the flowers became pale blue. Rosemary is said to bring happiness to all who use it. It is known as the herb "sacred to remembrance," and legend has it that rosemary makes the old young again.

Today the candle is such a common and traditional symbol of Christmas few people remember it's special significance. In the Middle Ages people lit a large candle in memory of the Star of Bethlehem.

Another story from a French epic of the thirteenth century contains a description of a tree with lit candles on all of its branches, some upright and some upside down. A Child atop the tree serves as the brightest object.

The pope explains that "The lit tree is humanity; the upright lights are the good men; the reversed lights are the bad men; the Child is the Savior."

In Scotland, before the Reformation, people believed if a lit candle went out before midnight evil would befall the family. In Ireland candles are always placed in the window on Christmas Eve to show "the way."

Greeks give

Chi Psi fraternity plays Santa for children

by Lisa Smail

Every year thousands of children wake up to a Christmas without presents. The Chi Psi fraternity is doing their best to make sure this doesn't happen this year.

Their philanthropie event, collecting toys for needy children, will help bring a smile to the faces of the children from the Helping Hands House.

Each brother contributes at least one present. After the gifts are collected, each child is matched with a gift from his or her age group.

Cable Best, chosen to portray Santa Claus this year, will don his outfit and distribute the presents.

Alex Kennedy, a brother of Chi Psi, feels that their involvement "let's the children celebrate a holiday that they may not otherwise have been able to celebrate."

Some of the brothers also involve their families.

Joe Rains, for instance, went home over the Thanksgiving break and received support and toy donations from his family.

Chris Davis is the philanthropy chairman for the fraternity. He feels that the attention given to the abused or neglected kids of the Helping Hands House will benefit everyone involved in the long run.

Davis believes that his fraternity's involvement during the Christmas season will "make the children happy because they will get something that they otherwise wouldn't have gotten."

Davis also hopes that the children will learn that if they are ever in a position to help someone, they should.

Many people may be put off by a project like this because it seems to take a great deal of time.

Chris Barnes, a brother, claims that "it doesn't take a lot of time or effort, just some motivation."

Davis states that one reason for choosing the Christmas project was because it gives them "the opportunity to help others with less advantages."

Charities need help

by Angel Charpia

Are you going to coast through another holiday without helping those who cannot help themselves? Many worthy organizations such as the Salvation Army, the Helping Hands of Clemson and the March of Dimes ask for nothing more than and a few hours of your time a week.

Workers at the Salvation Army are breaking out their red kettles to collect money for the needy.

They are not only asking for volunteers to man the kettles but also help count the money. This is time-consuming for workers and can take up to five or six hours a day.

Some families who are unable to cope with the financial burden of Christmas are given gift certificates from the Salvation Army, and the Army also gives toys to children who otherwise might not receive any. People wanting to help should keep in mind that they need workers to help distribute toys on the 22nd and 23rd of December.

The Salvation Army doesn't sponsor meals during Christmas or throughout the year.

"We don't serve food. We basically haven't had the need because there aren't that many homeless in Oconee County," Sergeant Henry Houston commented.

Helping Hands of Clemson also help the needy and are looking for assistance during this festive season.

Helping Hands is a nonprofit organization that finds sponsors for foster kids.

They need people to take children to parades, and if anyone is interested in spending some money on charitable causes, Helping Hands needs funds to buy Christmas presents for the kids.

If your heart stretches further than your wallet, however, you can pick up and deliver presents. Please contact Jeannette Deaton at 654-1167.

Everyone has heard of the March of Dimes, and it does not differ from any of the other charities in that they need volunteers as well.

Because of the volume of work they do throughout the year, the March of Dimes does not sponsor special activities for Christmas.

The people of the March of Dimes are responsible for Walk America, Bid for Bachelor and a Chef's Auction.

They have Wonder Walks for three, four and five-year-olds and a Phone-a-thon, just to name a few. They even have Golf tournaments in Anderson and Greenville.

If these events strike your fancy, Erik Whaley is the division director who will answer your questions.

The Foundation always needs extra hands, to either fold and stuff envelopes or to attend functions and help out.

Now that you are no longer able to use ignorance as an excuse, consider logging in some time with a good cause.

All of these charities and more are in the yellow pages with a friendly voice on the other line waiting to take a donation or give more information.

There are many needy kids who would not receive the Christmas that most people have received. Charities provide a chance for people to open up their hearts and give the gift of Christmas to someone who needs it most.

The Honor Society of

Phi Kappa Phi

Faculty and staff members of
Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society
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We will be selecting fall initiates.

Call Kirk Brague (656-5827) for more information.

THE Union

Edgar's Entertainment Committee
presents:

Lay Quiet Awhile

Thursday,
Dec. 8, 1994
9:30 p.m.
in Edgar's Nightclub

• • • • • • •

Minority Activities Committee (MAC)
presents:

The Color Purple

Thursday, Dec. 8, 1994
9:15 p.m.
in the Y-Theater
Admission is $1.00

Your friends at the University Union want to wish all Clemson University students a happy and safe holiday season! We look forward to entertaining you in 1995.

Shoppers experience stress

by Brian Carley

A time of warmth, joy and cheers would be one way to describe the newly arrived Christmas holiday. A time of stress, hassles and money would be another way to describe the holiday in which there are unpaid bills still haunting many people from years past. No matter which approach you take to the perpetual holiday season, memories of happiness and joy always seem to over power the horrors of gift shopping.

Gift shopping tops the list for negative aspect of this season. If everyone ignored the millions of dollars of advertising spent each year and simply exchanged looks, kisses or hugs there would be much less stress on people and much less tension in the stores.

People would then be able to relax on their time off and only have to worry about the inevitable holiday traveling blues, which is an uncurable problem.

Since everybody knows the holiday would not be the same without exchanging presents the list of shopping stories will continue to grow. Shopping is not that bad if you have plenty of money and a list of exactly what you will by who in what size and where. Impossible. The money factor alone can cause enough stress for a breakdown which will hopefully not land you below the heavy feet of desperate shopping opponents. Therefore creative gift giving is in order.

A simple list of gift ideas would be futile since everyone knows someone who either has everything or hates everything.

For the really broke individual joint gift giving is a savior. If you let your gift buying partner pay for the present you are all set. It is easy to put off paying your debt to someone such as your brother, but he legally cannot ruin your credit.

Cleverness and caution must be used so you do not cause a fight that can ruin the entire family's holiday. Even if the holiday itself arrives and your brother is still mad because you have not paid him back a card from someone whom you know is bound to contain a little cash which you can then hand to him along with a clever line and even things up.

If there are still people who you do not have a gift for you are not out of luck.

The best gift is one from the heart. What is more personal then something you make? Paint something for them, maybe paint the gift you wish you could afford for them.

If you have no artistic talent and cannot bring yourself to the level of laminating a poem on a piece of construction paper there is still hope. A paint-by-numbers kit is easily followed.

If you are still desperate and Christmas is only a day away you can always order from a catalog and worry about payments later

Try the home shopping channel and let them bring the ideas to you. Most gifts are good but a few things that should be avoided

Never tell someone that their gift is on order unless you are sincere. People have a tendancy to get rowdy during Christmas.

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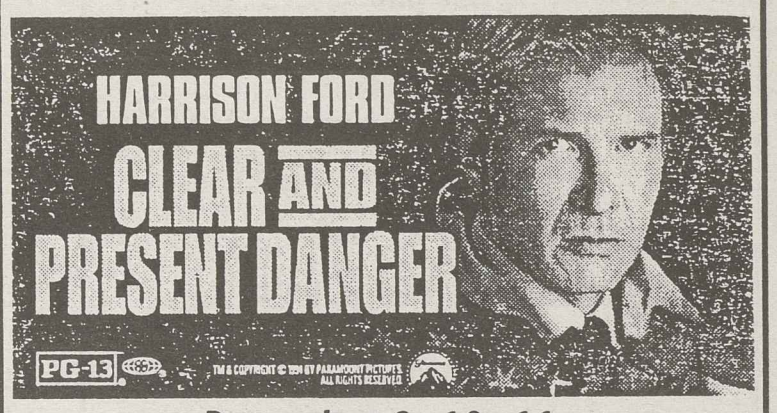

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New year time for change

by Blythe Hamilton

At the beginning of each year, Americans resolve to start doing something that is good for themselves, to stop doing something that is bad for themselves or to simply do something better.

The new year offers us the opportunity to start anew and leave our annoying habits, bad grades and general lack of motivation of yesteryear behind us.

New year's resolutions give us all a chance to begin again. Many college students intend to begin again at the start of each new semester, contending that they will attend class regularly, study more and make their best grades yet as they face the challenges of a brand new term.

As the fall semester of 1994 closes, many of us have fallen into our same old pattern of skipping class, going out too often and staying out too late with the idea that next semester we will turn our academic careers around.

Unfortunately, we find that once we have grown accustomed to being irresponsible, it takes much more than good intentions to foster real change.

Actually, these good intentions are only the first step in breaking a bad habit or creating a good one. Most of us fail to follow-up on our new year's resolutions for much of the same reasons.

We see New Year's Day as a new beginning when in fact it is only another day. The new year is no longer new by the end of January when we typically revert to our established habits of the previous year.

So, why do we continue to make resolutions if we are bound to fail? First of all, Jan. 1 seems like a logical time to begin. After we indulge in all sorts of temptations during the holiday season, we convince ourselves we will lose the extra five pounds that we gained during the holiday season.

We also make resolutions to begin a daily exercise routine, like senior April Reeves plans to do.

After discarding the Cindy Crawford workout, April has started running and walking with Robin Roberts, who she hopes will motivate her to stick to her resolution.

Senior Paige Kennedy has a related resolution—to promote the Powerhouse gym that she is opening in Mauldin, S.C. in March for which she is offering student discounts.

Finally, football trainer Robert Boettner says he resolves to get more physical exercise now that football season is over.

Students and teachers, however, did not list fitness as the most popular resolution. Academic and personal improvement tops the list of resolutions for 1995.

Jennifer O'Neill and Lisa Trescot simply hope to graduate ths coming May and find above-minimum wage employment.

Gary Mohr plans to study more and to not waste his money next year. Junior Amy Balcome just resolves to continue making good grades.

Finally, speech and communication studies instructor Paul Kohl wants to waste less of his time, but he will wait until the new year to startthis resolution.

Will any of these people keep their resolutions? Senior Elizabeth Garrison puts it best by saying: "I resolve never to make another resoluiton because I know I would break them all!"

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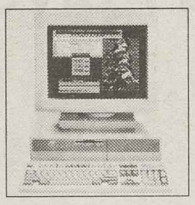

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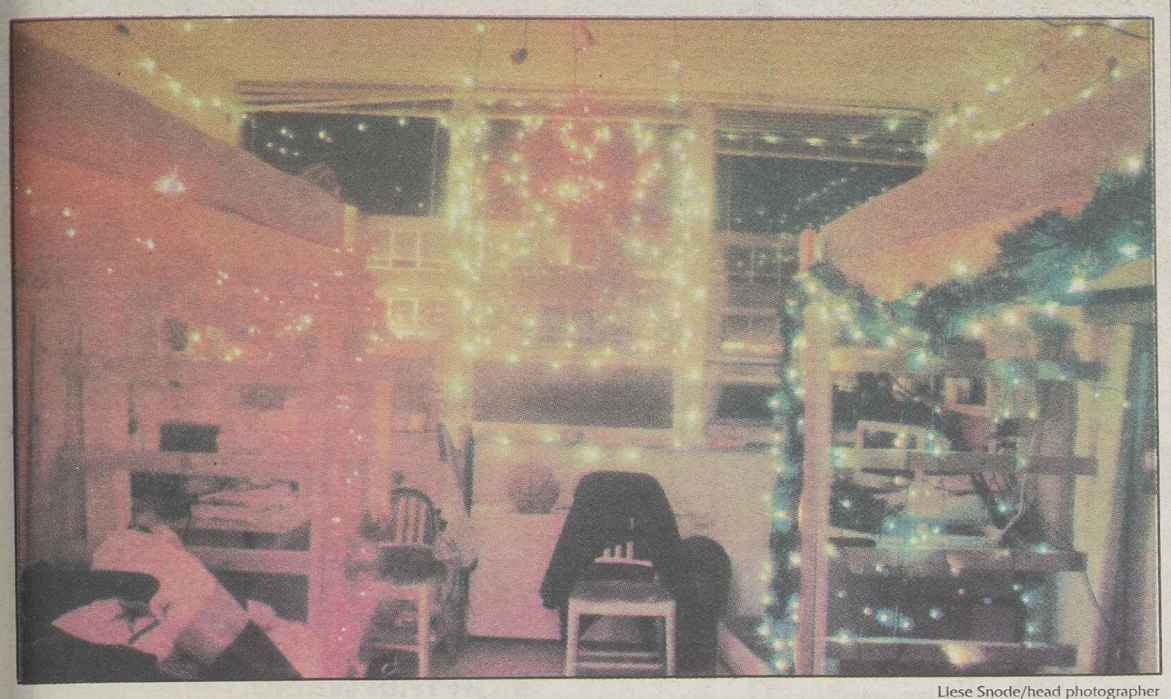

Liese Snode/head photographer

Jason Durham and Kevin Reed get into the Christmas spirit by decorating their Cope dorm room.

by Shakina Middleton

Students at Clemson are more than willing to show off their Christmas enthusiasm.

A walk around campus dazzles one with many views of twinkling lights on windowpanes and other festive ornaments students put up in hopes of making the season a little merrier at school.

According to many students, decorating dorm rooms and windows is a way to get themselves, as well as others, into the Christmas spirit.

Most students begin garnishing their rooms with Christmas trimmings right after the Thanksgiving break.

Scott Pendergrass, a senior textile management major from Fort Mill, S.C., says he decorates his dorm room because he didn't help decorate when he lived at home.

"I never knew how much fun Christmas decorating could be until I started adorning my dorm room four years ago," he says.

Kimberlee Fisher, a senior computer science major from Cheltenham, Md., says she decorates her dorm room because she misses decorating at home.

A downstairs neighbor, Stephanie Barnosky, says she decorates just for fun. "We do it to distinguish our room and hall from just a wall of cement blocks," says Barnosky, a sophomore biological sciences major from Stafford, Va.

The students tend to use a lot of imagination when coming up with Christmas ideas. They use such items as garland, construction paper, glitter, coloring book pages, wreaths, lights and old Christmas cards.

"Our decision is based on our favorite things, like Disney or the Little Mermaid," Barnosky says.

Susan Ward, a sophomore mathematical sciences major from Charleston, S.C., says she creates Christmas themes such as "A White Christmas" or "Santa's Workshop"and goes from there.

"I really enjoy this time of year," says Ward. "It just doesn't seem like [the] Christmas season without decorations."

It certainly wouldn't feel like Christmas at Clemson without the students' decorations. Campus decorations highlight Christmas at Clemson.

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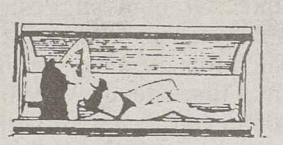

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Holiday eating crisis

by Ellen Baily

Do you know how many calories were in that gingerbread man you just ate or how many grams of fat are in the slice of banana nut bread your mother made for the holidays?

"Even the most avid dieters will break their health vows around the Christmas season," said Sandra Graham of Weight Watchers. All month there are traditional Christmas munchies available with easy access. There are plates of yummy cookies in every home, pans of various breads on every counter, and fudge and candies everywhere.

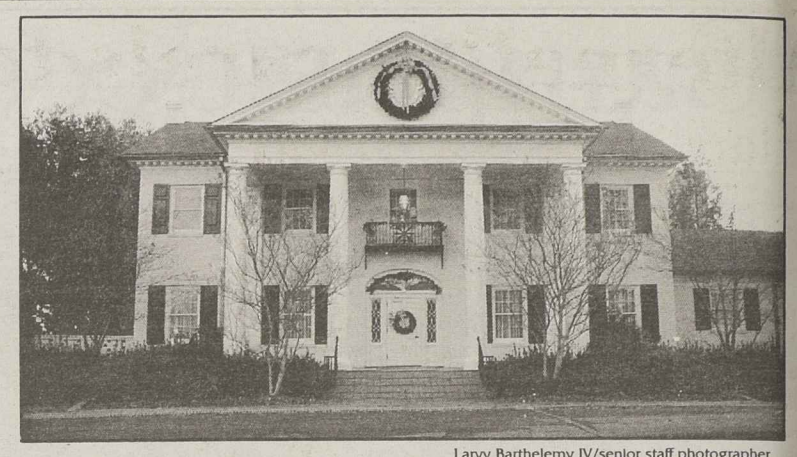
"The snacking of Christmas treats is why many people have trouble controlling their weight during Christmas season," Graham remarked. This does not even touch upon the main food trap of the season, the huge Christmas dinner. "Most people's Christmas dinner can include many surprisingly fattening dishes," Graham said. With turkey, stuffing, butter rolls and cheesy vegetables heaped on big plates in front of everyone, it is nearly impossible and maybe even shameful to pass up on all these delectable treats. After all, it is a special occasion, right?

Despite all the temptations, there is hope to keep your trim physique. Graham suggests, "Weight Watchers offers a special plan for its members during Christmas time. Being aware of what you are consuming will keep your portions smaller, and finding healthy alternatives to diet busters will keep your tummy full."

Here are some common Christmas goodies and a little about their nutritional quality:

fat grams	calories	
one slice of fruit bread with nuts		
10.1	210	
one slice of fruit bread without nuts		
5.9	150	
one glass of egg nog		
19	342	
banana nut muffin		
5	135	
dinner roll		
2.1	59	
1\2 cup of bread stuffing		
12.2	198	
1\2 cup of cornbread stuffing		
4.8	17	
10 oz. of plain green and red M&M's		
5.6	132	
10 oz. of peanut green and red M&M's		
7.8	145	
one slice of frosted carrot cake		
19	420	
one chocolate chip cookie		
3.7	68	
1\8 cup of sweet potato pie		
18.2	342	
1\2 cup of cranberry sauce		
.2	209	
3.5 oz. of glazed ham loaf		
14.7	247	
3.5 oz. of smoked ham		
11	175	
3.5 oz. of light turkey meat		
7.2	247	
3.5 oz. of dark turkey meat		
11.5	221	

Happy holidays! But remember to think thin! Only Santa Clause looks cute in the shape of a beach ball.



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Alternative carols featured

Atlantic releases *So this is Christmas*

by Ethan H. Bellamy

Of the eight tracks in this compilation of Christmas songs by alternative artists, Tori Amos' "The Little Drummer Boy" is a most moving rendition of the holiday hymn. Her thick, compelling voice, backed by piano exudes the traditional Christmas spirit with her unique style.

A laughable attempt at performing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," The Violent Femmes' Daniel Johnston quivers his way to ruining this Christmas classic. From the guy who previously sang "I look at your pants and I need a kiss," it's hard to make his affirmation that Rudolph *really does* have "a very shiny nose" seriously.

The first four tracks leave you hopeless, but fortunately Amos, Collective Soul, Evan Dando, and Juliana Hatfield salvage the album. The only non-acoustic track, the fifth cut, titled "Blue Christmas," features the familiar driving pulse of Collective Soul in a mellow tempo that reflects any Christmas angst you might have stored up.

Amos' "Little Drummer Boy" slows the pace down again in preparation for the Lemonhead's lead singer Evan Dando's "Silent Night." In a Cobainesque style, Dando sounds as if he will stomp his distortion pedal at any moment . . . but he doesn't. His voice seems to clash with the familiar lyrics, but if you're a Lemonheads fan, you'll dig it.

The album is capped off by "Make It Home" from Juliana Hatfield. At 4:41, this cut is compelling and warm and slips you into the yule-tide mood. Hatfield does well to sum the album up with a song you could slow dance to or listen to during Christmas dinner.

Half the tracks on this album make it worth buying, especially if you aren't anticipating another year's worth of *Perry Como Sings Christmas,* so be sure not to miss an opportunity to get your grandparents into the alternative scene.

Students travel

by Judith True

Students do not always go home to spend Christmas with their families. The holiday break provides students the perfect opportunity for backpacking trips, wilderness excursions, road trips or any combination of the above. Some students take advantage of the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains while others head for the Rockies.

While some students use this time for spending money, others use the three week period for making money. From catering for Christmas, to working in overcrowded department stores, temporary employment provides students with a chance to earn extra money as well as giving employers the help they need to make business flow during the holiday shopping season.

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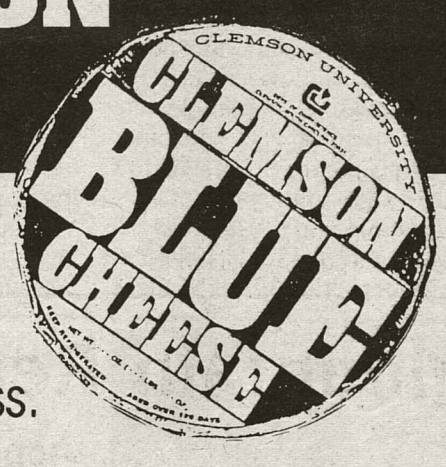

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Movies to see

Christmas provides classic movies

by Alison Littell

Students that are too caught up in the college scene to enjoy the season can watch movies. If time is available, go to the local video store where there is more than likely a special section devoted to Christmas movies.

In Jim Henson's *The Muppet's Christmas Carol*, the muppets reenact the original *Christmas Carol*, written by Charles Dickens. This movie, narrated by Gonzo, tells the story of scrooge visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. Only by watching the movie will you know Scrooge's fate.

Tim Burton's *A Nightmare before Christmas* is a story about the king of Halloween, Jack the Pumpkin King, wanting to take over Christmas. Jack attributes the empty feeling in his heart to a lack of Christmas spirit.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* is a musical set in 1944 featuring the characters Bob Wallace and Philip Davis, played by Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye respectively. While in the war, Davis saves Wallace's life. After the war, the two form a quartet with two sisters. Be sure to watch this joyful classic comedy where the quartet finds more than just singing opportunities.

In *Miracle on 34th Street*, Edmund Gwenn replaces the Santa for the Macy's Day Parade and wins his way into many hearts. In trying to teach a little girl that Santa Claus is real, he teaches the world a lesson. Throughout the movie Gwenn repeats that his name is Kris Kringle and that he really is Santa Claus.

Perhaps the most famous is Frank Capra's classic *It's a Wonderful Life*, the story of a man, played by Jimmy Stewart, who, while down in his luck, looks back on his life and sees his true impact on his entire community.

Take a break from finals and begin studying for some Christmas cheer.

Concerts ring in Holidays

by Michael A. Phillips

Silver bells ring all over Clemson now. Seasonal music fills the air, and a joyful spirit flows through Tiger town. But from just where is the music coming—right here at the Brooks Center for the Performing Arts.

According to Claudette Thomason of the Brooks Center, there will be several performances this holiday season. The Brooks Center focuses much of its attention on bringing quality musical events to Clemson. Also, Clemson students perform a good portion of these events.

Thomason stresses the activities of the Brooks Center's outreach component. According to Thomason," We also take things to the schools." Although there is a variety of performances during the Christmas season, Thomason says," We want to spread cheer throughout the year."

Thomason hopes that more students will become involved with fine arts activities in the future. She says that all students on campus are welcome to participate in these programs whether they are music majors or not.

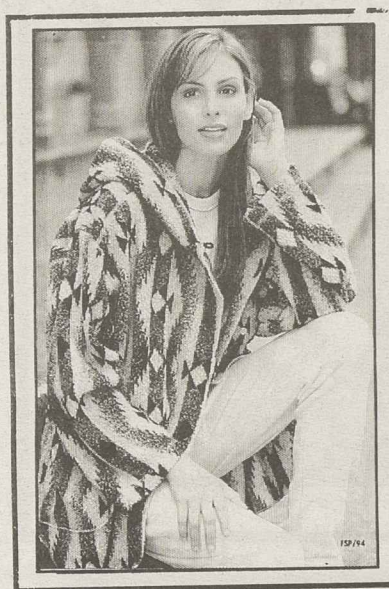
The Nov. 22nd concert performed by the Clemson University Chamber Orchestra (directed by Dr. Andrew Levin) kicked off the season. Thursday, Dec. 1 saw a performance by all the Choral Ensembles led by Dr. Dan Rash.

The jazz ensemble brought the Christmas spirit to Tiger town Dec. 2 and Dec. 6 rang with the Christmas melodies of the Symphonic Band under the direction of Director of Bands Dr. Rick Goodstein. According to Thomason, all University directed programs such as these are free of charge.

The biggest event of the season has yet to come. The Brooks Center, on Dec.10, will showcase one of the most spectacular Christmas musicals ever performed; the Greenville Ballet will perform two shows of *The Nutcracker*. A public Christmas tree lighting will also brighten the holiday season. Dr. Bruce Cook, Head of the music department and organizer of the event claims" It's an evening of celebration." Although organizers do not anticipate the 8 p.m. show being crowded, Cook does "feel that we will sell out the afternoon performance."

The tree lighting will be at the nearby Carillon Gardens, adjacent to Sikes Hall, between the two performances. The lighting, sponsored by the Brooks Center is at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Brooks Center and at the Clemson University Union, as well as from the Greenville Memorial Auditorium. Ticket prices are $12 for adults, $10 for youth and senior citizens and $8 for Clemson students.



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'Tis the season to spend

by Adrian Scott and L. Clator Butler, Jr.

Shopping mayhem is in the air. Many parents started delivering their children's letters to Santa on the day after Thanksgiving. This was the busiest day of shopping for the holiday season.

This is also when most businesses receive most of their revenues, and the thanks goes to the wild and crazy shoppes who spare no expense on shopping.

Last year, one of the shopping crazes for the season was Barney Dolls, but this year the variety of children's toys have increased.

Children usually have a list of demands as to what they want for Christmas, leaving parents with no clue of what to do. Some frantically attempt to find those special presents right up until the stores close on Dec. 24.

This may be the season to be jolly, but it is also the season to be rushed. Although most shoppers have good intentions, they usually wait until a few days before Christmas to do their shopping—and this is where most of the turmoil begins.

Since so many parents try to make sure their kids receive the very best toy in the store and will stop at nothing to get it, even if it means getting involved in a brawl.

Most kids also expect Santa to bring them everything on the list, but there are a few items that they emphasize more than others. It becomes Santa's responsibility to fill the wish list, and kids seldom are satisfied with what they end up with if the number-one item hasn't been bought.

In college, the kids are just bigger, wanting bigger toys to match. Some of us want the new automobile, while others hope just to get a little financial aid to meet the rent.

Lately, Santa has been stockpiling gift certificates for local rental units and grocery stores.

Perhaps the most difficult task does lie in making ends meet in this time to be spending. When a large portion of the college populaton is still receiving full funding from home, it becomes difficult to buy gifts for those who keep the wallet lined.

"Mom, can you give me a twenty so I can get you a present," is not the best way to go about this familiar yet annoying situation. Yet, in essence, there is little that can be done.

Some students line up temp jobs during the holiday weeks so they can feel as though they are earning the presents they buy. Others come up with some system to help out around the house or take some of the holiday stresses off of home.

Larry Barthelemy IV/senior staff photographer

Shoppers pile their carts with gifts for family and loved ones.

Community music

by Jennie Davis and John Orfield

A Christmas concert will be performed by the Daniel High School chorus on December 13 at the Brooks Theatre. Prices for tickets are $2 for adults, $1 for all students and are available at Lynch Drugs in downtown Clemson, Central Wesleyan College and at the door the night of the show.

The Clemson Little Theatre will perform a musical version of *A Christmas Carol,* from December 9-11.

This timeless holiday classic will begin at 8 p.m. on Dec. 9 and 10 and at 3 p.m. on Dec. 11. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for anyone under18 years old.

Discount tickets are available for season ticket holders. Call 646-8100 to reserve tickets for any of the shows.

The Clemson Little Theatre is housed in the Pendleton Playhouse which is located on 214 South Mechanic St.in Pendleton.

The Greenville Little Theatre will perform another musical version of *A Christmas Carol* from Dec. 9-11 and Dec. 14-18. The shows on Dec. 9, 10, 14, 15,16 and 17 start at 8 p.m. and the shows on Dec. 11 and 18 begin at 3 p.m.

Help Wanted

Caffe Espresso, Clemson's newest coffee shop, is accepting applications Saturday, Dec. 10 for employment starting the first week in January. Apply at 356 College Ave. (above Hair South) between 11am and 3pm.

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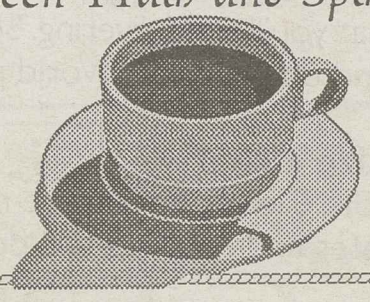

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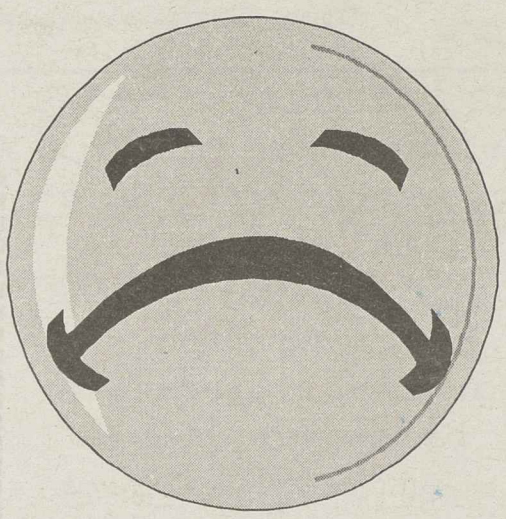

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4. **Picasso Trigger** -- *T'AIN'T*
5. **Longfish** -- *Pass and Stow*
6. **Blenderhead** -- *Prime Candidate For Burnout*
7. **Various** -- *Clerks Soundtrack*
8. **Girls Against Boys** -- *Cruise Yourself*
9. **Melvins** -- *Stoner Witch*
10. **Die toten hosen** -- *Learning English*