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Winthrop students share
how they celebrate
Christmas
Page 6 & 7

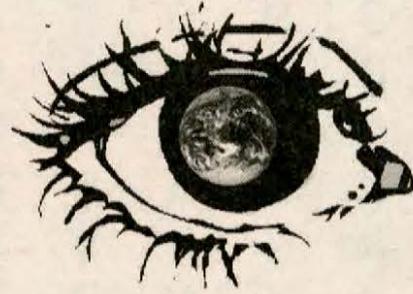


Spiritual Awakening
Have you experienced it?
Page 3



Check out Christian
singer Nichole
Nordeman's new CD
Page 4

Roddey McMillan RECORD



Issue IV

Seeing through different eyes

December 11, 2002

Harambee!

Winthrop celebrates Kwanzaa

By Ashlei Stevens
Editor-in-chief

Harambee! This Swahili greeting for "Let's Pull Together" welcomed students, staff and faculty to the annual Kwanzaa celebration, which took place last Tuesday.

The crowd was taken back to the Serengeti with the sights and sounds of the African-American celebration.

The event, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural

Student life, was hosted by Greek Life Student Coordinator Adrienne Middleton and Mabaye Dia, assistant professor of Geography. Vice President for Student Life, Frank Ardaiole, gave the welcome statement and said he enjoyed the event as it took him back to his roots, where he grew up West Africa. The West African

See Kwanzaa page 2

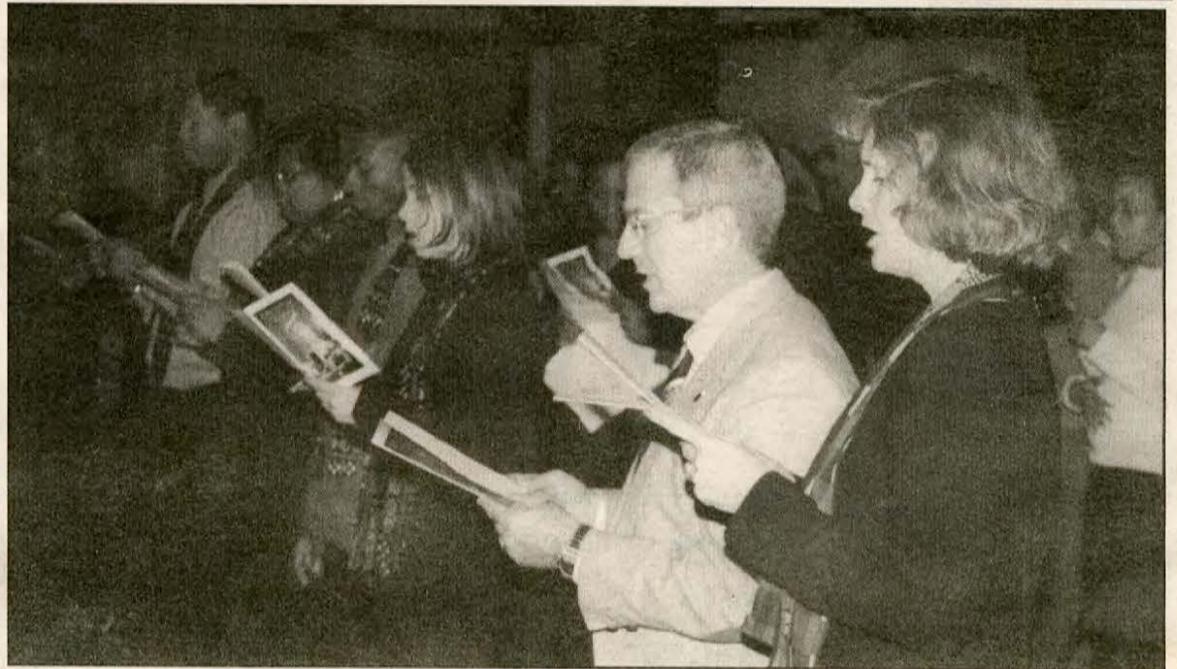


Photo by Ashlei Stevens

Dean of Students Bethany Marlowe and Dr. Frank Ardaiole, vice president for Student Life join in the Tamshi La tutaonona, or "The Farewell Statement" during the Kwanzaa Celebration last Tuesday in McBryde Hall.

A WOMAN'S WORTH

Collegiate Women for Christ examine women's beauty

By Tanaisha Brisbon
Staff Writer

What is worth? Webster's dictionary describes it as something of excellence, value, or merit. According to Christian organization, Collegiate Women for Christ, a woman's worth is within.

Last week CWC held a forum in Kinard 115 entitled A Woman's True Worth. The panel of the forum discussed issues such as media influence, women's actions, and attitude in terms of worth and religion.

The media plays a huge role in women measuring their self-worth. Commercial and magazine ads as well as music videos constantly display their version of beauty. This representation of loveliness consists of the tall thin woman with the long hair. Millions of women

each year dedicate hours of their time and money to achieve this perception of beauty.

"While working in the television business, I have noticed that many entertainers in the business lose themselves while they try to fit into other people's molds," said Roshanda Yearwood, panelist and Winthrop alumnus.

"It is about what you believe about yourself women should not conform to the world," said Melita Peterson, WU alumnus and panelist.

"Ideas and styles in the media are always changing," said Crystal Pressley, member of CWC. "Today Britney Spears is a popular celebrity and years from now she won't be (recognized for her beauty) but, God is always the same," she said.

Actions are an important part of a woman's worth. A display of actions is the best way men can determine how a woman values herself, said panelist O'Brian Robinson. A man can

tell if a woman has little self-worth by the clothes she wears, for example if she wears very tight clothing and shows lots of skin, he said. This can allow men to take advantage of women, said panelist Jabari Camp.

Attitude also impacts a woman's worth. According to the panelist a woman's worth is affected by good character, being who she is and being "real" with herself. Women have to first figure out who they are and have the confidence to share themselves with others.

Where does a woman's true worth come from? A woman's true worth comes from knowing God said WU alumni and panelist Eutauqua Watson. Women must realize that for you are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14) and you were made in God's image (Genesis 1:27) she said.

Staying Awake

Students rely on caffeine products, sleep to stay awake during exams

By LaKeija R. Jackson
Staff Writer

Cramming, papers, projects and finals! All contributing factors to the high stress levels of college students.

With the end of the semester rapidly approaching, many students find themselves swamped with too much to do with not enough time.

Deon Dash, a junior chemistry Pre-Med student, avoids staying up too late studying by doing his work during the day.

"It's not good to pull all nighters because it makes it harder to concentrate during the exam," Dash said. The Orangeburg, S.C. native feels that students are under a great deal of stress this time of year. Freshman Beth Guest agrees

with Dash.

"At first, I had like no tests or anything, but now I have so much to do," she said. The elementary education major admits to staying up later to study and work on projects.

"I drink lots of coffee to stay awake," Guest said. Many students result to caffeine to help them stay awake longer. Java City business hours strive to accommodate the high demand. Java City will be extending regular business hours to accommodate students who are up later studying.

Opening hours remain the same while the closing hours for exam week are 10 p.m. This is a trail run to see if business remains steady during the extended hours.

Holiday Word Hunt

C	H	O	S	B	D	N	A	C	E	W	Z
L	U	R	D	A	D	I	V	A	N	I	V
A	S	H	G	A	H	K	E	Y	A	X	L
J	P	O	B	Q	A	F	L	K	C	I	N
I	Z	M	R	S	N	V	S	B	Y	H	P
P	M	G	O	A	U	R	H	R	D	D	C
E	N	T	Z	U	K	E	K	W	N	K	H
K	H	Q	R	S	K	W	Y	C	A	W	R
O	N	O	E	L	A	I	X	Q	C	A	I
J	E	S	A	B	A	J	N	I	O	N	S
R	W	I	N	T	E	R	S	T	K	Z	T
M	Y	D	E	H	F	H	N	V	U	A	M
T	E	G	I	F	T	S	O	I	D	A	A
L	A	G	V	C	S	F	W	P	U	O	S
E	R	M	A	N	G	E	R	C	Y	C	H

Kwanzaa
Hanukka
Christmas
Navidad

Gifts
Noel
Manger
Candy Cane

Snow
New Year
Winter

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WANTED:

Writers and ad Reps. The Roddey McMillan Record is seeking creative students who would like to have their voices and artistic abilities seen and heard. Come to weekly meetings every Wednesday at 9:00 p.m. in the Publications Office

The Roddey McMillan Staff sincerely wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

Roddey McMillan RECORD



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African-American holiday celebrates life, family

Kwanzaa from page 1

Drum Ensemble moved the crowd with their vocal talents and rhythmic sounds. These music department students, led by Adam Snow, added a nostalgic African touch to the celebration.

The celebration including a poetic message from student Quentin Talley about Unity and dance by Black Dance in Motion.

The Association of Ebonites Gospel Choir sang the "Seven Principles" of Kwanzaa which include: Umoja (unity), Kujichaguli (self determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani

(faith.)

Kwanzaa was founded in 1966 and is derived from the Swahili word which means "first fruits." it is a time when agriculturers in Africa give thanks for life, crops and family.

The celebration concluded with Zawadi, or viewing of African gifts and art, followed



The celebration concluded with Zawadi, or viewing of gifts. Pictured is African art including dolls and currency.

by Kwanzaa Karamu, meaning "the feast."

The audience of mixed cultures and backgrounds participated in the farewell statement and the Ebonites closed in song.

Christmas in the eyes of a black child



AS THE
WORLD
TURNS...

By: **Mario
Washington**

I'm going to tell you a story about a little black boy who understood the true meaning of Christmas. There were cold nights for the 7 year-old black boy from Small-town, SC, but they were filled with warmth from the love of his three immediate family members. His mother was there along with his father and his 14 year-old brother. This obviously was not the typical black family in America. His father worked very hard to make holidays like Christmas enjoyable for his family. His mother did the same and made sure that her two children were happy during the holidays. She didn't have to work, but she did just to make them have a holiday like normal middle class families, and it simply made her proud. Every year at Christmas, this kid was

overwhelmed with gifts, but the toys, the clothes, or the 8-bit Nintendo system wasn't the real gift. The true gift was eating dinner together. Not many black families can say that they ever ate Christmas dinner with their entire immediate family. As the kid grew older, events took place that would change his family forever. His father became more and more depressed as his alcohol and drug abuse escalated. The kid later found that his dad's depression stemmed from an illness known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder associated with soldiers who were in combat during the Vietnam War. This abuse of alcohol and narcotics caused his father to lose his job. His mother already was laid off from her job. She was just another casualty of a condition that I like to call "Black Luck". There was no income for this once perfect family. Food was scarce and the kid who was now 12 years-old was forced to be a man since his brother went away to college and his father was in no condition to take care of the family. The kid was forced to find a way to bring money into his home to help take care of his dismantled family.

His determination was remarkable. He decided not to take the easy route by selling drugs because he watched how this destroyed his father and he did not want to do the same to perhaps someone else's father. He worked for people, he gambled, and he made bets, just to have the money he received taken by his father to support his habit. Christmas would roll along and obviously there were no tangible gifts. But the thing that made it hard on this kid was his family's deteriorated structure. He was forced at such a tender age to eat the little they had for Christmas dinner alone. It was the first time he experienced eating Christmas dinner without those that he cared about the most. Christmas had never been the same. This kid grew up to become Mario Washington. I'm sure that there are lots of kids that grew up in this manner or in harsher conditions. We should realize that Christmas is not about the gifts or the food. It is a time when families should be together in harmony. It is a time when we should be thanking the one who made this holiday possible. We put so much emphasis on things that are insignificant that we don't

stress the true issues that are at hand. We can't allow our black children to continue to grow this way. Black parents should understand the profound affect that their break-ups have on their children. Over 70% of our children are born out of wedlock. This trend cannot continue. At the same time, black kids that grew up with all the amenities that go along with being in a middle class family, or those who were fortunate enough to have both parents around during the holidays should realize how lucky they were to have this. They should do nothing less than to pass that same love on to their children and their children's children. We have to stay focused as a community and keep our children in mind. Black couples get divorced more than any other race in America. This is detrimental to the children especially. We have to strengthen our people so our kids won't have to worry about being the glue that holds a family together not only at Christmas, but throughout the year. Little black boys and girls should grow up with only sweet Christmas memories and the change starts with our generation today.

A Spiritual Reflection



By **Crystal
Marshall**
Staff Writer

Reminiscing about the blessings that I have been given over the years, a few nights ago, I spontaneously decided to have a private renewal of faith to express my gratefulness for the simple things. My rebirth consisted of prayer, more like a conversation with a close friend, asking for wisdom, forgiveness, patience, guidance, and prosperity. In a deep meditation full of positive energy, tears gently flowed like waterfalls down my face. From that moment, I elevated to higher degree of a spiritual awakening, and I was even more thankful to the Creator for His presence in my life. I felt a sense of relief from tradi-

tion, mind enslavement, and emotional defeat. It was a good feeling, a unique kind of therapy. My soul rejoiced by singing ballads that I didn't even realize existed. Afterwards, everything in the atmosphere was just absolutely amazing. Even the soaking rain sent from the heavens above had a mystical quality. That night, several valuable lessons about life that my mother instilled in me during my childhood were reinforced into my veins. I received a greater respect for the gift of life using a new found spiritual direction. Every moment should be respected and not taken for granted regardless of how trivial it may seem because each has its own significance. At times, I think that I am having a hard time, but there is always someone else less fortunate than me.

And I'm always reminded of life's precious blessings every time I am with my loving, supportive family and friends. It is very easy to overlook the simple everyday pleasures because they seem much engraved into our daily routines. I believe the way the seasons gradually change, especially from spring to autumn, so that we can adjust to the new climate is a product of such meticulous planning by the hands of the Creator. Gazing outside and noticing all the beautiful hues of red and brown shade the ground is a small component of the earth's magnificence. The way the universe creates a natural balance of the life cycle is incredibly artistic. Therefore, I came to a perfect conclusion that goes beyond the intelligence of any theory of evolution or philosophical law: GOD IS

True Talent Will be Missed

On Dec. 21, 2002, the Roddey McMillan Record will be losing a great treasure--Mr. Mario Washington. For the past few years, Mario has dedicated his time and talents to Winthrop's mass media including the radio station and student publications. For the past semester, he has put lots of enthusiasm into making the Roddey Mac into a publication that more students would want to read. Because of him, this paper has become better. Mario, we will miss your laugh, your jokes and most of all the creative touch that you added to this publication. May God bless you with your future endeavors.

*Sincerely,
Roddey McMillan Record Staff 2002-03*

What's yo

Cd Review
Nichole Nordeman
"Woven & Spun"



By Greg Dampier
Special to the Roddey McMillan

As you begin your Christmas shopping for your favorite loved one, make sure you don't pass by Nichole Nordeman's new album with only a sheer glance of recognition.

This new record not only stands as a pinnacle of her work, but also as one in that category of albums that you can simply press play and listen to its entirety without even merely pausing.

Brought up in her hometown church as the leading musician, Nordeman has made leaps and bounds from her debut album, "Wide Eyed." With her latest work, "Woven & Spun," she has continued to capture the hearts of Christians and listeners everywhere with her hymn-like lyrics and masterful piano skills. Plus, landing gigs with big-name artist such as Steven Curtis Chapman, and FFH also tends to help out with popularity.

Nordeman acknowledges that her music isn't easy sing-along stuff. In fact, while her music demands an attentive ear, it promises a wonderful payoff. On "Woven & Spun," the self-proclaimed "wrestling poet" has crafted her most profound work yet. It's a release that glitters with rich lyrical content and shimmers with Nordeman's atmospheric piano.

While Nordeman still struggles with reconciling life in this world with her eternal hope and faith, she carries a greater sense of intimacy and grace in such vertically oriented tracks as "Holy," "Legacy," and "Never Loved You More." Her version of Peter Gabriel's "In Your Eyes"—a cover begging to be done for years by a Christian artist—fits well with the reflective mood of the release. The pinnacle of "Woven & Spun" has to be Nordeman's ode to God's watchful eye with "I Am," a beautiful, moving ballad of how the Almighty has walked closely with a woman from little girl to blushing bride. This new release marks the crowning moment for one of Christian music's brightest hopes and looks to inspire the hearts of many.

You can find out more about Nichole Nordeman and her music at her official website, www.nicholenordeman.com. Also, check out www.sparrowrecords.com for more information regarding Nordeman's career and current recording status. Her discography includes "Wide Eyed" (1998), "This Mystery" (2000), and "Woven & Spun," (2002). She has recently finished a countrywide tour with renowned Christian Artist, Steven Curtis Chapman.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
Temptations



Kendra
McCullough
Senior
Early childhood
education

"All I want for Christmas is you"
Mariah Carey

Patrice Haynes
Sophomore
Biology

"Let It Snow"
Boyz II Men



"I'll be home for Christmas"
Frank Sinatra

"Silent Night"
Temptations

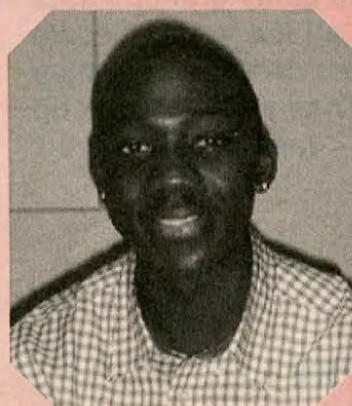
"Joy to the World"
Whitney Houston

What's your favorite Christmas song?

With all the glory and wonders of Christmas, could there be a day so special without the music that helps to erect its glorious persona? From "Rudolph" to "Jingle Bells," timeless songs have traveled through generations to further add to the holiday cheer. With careful love and consideration these are the songs, and in one case album, which means the most to Winthrop's Campus. Although the list might not be complete, it is sure to add some form of holly-jolly spirit to such a special time of the year...



"This Christmas" - Donny Hathaway



"Q. Diddy" Elmore
Junior
Business Administration

**"Christmas Song (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire)"
Nat King Cole & Natalie Cole**

**"Have yourself a merry little Christmas"
Luther Vandross**

**"Joy to the World"
Whitney Houston**

Kids from
Tuesday's Child



B2K Album "Santa Hooked Me Up"

Brenda Chitunhu
Junior Finance Major
Zimbabwe, Africa

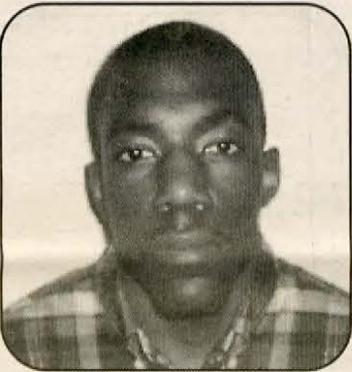


Faith: I'm half Christian, half traditionalist.

Do you celebrate Christmas?
"Yes, I celebrate Christmas."

Why do you celebrate Christmas?
"Jesus was born and because it is when my family get together, like you guys on Thanksgiving. Well, that's our Christmas. It's being thankful for God for allowing us to make it through the year."

How do you celebrate it?
"On Christmas Eve, everybody meets at my grandparents place. Christmas night or Dec. 26, all the young people (cousins, brothers, and sisters) go out dancing and enjoy the time together without parents. Then we meet back up with them on January 1."



James Moses
Freshman
Elementary Education

Faith: Methodist

Why do you celebrate Christmas?
"I celebrate Christmas with my friends and family. Christmas is a time when I celebrate Christ's birth."

Amanda Williams
Freshman Nutrition major
Florida Native

"The way my family celebrates Christmas is very basic. We are not religious so we don't go to church, pray, or celebrate the birth of Christ. Christmas is a very routine holiday for my family. We celebrate it because it is a tradition and everyone else does it. We always get a Christmas tree with basic decorations such as tinsel and non-religious ornaments. To me Christmas means getting together with my immediate family giving presents and having Christmas dinner."

Holiday Per

Many Americans think of Christmas as a cheerful gift-giving season. Some Christian Americans even recognize Dec. 25 as the birth date of Jesus Christ. Although many people spend lots of money on gifts for family and friends, or spend Christmas Eve in a church service, there are many individu-

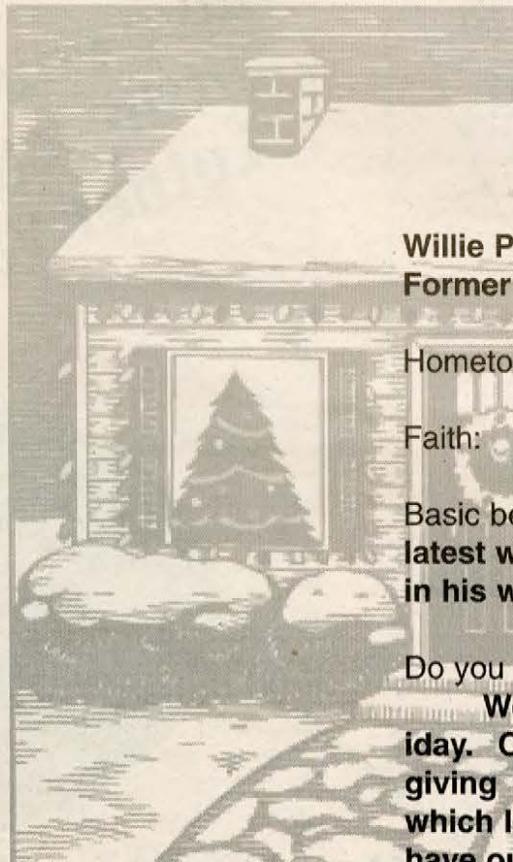


Willie Phillips
Former Winthrop student

Hometown: originally Massachusetts
currently Rock Hill, SC
Faith: Baha'i

Basic beliefs: It is a major religion. It is the latest word of God and all of His teachings in his word today.

Do you celebrate Christmas?
We do not celebrate the Christmas holiday. Our calendar is different and our gift-giving days come at the end of February, which leads into another year for Baha'i. We have our own Holy days.



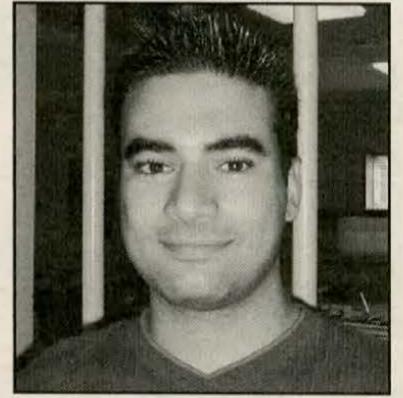
perspectives

, including Christians, who do not celebrate Christmas as Americans traditionally do so. The Roddey McMillan Record asks students and community members of different nationalities and faiths their opinion about what is called "the most wonderful time of the year."



Mabaye Dia
Asst. Professor of Geography
Mauritania in West Africa
 Faith: Islam
 Basic beliefs: "Muhammad, (peace be upon him), came and one thing he admired is the monotheism in Christianity and he said God (Allah) revealed Himself through prophets. You cannot be a Muslim if you don't believe that Moses and Jesus Christ, (peace be upon them), are prophets. Do you celebrate Christmas? I celebrated Christmas for the first time in 1995 when I arrived for the first time in Canada, because in my country, Christmas is exclusively for Christian people. My wife is Catholic so I celebrate Christmas as a Christian, too because it is a very important Holy day for my wife."

Aaron Thomas
Senior
Business admin.



Faith: **Non-practicing catholic**
 Do you celebrate Christmas?
"Christmas is getting to be too commercialized. It becoming more on spending money than being what it should be in friendship, family and companionship"

He feels there is some religious meaning to it in the celebrating the birth of Jesus. But he sees the day becoming less about that and more commercialize. Religiously he doesn't celebrate Christmas, but he does celebrate the holiday in its family and friendship orientation.

"More power to them, and if that's what they believe and do, then it's their choice."



Peter Judge
Professor of Religious Studies

My wife and I are both from Western New York State -- the Buffalo-Niagara Falls area. I grew up in the small city of Lockport, NY on the Erie Canal, a town not unlike "Bedford Falls" in It's a Wonderful Life. Of course, snow -- sometimes, lots of it -- was a part of just about every Christmas for us!

Our Christmas celebrations, then and now, are very anchored in the religious traditions, especially of our Catholic background -- the preparation time of Advent is observed during the four weeks before and the feast begins in earnest with Christmas eve. We put our tree up then, or just a day or two before. We use real candles on the tree and ornaments collected over years and many travels. We observe the 12 days of Christmas, from December 25th to January 6th, the Epiphany, or feast of the Three Kings. My wife's mother's family is Ukrainian, and for them January 6th is the traditional day of Christmas, going back to some of the traditions of early Christianity.

Among our most memorable Christmases are two that we spent at farmhouse/inns in Austria. Just before midnight on Christmas eve, everyone gathered in the little town square to hear brass musicians play Christmas carols and then all went to the church for Midnight Mass -- "Stille Nacht (Silent Night)" was required, of course -- and afterward everyone went out to the church yard and placed candles on the graves of their loved ones. What a sight in the falling snow. The next year we were in Salzburg, and celebrated at Midnight with a Mozart Mass done by orchestra and chorus.

Merry Christmas to all!

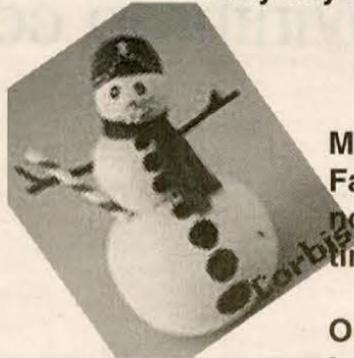


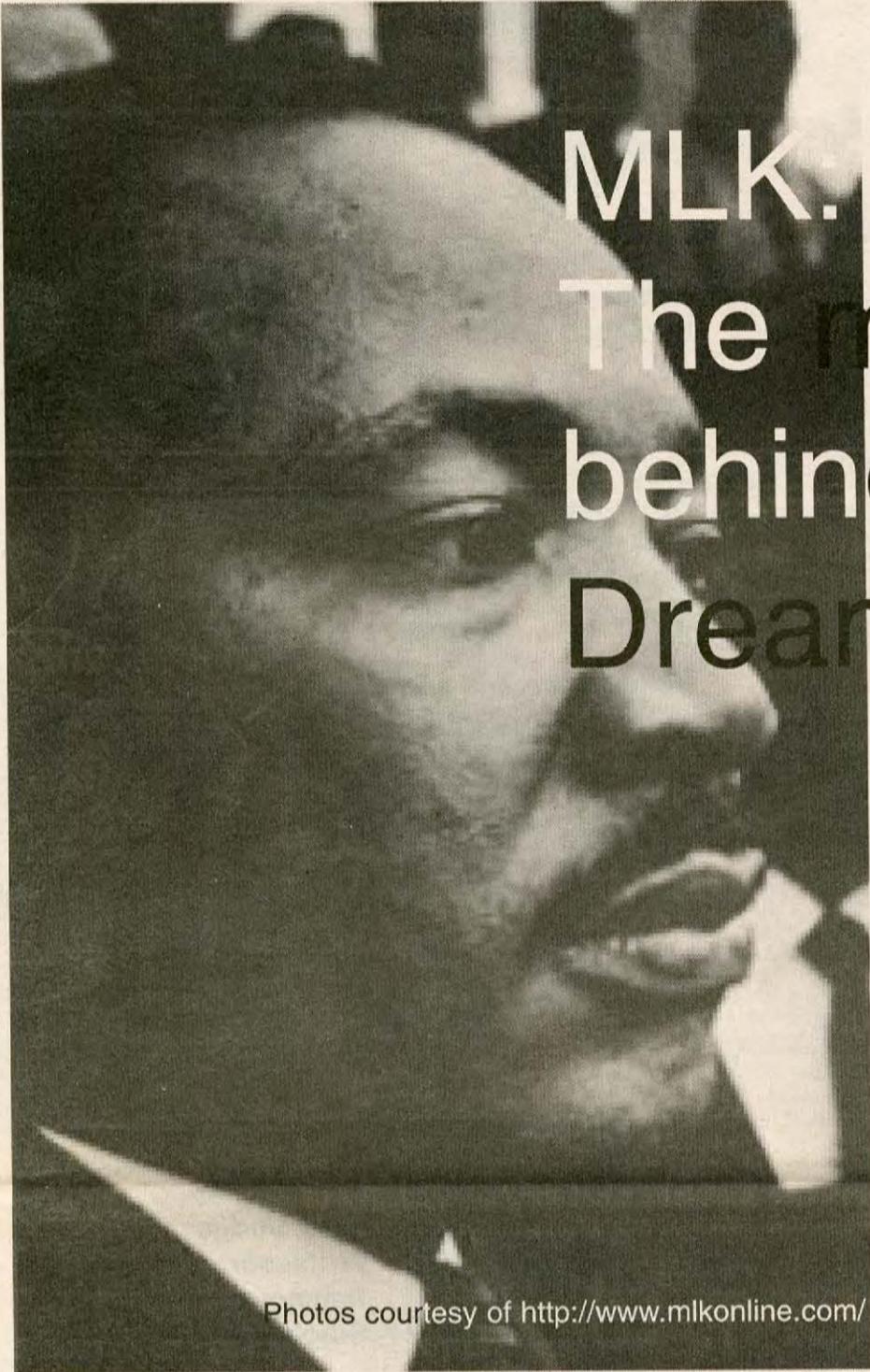
Tiffany C. Huggins
Junior Sociology Major
Charleston, SC

Faith: **Southern Baptist**

What does Christmas mean to you: **"Christmas to me is a celebration of the birth of Christ and being with family"**

How/why do you celebrate Christmas: **I celebrate Christmas by being with my family, and we exchange gifts. Now, I celebrate it mostly because of tradition. I have been doing it all of my life, so it wouldn't feel normal if I didn't.**





MLK. The man behind The Dream

Photos courtesy of <http://www.mlkonline.com/>

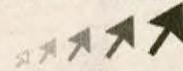


Coming Jan. 15, 2003

The Roddey McMillan Record takes an Exclusive look at Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Events in the Winthrop community



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