



# HURRICANE HAPPENINGS

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## FBLA Candlelight Ceremony

by Timika Mayo



North Central High held its first annual Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) candlelight ceremony on Thursday, December 2, 1993 at 6 PM. The ceremony was held in the honor of the FBLA officers as follows: President-Angela Hopkins; Vice-President Brandi Ford; Secretary-Tonya Phillips; Treasurer-Timika Mayo; Parliamentarian-Kevin Landry; Reporter-Cindy Mire; and Historian-Michelle Ridenour. This ceremony was held for the officers to be sworn in. Each officer lit a candle in honor of their dedication from the candleflames of the District Vice-President Darren Macip, who is a senior at Opelousas Senior High School. As each officer was addressed, he or she approached the District Vice-President of the Chapter to be sworn in. The officers accepted their responsibilities and duties by saying "I do". During the ceremony, the entire FBLA Club recited the FBLA pledge. Then, when all activities were finished, refreshments were served.

## Who is Santa Claus?

by Jason Joubert



Everybody knows that Santa is that short, fat, Christmas Eve gift giver, and that every year millions of kids wake up on Christmas morning to open all their presents that he leaves, but where did this myth originate?

*(continued on page 2)*

## Eighth Grade Football Team Wins District

by David Johnson

"Another first of firsts for North Central High School Hurricanes."

To change the saying of "Big things come in small packages", and that's just what the North Central eighth grade football team proved. The "baby" 'Canes, as Coach Pitre would call them, had an undefeated season as they strolled past their opponents by averaging 35.2 points per game and an impressive 7-0 season.

Marcus Blueitt led the team on the ground with the rushing attack scoring 15 TD's in only seven games. Split end Chris Stoner also contributed to the team with 11 TD receptions, with 10 of them coming from QB Frederick Jenkins. 'Cane sports rank these outstanding stats to be a number one foundation for the future at NCHS. Congratulations go out to Coach Pitre and his team. Keep up the good work!

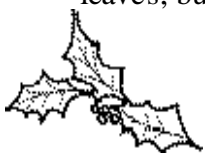
## NCHS Math Club

Submitted by Dana Drawsand

The NCHS Math Club held its first official meeting on Thursday, November 4, 1993, thanks to the help of sponsors Mrs. Patricia Woods, Mr. Lennet Hamilton, and Mr. Ralph Bonner. The 1993-94 Math Club officers are as follows: Helena Labostrie, President; Nichole Rideau, Vice-President; Dana Drawsand, Secretary; and Kenneth Doucet, Treasurer.

The objective of the NCHS Math Club is to help students in math. Almost everyday, Mrs. Woods opens her classroom at the lunch recess for the

*(continued on page 2)*



## Who is Santa Claus? (contd.from pg.1)

Immigrants from European countries first brought this custom to the United States. In Europe, they called him St. Nicholas and celebrated his feast day on December 6 with festive sports and gifts for children. His name was transformed over and over again throughout the year from St. Nicholas to eventually Santa Claus. However, his whole makeup and appearance differed so radically from the European St. Nicholas that Santa Claus may appear to be an exclusive American creation. Many years ago, Santa Claus was thought to come by night, descend chimneys, and leave gifts while children slept. The tradition to fulfill children's wishes is still carried on today by many Santa impersonators and parents around the world.

## NCHS Math Club (contd. from pg. 1)

Math Club members to tutor other students who have problems with their work, or just wanting to improve their math skills. This year, the Math Club hopes to raise enough money to send some of the members to various contests. With the hard work of the 50 Math Club members, the three Math Club sponsors, and the support of the parents, faculty, and students, the North Central High School Math Club will raise enough money for the contests.

## Christmas Activities in School Are Not the Same

by LaToya Harris



As a young person at Washington High School, I can remember when each class would perform a Christmas activity. It was so much fun. The feeling of the curtain opening and everyone looking at you was a real rush. When we arrived at North Central, all that stopped. I can only ask why. I know other schools around here did the same thing. We used to have several activities during the last week of school before we would get out for Christmas holidays. So I say each and every homeroom should get together and put on a performance for the whole school. In my opinion, I think it would be good for the school plus a lot of fun.

## A Christian's Christmas

by Timika Mayo

December 25, the day known to us as Christmas, is a holiday celebrated by Christians as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus. Every year Christians celebrate the 25th of December by putting up a Christmas tree and decorate it with ornaments and colorful lights; this tree symbolizes the joy of that day. The Christians have a church festival extending from December 24 through January 6 which is known as "Christmastide". Christmas is also a day when families come together and have dinner, give each other gifts, and give thanks to God for the many blessings He has given them.



## Christmas Around the World

by Jason Joubert

Many people have the misconception that Christmas is celebrated only in the United States, but that is simply not true. Many other countries around the world also celebrate the birth of Christ, just like we do. In fact, Christmas is celebrated in every time zone around the world. The idea to use the Christmas trees that we put up in our homes every year was first originated by the Germans. They decorated their trees in some of the same ways we do today. The Italians also have a Santa Claus, but theirs is a little different. Their legends of Christmas are a lot like ours except for one catch: Their Santa is female. In Spain they carry a time-honored tradition in which the rich or wealthier people give to the poorer, less fortunate citizens. This is a concept that we Americans should think about taking up. Even just south of here, in Mexico, they celebrate Christmas. Their celebration, however, is a little different from ours. Mexicans celebrate at night with parades, suppers, and the breaking of piñatas. Now, next time you hear someone say that Christmas is only celebrated in the U. S., you will be able to say that there are many other countries that do, too!

# What People Don't Realize

by LaToya Harris

There are a lot of people who don't realize the true meaning of Christmas. Seems to me, Christmas is getting more and more materialistic each and every year. What I mean is, gifts aren't the only things you should worry about. You should really think of people who are less fortunate than you are, people who don't have a warm place to stay, people who don't have any food to eat. It's not just adults but also little children who don't have anything to open on Christmas morning. I really don't know how they feel because I was the person who always had gifts and food to eat but somehow reality hits me always usually when I turn on my television. There is so much talk about homelessness and hunger. I never see anything being done about it and that's what really gets to me.



Also Christmas is the time to celebrate the birth of Christ. Do you know where you would be if we never had Him? None of your dreams would come true. You can always pray to Him to bring you things that you need. You should never pray for things that you just want especially if they are not necessary. So whatever you do don't just think of material things on Christmas because that's really not the true meaning of it. Some people just don't realize that.

# Jingle Bells

by Jeremiah Adams



The results are in, but Santa is out.

Most of those surveyed don't believe in Santa, whether he's coming down a chimney, flying over your house, or driving a 4x4 through the mud. Joyous best describes Christmas in one word, with "fun" and "presents" rounding out the list. With Barbie being the queen of plastic parts, dolls were overwhelmingly chosen as the favorite toy as a kid. North Central's students are very psychic; three out of four were able to find out where Mom and Dad hid their presents when they were young.

In the event that North Central's students could rub Aladdin's lamp, they would ask for money, a car, and clothes. Other responses included bringing back dead relatives and four-wheelers. Spending time with family best conveys the meaning of Christmas, with gifts, sharing, and the birth of Christ following behind. Presents and family summarize the best memories of Christmas; toys were the things that people like most. Other responses in this category included food and family.

Finally, even though "Jingle Bells" and "Silent Night" are the top songs, a medley of various things including hunting season conflicting with Christmas, not enough time off, and too many relatives at home annoy people the most.



# The Christmas Holidays

by Kim Bolden

To many of us Christmas is a time of joy. We wake up on Christmas morning and look for our presents under the Christmas tree, we make plenty of food and reunite with family and friends and just have a good time.

For some people this is a time of tragic memories. Many people are killed and hurt around this time by drinking and driving or by drunk drivers. So keep in mind, this is a joyous time but also a time to take many precautions. Around this time of year, many people are being mugged, robbed, raped, and killed. We should also keep in mind those people who are less fortunate than we are. There are people who have no food, can't afford presents, and have no one to share this joyous holiday with. To help some of these people we could donate food, clothing, and little gifts to shelters, nursing homes and hospitals.

## Christmas and the Class of 1994

by Nicole Brown



I interviewed several seniors, and they are looking forward to Christmas for many reasons. Not only will they be happy when St. Nick arrives bringing gifts, but they are looking forward to the break of school. Some seniors revealed to me that they are looking forward to the year of 1994. They realize that with the coming of the new year they really are getting hear to their graduation. From the class of '94 we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

# Thinking of Christmas

by Monica Washington

When people think of Christmas,  
They think of mounds of snow  
Christmas cookies and trees a glow.

I don't.

I think of the scent

Of zesty gingerbread

And green mistletoe

Hanging over our heads

Brightly lit houses all over town.

Relatives' hugs

Hot steamy cocoa

And presents from Santa

Are a child's delight.

## Red, White, or Marble?

by Kelly Richard



Guess what time of the year it is?

Yep! It's finally Christmas again,

the time of the year to decorate and be jolly. North Central's Agricultural Department is now selling fully bloomed beautiful poinsettias for \$5.00 a piece. There are three colors to choose from: white, red, and marble. They will make a great Christmas present for anyone in your family or even just for making your home look pretty and warm.

Each year the agricultural students work hard at preparing their plants to sell at Christmastime. In order to buy a plant, just contact Mr. Beard or Mr. Richard in the Agricultural Department.





## USL Senior Day

by Jeremiah Adams

On Saturday, November 20, USL sponsored its Senior Day, allowing students from surrounding area schools to see what USL has to offer in its various colleges and an opportunity to persuade prospective freshmen to attend. Being a senior, I was glad to participate along with 25 other juniors and seniors from North Central.

On arrival at USL, we were notified by Ms. Sam to return to Ms. Simon's bus by 4:30 PM. Taking this advice in hand, we registered in the Student Union Art Gallery; after I met an old friend of mine, I then went on a walking tour of USL, returning to the Student Union after 9 AM. At 10 AM, I returned to the Student Union Ballroom for a presentation by the Dean of Academic Affairs, who told us about the various colleges that made up USL. Then, I went to a session that dealt with education in the Political Science building, even though I was planning to major in sports medicine. I then hopped on a bus to tour the Health & PE majors building, where I was amazed to see six racquetball courts, two full-size basketball courts, twelve Stairmasters, and a carpeted four-lane indoor track.

At noon, I passed on hot dogs for lunch to visit with Jay Bienvenu, graduate of the Louisiana School and an honors student/math & science whiz, who took me to his residence at Stokes Hall. After 75 minutes of computing, chatting and black cherry soda, I left for the Student Union with Jay and some programs for Mr. Hamilton's Macintosh computer. In the last two and one-half hours before we left, I became a very busy person: I saw a slide show and a skit on campus life, I saw the Ragin' Jazz (USL's dance squad), I toured the Health & PE building for the second time, and I won a T-shirt before I left for the Student Union.

As I got off the USL tour bus, I was informed by a

member of USL's orientation staff that there are classes that teach the two-step and jitterbug. I then boarded Ms. Simon's bus, where we returned to North Central High under a cover of darkness.



## The Meaning of Christmas

by Nicole Brown

The meaning of Christmas to some people is when you get to sit down with all of your family and talk about all kinds of good things. Then you can also sit down with your family and have a nice meal on Christmas Day. To the kids it means getting all kinds of gifts from big ones to small ones. The family can also go to church together. To some people it is a day that people thank God for letting them see another Christmas. To me, Christmas means that all of my family can come together and go to church and eat together. We can gifts together and also open out eat together.



Just so you won't be bored on that long Christmas break, we have selected two brainteasers for your enjoyment. Good luck!



### Family Matters

This is part of Devon Becker's ancestry:

- Her father's father's name was Eddie.
- Eddie Becker married Gerry Stone.
- Stephi Stone is the wife of Ed Brown.
- Getty Stone was Colleen Becker's mother.
- Stewart was Colleen Becker's husband.

What was the name of Devon's grandfather on her mother's side?



*From the publication class of North Central High School Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*