

## Davidson's Welsh Accepts Challenge Of Composer In Residence Duties

It is too easy, says the newly appointed composer in residence at Davidson College, to describe the creativity of such artists as Beethoven and Liszt as genius, and then dismiss the subject.

Creativity is a normal human process requiring work, says Wilmer Haydn Welsh, "musical genius" is a myth, he says, created by such 19th-century composers as Franz Liszt, Frederic Chopin and Ludwig van Beethoven to sell tickets. As he teaches music theory and composes for the college, Welsh continues an assault on this fiction.

"Eighteenth-century composers like Bach and Haydn had patrons," Welsh said. "If they didn't have a patron, they died hungry. With the appearance of Chopin, Beethoven and Liszt in the 19th century, you have a new middle class in audience, and the composers decided to sell these people tickets. They had to do a flashy, separatist kind of show. They had their cults formed of the bobby-soxers of the day, and they were swooning over and that sort of thing."

### China Grove's First Baptist Church Observing Centennial

The centennial celebration of the First Baptist Church of China Grove begins Sunday, Oct. 11, when homecoming will be observed.

Mrs. Barbara Dole, centennial committee chairperson, said special anniversary activities will be featured each month until homecoming services on Oct. 10. At the Sunday service, the Rev. Edward D. Dole, pastor of the church, will bring a message on the church's history.

The service will be held under the direction of the Rev. Michael G. Long, director of music and music at the church will present the anthems, "Amazing Grace" and "Cornerstone." The Harbelle Choir will also be featured.

Mrs. Dole will also reveal to the congregation highlights of events planned for the centennial year. Other members of the centennial committee are Mrs. Laura Rogers, Mrs. Carolyn H. Franklin, Southborough and Mrs. Baker.

A covered float will be in the parade on Oct. 11, and immediately following the morning service, the parade will be held.

Evening services will be scheduled. The church was organized in 1888.

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**SEEDS FROM THE SOWER**  
By Michael A. Guide  
Nutter, Georgia

A stranger asked a boy, "Do you have any brothers?"  
"No," he replied.  
"Got any sisters?" he wondered.  
"No," sighed the boy. But he added, "I've got friends."  
"A friend is a present," said the merchant, "you give yourself by being friendly."  
"A friend is a bandage," counseled the physician, "for the cuts of trials."  
"A friend is a balancing pole," admitted the athlete, "for the tightrope of life."  
But the best friend to have is Jesus, and there's coming a time in your life when you'll need Him. If you don't have Him it may be too late to get Him.  
Make Him your Saviour and Friend now, won't you?

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Boesendorfer's special characteristics—nine extra keys in the bass register, special strings and a larger sounding board. All this gives the instrument what Welsh calls "an enormous, introspective, grumbling noise in the lower register."

Among his other recent works, the 55-year-old composer has written a mass for Davidson's annual Sacred Music Convocation, scheduled this year for Nov. 18-14. The mass will be performed Nov. 13 in Davidson College Presbyterian Church, and was written for trumpet and organ based on the plainsong of the Sarum Rite, and unstructured melodic form.

Welsh is also performing the premiere of his "Sonia for Organ, No. 3: Sacred Songs and Dances," Oct. 11 in Love Auditorium as part

of the Vesper Concert Series. The 6 p.m. lecture-recital will be broadcast live by WDAV (89.9 FM).

As composer in residence, Welsh has developed a multi-part plan to make the creation of music the life of Davidson College. He'll continue to teach music theory and the creative process in a year-long seminar for music majors (the course uses such texts as Rollo May's "The Courage to Create" and Carl Jung's "Man and His Symbols"); develop a new class in music composition for non-majors, utilizing new music technology recently acquired by the department; compose pieces for special occasions and performers; present lecture-recitals; and make off-campus visits to other colleges and churches as composer or organizer.

In the future, he plans to bring other composers to campus. Welsh tells his students that as they create music, the process is

more important than the product. "I'm not so much interested in their producing a great composition as in developing the process by which they go about it," he explained. "It makes them more humble. In the face of the professional composer, he's just a student. He's just doing the work. Hard work."

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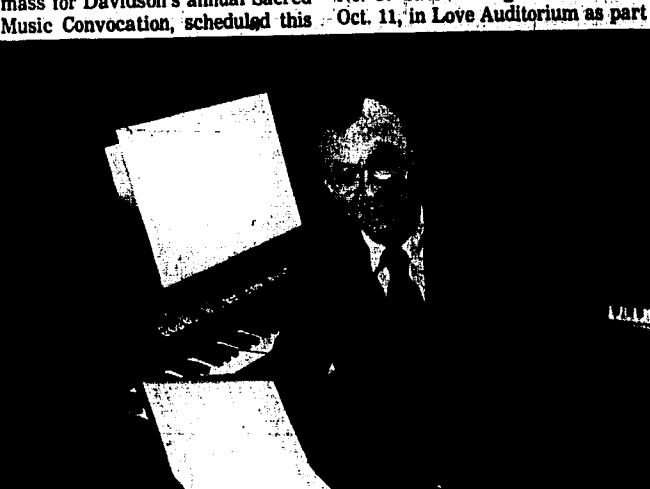
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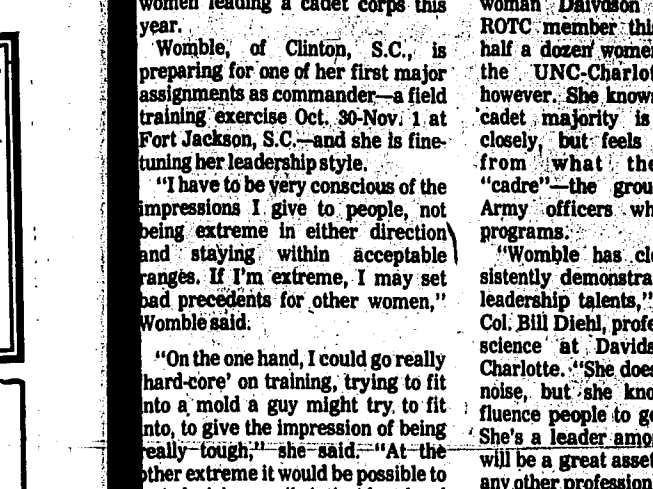
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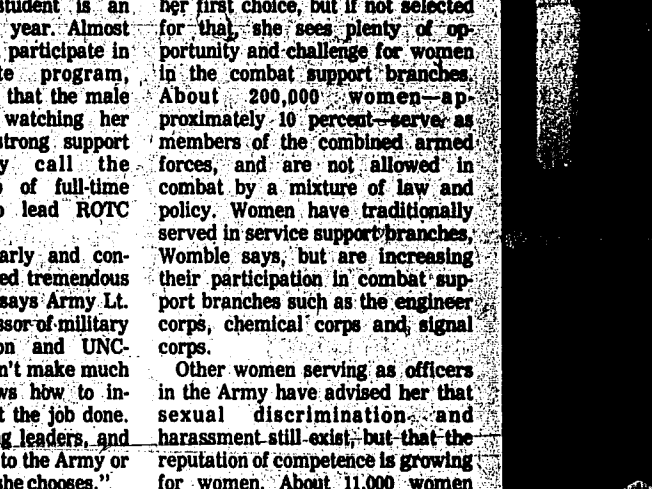
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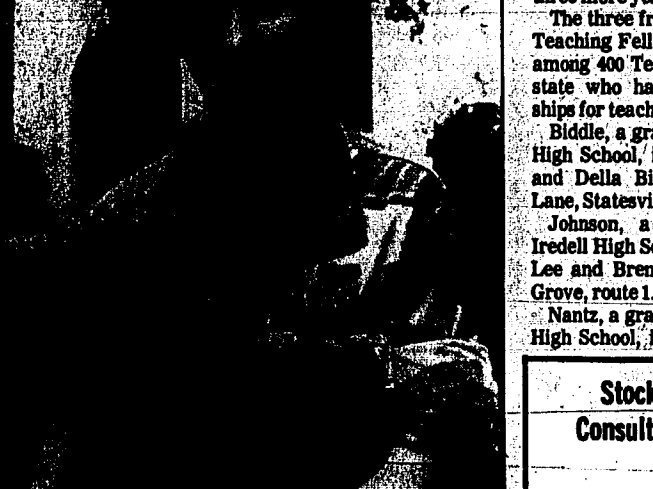
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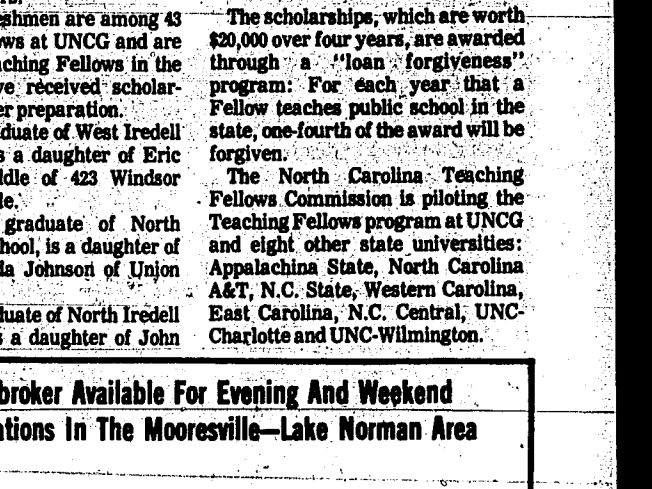
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## Female Cadet Directing Davidson ROTC Unit

A soft-spoken, diminutive economics major named Kathy Womble has become the first woman in the 78-year history of Davidson College's ROTC program to be selected Commander of the Corps of Cadets.

Of the 319 American colleges or universities with ROTC programs, Womble is one of only a handful of women leading a cadet corps this year. Womble is one of only a handful of women leading a cadet corps this year.

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