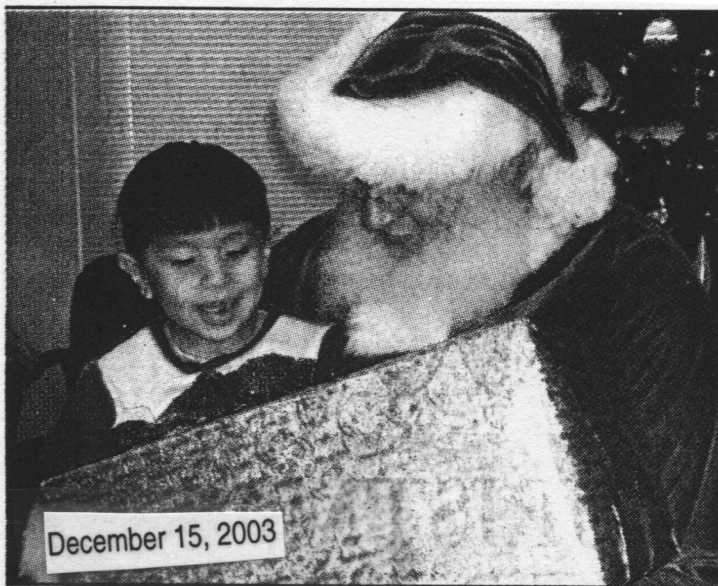




Santa Claus gives a wrapped coat and book to Jeremiah Aguilar, 4, at the annual ABC party, Friday, on the campus of Western Piedmont Community College. Santa was one of the featured guests.

Holiday made warmer

By **KERRI L. McFALLS**
The News Herald

MORGANTON — With temperatures dropping below freezing some days and nights, a warm coat is essential.

But winter coats can be costly for some parents, so to make sure the children stay warm during the cold months ahead, the faculty and staff at Western Piedmont Community College have provided them with the crucial winter wear.

Paul Dellinger, chairman of

the faculty and staff ABC Council, said for the past several years the faculty has donated apples, books and coats to some of the children enrolled in the Quaker Meadows Generation and Circle of Friends Head Start classes.

Dori Barron, the coordinator of volunteers for the ABC Council, said one staffer will sponsor a child, buying him or her an apple, book and coat.

Barron said part of the mon-

See **WARMER** / Page 5A

Warmer

Continued from Page One

ey is raised through the blue jean day fund-raiser, in which an employee pays a certain amount of money to wear jeans to work on a Friday.

The faculty presents the gifts at the annual Christmas party, which is held at the college, Barron said, adding that the child's parents and siblings are invited to attend.

"They find out what size the

child wears and then they go shopping for them," Barron said. "At the party, they stay with the child the entire time."

In addition to the apple, book and coat, each child also will get a treat bag, Barron said.

At the party on Friday, the children played games, had a story read to them and heard the gospel quartet Purpose sing a Christmas song.

The excitement of the party

escalated when Santa Claus made a guest appearance to deliver the presents to all of the children.

"This is the most looked forward to event for us," Barron said. "We are always so excited about it. We love to see these kids. Everybody on campus is involved in some way. It is meaningful. It helps provide a coat to a child who might not have had one."