

# A History of

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How would you like to sign out in the town book or to get written permission from a parent or guardian to leave campus? Over the years at Brevard College some students had to do just that.

Brevard College originated from two colleges: Weaver and Rutherford Colleges. This particular area was chosen because of the high health rating. The area was said to be free of malaria and to have clear water; also it had an altitude of 1,250 feet above sea level. Excelsior community was what they called the area when it was first settled. The school first started out as a one-room lob cabin building. Only eight students enrolled during the first year of school.

The year when the institution was first chartered as a school was 1858. The name given was Rutherford Academy. 1870-71 was the time when Rutherford Academy was changed into Rutherford College.

The college was the first in the South to admit boys and girls into the same classes. Though it was considered liberal, Brevard still contained many conservative views.

Sunday during church, men and boys sat on one side, and women and

ladies sat on the other. Religion was so strict the boys and girls were lined up and had to march to church and Sunday school.

During the Civil War the school was closed twice. Once the school was closed during the war, and the other time it was closed during reconstruction.

It was stated that keeping the student body's attention was almost impossible. The men never knew when they would be called into active service.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

**McLarty-Goodson stands in the center of the 50 yardline of the old football field.**

*the football team's average weight was only 150 pounds.*

**in 1938 the first Orient Student arrived from Seoul, Korea.**

**THERE WAS A 130 ACRE FARM AND MOST OF THE WORK ON IT WAS DONE BY STUDENTS.**

The war was so intense that a military company was organized among students.

Weaver College was founded in 1853. The first session was held in the Conference House until 1854. In 1872



*During the early 20th century, snow covered Weaver College campus.* Special to *The Clarion*

the Conference House burned to the ground; that year a new brick building was built. In 1883 it was deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Then in 1912 it was reorganized as a Junior College. During 1915 the General Assembly of North Carolina granted a new charter to the school. The school was now controlled by a board of trustees and 15 members.

During 1933, Rutherford and Weaver Colleges merged into Brevard College.

On September 17, 1934, the

enrollment was 385 students. The next year a girl's dormitory was built on campus. Also, the first graduation was held in 1935: 16 students attained their college diploma; five students received diplomas for high school work.

## *Did you know...*

*during the 30's not a single student on campus owned an automobile.*

**in the 1950's there was a carnival held on campus every year around Halloween.**

The ground breaking for Bryan Moore Science Building was in 1960.

in March 20, 1972 Taylor Hall allowed women in the lobby 7 days a week.

*the 1982 cross country and marathon teams were national champions.*

***Students in the late 1800's did not have the technology for large classes. Today it is not uncommon for 30 students to be in a classroom.*** Special to *The Clarion*

