

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Happy Birthday Charlie Brown!

In celebration of the fortieth birthday of the vulnerable and venerable Charlie Brown, the Chowan Players will bring the peanuts gang to life on Turner Stage for a few hours, March 27-31.

Auditions took place in February, and rehearsals are well underway. Munro Parker will play the title role of Charlie Brown, and Amy Thompson will play Lucy. The character of Snoopy will be played by Rebekah Todd. Other cast members include Justin Cox as Linus, and Lisa Sampson as Patty. John Underwood, Jenny Mowry, Chris Blasby, Ron Rogers and Luisa Urea round out the cast.

Matinee performances are scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday, March 28 at 1:00 p.m. Evening performances at 8:00 p.m. are scheduled for Thursday through Saturday, March 29-31.

Chowan College students will receive free tickets upon presentation of their I.D. cards in the fine

arts office the week of March 26-31. Ticket prices for the public will be \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students. Group reservations will be handled by the fine arts office (398-4101, ext. 235).



## On campus in brief

A December ice storm caused \$16,650 in damage costs to the campus in clean-up and repairs as a result of broken limbs and power outages. Fall semester final exams were postponed because of the storm and students who wished to take exams to improve their averages were allowed to do so at the beginning of the Spring Semester.

81 students were recognized during Honors Convocation on January 15, 1990. Dr. Jerry Jackson presented pins to seven students on the President's List for straight "A" work; 19 students on the Dean's List for a grade average of 3.50-3.99; and 59 students on the Honors List with a "B" average and no grade below a "C".

Gail H. Hunt's sculpture exhibit entitled, "If It's Not Sculpture . . ." was on display in the Fine Arts Gallery in Green Hall on campus during January and February. Hunt is a sculptor and instructor at Beaufort Community College in Washington and Williamston.

"Group Sax," a Raleigh-based jazz group, performed in Daniel Hall on February 1, at 7:45 p.m.

"Broadway Celebration," part of the Community Concert series, was performed in Turner Auditorium on January 29.

The Tennessee River Boys, also a Community Concert series, performance, entertained in Turner Auditorium on February 15.

President Jerry Jackson hosted a reception for new students at his residence on campus on Valentine's Day, February 14.

Pianist Patricia Goodfor performed in Daniel Hall on February 27.

Dr. Duncan Porter was the featured speaker for a Forum/Lyceum on March 13 entitled, "Plants of the Galapagos Islands".

Dr. Glen Stassen, professor of Christian Ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, presented a series of lectures during Religious Emphasis Week, Feb. 25-Mar. 2.

## Freshman's ancestor helped found Chowan College

Like many other Chowan College students, Julie Godwin of Ahoskie is looking forward to a bright future. But, she also has a keen appreciation for the past, especially as it relates to Chowan's heritage.

Her great-great-great grandfather, William Watson Mitchell, was one of the founders of Chowan College.

Julie is a graduate of Bertie Senior High School. A freshman, she is majoring in photography.

She said that the great-great-great granddaughter of one of the college's founders, it was only natural for her to attend Chowan. She is very pleased with her decision.

Julie is the daughter of Paul and Nancy Mitchell Godwin, Jr., of Ahoskie. Her family tree includes Harriett Eure Mitchell and Horace Pruden Mitchell, grandparents; Bessy Pruden Mitchell and Horace Carlton Mitchell, great grandparents; Sally Vann Mitchell and William Judson Mitchell, great-great grandparents; and Mary Wlizabeth Winnifred Mitchell and W. W. Mitchell, great-great-great grandparents.

The pretty, polite young lady said it has been a privilege and pleasure to learn more about her great-great-great grandfather, W. W. Mitchell, and his role in helping to found Chowan College. Mitchell was born Dec. 20, 1810 and died Sept. 12, 1897.

William Watson Mitchell, generous Baptist benefactor, planter and civic leader, was the largest benefactor of Chowan College during its early history. He was one of the group that gathered at Mulberry Grove, the home of Dr. Godwin Cotten Moore in Hertford County, in 1848 and set in motion the organization of the Baptist Female Institute in Murfreesboro which became Chowan College.

Following organization, Mitchell served on the Board of Trustees for 28 years. He succeeded Dr. Moore as the second person to be chosen Chairman of the Trustees, a responsibility Mitchell held for 19 years, the longest tenure in the school's history.

He was described by Hertford historian

Winborne as "one of the patriarchs of the county" and "an uncompromising Baptist in his religious faith" who "gave liberally of his large means to the advancement of its cause." Indeed, while Chowan College was the principal object of his bounty, he also contributed large sums of money and property to Wake Forest College, the Baptist Orphanage and to individual Baptist churches.

However, the survival of Chowan College during the Civil War years and immediately thereafter is Mitchell's memorial. Baptist historian C. W. Scarborough and Dr. Charles B. Williams credit him with keeping the school open and operating with his personal gifts. Scarborough wrote that Mitchell "gave more to Chowan B. F. Institute than anyone else," while Williams records that Mitchell personally funded the operation of the institution for the remainder of a school year when it was about to close for financial reasons.



Chowan College freshman Julie Godwin poses beside the portrait of her great-great-great-grandfather, William Watson Mitchell, one of the founders of Chowan Baptist Female Institute in 1848.

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