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Nucor Steel surprises Chowan with \$100,000

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The 1998 Commencement was an exciting occasion. Approximately 130 Chowan students claimed their baccalaureate degrees and began the next stage of their lives. This was the largest number of baccalaureate graduates in Chowan's history. The ceremony was held in the Helms Center and was attended by almost 3,000 people. That may also have been a record. The combination of excited students, proud faculty and relieved parents made this an event to remember.

This year's commencement ceremony marked the beginning of an exciting and significant celebration: the 150th birthday of Chowan. Actually, the date of our founding is in October, but we decided to start a year-long period of celebration early and conclude with the 1999 commencement.

Every event that takes place during the 1998-99 academic year will incorporate elements of this period in our history. This includes events like Founders Day, Homecoming, Hobson Lecture and Prize, and the annual Awards Dinner. In addition, there will be a variety of special events that will be planned for various times during the year.

Over the years, Chowan College has touched the lives of many people. It was and is an important entity in this region of the state. Murfreesboro and Hertford County certainly would not be the same without the college.

One hundred fifty years old is a venerable age for any institution. As an alum or friend of Chowan, you can take great pride in the long and honorable history of the institution. Living through the social and economic changes that have occurred during this length of time has created an institution of great character. We have demonstrated our ability to weather the forces of change. For 150 years, the mission of Chowan has been to make a difference in the lives of its students. Now, it is important for us to do the things that will insure that Chowan's future will be as long and as rich as her past.

I hope that you will make a special effort to join us in many of the events that celebrate our 150 years.

Stan Lott
President, Chowan College

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