

## EDITORIALS

### Are three closed weekends necessary?

There is much to be said about freshmen not being allowed to go home for the first three weekends of college.

The period of emancipation is time-consuming.

Three straight weekends away from home won't do it. Granted, it may help the process along, but complete emancipation can not be done in only three weeks. Even sophomores have to go home once in a while.

Most freshmen leave their parents for the first time when they leave for college. Living away from home takes a lot of adjusting. The student learns what he has to do for himself, how to organize his time, and many things unthought-of to the student living at home.

If the new freshman goes home every weekend, he will not learn to use his time wisely. Everyone has to study on weekends once in a while.

Many students clean their rooms and do laundry on weekends. There are also social activities planned by the school which help students adjust to college life. If attended by a majority of students, people will find new friends and everyone will have fun.

On the other hand, a student away from home for the first time needs security. His parents provide this. He can go home any time, even if it's just to get a home-cooked meal and to do laundry. Parents rarely put restrictions on how often their college children visit them.

When the school enforces a rule stating that no freshmen may go home for the first three weeks of school, there's bound to be some controversy. Some students will have excusable reasons such as doctor's and dentist's appointments, and will get to go home. The others are grounded for the whole time.

There are some who get to go home for a Saturday or Sunday because their parents live only a short distance from the school. The others, not so lucky, get to stay here.

The whole idea sounds good, but in reality many students see their parents before the end of the three-week period. Some students go through the quick three-week emancipation without a complaint. Others get depressed and homesick; consequently they can not do their best work.

The supposedly "emancipated sophomore" is a bad example during the introduction period to college life. Even sophomore advisors have moped in front of their freshmen advisees complaining that "it's been two whole weeks since we've been home."

So three weeks of restriction to campus serves no great purpose. It does not emancipate the freshmen. It causes depression. It creates anxiety between those who get to go home and those who do not.

Julie Hoskins

### Buzz, buzz; the phone's always busy

"Hello, Suzy?

"Daddy!"

What's with the phone service? Don't you have more than one phone in the dorm?"

"Sure Dad, we have two on our floor." Why?"

"Well for the last two days I've been trying to call you but I always get a busy signal!"

"Gee, Dad, is anything wrong?"

Yes, your grandmother had a heart attack. I wanted to let you know so you can be prepared to come home if necessary. - but you'd have gotten the message quicker by mail!"

"Oh Daddy, that's terrible. It's pretty hard to get through because about 50 girls have access to these two phones."

"Well, I thought with the fee I pay they could at least afford a few telephones! Our grandmother could be dead and buried before I could ever get through!"

Does this sound familiar? It is positively ridiculous to expect as many as 50 girls per floor to use two telephones! Why most average families of four have two phones. And yet this is the situation at Chowan.

Why? Can't the school afford to install some extra phones? With such exorbitant rates as students pay it seems reasonable enough that at least the student needs should be met.

Have you ever known a woman who could restrain herself from the art of phone conversation? I doubt you have had that privilege. I haven't.

Sure there are three minute time limits set up but

are they enforced? Is it possible for all calls to be placed in such a time limit?

My nature rebukes it. And obviously most of the other females of Chowan feel the same way for it's next to impossible to get a call through. I know; I've tried, as well as my parents, boy friend and friends.

There are so many classic examples of tied-up phones in a girl's dorm that it is impossible to cite them all. There's always the irritated boy friend who can never get his call through and the infuriated father with explosive news for his daughter.

Of course there are the noble lads who employ the instrument to test their appeal on the wires who have a fear of face-to-face communication.

And there's always the mother longing to hear her darling little Sally's voice again.

Then there's the Sunday night 10:45 flat tire case where students must phone in and report where they are and how long it will take them to get to the dorm.

But the seriousness of the matter comes when emergencies arise and the phones are tied up, making communication impossible.

No doubt this complaint rings loudest at Chowan for the busy buzz has volume. What can be done? Plenty. But you students must take a positive stand on the subject. Voice your opinion.

I think two additional phones per dorm floor should be added along with a phone reserved for emergency usage only. What do you think?

Pauline Robinson

### Letters to Editor

Editor, Smoke Signals,  
Chowan College,  
Murfreesboro, N. C.

Dear Pauline:

I have always stated that the students of Chowan College were fine. You have surpassed them all this year with your spirit and emphatic enthusiasm as was shown by you and our student body at the football game with Gardner-Webb College last Saturday night.

Other members of the administration, faculty, and staff will join me in praising you for your superb, positive attitudes the whole evening. YOU WERE WONDERFUL!

It was thrilling to hear our band play the national anthem and other numbers as well. Dr. Whitaker leading us in prayer for both teams and for us, Coach McCraw making his commentaries, the Bravettes twirling and swirling, the cheerleaders with their mascots and Braves leading us in joyous acclaim, and the climax of it all with our team and coaches leading on to victory.

All of you are to be commended. This was truly team spirit!

Let's continue to keep this up throughout the year as we work together, study together, laugh together, sing together, cry together, play together, and pray together. God bless all of you.

Sincerely,  
Anna Belle Crouch,  
Professor of Speech

### Now, it is silent again

By HARRY LINDSTROM

The sun is shining very brightly as I lie here on the freshly mowed and raked grass of my front yard. It is a holiday, and I am not in school. This may seem like a trivial matter, but I would like to include that I am a senior at Robert E. Mosby High School in Regina, Mont.

As I lie here, looking up into the trees and everything, I can hear the birds chirping, bees buzzing and Mom is running the vacuum cleaner inside the house.

I am presently reading C. S. Lewis' book "The Great Divorce." The air smells so fresh, the sky is sparsely dotted with clouds.

Now, as I sit up at a momentarily unidentified sound, I begin to wonder. It is possible that it could be a train, but the closest tracks are 11 miles away. It could be a plane, but only on special occasions do planes ever come to this part of the country.

What on earth could it be? My eyes strain to see the object that has now come into sight. A fast moving car. The driver must be in some kind of a rush.

My attention is distracted by another sound coming from the opposite direction. Could it be? Yes, another car. Ordinarily a car wouldn't seem too improbable, but two? It too, is moving at a very fast

pace. I can't imagine what the rush could be.

My eyes are now staring at the narrow road some 40 feet in front of me. It is about wide enough for one car and it is in bad need of repair.

The two, fast moving cars are nearing the spot at which I am now staring.

A wreck is inevitable.

Closer and closer they race; apparently each is unaware of the other's presence.

I would estimate that both are traveling at 60 miles per hour or more. Now the driver of the car which I heard first sees the second car. He slaps on his brakes and goes into a skid.

Now it is silent again. Just the sound of a slight rustling of the leaves caused by a refreshingly cool breeze. Mom is calling me for lunch.

### A selling atmosphere

The shortage of good secretaries is forcing many companies to glamorize jobs in their recruiting ads. The Washington Post, seeking a Gal Friday for its editor, put this come-on in its want ad:

"Work in the exciting atmosphere of a metropolitan daily news room."

To which the local gals would add: "...but be sure you can carry a scalding cup of java through all that 'excitement' without pinkie the boss' brew or blistering your pinkie."

### Please, keep her happy

A patient in a Miami hospital donated \$500,000 to the hospital to build a parking lot. She said that she provided the money for the parking facility because of her secretary.

The secretary, she explained, had to park several blocks away in order to visit her at the hospital. This just goes to show how far employers will go these days to keep a good secretary happy.

### 'SEAM' like old times

The New York Times reports a new organization in Ann Arbor, Mich. -Society for the Emancipation of the American Male, or SEAM.

Purpose of the group is "to restore the American patriarchy" and return men to their positions as heads of their families.

And guess what the group has already? A ladies auxiliary.



Short Skirts vs. Shorts



## Literary Musings

By PROF. ROBERT G. MULDER

Each year during the month of August, many people visit our town for the first time. These are the new parents and students who, at the beginning of the college year, arrive in Murfreesboro, some for a full nine month's stay and others for only a short while.

Even though first impressions are all-too-often lasting and the visitor's initial impression just might not impress, we local residents are convinced that "to know OUR TOWN is to love her."

Our local paper, the "Ahoskie News-Herald," published for our town on Wednesdays each week, recently carried a revealing article of general interest. The title, "British Crown Made M'boro Port a King's Landing," proudly proclaimed that we are no insignificant spot on the map.

For the enlightenment of our students (who may not be exposed to our Ahoskie weekly), let me remind our readers of a few important facts.

Did you know that our historic town was settled in the 1700's and named for William Murfree who gave the land on which the town was built? And that at one time real Indians roamed the sacred flats of Squirrel Park, paving the way for future Chowanians braves?

Did you know that during the 18th and 19th centuries sailing vessels brought goods to Murfree's Landing ("Down by the Riverside") from New England, the West Indies and Europe? Well, they did, and even today the rippling waters of the Meherrin are used for Texaco and Smith-Douglas transporting.

Gatling invented "a wonderful flying machine (which actually flew) at least twenty-five years before the Wright brothers made their 1903 flight? That actually happened near here, not in the heart of the city, but in the country nearby, and this fact does add some prestige to Murfreesboro.

Our readers probably already know that Dr. Richard J. Gatling, inventor of the Gatling gun, lived near here, and this has something going for Murfreesboro. (Go into the Farmers Bank sometimes and see the Gatling Gun. It's a one-gun show, but it's free.)

So when students are unimpressed with our little town in the future, we must remind them of these Did-You-Know's.

### Something To Do Around Here

And the next time uncreative students complain of not having anything to do, I'd like to make some suggestions:

Every Friday afternoon about five o'clock traffic picks up downtown. (All the Virginians coming home.) Generally there's a jam or two. It's very interesting to watch the passers-through get perturbed with our locals (some of the older drivers) when jams occur. It's almost as exciting as when a student takes a faculty park-

ing spot only to return and find himself blocked in by that faculty member.

Sometimes you may persuade Mr. Holland to conduct you through a brief tour of his funeral parlor. Not many of our students have seen the inside of a real embalming room.

Then, in the near future, real activity will begin down in South Murfreesboro. Mr. Vann will begin to operate his GIN. It's for cotton, though.

Then there's the river bridge activity - much more expansive and organized, now than when I was a student here. I'm told that visitors there are not always from out of space, that Ceberus often gets in his visits there, too.

So on and on it goes. There's right much to do here in our historical town. You must have to use your imagination sometimes.

### About Seeing into the Future

Ages ago Thoth, founder of magism, said "Fortunate is he who knows how to read the signs of the times, for that man shall escape many misfortunes, or at least be prepared to withstand the blow."

Prophecy was made popular several years ago when Ruth Montgomery told us all about the phenomenal Jeane Dixon in her book "A Gift of Prophecy."

Because I know that some of my readers are interested in the psychic world, I should like to call attention to a recently acquired volume on the subject.

In "THEY FORESAW THE FUTURE", Justine Glass explores the background and examines the riddle of this aged, yet strangely modern art.

Here is the most famous seer of all history, the French prophet Nostradamus, seeing London in flames - more than century before the conflagration leveled that great city. And here is Nostradamus' prediction for 1999: the coming of the "King of Terror," whose reign will last twenty-seven years!

But Jeane Dixon, the present-day prophet who foresaw President Kennedy's assassination and the terrible earthquakes in Canada and Alaska also has a prediction for the year 1999: the beginning of an era of peace!

### What's Next?

Well I can't prognosticate, but I can communicate with the animals. My latest discussion affords the topic for a column next week.

The next column will include my latest poem: "The Ballad of Cherry Chimpunk: Based on observations from a Limb in Squirrel Park."

### WARM GREETING

"Hope you have a good day" is the smiling greeting each morning from a security guard on The News parking lot. His friendliness and sincerity give meaning to his message.

He helps to make it a better day, too. More of us should try his philosophy.

The

## Inquiring

## PHOTOGRAPHER

By FRANK GRANGER

The purpose of this column is to provide space for questions and opinions of students, faculty and administration on any subject pertinent to campus events.

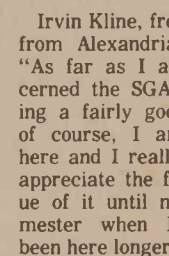
If you have a question you would like to see used, take it to McSweeney Hall, or mail to The Inquiring Photographer, Chowan College, Box 34.

QUESTION: What do you think of the student government's efforts to provide the campus activities so far this year?

WHERE ASKED: Marks Hall.



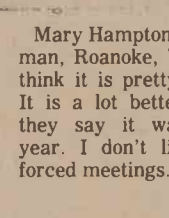
Eddie Elliott, freshman, South Boston, Va. "So far it's been pretty good. From what I've heard it has been better than last year. Dances are better than the concerts."



Irvin Kline, freshman from Alexandria, Va. "As far as I am concerned the SGA is doing a fairly good job; of course, I am new here and I really can't appreciate the full value of it until next semester when I have been here longer."



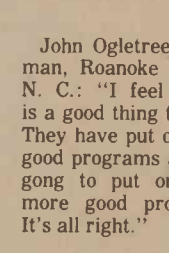
Worth Cooper, freshman, South Boston, Va. "It has been pretty good. It's a whole lot better than last year. I think that instead of concerts there should be some dances."



Mary Hampton, freshman, Roanoke, Va. "I think it is pretty good. It is a lot better than they say it was last year. I don't like the forced meetings."



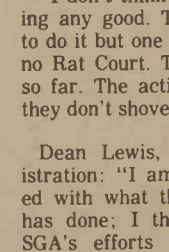
Jane Corbell, sophomore, Nags Head, N. C. "They have improved so much over the past year. The students are so much more interested in the school itself because of the activities that have been provided."



John Ogletree, freshman, Roanoke Rapids, N. C. "I feel that it is a good thing to have. They have put on some good programs and are going to put on some more good programs. It's all right."



Debbie Brown, freshman, Virginia Beach, Va. "They tell us we have to study a lot and they tell us we have to go to all these meetings at the same time. I don't see how they expect us to study and go to the meetings at the same time."



"I don't think that the Rat Weeks are doing any good. The sophomores didn't have to do it but one day last year and there was no Rat Court. The dances have been great so far. The activities ahead sound good, if they don't shove it all down us."

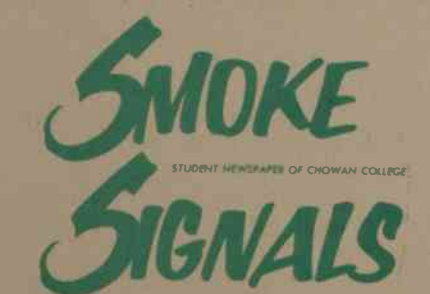
Dean Lewis, administration: "I am pleased with what the SGA has done; I think the SGA's efforts will be superior to last year. This is due in part to the experience Mr. Wooten and I gained last year.

"Bucky" Griffin and Lee Dunn both attended summer school together we did some pre-planning. I do think we need to make greater efforts in seeking out students who have talent and who will be willing to entertain students.

"I especially enjoyed the concerts by Pam Keyes, Harry Lindstrom and Marty Straight."

### A THIEF IN COURT

In certain countries, we've been told, a motorist who pauses for a stoplight may drive on to find himself minus a wrist-watch, wallet or other valuables. Pick-pockets work fast.



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