



Ever since time began, man has struggled to find some point at which to start each year. For farmers it is early spring, for school children it is the beginning of classes, for ardent alumni it is the first big game, for most of us it is January first, but for the hunting nut, it is the first week in September—the opening of Dove Season.

For approximately thirty million Americans, the beginning of each year coincides with the opening of the new hunting season. For North Carolinians it will be September 4th this year.

When one enjoys the smell of burnt powder, the crisp recoil of a shotgun, the dust of a well broken clay bird, plus the excitement of live targets, then his sport is wing shooting in general and Dove hunting in particular. There is no other gamebird in the United States that offers the variety and availability of shots as the Dove.

The gun shell companies—Winchester-Western, Remington, and Federal must have invented the Dove during a business slump. He is referred to as a streak of gray, the master of the "Dipsey Dootle", and a multitude of other nonprintable cliches. I have often heard it said that a Dove is not hard to hit, he is just easy to miss.

With the recognition of the Dove as a gamebird in most States, the gun shell industry is certain to stay in the black. Last year more shells were fired at Doves than all other American game animals put together. It is a general consensus that it requires an expenditure of 5.5 shells to collect one bird. This average was taken over the duration of an entire season, not just on opening day. At the beginning of each season when birds have not been shot at, they are not as wary and the averages will be better; however, by the season's close one considers himself lucky even to get a bird to come within range of being shot at, much less hit.

Two years ago the limit on Doves was raised from twelve to eighteen birds per day. However, it is important to remember that the limit returns to twelve birds per day, twenty-four in possession, this year. The increased limit for the past two years was used as an experiment to determine if increased hunting pressure had any effect on the over-all breeding population. Only a small percentage of birds will ever survive to reach breeding age, even if there were no hunting at all; therefore, hunting seems to have no apparent effect on the over-all population. If when all the results are in, this fact is born out, the limit may be again raised to the very liberal eighteen birds per day.

Since the Dove is a migratory bird, its hunting is regulated by the Federal Government. They allow each State on the flyway a certain number of hunting days per year within the prescribed season. North Carolina has elected to use the half-day system which permits hunting from noon until sunset (half-day), but for twice as many days. Therefore, we have a split season; the first part from September 4 until October 9, and second half of the season begins on December 13 and lasts until January 15. In my opinion, Dove hunting is much better in the afternoon than it is in the morning; therefore, I am very much in favor of the half-day system.

In order to hunt Doves in North Carolina, one must have in his possession a valid N. C. Hunting License. The resident hunting and fishing license costs \$7.50, while the hunting license alone is only \$5.50. It is my understanding from the merchants in town who issue the licenses that a student or serviceman is entitled to purchase a resident license.

When hunting in new territory, it is imperative to always stop and ask permission before hunting. If the landowner grants permission to you, usually he will be glad to assist in finding a good spot on his farm or a neighboring farm. One of word of caution is that when a landowner gives you permission to hunt his property. He gives it to you and not to all of your friends and half of the dorm.

On the back of every license purchased is the State Trespass Law; it reads—"It shall be unlawful . . . to hunt with guns or dogs upon the lands of another without . . . permission . . . from the owner."

If you really enjoy the sport of hunting, you will do everything in your power to protect the property of the landowners so that they will continue to allow others to use it in the future. Remember, it only takes one careless person to ruin a season for many people.

During the fall in this section of the State, it is usually very dry and fire is always a hazard. I know one individual that always leaves his smokes and matches at home when hunting so that he won't be tempted to use them.

When hunting on other peoples' property, you should always clean up after yourself—this includes cans, bottles, candy papers, empty shell boxes, and spent hulls. With reloading becoming more and more popular it is good business to pick up empty cases. Once fired cases sell from \$0.50 per thousand (paper) to \$4.00 per hundred (double A's).

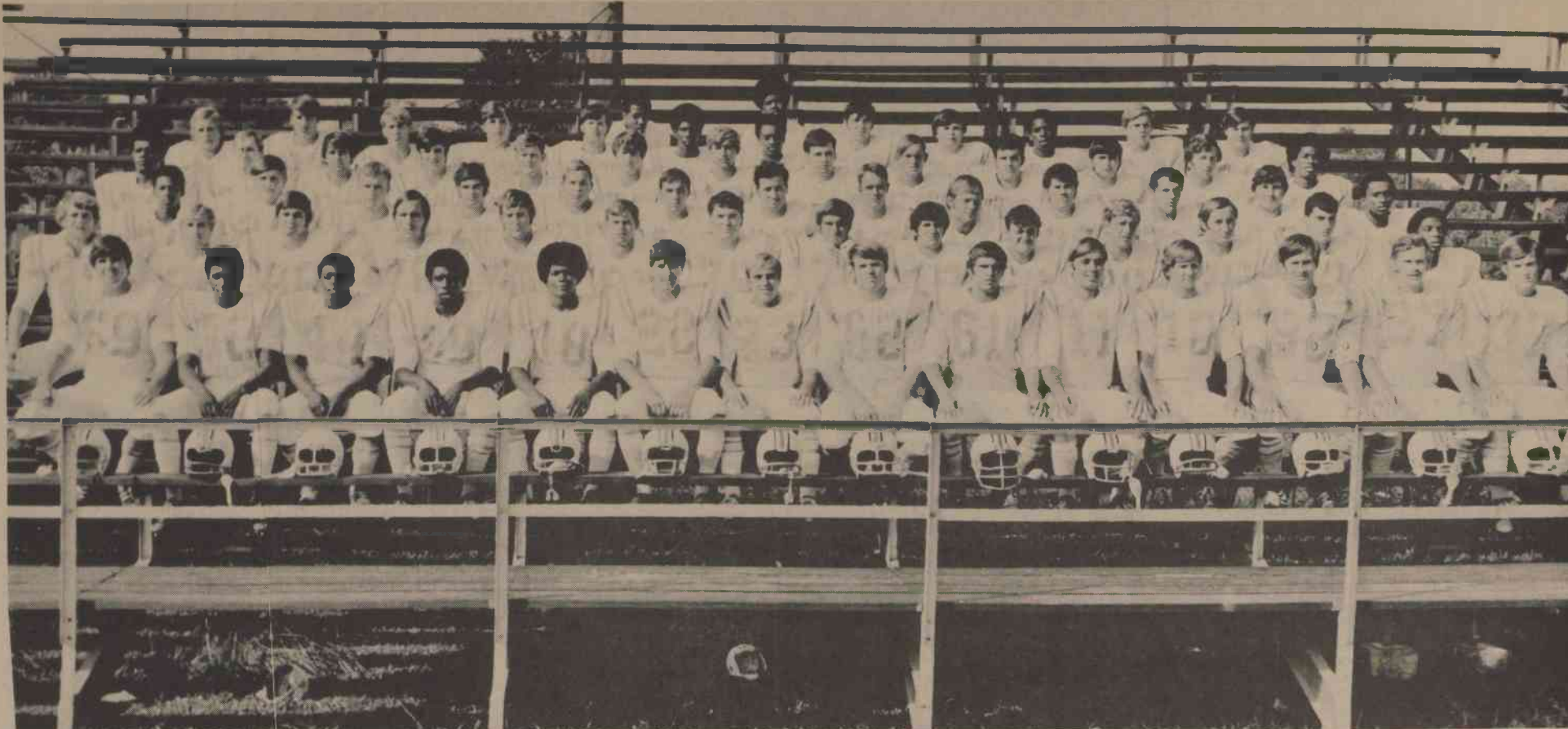
Have a good season and watch for future articles in this series. Remember if you can't get a limit of birds, you can certainly bring back a limit of litter.

From the reports that have been drifting in to me, the first few days of the 1971 Dove season have been a success. The number of birds has been limited as compared to the number in the last four years. Most individuals have had an ample availability of shots, but the filled limit has been an exception rather than the rule. This is surprising since the limit has been reduced by six birds, from last year's limit of eighteen birds.

Doria, the last tropical storm, was the culprit that was responsible for our slow start. Only a few corn fields had been picked when she dumped between four and five inches of rain on the surrounding area. This amount of rain made it impossible for the corn harvest to begin on schedule. This would have been an ideal situation, to have all the birds concentrate on only a few fields; however, there was so much rain that the grain that was spilled either sprouted or rotted. When this happens the birds will abandon a field overnight.

Since the season opened in Virginia on the same day as in North Carolina, the increased hunting pressure should drive the birds south to us. In most places the corn harvest is now in full swing so the migrating birds will have an unlimited amount of feed. This will keep the birds from gathering into large flocks and thereby provide poor shooting. Since they have been shot at, they have become wary and are also dispersed due to the abundance of feed. Therefore, I am afraid that the remainder of the season will offer poor shooting at best. The birds now seem to flare at the slightest movement, thus presenting only long passing shots. For this, most experienced shooters recommend using longer barrels with tighter chokes and larger shot (smaller numbered shot).

With the Dove season less than two weeks old it is already time to begin thinking about the big game bow season which opens September 17. In North Carolina



1971 Chowan Braves

Two Chowan Students Carry Beauty Titles

Denied the title of Miss North Carolina last year, 19-year-old Linda Jean Moyer bounced back to become the second Chowan College coed in the past three years to capture the Miss Virginia title.

Her comeback began when she captured the Miss Norfolk title in May. There, her talent was the same as in North Carolina. She decided on the change shortly before the state contest, held July 8-10 in Roanoke.

"Beauty and Brains" At Chowan, Linda combined "beauty and brains" to become during her two years, one of the

English Club and named to the Honor Roll.

As a campus beauty contestant, she was named Freshman Princess and to the Homecoming Court for two years.

In the Miss Virginia contest, the green-eyed blonde won first place in the swimsuit competition. Of her appearance in the Miss American contest in Atlantic City in September, she has said, "I'm really going to try for it." She added that to win the national title is "my ambition, my goal."

Although Linda's victories have excited the campus, winning beauty contests is nothing new for Chowan coeds. A second student, Sandy Rice, also appeared in the Miss Virginia pageant as the reigning Miss Virginia Beach.

Second Chance Miss Rice, who is a Chowan

cheerleader, will have the opportunity next year to follow in the footsteps of Miss Moyer, only in reverse. While she can not re-enter the pageant in her hometown until one year's absence, she will be eligible for the Miss Ahooskie competition. A win there would place her in the Miss North Carolina contest.

Chowan's image as the college home of lovely beauties was also enhanced when a third coed, Doris Smith of Wilson, captured the Miss Ahooskie contest and placed high in the Miss North Carolina pageant. In Raleigh, she won the swimsuit division and was second runner-up.

Seven Win Crown Since 1960, seven Chowan students have captured the Miss Ahooskie crown. The town is located some 15 miles from Murfreesboro, which does not sponsor a pageant.

Miss Moyer was the second Chowan student to win the Miss Norfolk contest.

"Linda has demonstrated what you can do when you have fortitude and confidence," said Clayton Lewis, dean of students. "I wouldn't be surprised to see Sandy, who has a charming personality as does Miss Moyer, bounce back the same way. Of course, we're proud of all our coeds who have brought honor and prestige to Chowan through their accomplishments in beauty pageants as well as in other extracurricular and academic activities," Lewis said.

Asked why so many Chowan coeds have won beauty awards, Lewis responded, "Maybe beauties are attracted by beauty—the beauty of Chowan." Lewis said that approximately one third of the student body of 1,500 are women.

Dean Lewis Issues Welcome to Students

It is a pleasure to welcome to Chowan College some 950 new students and to welcome back 550 returning students. I sincerely hope that this year will provide each of you with a stimulating intellectual experience.

Chowan College is dedicated to the task of providing quality higher education in the context of Christian principles. The faculty and staff of the college believe that every student should be exposed to the great ideas, the literature, and the learning of both the past and present—to a vast body of factual information. But just as important, and perhaps even more important, it is our wish that the college experience may provide the opportunity and the guidance for every student to develop a truly worthy philosophy of life.

Chowan attempts to serve students with a wide variety of educational objectives. Most students are working towards the associate degree, with the idea of going on to the baccalaureate. Others will complete their formal education with the associate degree. Still others are enrolled in one-year vocational programs. We hope that each of you will attain your educational aspirations. If you encounter difficulties anywhere along the way, seek help from your academic adviser or other appropriate college personnel. It is our sincere desire that every student who enrolls at this institution complete his requirements for either the associate degree or the one-year diploma.

Chowan is a good college, but it does not claim to be perfect, for this is a claim that no human institution can make. If you as a student have suggestions for improvements, we hope that you will make these known to the appropriate persons—your S. G. A. officers, faculty members, administrative officers, or college committees. Work within the established structure of the institution. We solicit your help in making this good college a truly great college.



RECEPTION—Dr. and Mrs. Bruce E. Whitaker entertained at a reception for new faculty and staff members prior to the opening of school. Here a group gathers around the festive reception table.



1971-72 MAJORETTES—Members of the 1971-72 Majorettes are, left to right, Sandra Waston, Winston-Salem; Revery Snyder, Macksville, Va.; Gayle Ellis, Portsmouth, Va.; Sandy Whitmore, Westpoint, Va.; Judy Satterwhite, Ashland, Va.; and Cindy Copeland, Virginia Beach, Va. Alternates are Renee Howard, Elizabeth City and Joyce Blackmam, Nashville. Miss Shirley Thorne is Sponsor.



GETTING CHAPEL NUMBER—Mrs. Lynn Gray, secretary to the Chaplain of the College, assigns a chapel seat number to a registering student. The number is quite important to all students, since it is the same as embossed on their identification cards.