

Memorable Events Mark Chowan's School Year

By HARRY PICKETT

The 1979-80 school year is almost over here at Chowan, and as with any season, one begins to reflect on personal and school accomplishments. Looking back on the year, one can come up with many memorable and significant events, such as the reaching of the \$2.5 million goal for the gymnasium and the newsmaking Student Government Association.

Beginning back in September, President Bruce E. Whitaker announced to Chowan's Boards of Trustees and Advisors on September 10 that a gift of \$500,000 had been secured from an anonymous donor for the completion of the college's new gymnasium-physical education center.

Stipulations, however in securing the gift, called for the college to raise an additional \$400,000 needed to complete the \$2.5 million campaign and provide a fully equipped facility. The donor requested, also, that the new gymnasium be named in honor of U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, who's also a Baptist layman.

Acceptance of the challenge gift and the approval of naming the facility for the senator was unanimously granted by the two boards at their semi-annual meeting.

In September, also, the Student Government Association approved a proposal which forced all students attending SGA sponsored movies to pay an admission price of 50 cents.

There was an uproar of disapproval by most of the students, because during the previous school year, students attending the campus movies at Columns Auditorium had only to show their I.D. card and admittance was free; unless, however, if the students were without the card, then the 50 cents fee would be charged.

The office of the Registrar reported that 1,124 students had enrolled at

officers, most of it is clearing up."

He went on to say, "I don't care to please the officers. I'm here to please the students, as long as I can do what's right." Burke then said he was convinced the SGA was "becoming just like" the U.S. Government.

Coach Jim Garrison's football team got ranked as high as sixth in the NJCAA and Associate Press polls. The Braves defeated East Carolina's junior varsity, as well as Duke's.

The Bloodmobile motored to Hertford County and Chowan College on Thursday, September 26 in hopes of receiving at least 200 pints of blood from each student. However, when the mobile headed back to its hideout in Greenville, N.C., it carried a little more than that because a pint of blood from some 285 Chowan students was taken.

The 285 figure doesn't represent, by any means, half the total enrollment of the college; but it was a mark unexpected. Many of the students on campus failed to give blood because they were either underweight, had low blood pressure, had some sickness, or were just "chicken".

October

Disagreements over guidelines within the Student Government Association's Constitution, led to one SGA officer walking out of the October 1 general legislative meeting in rage.

SGA Social-Chairperson for Men Greg Kaserman stormed out of the meeting after citing that the meeting was not official because the representative body did not meet a quorum. According to the SGA Constitution, Article 1, Section 10, two-thirds of the members of the Student Legislature shall constitute a quorum. Only six of the 12 hall representatives showed for the meeting.

Kaserman told Nancy Loy, vice-president, and presiding officer over



Annette Johnson appears unfazed while giving blood in the Fall Bloodmobile visitation. (Photo by Dennis Loan)

At the time of the "raid" it was alleged that SGA president Mike Burke was an instigator, as well as other student leaders on campus.

November

Chowan students visited Camp Cale, a campsite along the winding Roanoke-Chowan River on November 10.

Approximately 60 Chowanians went on the trip which saw each playing games, singing songs, discussing problems and joining in such heated conversations, ranging from sex to everyday college hassles.

Guidance counselors Linda Owens and Diane Wood accompanied the students on the trip. Also, Dr. R. Hargus Taylor, chaplain to the college and R. Clayton Lewis, dean of students, tagged along.

In sports, Chowan's football team ended its season with a 7-4 season. Defensive end Hal Henderson was named to two All-American teams, and received a scholarship to play football at the University of South Carolina.

Coach Jerry Smith and his Chowan Braves basketball team opened the season by winning the first Eastern Tarheel Tip-Off Tournament, held November 19 and 20. The Braves bumped off Southeastern Community College in first-round action, 90-74, and Louisburg 82-61 at the old Chowan gymnasium.

Outstanding players of Chowan College's football and volleyball teams received awards at a banquet Tuesday, November 27 in the school cafeteria. Letters, certificates and other awards were also given out.

Also honored were Chowan's cheerleaders with Mrs. Alice Vann, sponsor, handing out letters, certificates and pins.

The feature speaker was Dennis Hagland, linebacker coach at Wake Forest University, who played Louisiana State University in the Tangerine Bowl in Orlando Fla. in December.

Chowan's wrestling team crunched Duke University's J.V. team 32-16 Thursday, November 29 here at Chowan.

Thirty-two Chowan students were honored in the 1979-80 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

In other election results, Debbie Gorse defeated Joni Graham for vice-president. Bernadette Campbell, who ran unopposed, is secretary-treasurer.

The Chowan College Choir, along with other colleges and chorals groups from the Washington, N.C. area, taped 30 minutes of Christmas music on Christmas day on WITN-TV at 3 p.m. Chowan College reached its goal of \$2.5 million in its campaign for a new gymnasium-physical education center.

Chowan President Bruce E. Whitaker

said the amount included a \$500,000 challenge grant made by an anonymous donor earlier in the year. The donor stipulated that the college raise an additional \$400,000 to complete and equip the facility at a total project cost of \$2.5 million.

Whitaker said Chowan qualified for the \$500,000 challenge grant when it completed its drive for the additional \$400,000 on Dec. 31.

Chowan's basketball team finished December with a spotless 10-0 record.

December

Michael Burke, president of the Student Government Association, was seen squirting girls outside of East Hall with shaving cream in early December. He manhandled a couple of them, and forced the cream on the young women.

The administration was displeased with Burke's antics. He had denied being involved in the melee until Smoke Signals photographer Randy Murphy presented photographs of the executive in action.

Burke did not receive any disciplinary punishment. Before the incident, a toothbrush raid was attempted at the women's dorm, Belk Hall. Burke had nothing to do with this raid as many had rumored.

Steve Laney, a freshman from Charlotte, was elected by his peers as freshman class president for the 1979-80 school year.

Laney outdistanced presidential opponent Louis Mangas, defeating the Zebulon native 53-27 in a landslide victory.

January

Black members of the campus band "New Breeze" blasted the Student Government Association after the organization's January 21 meeting, calling the SGA "one-sided" and "selfish" and charging members with using the money allocated to them "wastefully."

Two bandsmen, both of who are active students on campus, wished to remain anonymous after they requested the right to play at an SGA-sponsored dance March 21. The SGA listened to their request and their asking price of \$400, but according to the musicians, "did not seem interested."

The Student Government Association, which approved a student loan plan November 5, unanimously approved a revised loan arrangement suggested by Chowan business manager Ben Sutton, at its January 21 meeting.

The Student Emergency Loan, which it is called, will provide assistance in times of crisis and financial difficulties. The guidelines of the loan stipulate that

the student shall receive aide only for medical emergencies and transportation home for family emergencies.

The loan plan also stipulated that a student shall receive "\$25 maximum amount or up to \$50 at the discretion of the SGA loan committee."

Chowan's Lady Braves basketball team scored 107 points on January 28 against St. Mary's College of Raleigh. The losers collected 28.

According to Coach Roy Winslow, it was the highest total ever amassed by a girls team at Chowan.

David Green, a former student and football player at Chowan College, was named the Most Valuable Player in the Canadian Football League in November.

March

March 5 was a big day for Sharee C. Atkinson of Dinwiddie, BVVA. The freshman won the presidential election for the SGA office.

Atkinson defeated Steve Laney of Charlotte. All indications showed that the Virginian was supported heavily by a majority of the female vote.

Laney, who had been campaigning since October and a SGA representative, received the black vote in a losing cause.

According to Burke, the election brought out the largest number of voters in the school's history. Approximately 500 voted, said the incumbent.

Aside from electing the first female



Robin Herbin's "Spider Woman" costume is best at the Halloween Masquerade in Thomas Cafeteria. (Photo by Randy Murphy)

Green was on campus January 24, showing a football film, speaking to Chowan footballers and visiting professors. Green plays for the Montreal Alouettes, where he rushed for over 1600 yards and scored 11 touchdowns during the 1979 season.

In January, residents of East Hall reported that rats had invaded their dorm. Jack Hassell, superintendent of buildings and grounds, said he was surprised that rodents had appeared. He called the college's regular exterminating service immediately.

February

Nine Chowan wrestlers represented the school in the Southeastern Regional Wrestling Champions in Cocoa, Fla. February 18-19 and the Brave matmen brought back the team title.

Chowan outdistanced Chattahoochie by a fourth of a point. It was the first regional championship for Chowan ever. Two Brave wrestlers won individual titles. They were Doug Saunders in the 134-pound class and Steve Mitsakakis in the 190 range.

Both wrestlers went on to Worthington, Minnesota to compete in the National Junior College Athletic Association Tournament. Saunders won the 134-pound title and was named first-team All-America. Mitsakakis placed third in the tournament, which was held March 6-10, and was named to the All-American second team.

Coach Steve Nelson's team finished seventh best in the county, and ranked as the number one junior college wrestling team in the east. Lakeland Community College of Menton, Ohio won the national championship.

Chowan's women's basketball team ended its season in the second round of the Eastern Division's Region 10 Tournament to defending champion Louisburg, 91-66, on February 29.

president since 1974-75, all-told there were six women chosen for the eight offices, and two blacks. Burke said the election was dominated by minorities, probably due to the large turnout of women and blacks.

Darlene J. Keene of Ahsokie was one of two blacks elected. Keene defeated Jefferey D. Prillaman of Greensboro in the vice-presidential race.

Others elected include, Ann W. Kellam of Onley, Va., and Diane LaBreux of Virginia Beach ran unopposed. Kellam will hold the office of secretary and LaBreux, treasurer.

Jon Hipp won the race for social co-chairperson for men, and Beverly Price, the other black elected, won the co-chairperson for women race.

Kathy L. Dehart of Stoneville, who ran unopposed is the historian. Freddie Davis of Morganton will serve as auditor.

Chowan's basketball team finished its season by losing to Ferrum College in the first round of the Region 10 Tournament at Anderson, S.C. The Braves recorded a 22-8 season.

It was the first time in three seasons for Coach Jerry Smith that his team did not win the Eastern Tarheel regular season championship. The Braves finished 5-3 after two straight undefeated seasons of 8-0. Southeastern Community College took the title this season.

The play, "Our Town" was performed by the Chowan Players March 26-29 in Daniel Recital Hall.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Thornton Wilder was presented brilliantly by the actors. It was the second play done by the Players this school year; the first was "Please Don't Drink the Water, done first semester.

It was without much doubt, a very active year at Chowan College. Hopefully next year will be just as active and more.



Percy Godetts moves to cut behind Tim Sechrest's block for a gain in the 32-14 win over Newport News Apprentice School.

Chowan, which was one of the largest enrollments in recent years at the Baptist college.

SGA President Mike Burke chose sophomores Bernard Miller and Cynthia Gray to serve as historian and auditor in the association for the 1979-80 school year.

The presidential appointment of the two positions became necessary when, in last year's elections, write-in votes were cast for two students who did not want either position.

The president said, "I have a lot of confidence in the two new members. Both are hard workers, anxious and very dependable."

The student government purchased three canoes which cost the association \$641.65. Burke felt they would create fun and excitement on campus. On September 8, the SGA sponsored canoe races, which is supposed to become an annual event.

Sixty-eight students participated in the races, which is now considered an intramural activity. The competition was counted as part of the President's Cup battle, and each participant received one point for his dorm for competing. The top three couples in each event also received points for their respective dorms.

Four new faculty members and four new staff members were named for the 1979-80 school year.

The new professors are Mark Wolfe, photography; Dr. R. Allen Pridgen, English; Dan Surface, physical education, and Rinda M. Metz, art. The new staff members are Linda S. Owens, counseling; Dianne Wood, counseling; Pamela Hall, secretary, and Michael Posternock, admissions. Scott Colclough was named resident director of Parker Hall.

It came to the attention of Smoke Signals that the SGA officers were feuding in early September and late August. President Burke did not deny the accusation, but said, "I think if there was any dissension among the

SGA meeting, that the meeting could not be held because there was not a quorum. The two officers argued over the guideline, and Loy called the meeting off and dashed out the door.

President Burke said there would be a meeting. He brought Loy back into the session, and called it back to order, to which Kaserman objected angrily. "If you don't want to stay for the meeting why don't you just leave," Loy told Kaserman.

"Are you going on with the meeting?," Kaserman later asked Loy. "Yes," she replied. Kaserman then picked up his books and walked out, with several members applauding his departure.

Woody Allen's play, "Please Don't Drink The Water", was presented by the Chowan Players on October 3, 4 and 5.

Directed by Mrs. Sandra Boyce, the play was labeled a success by the students of Chowan College. The two-act play cost students \$1.

October 18, 1979 is a date many of us will never forget.

On this day, Chowan College had a panty raid, with both men and women roaming residential halls in the late-night hours, searching for mostly undergarments. But as it turned out, more than underclothes were taken. Some people lost pants, dresses, coats and other valuable clothing.

The "raid" obviously got out of hand as one girl at Columns went into shock, one suffered an asthma attack and, according to Renee Lambert who fought many of the intruders off with a baseball bat from her head resident position, "another almost had a stroke because of the rapid increase in her blood pressure."

At Columns, three doors were damaged and a window broken; a glass door was broken in the Belk Hall lounge and a window in a room at Jenkins Hall also was broken. The total cost for all damages was \$201.09.



Johnny Johnson, who would later become All-Conference, and Andre Cobb examine the Eastern Tarheel Conference Tip-Off Tourney championship trophy won in Chowan's gym in November. (Photo by Debbie Schwenk)