



Origin of Christmas

by John Brigman

The name Christmas, comes from the Old English Christes Maeses. A large number of our Christmas customs have grown out of accidental happenings. The Christmas customs of giftgiving, drinking, feasting, and having "Old Nick" are of non-Christian origin. The manger scenes and Christmas carols are of Christian origin. It is said that "Old Nick" originally came from Holland. Here Santa comes on the 25th of December, our Holy Christmas morning. There is something in the very season of the year, that gives a charm to the festivity of Christmas. Christmas Day itself was primarily a holy day, with the entire family making its way on foot, on horseback, or by wagon to the church. Soon Christmas will have come and gone. Soon the decorations will be carefully packed away until another year. Christmas can become, as it should be, a very special time of the year to remember Jesus Christ and what he did for all of us.

Christmas Day

By Linda Sowers

T'was a dark and wintry night like this,
When you entered the world full of bliss.
Mary wrapped you in swaddling clothes,
From your tiny little head,
To your tiny little toes.
You were blessed and she could tell,
You had a mission and you would not fail.
You would save the world,
there was no doubt.
You were the one who would lead them out.
I guess what I am trying to say is,
"Dear Lord, Happy Birthday."

A Warm Christmas

Christmas is a warmtime of the year. The spirit of Christmas, with its shimmering lights and fancy decor, makes one feel there is something special to celebrate. The giving of gifts and singing of carols are only small representations of what Christmas is about. This Christmas, why not sing gospel carols to the poor and show recognition of God's love by becoming filled with the spirit of God and share your feelings with others.

Four Named to Chowan Hall of Fame

Chowan College recently held its fourth Sports Hall of Fame Banquet and honored four new members.

The dinner, held in Thomas Cafeteria, had nearly 200 sports fans, friends of the college and guests of the inductees on hand to welcome John Bowles, Harry Gray, Danny Rizzo and Dr. Bruce Whitaker into the "hall."

John Bowles was a National Junior College Athletic Association First Team ALL-AMERICAN offensive tackle in 1970. A student at Chowan from 1969-70, John was also First Team All-Coastal Conference and the 1970 Chowan College Athlete of the Year. The Virginia Beach native left Murfreesboro to attend North Texas State University where he played offensive line for two years and graduated in 1973 with a major in education.

The former Bayside High School football standout received his Master's Degree in Secondary Education from North Texas State in 1976. A graduate assistant at North Texas State, Bowles has coached at Emporia State and Austin Peay State University.

He is now defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Richmond. Active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, John lives in Richmond with his wife, Sarah, and two sons, Jason and Brad.

Harry Gray attended Chowan College from 1966-69 and was a versatile two-sport star for the Braves.

A native of Robersonville, Gray was All-East Basketball selection and Honorable Mention All-East Football player as a senior at Robersonville High School.

All conference in basketball and the teams Most Valuable Player for the Braves, Gray was also the Most Valuable tennis player and voted the Most Outstanding Athlete at Chowan in 1968.

A participant in the East-West College All-Star game in 1969, Harry was selected as an Outstanding College Athlete in America. After Chowan, Harry served in the U.S. Army with a tour in Viet Nam. Returning to civilian life, Gray enrolled in the Atlantic Christian College in Wilson where he graduated in 1973.

Gray joined Gray's Red Front and Central Wholesale in 1974 as a partner dealing in the sale of leaf tobacco and he is still an owner and operator today. In 1986 the Robersonville resident joined Money Financial Services as a broker.

Married to the former Deborah Smith, the Gray's have two children, Amy and Julie.

Danny Rizzo was a National Junior College Athletic Association All-American golfer in 1966. While attending Chowan from 1965-67, Rizzo was voted the Most Valuable Player on the golf team, Best All-Around

Student and Most Outstanding Athlete.

A native of Hampton, Va., Rizzo left Murfreesboro to attend the College of William and Mary where he received a B.A. degree in 1969. A 1972 graduate of the University of North Carolina Law School, he graduated from the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University in 1982.

Rizzo is vice president and general counsel of Amical Corporation, the nation's largest manufacturer of private label ladies hosiery and the sole proprietor of R. Daniel Rizzo, Attorney at Law in Dunn.

Married to the former Judith Froeber, the Rizzo's have three children, Jennifer, David and Kate.

Dr. Bruce Whitaker is in his 32nd year as president of Chowan College.

A native of Cleveland County, he was valedictorian at Mooresboro High School. Dr. Whitaker graduated with a B.A. from Wake Forest University and B.D., Th.M. and Ph.D. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He received the doctor of laws honorary degree from Wake Forest.

Before coming to Chowan College in 1957, Dr. Whitaker was state secretary of the Student Department of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He has served on the faculty of three colleges and universities.

Under his leadership, Chowan's enrollment has climbed from under 300 to some 950. More than \$20 million has been added to the assets of the college.



Tree Lighting

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies were recently held in front of Whitaker's Library. The ceremonies are made possible every year by the joint project of Whitaker Library, Student Development, and Student Government Association.

Carols were sung by the Foreign Language Club under the instructions of Dr. Garrot. All were asked to share in the singing of carols with Dr. Chamblee, who acted as director. Hot chocolate and candy canes were served as refreshments for all those who came to see the lighting of the tree and share the warmth of Christmas at Chowan before the holidays.

What If There Is

By Kevin Matheson

It sometimes seems, as college students, that everything and everyone is bidding for our time and our minds. We have the rigors of classwork and studying, tests and grades, athletic practices, and club meetings, but it always seems as though there must be something more to college life and life in general...some greater hope or truth. We realize that these activities are supposed to, and do, prepare us for our future. But what does our future hold? The world offers few certainties. When we turn inward to examine our lives for some worth or hope for the future, we often find our lives are empty and uncertain. It is then that we search for something to give worth and fullness to our lives. Many people turn to alcohol, drugs, or social relationships. But it is almost always the case that these "solutions" do not satisfy the desires of the heart and leave one as empty as before. It is no wonder that there are many suicides among young people today. They see no hope in life. However, there is another hope offered, that is a new life through a relationship with God. This is not to say that this relationship is to be a passive, convenient, superficial relationship like some "Christians", but rather, a profound and personal relationship with God based on strict adherence to the Bible, which is a Christian's judge. This genuine relationship with God truly does offer a hope, that of eternal life. But some people even question the existence of God.

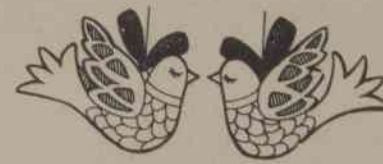
A little girl was walking to church one day when a self-proclaimed intellectual stopped her and asked where she was going. The little girl said, "I'm on my way to church." The intellectual asked, "Little girl, what if there is no God?" The little girl replied, "Sir, what if there is?"

BSU Talent Show

Recently the BSU held a Talent Show for students of Chowan. Talents ranged from singing solos and duets, to a skit with putting on make-up.

Solos were sung by Olga DaCosta, Lisa Kerby, Holly Gailey and Jill Simpson. Duets were also included. Sharon Davis and Olga DaCosta sang "El-Shad-dai", and Holly Gailey and Jill Simpson sang "There will Never be Another". The piece "Rise Again" was played by Holly on the piano and Edna Ruffin played the piece "Grace", by A. Burmular Etude.

Edna Ruffin, Mike Winns, and Karen Davis performed a skit called cosmetics. Edna was the make-up advisor and Karen's hands were the hands of Mike, who was the client. When the job was completed he resembled a clown who had been rubbed through the mud by the elephants at a Barnam and Bailey circus.



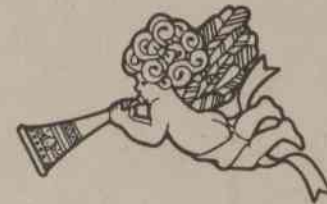
Spring Semester Activities

Spring Semester Activities

The SGA of Chowan College has planned and is now planning many activities for the upcoming 1989 Spring semester. The activities will begin soon after return from the Christmas Holidays and proceed throughout the Spring semester.

On January 31, Chowan will present a hypnotist by the name of John Lutrec. On February 11, there will be a Valentine's Dance for the students. The American Repertory Theatre will present a comedy production, *The diary of Adam and Eve* by Mark Twain on February 26. In March the SGA is planning to have a one man acoustics player and in April, Chowan will have the annual Spring Festival. All the activities have yet to be planned, but there should be a concert in Squirrel Park sometime during the festival. Another production, *Story Theatre*, will be presented by the North Carolina School of Arts on May 2. The SGA is planning to have approximately thirty movies during the course of the semester.

The SGA executive officers are: President, Pam Mullins; Vice-President, Lenzy Vibbert; Secretary, Bob Glass; Treasurer, Gordon Saunders; Special Events Chairperson, Jennifer Groter; Social Co-Chairman, "Wild" Bill Burns; Social Co-Chairwoman, Dannelle White; Parliamentarian, Fred Hampton; Historian, Keith McGinness; Auditor, Andrea Croom; and their Adviser, Elizabeth Stark.



In My Heart

You are the only thing in my heart
That way we'll really never part
I'll hold you there all my life
Especially on days of pain and strife
Because you make me feel a lot better
When I talk to you or read your letters
Or when I start thinking of you
All my problems I pull through
When I look into those eyes of that pretty face
I shoot up like a rocket into space
With you everthing is like brand new
Cause your love for me is like my love for you.

BY: Steven Todd

Those EXAMS!

By John Brigman

Do you, like all other students, consider the exams, as a one on one battle which the instructor attempts to defeat you; or as a survival of the fittest?

Tips for the Final Exam

1. Review by selecting the most important subject material.
2. Listen for hints given by the teacher in class just prior to exam time.
3. When you take the test, read each question carefully and repeatedly until you understand exactly what the answer requires.
4. Keep your paper neat, proper and clear. The attractive paper that is easy to read gets the better grade.
5. Recheck your paper carefully before turning it in.
6. And always keep a positive attitude.

P.S. — It's better to know 60 percent of a test than to confuse that 60 percent by cramming the other 40 percent into your mind during the last few hours before the exam.

Sharing Education Cont...

and capable leadership has the respect and admiration of the Board of Trustees, Board of Advisors, faculty/staff, alumni and leaders in Baptist higher education here in North Carolina and throughout the region and nation."

"Dr. Whitaker has led the college through times of adversity and times of triumph. Because of his keen insight, he has been able to use all of these circumstances to promote the continued growth of the college." Thus, through Dr. Whitaker's performance the college has consistently been ranked by outside educational experts as among the nation's top five private two year colleges.

Dr. Whitaker will be retiring with his wife Esther and has good intentions of visiting Australia as well as traveling to countries he has not visited. He leaves Chowan with aspiration that the school will reach its goals. He feels that Chowan is a different institution that has come a long way and knows it will become better.

Three Patterns

By Olga DaCosta

Love and Dreams,
Are three patterns of,
Life's added grace.
Love, with it's lit up lantern,
Makes friendship whet with taste,
Creating companions,
Who become more than mutual friends,
To weep and yearn together,
Until the eternal end.
Dreams, with its place of refuge,
Helps us understand,
There is more to life than fantasy,
Especially when we're at God's command.

