

Changes at Chowan thru the years

(Continued from Page Two) because she was very busy with BSU work, church work, and working with international students; so, here she would go running out saying, "I've got marbles on my coattails." All of her friends still miss her, this dear, happy Frances.

Another lady who was loved and respected was Dr. Ella Pierce, a native of Hertford County, but before she came back to this area to live, she taught for thirty-five years at Mars Hill College. Chowan couldn't let this knowledgeable lady live in this town without asking her to become part of the faculty. And what a treasure she was! If she went to a meeting in another town, she always carried papers to grade. She was so dedicated to her teaching and to her students that didn't let anything with their coming first except her Lord and Saviour, whom she served faithfully.

When my oldest son went way up to Massachusetts to go to college, Dr. Pierce told me one day, "You know, I just can't get my mind off David. I pray for him everyday." And my reply was, "Well, Dr. Pierce, I think I'd rather have you praying for him than anyone else I know." That is the kind of person she was. A genuine Christian. One big, hefty football player, after having her English literature class, said, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if God would send her a new body to go with that great soul?" She was a very frail-looking person, but there was nothing frail about her mind, and if she set out on a mission from Marks Hall to Columns and got a headstart, no body could catch up with her, not even the Dean. That peanut butter and jelly sandwich that she brought for her lunch everyday really gave

her energy. She continued teaching well into her eighties, but since changes are a permanent part of life, even she had to give up eventually. After her second retirement, she lived to be about ninety-three. She was an appreciative person, and after she stopped teaching, she made satin pillows with feather-stitching on them. I couldn't imagine her spend her time like that, but several of us have one of those pillows because we had given her a ride to church or to the college. These pillows are not particularly pretty, but I wouldn't get rid of mine for anything because it was a gift from Ella Pierce, God's gift to us for a few years.

The third lady I'm going to tell you about is Daisy Lou Mixon, who was Chairman of the Religion Department for many years. Her husband was Dr. F. O. Mixon, president of the college before Dr. Whitaker. This brilliant woman stayed on here after the death of her husband in 1956. She was respected as a scholar and was well-known among Southern Baptists as a speaker at Baptist State Conventions, Southern Baptist Conventions, and served on the board of trustees at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. At the same time, she was a lady who, when she walked by, could have competed with any beauty queen on campus. She was a beautiful lady who wore the best-looking clothes that Fanny's could provide. They knew she would never be guilty of betraying them by telling others something they had told her in confidence. Another outstanding quality of Mrs. Mixon was her ability to make the religion course enjoyable. She had a wonderful sense of humor and could make those old Hebrew prophets and patriarchs and kings really live,

just as human as you and I are, with all our faults and weaknesses. Two of my children chose to attend other colleges, so when they were seniors in high school, I suggested that they come and study religion under Mrs. Mixon. Paul came home just laughing one day and said, "Mama, I believe Mrs. Mixon could make a comedy out of the whole Bible." Yes, Daisy Lou Mixon made taking religion work, but she could also make it fun.

So much for ladies of the past.

Next, I want to tell you about two Virginia gentlemen. Eugene Williams, professor of English, French, and Spanish, had the reputation of being a good teacher, especially in his insistence on students having a good background in grammar if they were to succeed in learning a foreign language. Mr. Williams had a deep Southern voice, and he had a habit of asking very personal questions.

Mr. Williams' best friend was the well known, beloved William I. Marable, professor of English and Latin, better known as Uncle Buck. I wish all of you could have been at the 25th reunion dinner last Saturday night. One of Mr. Marable's former students did Mr. Marable, and if I had close my eyes, I would have thought that Mr. Marable had come back from the grave for the occasion.

This Virginia gentleman was a graduate of William and Mary, a fact he was very proud of. His head was so full of knowledge about British and Latin literature that it must have pushed all of his hair out, because his head was completely bald. He was happiest when surrounded by a large group of students, where ever he happened to be on campus, and he could always put on a grand performance for them. Mr. Marable never married, so his students and Chowan colleagues were his family. He often enjoyed poor health, and it became common knowledge around here that if you met him on campus, you'd better not ask him how he felt, because he would tell you, in great detail, and you might miss lunch or dinner, even. As he grew older and had a heart attack, he was so appreciative of any visits or attention we gave him, he would get all teary-eyed when he thanked people for coming to see him during his illness.

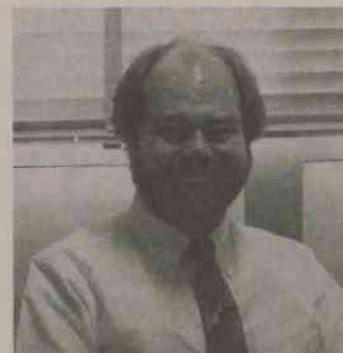
All of these former professor and many more have made lasting impressions on thousands of students. They have come and gone, and the cycles of life goes on—changes, new people, these characters behind me, for instance. Twenty-five years hence you may be returning to class reunions and doing some of us—some of you who are good at mimicking—as you remember our peculiarities, mannerisms, and often-used expressions. Nothing is permanent but change, and we still need to make good changes in the future, adapt to them, and survive. Good, better, best—never let it rest until the good gets better and the better gets best.



Members of the Chowan College Rotaract Club participates in one of their projects by cleaning the highway beside of Parker Hall. Joining in the club project are, left to right, Clayton Lewis, advisor, Lance B. Thompson, David C. Wright, and Lewis Oliveros.

Dr. Gay joins English faculty, has wide background in education

By Jessica Kiser, Feature Editor
"I always liked school. I was always the one not to complain about a ten-page term assignment. I enjoyed it," confesses Dr. Richard Gay, the new professor in the Department of Language and Literature. He claims that he originally went to school as an accounting major because that was what his father expected, but it only took one accounting course for him to realize, as he put it, "there was no life for me in numbers." So one of his professors got him interested in pursuing an education in English.



DR. RICHARD GAY

Dr. Gay recognized that an English degree could afford him a chance to teach in a high school and coach athletic teams too. While teaching senior English, Dr. Gay realized that he had a knack of bringing Shakespeare alive for his students, and after he married Rebecca Gay, he went back to graduate school and decided to major in literature of Shakespeare's time period.

The decision to go back to graduate school is not the only effect his wife has had on him. Dr. Gay insists that he has increased his vocabulary considerably since he met his wife. He is also proud of the fact that his wife watches baseball games with him and even watches them when he is not with her.

Since they are both educators (Mrs. Gay is an administrator in the Windsor, Va., school system.), Dr. Gay states, "It works out real well. Education is one of our hobbies. We talk about education a lot, and that is easy to do since it is always in the news." Education as a hobby. That is probably a very true statement. Dr. Gay accepted his first teaching position for seven thousand dollars a year, yet he realized from the beginning that there is not a lot of money in English. "But money was never an issue," he reassures.

As a high school teacher, Dr. Gay faced the high expectations the public has for teachers. "The public doesn't understand the work involved in being a successful teacher. They think it is easy. Now a days people say that the schools are not doing their job compared to the test scores. Present day education is at the highest level ever. More people are literate. Our literacy rate is at the highest rate ever." Now as a college professor how does Dr. Gay see his role in education changing? Even though he sees high school teaching and college teaching as equally important works, he welcomes the change, "I don't have to spend as much time on non-academic duties such as bus duty or bulletin boards. I can focus more on academics."

Focusing on academics is one of Dr. Gay's specialties even in his own life. After ten years of teaching a full class load and coaching responsibilities that led to 60 and 70 hour weeks, he found it easier to budget his time in graduate school. Another thing that taught him to focus on academics was the fact that he was paying for it himself.

Now that he has obtained his degrees, Dr. Gay is teaching English classes at Chowan. He came to Chowan because he is from this area. "My wife is established in the

public schools as an administrator. It is quite rare to find a teach position at a college close by. I find the opportunity of the two to four year transition of a college and to teach in my field of specialty to be exciting," Dr. Gay insists.

As Chowan turns into a four year college, Dr. Gay hopes to work with middle and high school teaching programs. He is anxious about designing courses and becoming an academic mentor for medieval and renaissance literature studies. He plans to always be a teacher first and foremost, yet within five years he hopes to have published a book about renaissance drama and be recognized as a scholar among his peers.

Hopefully through the congeniality of the students and staff at Chowan and his secret study weapon—a sense of humor—Dr. Gay will receive the encouragement he needs to accomplish his goals.

Welcome to Chowan College, Dr. Gay.

More students stressed out, survey reveals

Significantly larger numbers of college students are now seeking counseling for depression, stress, eating disorders and substance abuse at a time when schools are cutting back mental health services, says a University of Florida psychologist.

Eighty-five percent of directors of college counseling centers throughout the nation reported an increase in serious psychological problems among college students in the past 10 years, said James Archer, who has written a new book called "Counseling College Students."

"I'd say it's a significant increase, and it's been steady," said Archer, director of the counseling center at the University of Florida.

The type of disorders treated at the centers ranged from counseling for depression, stress, alcohol and drug addiction to problems stemming from physical, mental and sexual abuse. College students also are susceptible to loneliness, feelings of alienation and pressures to get good grades and jobs.

"It's not as easy as 10 to 15 years ago to get a job with a college degree," he said.

Being away from home, students also may discover for the first time that they have difficulties relating to their peers as professors because they come from abusive families.

Archer said it was difficult to tell whether the disorders are actually increasing or whether students are more willing to seek counseling because such problems are more openly discussed. The result is the same: More students are

turning to counseling centers for help.

"It's not as easy as 10 to 15 years ago to get a job with a college degree," he said.

Unfortunately, most colleges are cutting health services, including counseling, for lack of funding. In tight budget years, "services to students are cut at a greater rate than academic programs. Counseling and mental treatment centers get cut to a greater degree," Archer said.

That was why Archer said he decided to write the counseling book, which focuses on ways that college faculty and staff can help pinpoint troubled students and talk with them or refer the ones with serious problems to professional counselors.

The idea is early detection to prevent despondent students from turning to suicide, alcoholism or drug addiction, Archer said.

Movie Review

Freddy's Dead

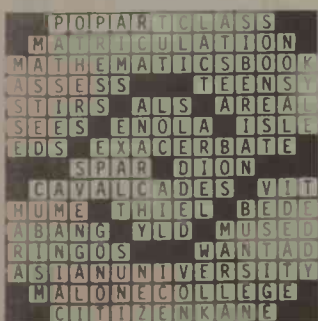
By Denise Petty
Special Features

It's true Freddy Krueger Fans, as disappointing as it may be... Freddy is officially dead. The movie "Freddy's Dead-The Final Nightmare" hit theaters everywhere on September 13, 1991. Freddy fans all across the nation flocked to box offices to view the absolute last Freddy flick.

Unlike the rest of the Nightmare on Elm Street series, this movie has a point to it. The picture sums up everything you have always wondered about the evil one who has been slashing the Elm Street kids with his razor sharp fingers for the last few years. The movie itself was generally good, but did have some bad points. In the past movies, Freddy murdered many teenagers per films. However, in this picture he manages to mutilate only a few. Freddy's death scene was in "Freddy Vision" (3-D). This was one of the most disappointing parts of the movie. The 3-D effects could have been much better. Even though the "Freddy Vision" wasn't so hot, the way Freddy was finally murdered made up for the lame effects. This movie is a must see for Freddy fans old and new.

Overall Rating: B+

Answer to Crossword Puzzle from Last Issue



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