

Sweet Al' not blue about winning green

White scores math scholarship

Sophomore Al White of Chesapeake, Va., has become the first black student at Guilford College to win the Nereus and Orinan Mendenhall Mathematics Scholarship.

The scholarship, which is not awarded each year, goes to a student who is doing outstanding work in mathematics.

The honor might have eluded him had he pursued his early "vision" of entering Guilford to "play basketball and become a superstar."

Al had flown high as "Sweet Al, the basketball star" during his student days at the Indian River High School in Chesapeake, and he had expected to do the same at Guilford when he entered in 1978. As a walk-on, he earned an athletic scholarship his freshman year.

First drawn to Guilford because it produced such NBA talent as Lloyd Free and M.L. Carr, Al was pleased to learn that Guilford College placed strong emphasis on academic excellence.

The tree-lined campus location was in Guilford's favor too as it was on the quiet Western edge of Greensboro but close enough to things for a good social life.

Al's vision of superstardom began to fade for all was not well with him. "That first year was a bad time for me psychologically and emotionally," he said. "I was not ready for college."

He stuck it out, however, because of the "friendly faces, because you can get so close to your teachers on a personal basis and that helps you learn better." The old cliché that at Guilford "you're a name, not a number," was true for all.

Al found that playing a heavy basketball schedule demanded too much energy output and too much time. Also, the injury potential was high.

Instead of attempting to fly high as "Sweet Al the basketball star," he decided to concentrate on academics. He dropped his minor in biology

because of the many hours in the lab, and he used his extra time off the court to concentrate more on his major field of study, mathematics.

Al made the Dean's List with a 3.50 grade point average and recently was honored with the

Nereus and Oriana Mendenhall Math Scholarship. He is the only black majoring in math at Guilford at present.

Most of Al's free time is spent as a volunteer tutor in algebra, calculus, elementary functions and for a switch, weightlifting.

He also worked for the physics department, student services, as accountant for the internationally-distributed Journal of Undergraduate Mathematics (published at Guilford), and as a security guard.

Al is leaning toward William and Mary for graduate school and is anticipating a job in computer science.

Munich 1980: word from abroad

By Jennifer Kuhn

They're back! The students who spent last semester in England and Germany on the college Semester Abroad programs have returned, and anxiously await the opportunity to relate their experiences to friends, professors, strangers, or just about anyone who will lend an interested ear. The students who studied in Germany, in particular, enjoyed the following benefits.

Classes were conducted Monday through Thursday. Course offerings included German, Modern German History, Political Science, and a myriad of Physics courses, including possibilities for both science and humanities majors. German courses were taught by professionals highly practiced in teaching German to foreigners. The basic teaching technique employed was restricting dialogue to the target language, so that one had to learn German to survive.

The history course included a ten-day seminar in East Germany and East and West Berlin. Students travelled to Weimar, home of Goethe, and to East Berlin, where lectures on East German education proved enlightening, if not believable.

Sneak peeks at primers revealed the presentation of the U.S. to E. German schoolchildren. Harlem was "typical of a large American city," where crime is awful, and prejudice and unemployment abundant. "America the beautiful" was not the dominant theme of Eastern European literature.

Political science helped students to understand East/West relations, and provided insights into the German viewpoint regarding American politics, our role in Europe, relations with the Soviet Union, etc. The elections of both German and American presidents were a study in themselves.

Art history class had two built-in advantages. One was that marvelous art museums and collections fill Munich so that class lectures on architecture, painting, and sculpture were alternated with trips to museums and churches within the city. Secondly, because of Munich's convenient location within Europe, one could spend a three-day weekend in Venice, Vienna, Florence, or even Paris. One could then visit museums or other sites discussed in classes thus positively reinforcing classroom lecture. One learns by experiencing art. It became possible to distinguish, e.g., Florentine art from Venetian, because one had seen both types in their proper environment, and developed a feeling for the essence of a work, for regional style, etc.

Physics courses were likewise strengthened by the Deutsches Museum, one of the world's finest science museums, in which equipment was arranged such that students could effectively repeat for themselves the classic experiments that changed the course of science.

But Germany was more than coursework and academics. Often students created piecemeal lunches - meat from a deli, bread from the pastry shop, fruit from a street stand - and

enjoyed these in the sprawling Englischer Garten, with liters of beer and large, soft pretzels. Schwabing, the student quarter, provided nightly entertainment to satisfy the most vivid imagination. Trips to a local monastery (at which 12% beer was brewed) became renowned.

Later in the year, the carnival atmosphere of Oktoberfest was like a fairyland. The holiday season was welcomed with a large Thanksgiving Day feast, and the Christkindl Christmas Mart provided an eclectic display of German handiwork. Cultural offerings ranged from opera ("Electra") to Rod Stewart, from classical ballet to marionette shows, and a children's production of "Alice im Wunderland."

Rex Adelberger kept the group busy with trips to castles, exhibits, a cheese factory, and even a brewery. He also announced the public addresses of such notables as Schmidt and Strauss (1980 West German presidential candidates) and the Pope, each of whom addressed Munich crowds this fall.

Opportunities for personal growth abounded. One student made friends by playing his bagpipes for the neighborhood, and another participated in a play which toured Germany. One fellow began lifting weights in a local gym, and soon several girls joined that same gym and engaged in aerobics classes. Still others learned to ski in Yugoslavia - resulting in only one broken foot among them!

Cultural exchange was further advanced by living with

New-try the Browsery

by John Mottern

Have plenty of time to read a good, trashy novel? Spend a cold, December evening next to the fire with your favorite Harlequin Romance? Read *A Tale of Two Cities* between classes? If you can't find that special addition of your favorite oldie, or wish to find something new, try the Browsery. The little store in Greensboro is stocked with over 30,000 titles of hardbound books. Also, in Quaker Village, there is a new store, the Bookrack. In the Bookrack, you can find most of the Harlequin Romances, plus

Shakespeare, war books, science fiction, as well as a section of best-sellers.

The Browsery deals in books that are hard to find, and many that are out of print. They are opening a new shop at 1516 S. Elm St. in Greensboro. The new shop will combine antiques and books. The Browsery is a casual place with "lots of talking and music - it's really a fun place."

If you're planning to take a trip to the Browsery, it might be a good idea to call in advance to see if it's open.

Presidential inauguration

Schedule of Events

Thursday, January 29

8:15 p.m. Inaugural concert,
cello & piano - Sternberger

Friday, January 30 Inaugural
Ball - Sternberger

Saturday, January 31

10:00 a.m. Gathering - Dana

10:30 a.m. Academic Procession

Special Music -

Matrix Brass Quintet

Invited Address -

Dr. Patricia A. Graham,

Warren Professor, History
of American Education,
Harvard University.

Presidential Address -

Dr. William R. Rogers,

Sixth President of Guilford
College

12:30 p.m. Luncheon

2:00 p.m. Panel Discussion -

"Higher Education & the
Turn of the Century." -
Sternberger.