

Folk Singer Feature of Homecoming

By TOM HARTWELL

On Saturday evening, October 7th the student body of Chowan College enjoyed a very impressive performance by a very entertaining vocalist.

Karen Duke, an attractive songstress of thirty-two years old, gave two recitals in the auditorium of the Columns Building for students and their guests. She played to a capacity house at both performances.

This reporter hurried back stage after the second performance for an interview with the lady of songs, to find her quite tired after her two performances. My date and I escorted Miss Duke to her hotel in Murfreesboro, where we sat and talked about her family background and personal experiences.

Miss Duke, who was born in Northampton, Mass., was exposed to music from her birth on. Her father is an expert pianist, and teaches piano at Smith College.

Although Karen appreciated her father's music, her real interest developed in folk music. She encouraged her parents into buying her a guitar as a Christmas present when she was quite young. She started her

musical career only as a hobby, never knowing that it would lead to a profession.

While in high school, Karen played her guitar and sang "just for fun." She received no previous encouragement, but continued to play until opportunity knocked.

When opportunity finally did knock for her, it was at first very lightly. Karen began to make appearances in local clubs around her home town, as well as neighboring towns. However, the knock grew louder, and she moved to New York City.

In the "Big City" she performed directly off Broadway. She said, "My career was really enriched in those first performances in New York." Her popularity also began to grow.

Miss Duke has been with the National Music League for six years. She had appeared at many other colleges as well as club dates and other fatherings. Miss Duke had this to say about Chowan: "It was very nice. One of the warmest I've ever received."

When asked if she was tired, she replied: "No, but I wish my four year old son could accompany me. He's much better at creating some sound effects that are used in my songs than I."

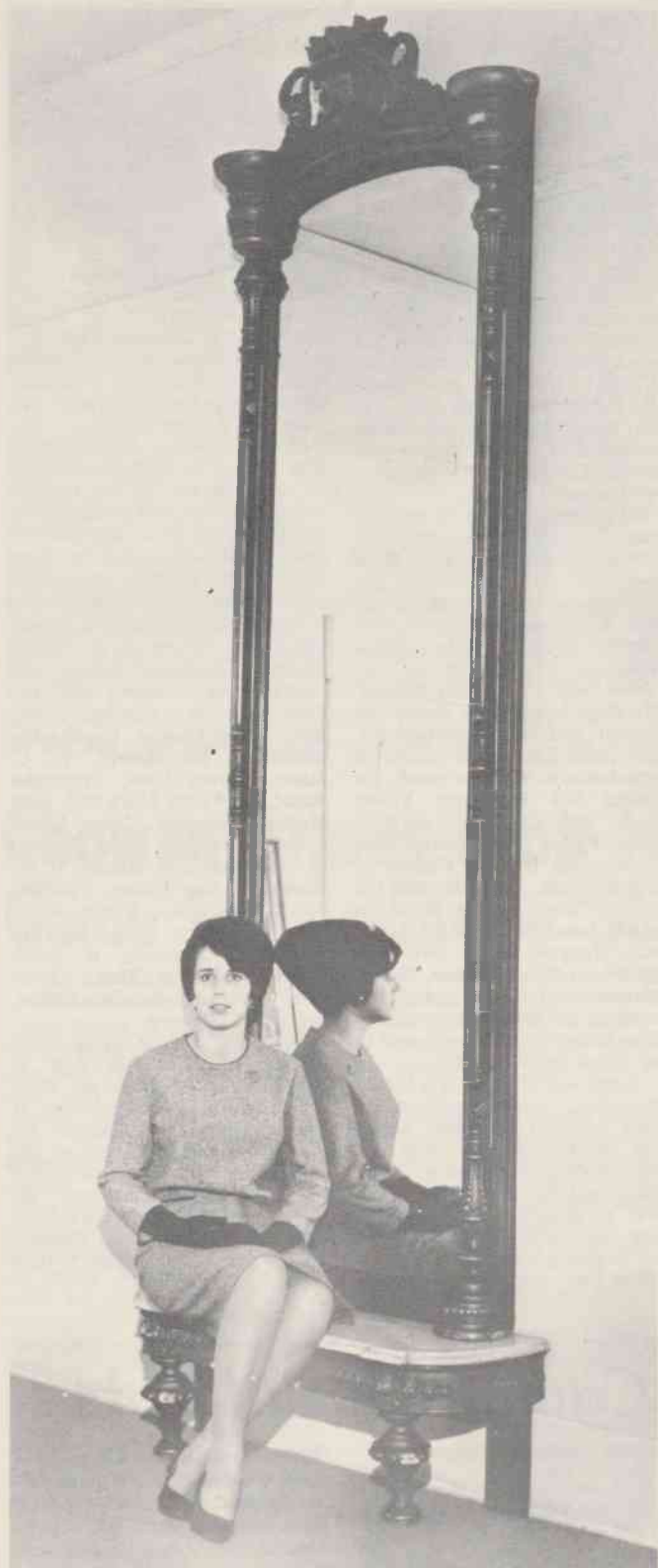
The entire audience thoroughly enjoyed Miss Duke's performance, as was shown by the loud and long applause. One student, coming out of the auditorium after the first performance was heard to say, "That was one of the best, if not the best, concerts ever given at Chowan."

For Two Cents...

One of Colorado State University's Sweet Young Things arrived in the COLLEGIAN office to display her serious concern over being charged a nominal fee (10 cents) to be readmitted to her dorm room. As she told this story: brushing her teeth, the wind blew her door shut and she was left in the cold—sans key or dime.

One can envision all manner of bizarre situations. A poor girl could spend endless years in her hall because she only carried nine cents with her when she went to the bathroom.

The Dorm Mother said the fine was to teach the Sweet Young Things to remember their keys and besides, the money is to be used to buy decorations (and stuff) for the dorm.



DELIGHTFUL PICTURE—Miss Margaret Simmons of Newport, poses in front of tall mirror in faculty lounge of the Columns Building. Margaret is sitting on the antique marble-top table in front of the mirror.

Antique Mirrors Secured for Historic Columns Building

Two magnificent plate glass mirrors in gilt frames and standing almost to the 12 foot ceiling have been acquired for the 112-year-old Columns building at Chowan College.

Reminiscent of another era the mirrors came from one of Winston-Salem's old homes — nobody seems quite sure which one, but they obviously have reflected stately scenes of grandeur.

And they seem quite in setting in the big reception hall and the lounge of the Chowan College building which itself dates back a century.

Only out of setting now is the modern ceiling light — and if a chandelier could be secured in place of it, the mirrors might reflect the changing lights and shadows of their crystals.

But chandeliers are not easily come by and certainly locating one would take time, not to mention finding one which the acquiring might be worked out.

But it's not considered an impossible hunt by College per-

sonnel who envision the stately scenes of long ago once familiar in the great reception hall.

Today the mirrors reflect the changing era of a period when modern conveniences have replaced much that was part of the period in which the mirrors were made.

But the use of the mirrors have not changed.

They add dignity and beauty to the rooms where college students have found peace and charm since the handsome building was opened on November of 1852.

And if ghosts of earlier students were to walk, their reflections would be mirrored back in the modern setting of today's rooms.

COSTLY STRUCTURE

The world-famous Taj Mahal, known for its architectural beauty, is said to have cost \$15 million. The structure is located in New Delhi.



GOOD SELECTION—Donnie Whitehurst (right) and Tracy Barnhill, Jr., find a good selection of toiletries as they shop in the new Student Store.



TEXTBOOK DISPLAY—R. B. Gillian finds ready access to all textbooks used at Chowan College at the new Student Store. Mrs. Alva Bowling is manager of the popular new campus facility.