

Graduation Marshals

Freshman students who attain high academic averages during their first year of study at Chowan are elected to serve as marshals for commencement exercises. The honor students for 1973 pictured at left are, left to right, Baldwin Keith Renner, Beechye Lou Ward, Bobbie Jean Rothenberg, Edgar Lee Lowers, and Judy Bollock.



GRADUATION SPEAKER—Dr. Owen Cooper, President of the Southern Baptist Convention, delivers the commencement address and tells the 1973 class that many needs are to be met in the future, and "exciting times lie ahead."

Degree Awarded Posthumously

Joseph Franklin Ellis, III, Chowan College sophomore who was killed in an automobile accident March 21 during spring vacation, received his associate degree in graphic arts posthumously during commencement exercises, held in May.

Ellis was killed when the car he was driving was swept off the road during a violent rain and wind storm and struck a tree, according to a report from his father, Joseph F. Ellis, Jr., who is publisher and general manager of the PRESS REGISTER, a daily newspaper in Clarksdale, Miss. The only other occupant in the car, his fiancée, was not seriously hurt.

Chowan's academic dean, Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., announced the degree was being granted posthumously since Ellis was enrolled in his last regular semester at the college and making satisfactory progress toward graduation at the time of his death.

A memorial scholarship fund, to be named the Joseph F. Ellis, III, Memorial, is being established by newspaper publishers and editors throughout the southeastern United States, according to Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., Dean of the College.

Mrs. Maggie Boone Bridgers Receives Distinguished Alumni Award for 1973

Mrs. Maggie Boone Bridgers of Jackson, a 1932 graduate of Chowan College, has received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

She received the honor during graduation exercises held Sunday, May 20, which featured an address from Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, president of the Baptist World Alliance, for baccalaureate and Dr. Owen Cooper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, for graduation. Also receiving the award was Betsy Craig of Richmond, who graduated in 1968.

Active Leader

Mrs. Bridgers was honored for her service to Chowan College, her church and community. She is a member of Creeksville Baptist Church where she serves as Sunday school teacher of a women's class. She has also held positions as director of the women's mission organization and leader of the girl's and young women's mission groups. She has also served as a leader in the church training program and in other leadership capacities.

Mrs. Bridgers has served young people and her community as a teacher of mathematics at Jackson, Gates County, Seaboard and Northampton County High Schools. At Jackson, she was active as PTA president and headed the successful drive to build a new gymnasium. At Northampton, where she is presently teaching, she has served as sponsor of the cheerleaders and scorekeeper for the basketball games.

She is also a past member of the North Carolina Democratic Executive Committee.

Her service to her alma mater has included President of Alumni and member of the Board of Trustees. She is presently a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association.

While a student from 1928-1932, Mrs. Bridgers was active in all phases of campus life. She served as a member of the student government for four years and was president her senior year. She was a member of the literary society, was active in religious affairs, played tennis and basketball and worked on the staffs of the student newspaper and yearbook. She won the freshman medal for highest scholastic achievement and graduated

summa cum laude with an A. B. in mathematics and history.

The winner of the Distinguished Alumni Award is married to J. Grady Bridgers, who has farming and business interests. They live in a home that is 200 years old. They have one son, Lanny Boone Bridgers, who is a lawyer in Atlanta, and one granddaughter.

"Faithfully and Well"

In presenting the award to Mrs. Bridgers, Chowan's president, Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, complimented her for her serving

Chowan "faithfully and well." He said she had been "steadfast in her support of Chowan" and had "influenced a number of students to attend Chowan." He also said she had endeared herself to young people and her community through her service as a teacher of mathematics.

In closing his tribute to Mrs. Bridgers, Dr. Whitaker commented: "In many ways she is deserving of recognition for service and loyalty to Chowan, her church, schools and community."



PROUD MOMENT—Linda Hassell beams with happiness as she receives her Associate of Arts degree from President Bruce E. Whitaker. Miss Hassell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hassell of Murfreesboro, and graduated with honors from Chowan. She will enter Meredith College in the fall.