

Drive Passes \$1.6 Million Mark

Chowan has received gifts and pledges totaling \$1.6 million toward the cost of construction of its new gymnasium-physical education center.

The announcement was made by President Bruce E. Whitaker. He said that Chowan has now reached 80 per cent of its original goal of \$2 million through its "Accomplishing Our Mission" program. He pointed out that the basic construction cost of the building is \$2,150,000.

"We are very happy to have reached the milestone goal of \$1.6 million, which represents significant progress. For this achievement, we are grateful to the campaign volunteer workers headed by national general chairman E. L. Hollowell of Edenton and national honorary chairman Mrs. Texie Camp Marks of Boykins, Va. We are also appreciative of the many friends and supporters of Chowan College who have helped us come this far with their gifts and pledges," Whitaker stated.

Continued the president, "Even as I'm making this announcement the contractor and his men are laying bricks

and making steady progress leading to the opening of the building early in 1980. Therefore, it is urgent that we raise the \$550,000 needed to complete the basic construction."

Whitaker said the new facility will be of importance not only to Chowan's students but many different groups, to include the boys and girls who attend summer camps on Chowan's campus.

"This summer we have entertained hundreds of campers. One camp alone, the Eastern Band Camp, attracted over 450 high school students. Next year, the new gymnasium will help us better serve the various camps by providing a swimming pool and additional space for educational, recreational and athletic activities."

The national leadership gifts co-chairmen, Mrs. Don G. Matthews, Jr., of Hamilton, and State Sen. J. J. Harrington of Lewiston, expressed pleasure with the announcement.

Mrs. Matthews explained that "a concentrated drive is now being conducted to complete the campaign." She

said the new facility will be of great benefit to the college in serving its students and the entire region as a center for a variety of cultural, religious, athletic and civic events.

Harrington said "the college is increasing its effort in the campaign in seeking leadership gifts and in area campaigns to reach the goal and 'Accomplish Our Mission' as soon as possible."

Hollowell joined Dr. Whitaker in saying he was confident Chowan will raise the full amount needed for the new facility. He emphasized the importance of the gymnasium-physical education center to the college. "The new facility will round out the major facilities to be constructed in the foreseeable future on Chowan's campus," Hollowell stressed.

Hollowell said the features of the new gymnasium-physical education center include: three full-size basketball courts, two classrooms, weight room, mini-gym, three handball and padde tennis courts, and an Olympic size swimming pool. The facility will provide 63,000 square feet of space and seating for up to 5,000 people.

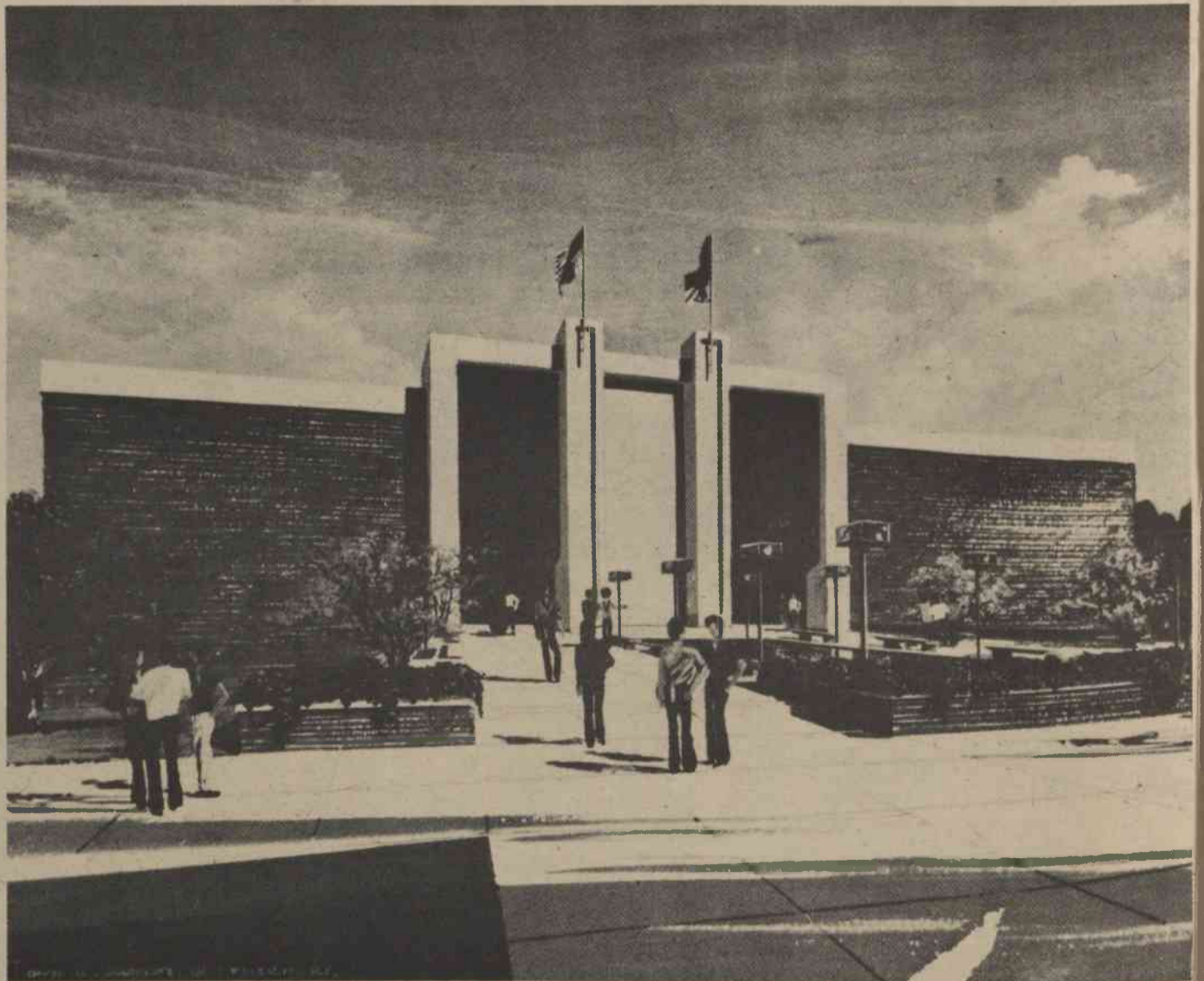
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Architect's rendering of new facility.