

# \$2.5 Goal Reached for New Gymnasium

Chowan College has reached its goal of \$2.5 million in its campaign for a new gymnasium-physical education center.

President Bruce E. Whitaker said the amount includes a \$500,000 challenge grant made in August by an anonymous donor. The donor stipulated that the college raise an additional \$400,000 to complete and equip the facility at a total project cost of \$2.5 million.

Whitaker said Chowan qualified for the \$500,000 challenge grant when it completed its drive for the additional \$400,000 on Dec. 31. Whitaker said the college expects to receive the challenge grant this month.

At the request of the donor of the \$500,000 challenge grant, the facility will be named in honor of Jesse A. Helms, Baptist layman and United States senator from North Carolina.

Whitaker thanked the many different individuals and groups who assisted the college in reaching the \$2.5 million goal, which he called a "victory."

Noted Chowan's president, "We were successful because many, many people worked, prayed, and gave. Those who served as volunteer leaders and workers and contributed to the campaign include alumni, trustees, advisors, parents, faculty and staff, and other friends and groups. To all of these and others our victory is due."

He expressed "special gratitude" to General Chairman E. L. Hollowell of Edenton; Honorary Chairman Mrs. Texie Camp Marks of Boykins, Va.; State Sen. J. J. Harrington of Lewiston and Mrs. Mary Matthews Holt of Nashville, co-chairpersons, and other members of the leadership gifts committee; members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, to include Chairman H. D. White of Rocky Mount of the Board of Trustees; and Dr. Melvin Kunkle of Portsmouth, Va., chairman of the Board of Advisors.

Dr. Whitaker said "numerous student generations and the area will be the beneficiaries."

The new facility is expected to be completed in mid-April. It will be used both for Chowan's intramural program for men and women and for varsity sports in men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, and wrestling. Chowan's students will also have access to the facility for recreational activities including swimming, handball, paddle tennis, and basketball. Space will also be provided for a weight room, mini-gym, faculty offices, and two classrooms.

Chowan's president said the pool will be named for the late Ruth Camp Campbell of Franklin, Va. He said she "devoted a lifetime of service to her church, community and region."

Whitaker said "plans are being formulated to provide an endowment for the maintenance and operation of the gymnasium-physical education facility."

He said the new facility will strengthen the entire program of the college. "On the last day of the new decade of the seventies, we have become successful in our drive to provide the last major facility envisioned on our campus. This culminates over two decades of intensive physical growth and assures that future generations of Chowan students will have the benefit of studying and learning on one of the most beautiful and well equipped campuses in the nation.

"Now we face the exciting challenges of the eighties optimistically. We do so by recommitting our energies to strengthening our service to students and the entire area."

By raising the \$2.5 million, Chowan doubled its previous largest campaign to construct the Carrie Savage Camp Hall science-engineering facility, opened in 1974.

## Lumber Executive Appointed to Board of Advisors

W. P. Morris of Jackson has been appointed to the Board of Advisors according to president, Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker.

The Elizabeth City native is owner of W. P. Morris Lumber Co., Roanoke River Ranch, and president of Farmers Tractor and Implement Co.

Morris is active in church and community affairs. He is chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Jackson United Methodist Church where he served as Sunday school superintendent for 18 years.

A member of the Jackson Town Board for 16 years, he is presently a Mason, member

of the Jackson Lion's Club, and a member of the Board of Peoples Bank and Trust Co.

Morris has provided leadership in the American Polled Herford Assoc., including member of the Board of Directors, vice chairman and chairman. He also served as president of the North Carolina Polled Herford Assoc., and is presently a member of its Board of Directors.



W. P. MORRIS

He was recognized for outstanding economic and civic contribution to the community by the Coastal Plains Development Assoc. in 1977. Morris was honored by the American Polled Herford Assoc. when he was presented its Leadership Award in 1960-61. He was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 1979. The Standard of Perfection Polled Herford Show was given in his honor at the 1977 North Carolina State Fair.

He is married to the former Alpine Meads of Elizabeth City. They have three daughters, Mrs. Jasper (Goldie) Eley, Mrs. Howard (Helen) Bloom, and Mrs. James (Harriet) Beasley.

Dr. Whitaker said among other duties advisors serve as interpreters of the college in their communities. He said that despite a heavy demand on their time from their work and other civic and community service, Chowan's advisors find time to devote their interest and energies to the college. He said their "suggestions and ideas serve to strengthen all phases of the operation of the college."

## Award

Debbie Sawyer, Class of 1978, was recognized for her accomplishments in news photography at the North Carolina Press Institute, held in Chapel Hill late last month. Miss Sawyer, a news reporter and photographer with The King Times-News, received the third place award in the weekly newspaper division for sports photography. The Press Institute is held annually and sponsored by the North Carolina Press Association.



## Addresses Advisors

Dr. Ben C. Fisher, of Murfreesboro, retired executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention's Education Commission, stresses the important role advisors play in the life of Chowan, as he spoke to the group at their recent meeting.

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