

## Coaches reach 25 year mark

great situation to build with here, but I never could have done it without him."

After a hectic start and a dismal first two seasons, a big change on the Chowan athletic scene could be seen. "Things were really hectic at first," Garrison said. "We weren't blessed with the facilities and staffs we have now and the coaches did everything. We did laundry, acted as doctors and grounds crew and even baby sat. I think we won maybe two or three games those first two years. We really came out of some humble beginnings."

### Philosophies Take Affect

Slowly, Garrison's philosophies began to take affect. Chowan athletic teams became competitive; coaches were hired and facilities improved. Those philosophies remain a large part of the Chowan athletic teams today.

"Discipline is the key. We have a great discipline program here," Garrison explained. "We have never intentionally hurt anyone either physically, mentally, morally or otherwise. We will, however, do anything to get a player's attention. Whatever it takes to wake up a player and realize our philosophies, we will do it."

"I think our main objective is to teach a young person how to be successful at whatever he does. I'm talking about winning. Winning and success are the same. Everything we do is predicated toward their ultimate step to success, whether it's on the field or not."

The success of the young people coming from Garrison's program are endless. Even he has trouble remembering all the names and faces after 25 years, but he still has a pride in all his former Braves.

"At last year's Homecoming, we had 22 members of the 1961 football team here," he said proudly. "Every one of them had gone on to become an ultra success in their field. There were doctors, lawyers, the heads of three banks, school superintendents, high school coaches and preachers. It was great seeing these men and learning about what they had done with their lives since Chowan."

Names from former Braves football teams sprinkle the rosters of teams in the NFL. Jerry Holmes, Robert Brown, Hal



The Braves hoist Garrison on their shoulders and offer cheers of praise following a hard-fought victory on the gridiron.

Henderson, Dave Green and Ned Parrish are some of the more recent players who have gone on to professional football. Jody Shultz is on his way to All-American status at the University of East Carolina. The list goes on and on.

Donnie Matthews is an example of the quality of people who emerge from the Chowan campus. Matthews was named JJCAA Player of the Year at Chowan. He

*"Hiring Jerry Hawkins was the best day's work I have ever done."*

went on to the University of Richmond and had an outstanding career with the Spiders. After a short, but successful, career with the Newport News Shipyard, Matthews returned to study at a seminary and today is Minister of Administration of the largest church in Arizona.

Garrison sees his responsibilities to his players continuing after their sophomore football seasons. A TV station reporter



In addition to his gridiron responsibilities, Hawkins has served as head baseball coach for almost a quarter of a century, posting a record of 19 winning seasons.

recently said Garrison has placed more players into four year programs than any other junior college coach in the nation. From November through December, Garrison spends up to five hours a day on the telephone in contact with major college coaching staffs ensuring that his players get every opportunity to continue their football and college careers.

Garrison's recruiting exploits are legendary among junior college coaching circles and it has been said "that man could talk a cat off a fish cart." Garrison sees the success of the Chowan program as a deciding factor when talking to a young high school senior about Chowan.

Everyone wants to be part of a successful program. Our past successes here play a major role in our recruiting efforts. Also a kid knows he will get the opportunity to move on if he has the talent and the desire. One principle I have is that I never lie to a prospect. We tell it like it is and what he can expect at Chowan. The parents really like the idea of the type of discipline we maintain.

Garrison has had, and will, in all probability, continue to have, other coaching offers from larger schools. However, he has become too much a part of the scene at Chowan to seriously consider moving on.

Today, Garrison is a middle-aged coach with a young man's enthusiasm and Chowan and Murfreesboro are as much a part of his life as he is a part of them. His family settled and have their roots in the area and Gar-

rison entertains no thought of changing.

"There have been offers at bigger schools but I have never really been interested. I wouldn't like the turmoil of recruiting and living out of a suitcase three or four months a year. We have established our program here on firm footing and I am very happy with the situation," Garrison said.

"The pressures are everywhere anyway. Every coach, worth his salt, lives under pressure from one source or another. The administration here has been great and I guess I get more pressure from myself than from any other source. This school is good to me and has been good for me."

Garrison is a man who accepts his responsibilities and has dedicated his efforts toward his community as well as to Chowan. Despite the pressures and 18-hour coaching days, Garrison still finds time to be a part of the scene around Murfreesboro. He is a Mason, Shriner, and member of the Murfreesboro Baptist Church. He was a charter member of the Murfreesboro Rescue Squad and today holds down the highly volatile position as Chairman of the Hertford County Board of Education. Jim Garrison is not a man who takes without giving back much more than he receives.

Again, as his team prepared for the last game of the 1982 season, Jim Garrison was in his element. "This is great," he said, "This is what it's all about. I'm really looking forward to my next 25 years at Chowan College."



A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST—In 1965, Garrison and Hawkins chat with three members of the squad, prior to the opening game. Shown with the coaches are, left to right, Spencer White, Tiny Matthews and Lawrence Edwards.