

## Order of the Bell Tower?

By Amy A. Fonville '85  
OBT President

What is Order of the Bell Tower? Well, it is not what its name might imply--members do not ring the bells or give Bell Tower tours. Although our organization is named after a campus landmark, Order of the Bell Tower is a Student Alumni Association. Our purpose is to serve as a link between students and alumni, and we are an honorary service organization.

Formed in 1980, Order of the Bell Tower consists of 80 undergraduate members. Our activities are varied, and OBT has a unique role on the UNC campus. Our programs involve prospective, current, and former Carolina students.

Through high school workshops, we contribute to undergraduate admissions. On campus, we sponsor the Freshman Record and Exam Survival Kits (these projects are also our chief fundraisers). Additionally, we serve as the official host organization for the University; we usher and host at such University events as Chancellor's Club brunches, the Chancellor's Awards, and Jimmy

Carter's press conference. Yet, our principal duties concern the General Alumni Association.

OBT strives to encourage membership in the Alumni Association and to keep alumni in touch with students. We speak at alumni chapter meetings, assist the Alumni Association with programs such as reunions at commencement and homecoming festivities, and participate in membership drives. Also, the OBT president serves as an ex-officio member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Why should a student become involved in OBT? Participating in our group provides a different perspective on the University. By working with the administration and alumni, members see the broad picture of the University and learn how students fit into its overall scheme. And, OBT gives us a chance to meet alumni.

An OBT member learns that being an alumni means more than class reunions and tailgate picnics on football Saturdays. It also means maintaining and extending your contact with the University. The Alumni

Association has 120 chapters in North Carolina and across the U.S., and it provides parties, seminars, meetings, trips abroad, and publications for its members. This interaction helps alumni to keep in touch with old friends and make new ones, and to be aware of what is going on at UNC.

Through interacting with these alumni, the administration, and University guests, OBT members

represent the University, an institution of which we are proud. It is a rewarding service. Our annual membership drive is held at the beginning of the spring semester, and freshmen, sophomores, and Juniors are eligible for membership. OBT gives its members a unique opportunity to support and serve Carolina. Come to our office in the Alumni House (next to the Carolina Inn) and find out more about us!

## UNC Snow Skiing: A Winning Tradition

The 1985 UNC Women's Ski Team concluded its first year in spectacular style. Along the way, they posted four team victories, three slalom wins and one giant slalom win.

By winning both the slalom and giant slalom in the conference championship meet, the girls took the Southeastern conference title and won a trip to McCall, Idaho to compete in the national championships. Not bad for a first year team.

The Tar Heels participation in the National Collegiate Ski Association (NCSA) is getting stronger every year. This year's NCSA national championships gave the Tarheel skiers the chance to ski against some of the best skiers and ski teams in the country. To put that in perspective, consider that the average team at the nationals trained at least four days a week with a full coaching staff and a budget that covered all their expenses during the year.

By contrast, the UNC women were only able to train a total of eight hours, had only two coaches (who split their time between the men's and women's teams), and worked with a restricting budget.

Placing fifteenth out of sixteen teams may not sound impressive, but it equaled the best showing of any previous Southeastern Conference team at the nationals.

Senior Lisa Morin showed that she could keep up with the nation's best slalom skiers. After a good first run she was on her way to a top ten finish (out of 89) before she fell in the second run. Freshman Sherri Sowers and Senior Mary-Sheryl Horine also skied well in the slalom, placing 34th and 37th respectively. Also making the trip to Idaho was senior Suzy

Tracy and head coach Doug Meis, also a senior.

It was sophomore Wesley Harrell who 'came through in the clutch', though. In only her first year of competitive skiing, she placed 54th in the slalom, which gave UNC 14th place in the slalom team results.

For the men's ski team, it was a trying year. Before the season ever started, we lost a good friend in Gib Calhoun. An award named in Gib's honor was presented to Doug Meis at the end of the season for sportsmanship, team spirit and leadership.

After struggling through the beginning of the year, the men gained momentum and placed 3rd (out of 12 teams) in the February 8th giant slalom. Led by senior team captain Greg Sowers 5th place finish, the men showed they had the potential to be very competitive in the fast-growing and much improved southeast Conference.

Greg also distinguished himself by earning a spot on the all-conference team as one of the top 5 skiers in the southeast.

Other skiers deserving mention were seniors Doug Meis, Stuart Williams, Stan Phillips, and Bill Saunders, also freshman Bill Bryson and sophomore Raymond Gibson.

Next year's teams will have to work very hard to equal the accomplishments of the 1985 UNC ski team. The team will lose 3 starters on the women's team and 3 starters on the men's team as well.

Hopefully, the success of this year's teams will bring us to the attention of some talented skiers here at UNC so that the winning tradition that was started by this year's team will go on.

## OBT Hosts Conference

by Amy Fonville

In recent years a national organization has been developed to link Student Alumni Associations and Student Foundations across the United States and Canada with one another for the purpose of sharing resources and ideas. This organization, of which the Order of the Bell Tower is a member, is called the SAA/SF National Network, and is divided into eight districts, each of which has a student representative and an advisor representative on the Network's Board of Directors. OBT is in District III, which comprises nine southeastern states.

One new development to arise out of the formation of the National Network is the Regional Conference, now held by each district in the spring, to balance the National Convention held in the fall. The Southeast Region was among the first to hold a Regional Conference, and this year OBT hosted the third annual Southeast Regional

Conference in Chapel Hill. The conference was attended by approximately 110 students and advisors from over twenty schools, representing each of the nine states in the district.

The conference was held Thursday, February 21 through Sunday February 24. While in Chapel Hill, the delegates attended workshops and saw some of the lighter side of Carolina as well. The springlike weather enhanced the delegates' visit to UNC-CH, particularly during such events as campus tours and lunch at Kenan Field House. On Thursday night during the welcoming reception at the Morehead Building, the Clef Hangers entertained the delegates and campus administrators. At the traditional banquet on Saturday night, the visitors were introduced to a prominent Carolina alumnus, Jane Smith Patterson, who spoke about overcoming obstacles. All in all, it was a busy, but informative and enjoyable weekend for OBT and the visiting students and advisors.