



# The Columns

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LOUISBURG COLLEGE  
LOUISBURG, N.C. 27549

VOL. XXVI

LOUISBURG COLLEGE, LOUISBURG, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1967

NO. 10



Brenda Dunn (Queen Guenevere) and John Pike (Lancelot) in scene from *Camelot*.

## Camelot Is Brilliant Drama Production

*Camelot*, the Louisburg Players latest production is, currently in its second week, after a fantastically successful opening week. Last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights (the 11th, 12th, and 13th), the house was completely sold out. There were a few empty seats noticable, but Mrs. Versteeg reported that these were open because several ticket holders had been unable to come. Selected seats for this week (the 18th, 19th and 20th) can still be reserved or bought at the door.

As for the production itself, there is little new that can be said. One need merely ask anyone who has seen *Camelot* to get an idea of how brilliant a production it is. This show has been nearly two years in the making. Director Bob Versteeg has spent literally hundreds of hours of research, studying every existing account of the legendary Round Table in detail. The actors, too, have knocked themselves out to make this the finest show the Players have put on in years. John Pike, for example, in the supporting role of Lancelot, has calculated that he has spent seventy hours in

rehearsal. When you combine this much work with all the natural talent the players have, you're bound to come up with a top-notch show--and *Camelot* demonstrates this clearly.

Years of training and years of professional acting have made Chip Williamson (King Arthur) just about as fine an actor as can be found in the state. But Louisburg playgoers who have only been here one year will be astounded by Brenda Dunn (Queen Guenevere). Having only had two relatively minor roles this year, she hasn't given audiences much of a chance to see what she can do. But in *Camelot*, she gives such a brilliant performance that there isn't a heart in the audience--or the cast--that she doesn't win completely. Supporting these two, and doing a great job, are John Pike (Lancelot), Daniel Freeman (King Pellinore), Sammy Swett (Mordred--and you'll seldom see a finkier villain anywhere), and Dr. Gerald Shinn (Merlin).

Anyone who has ever laughed, anyone who has ever cried can enjoy *Camelot*--this is not a show to be missed.

## Largest Class To Graduate

Mr. C. Ray Pruette, who calls himself "chief cook and bottle washer" of the graduation exercises at LC, announced that the first official exercise of the graduation weekend will be the Graduate's Breakfast, which will be held on Saturday morning, June 3, at 8:00 a. m. Permanent officers for this year's class will be elected at this breakfast.

Following the breakfast, 123 degree students and 25 business students, the largest graduating class in the school's history, will practice for commencement. At 6:00 p.m. Trinity Dorm will be renamed Patton Dorm in honor of Dr. Walter Patton, President of Louisburg College from 1939-1947. Also, on Saturday, the Alumni banquet will be held at 7:00 p.m. At this time, the new graduates will be officially recognized as members of the Alumni Association.

Sunday, both the Baccalaureate Sermon and the graduation exercises will be held in AC building. The Baccalaureate Sermon was previously held at the Methodist Church, but this year the number of students graduating from LC necessitates a larger building. Rev.

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## Awards Day Honors Outstanding Students

On Thursday, May 18, the annual awards day was held in the AC Building. On this day, outstanding students in various fields were awarded trophies, plaques, medals and other honors for their achievements. The awards were given by the different department heads, with Dean of Students, John B. York, delivering the opening remarks.

The award for the outstanding student athlete was given to Steve Midgette for his tremendous ability on the baseball diamond by Coach Frazier. The Music award was presented by Miss Foster to Jean Perry, member of the Chapel Choir and Glee Club. The Alpha Phi Epsilon Medal for outstanding business achievements was received by Sarah Lynn Collier. Miss Adelaide Johnson presented this award. The History award, presented by Mr. Nixon, went to David A. Samonds for his exceptional history ability.

Clyde Wayne Quick was awarded the Chemistry award by Mr. C. Ray Pruette for having the highest average in chemistry lab and lecture. Mr. Umphrey Lee presented James

E. Donahue III the Journalism award for his outstanding journalistic achievements this semester. Barbara Jean Hawks received the Malone Medal for her achievements in the field of English. Mr. Lee also presented this award. William Wayne Taylor award for drama went to John Pike for his tremendous acting ability during the past two years. Mr. Versteeg presented this award.

The National Methodist Scholarship was awarded to Ruth Edwards, Laura Gullford, and Mary Ann Mumford by Mr. Goldston. In the foreign language department, Ruth Edwards and Karen Mitchell received awards for outstanding ability in French and Spanish. Dr. Blumenfeld presented their awards.

The Marshall's for the 1967 commencement were also recognized by Mr. Pruette. These are Matthew Albert Brown, Chief Marshall, Steven Wayne Strum, Mrs. Judith Hinton, and Martha K. Nelson.

Prior to the end of the program, Dr. Robbins issued the oath of office to the new S.G.A. officers for the 1967-68 year.

## Dr. Shinn To Leave Louisburg

Dr. Gerald Shinn, Professor of Old Testament and Philosophy, will teach at Wilmington College next fall. Wilmington is a state supported, four-year Community College with an enrollment of 900 students. Dr. Shinn will assume the position of Associate Professor of Philosophy and History of Religions. His teaching curriculum will include courses in World Religions--Buddhism, Shintoism, Taoism--Old Testament, Ethics and Logic. Dr. Shinn is leaving Louisburg because of a "severe asthmatic condition" which he developed last year. He hopes that the change in climate will help this condition.

Dr. Shinn received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a major in German, from Duke University in 1956. Following graduation, he entered the Divinity School at Duke and received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree in 1959. He also received his Master of Education Degree from Duke.

Spending a year of study in Germany after receiving his B.D., Dr. Shinn attended the Methodistseminar in Frankfurt am Main and the Goethe Universität. During this year, Shinn studied Greek, Hebrew, Ancient Church History, and Philosophy.

From Germany, he returned

to Duke in 1960 and began work on his Doctorate, specializing in Medieval Church History and Oriental languages. During this time, Dr. Shinn received the Gurney H. Kearnes Fellowship to finish his dissertation on Medieval German Law, which entailed a year's independent study.

The title of this dissertation was "The Weltanschauung (world view) and Zeitgeist (spirit of times) of the Illuminations in the Dresden Manuscript of the *Sachsenspiegel* (first codified Medieval German law in the Venicular)."

The work encompassed a study of the effects of Roman, New Testament, and Old Testament civil law on the daily life of the King, knights, lords, ladies, dukes, and peasants in 14th Century Germany as seen in the Manuscript. Upon completion of this work, Dr. Shinn received his Ph.D. in Medieval Church History in 1964.

Shinn's teaching career began here at Louisburg in 1963, and he was a visiting Professor of Medieval Church History in the spring of 1966 at Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake

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DR. SHINN