

COMMENCEMENT

A time for new beginnings '86

The 1986 UNCW commencement on May 17 marked a new beginning for the 936 men and women who received degrees, and for UNCW President Emeritus William C. Friday, who delivered the commencement address to "classmates."

"I too am starting a new career soon after today, so I'm going to make myself a member of the class of '86," Friday stated. He plans to work as a consultant to a private organization that funds research grants.

North Carolina's future depends on the leadership of college graduates, Friday told the overflow crowd in Trask Coliseum.

"Give a portion of your thoughts, energy, strength, courage, and compassionate heart to your state and to your alma mater," Friday advised. "Reach out into the unknown, even when there is the risk of some pain. Make your life count for something and make this world a better place."

Friday stated that there is much work to be done to alleviate starvation, illiteracy, disease and hate organizations present in the state.

"North Carolina, this region and our country will not prosper and individual rights will not be secure if you do not get involved. When you come back for your class reunion and ask, has my life made a difference, I have faith that you will answer affirmatively," Friday said.

Friday's remarks brought a standing ovation from graduates, faculty and guests. A frequent visitor to the campus, he addressed the 1982 graduating class.

In a surprise move, Chancellor William H. Wagoner presented Friday and his wife Ida with a



M. Cunningham

"Stand up and thank your parents, friends and others who have helped you accomplish this today."

UNCW Chancellor
William H. Wagoner

"One life courageously lived can make a tremendous difference in society."

UNC President Emeritus
William C. Friday

"Most of your future rests on your faith, compassion, and ability to work hard."

UNC President
C. D. Spangler, Jr.

proclamation that named the former Marine Science Building Friday Hall.

In his first official visit to UNCW, UNC President C. D. Spangler, Jr. brought greetings to the graduates and expressed his appreciation to the parents.

"As this institution grows and flourishes, so shall you. You must care for this place, be a loving critic, and at all times protect its freedom to be a great university," Spangler said.

Among those in cap and gown were 40 graduate students who received degrees in science, business administration, and education. Nicole Perez-Jaime-Hammerle of Wilmington was named the Alumni Association Achievement Award recipient for graduating with a 4.0 average. UNCW awarded its last associate degrees in nursing to 25 students. Now a baccalaureate program, the School of Nursing will award its first bachelor of science degrees in nursing at the 1987 commencement.

Brauer receives undersea nobel prize

Dr. Ralph W. Brauer, director of UNCW's Institute for Marine Biomedical Research, has been awarded the top prize of the Undersea Medical Society for scientific excellence. Brauer will accept the prize in September at the International Symposium on Underwater Physiology that will meet in Japan.

Brauer's award, one of the three major prizes presented each year by the Undersea Medical Society, is considered the group's nobel prize. The award is named after Capt. Albert Behnke, an internationally recognized scientist who was a pioneer in the application of helium for deep diving.

Brauer noted that Behnke was instrumental in introducing him in the early sixties to the field of underwater physiology, and the two worked together at the Navy Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco before Brauer came to UNCW.

Since its inception in 1965 as a private marine center, Brauer has served as director of the Institute for Marine Biomedical Research. In 1971 it became part of UNCW and is located one mile west of Wrightsville Beach. The institute is one of the outstanding laboratories conducting basic and applied research in the biological effects of high pressure and diving physiology.

Important discoveries directed by Brauer that the institute has been responsible for include discovery of high pressure effects on the brain; guiding the first experiments in what is now called the High Pressure Neurological Syndrome; continued work utilizing gases such as nitrogen or hydrogen to minimize the effects of high pressure on the brain; and bringing the valuable properties of



Ralph W. Brauer

using hydrogen as a diving gas to the attention of the diving community. Brauer's extensive research made him a pioneer in the advance warning of the potential hazards of some gases in deep diving.

Brauer stated that he will accept the award on behalf of the institute and the many young colleagues and students who have really been the ones doing the work.

"It is on the shoulders of such young beginners that we have been allowed to build a program of internationally recognized excellence," Brauer said.



R. Brantley

UNC President Emeritus William C. Friday (far right) expresses appreciation to the Class of 1986 following the naming of the marine science building Friday Hall. Joining him on the platform are (l-c) Professor James R. Beeler, Chancellor William H. Wagoner and Mrs. William C. Friday.

Alumni
at
Work
pg. 3