



## EDITORIAL OPINION

### Who's Negative?

The Student Government Association was disgusted a year ago with the news coverage it received, which was very little we must admit. But this year, we've given the SGA its fair share as we'd promised — and it seems some would rather have it the other way — very little coverage at all.

Speaking with SGA president Mike Burke recently, he said the coverage given to the government was "negative" and never "positive". Burke, however, never, said our reporting was untruthful. He could never make that claim.

Whether information we've disseminated has been positive or negative, it has been up to the reader to decide. We've only published the truth; the reader must interpret.

If Burke feels he receives negative impulses from reading objective reporting, then perhaps it is the SGA which has been negative and not Smoke Signals.

SGA has its problems just like any organization, which is understandable. But because it is the government of the students on campus, it is certainly understandable why both negative and positive coverage is needed.

Perhaps, as Burke mentioned, the coverage is negative. We can honestly say we've given the government full attention, and followed its every move. Because of this, our readers now know what takes place "behind closed doors".

The black band, New Breeze, charges SGA with discrimination, which, from here, is a serious accusation. The musicians also call the government "one-sided" and "selfish".

They denounce, also, the use of the SGA's budget, which has approximately \$1,700 left for the remainder of the school year, calling Burke's administration "wasteful".

The use of the money spent this semester possibly could be termed "wasteful". However, it could possibly be looked at also in a different perspective. Of the money spent, \$5,500 was allocated for the purchase of movies. But the movies were chosen by the students, for the students, and they are of top quality. SGA did not make the selections.

How the remainder of the money is spent this semester remains to be seen. It is hoped, however, that the money spent would be of necessity or for the good of everyone concerned on campus now and in the coming years.

The way SGA conducts itself and spends its money will be reported in this publication, good or bad. And while the organization finds it so easy to get disgusted at Smoke Signals for publishing the truth, we, too, get disgusted by having to report a lot of disgusting truth about them. —HARRY PICKETT

## Second Semester

Second semester has a lot of different meanings to a lot of different people. For some it is the final semester here; a time to have a little fun, do good enough to pass, graduate, and look toward the future in a senior college. For others it is another semester to get good grades and continue on with the much laughed about "Chowan Experience." But for still others, second semester is a clean slate; a chance to forget about all of the first semester foul-ups and start again.

Grades as a whole were not that terrific first semester. Everyone has a reason, or an excuse, for not doing better those first four months. Now is the time to put all those reasons and excuses behind and get going into the new semester. Now is the time to concentrate on school because now is when it counts.

Students at Chowan are given only two semesters to prove their academic abilities and because of grades many futures are on the line this semester. Chowan College offers people their first taste of college life and can be very beneficial to those who use it to the fullest. Just like it claims in the brochures, Chowan College is friendly and peaceful. It can be a springboard to a better education. But one must prove himself here before he can move up.

Getting good grades will not merely prove to others that you can do the work — it will prove to you. —GREG BASSETT.

## Diet, Rest Important To Health

By MARIE ELLIOTT  
Assistant Director of Health Services

As some of you readers may have heard, trying to keep you, the Chowan College Student, well is one of the primary aims of the Infirmary staff. Sometimes this is easier said than done.

On many occasions while walking on the campus I notice students walking along as if that step might be the last one. That appearance of near-exhaustion is really cause for alarm. More than likely a lack of sleep, (staying up to study or something), is the cause of this appearance of exhaustion.

My first thought is, "I hope there is not a virus or something floating around right now, because there goes a likely candidate for it to develop into a real reason to get an excuse from classes for a few days."

A good well-balanced diet is the first step in staying well. The body requires the proper fuel to keep it running smoothly.

Exercise is important. This helps to keep the body in good working order.

Rest is of the utmost importance. By this we mean the right amount. Too much inactivity can cause one to be sluggish and dull. With the right amount of rest and exercise, there is a feeling of exhilaration and alertness that makes one glad to be alive.

## Bite The Bullet

By KATHY FISHER

With the start of a new semester at Chowan there is a period of adjustment to the routine of college life. In other words students must make their life fit into the campus and surrounding community.

For new students this process is not all that easy. They know little or nothing about Chowan and the community around it. The first few weeks are spent getting familiar to the campus, town and new faces. And if that isn't enough, they must also get used to following a new class schedule and unfamiliar teachers.

Most new students look to the old students for guidance in such things as picking out good teachers and finding the local night spots and hangouts. Most of the time the returning students are happy and willing to help these "greenies" out, but there will always be those who will use the new students as the butt of many assorted practical jokes — most of which, thank goodness, are harmless. But no matter what the encounters, this period of adjustment is an experience that is both useful and memorable.

For the returning students however, the period of readjustment is relatively short and very much easier. They already know the surrounding area and many of the other students and teachers. The only big adjustment they face is one of getting back into the swing of things after a months vacation. This doesn't usually take too long because the returning students have been used to a routine life and easily slip back into one.

Also they must get familiar with a new set of classes — most with new times and new teachers that they have not had before. But this usually is only a slight problem for the returning pros.

Not all students can adjust to college life, and some end up leaving in a few weeks or at the end of their first semester. Fortunately the number of students who have trouble adjusting is few. Most of the students who leave Chowan before graduation transfer to other colleges and universities.

But even though this article generally concerns Chowan students, this period of adjustment is true for any new student at an unfamiliar college or university, and the many students who leave Chowan for another institution will undergo the trials of fitting into a new place with new faces all over again.

Edited, printed and published by students at Chowan College for students, faculty and staff of CHOWAN COLLEGE.

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## Current Issues

# Olympic Boycott Proposal Leaves Much To Be Desired

By DEAN LOWMAN

President Jimmy Carter's announcement concerning a possible boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympic games in Moscow by the United States leaves something to be desired. Although the move was proposed as a type of protest toward Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, it has been received rather reluctantly not only by the athletes directly affected, but also by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The athletes involved have toiled and suffered for years in attempts to represent their native land through athletic competition. However, with one sweep of his magic hand, President Carter has pulled the rug from under their feet.

## Applicants For Dorm Jobs Sought

By BARBARA PARKER

Mrs. Alice D. Vann, director residence hall life, is calling for student applicants for resident assistants and fire marshal positions for the 1980-81 academic year.

Any student interested in becoming an R.A. should have a minimum 2.0 grade point average and at least one year's living experience in a resident hall.

"If you feel that you exhibit the following personal qualities (or most of them)," Mrs. Vann said, "perhaps you should apply."

- 1) A positive self-image
- 2) Strong leadership, initiative, assertiveness
- 3) A high degree of sensitivity to other people
- 4) The ability to balance job responsibilities with academic and personal responsibilities
- 5) The ability to stay cool and keep your head in stressful situations
- 6) A high degree of physical and emotional energy
- 7) Flexibility
- 8) Dedication to the responsibilities of the position
- 9) A sincere desire to help others

"As an R.A., you will be viewed as a role model for other Chowan students, and you will be a representative for the Department of Student Development," said Mrs. Vann.

Application forms for R.A. positions may be obtained from Mrs. Vann by Friday, February 15. Applications must be turned in no later than Friday, February 22.

Beginning with the 1980-81 academic year, "fire marshals will receive pre-school training from members of the local Fire Department," Mrs. Vann explained. They will have the responsibility of working with other members of the Residence Hall Staff in coordinating a minimum of two fire drills per semester.

"Appointing yourself as a fire marshal for your residence hall," Mrs. Vann remarked, "is a way for you to exhibit concern for your own safety, as well as the safety for other residents of your residence hall."

Any student interested in serving as a fire marshal should notify Mrs. Vann no later than Friday, February 22, 1980.

## Math Learning Labs

Carl H. Simmons, Chairman of the Mathematics Department, announced that the Mathematics department will have a Learning Lab as follows:

- Monday - 2 to 5 - Mrs. Stencil and Mrs. Gorse;
- Tuesday - 2 to 5 - Mr. Harden, Mrs. Gorse and Mrs. Atkinson;
- Wednesday - 2 to 5 - Mr. Wooten and Mrs. Gorse;
- Thursday - 2 to 5 - Mr. Shrewsbury, Mrs. Gorse and Mrs. Atkinson;
- Friday - 2 to 5 - Mrs. Atkinson.

Likewise, the IOC seems fearful that if the United States boycotts the games, other countries would follow suit. However, the only nation to declare its intentions to imitate America's actions thus far has been Egypt. Perhaps the IOC is speaking through its pocketbook as the future influx of politics into the games would seriously damage the prestige — and thus, the broadcasting attractiveness and revenues — of the spectacle.

In the same vein, President Carter may be attempting to damage the Soviet Union economically for its relentless aggression toward its neighbors. Moving the games, boycotting the games, or any other proposal would result in decreased income for the Soviets as well as reduced tourism and a negative diplomatic image. Needless to say, the Soviets are against anything which casts them in a poor public light.

However, Carter's secondary proposal may not be such a bad idea. This deals with the permanent selection of an Olympic site where the games would be held. For the summer games, Greece would be a likely site, due to its position as the founder of the event; the winter games could be held in an area equipped with both the climate and

economic capabilities of maintaining the event — possibly Austria, Sweden, or Vail, Colorado.

The revenues taken in by the games through television and radio rights and sales of promotional material could be divided equally among the participating countries. The IOC could change the site on a temporary basis if international conflicts, such as war interfered and endangered the safety of the participants and spectators.

At this moment, however, such an idea would never be approved as the major countries of the world would not want to give up the publicity, tourism, and resulting income that come as a result of hosting the games. The world powers also seemingly view the games as a small period of time where virtually all countries can compete without bombs being dropped or shots being fired.

If host countries insist on playing "Mister Nice Guy" for the three-week Olympic Competition while disabling their neighbors, this policy may be adopted in future generations. Until then, it appears the policy of ignoring acts of war and political intervention will continue to fuel the fire of controversy.

## GUEST PERSPECTIVE



By Renee Lambert  
President, Chowan Circle K  
Circle K is an internationally Kiwanis sponsored, co-educational service

organization for the college level. Its purpose is to serve the school and the community by supplying time, effort, and money for worthwhile projects.

In the past, Circle K has helped to raise money for the American Heart Fund, provide workers for the bloodmobile held on campus and spent time with the residents of the Pinewood Manor Rest Home in Ahsokie.

Circle K helps students by providing activities that are both fun and educational. We hope to sponsor a first aid course this semester for anyone on campus or from the community who is interested. We have attended several socials given by other clubs in our district.

We hope to be able to take our entire membership to the district convention as we did last year and to have a representative at the international convention this summer.

I think the ideals of International Circle K is best summed up by this year's theme "Caring - Life's Magic". Circle K is for people who care about people and who want to actively help others. Circle K meets every Tuesday night at 7 in Camp Hall 319. If you are interested come to any meeting.

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