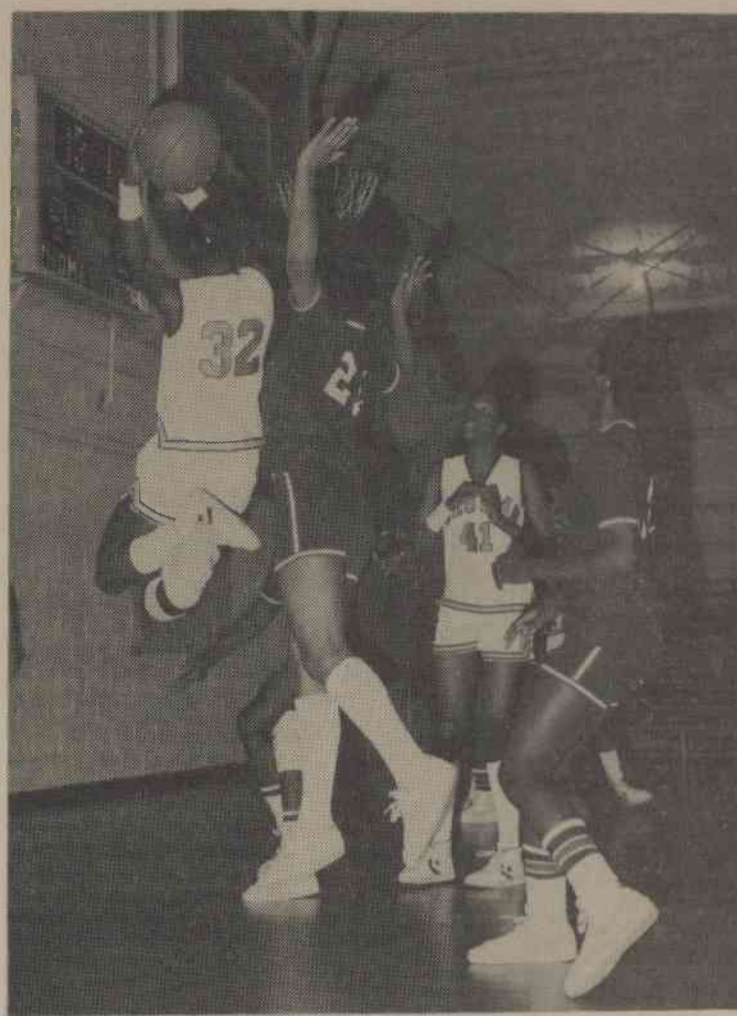




Johnny Johnson slamming home two of his 32 points against Southeastern in the conference tournament final. (Photo by Nancy Thierry)



Sandy Dixon (above) and Judy Douglas go high to score in final regular season game against Louisburg. Donnie Stephens watches Dixon's layup, while Jackie Gore prepares to block out for a possible rebound of Douglas' jumper. (Photos by Nancy Thierry)



Southeastern Hex Works Third Time

By HARRY PICKETT

For the third straight time this season the Cinderella team of the Eastern Tarheel Conference waved its magical wand, and put yet another whammy on Chowan College's basketball team.

Southeastern Community College, the surprise team of the ETC, put another damper on the spirits of the Brave cagers when it took the tournament championship game here Saturday night, March 2, with an 83-81 come-from-behind win over the Murfreesboro school.

The Rams defeated Chowan 91-89 the previous Saturday in a game held in Ahoskie because of light failure in Murfreesboro. That meeting decided the undisputed regular season champion,

Professor Urges Degree In Athletics

LOS ANGELES, CA (CPS)—When researching how many college athletes who graduate into professional sports also get a degree, University of Southern California Professor of Education Nat Hickerson came up with an idea he's now proposing to make a reality: A college academic program that would give athletes a degree in, well, athletics.

The program would teach varsity athletes how to negotiate contracts, cultivate health, cope with losing streaks, and perform other skills they'll need when and if they become professionals.

The NCAA estimates that 70 percent of all football players graduate within five years of entering their colleges.

"What the athletic department isn't telling us," Hickerson told the USC Daily Trojan, "is that the vast majority of those who make up that (70 percent) are second, third, and fourth-string linemen who are playing football for fun and have no intention of playing professionally." He estimated that of those who do play in the National Football League after USC, which currently has the first-ranked football team in the country, "a graduation rate of 30 to 40 percent would be more correct."

USC basketball coach Stan Morrison, though, pointed out that since so few athletes become pros, most of those in the sports program would graduate, but would graduate with a useless degree.

"Even if an athlete does cut it professionally," Morrison said, "what have we done to help the rest of his life? We can't treat (the university) as a sports factory."

Morrison's reaction has been echoed by others around the university. On reflection, Hickerson has decided that "on a scale of one to ten, this probably has about a minus-four chance of becoming a reality."

which for the first time in three years was not Chowan. In the two meetings this season, the two teams split. Chowan took a 90-74 decision in the ETC Tip-Off Tournament in November and the Rams savored over a 70-67 regular season victory in Whiteville. Southeastern finished regular season play with a 7-1 mark. Chowan was 5-3.

To reach the finals of the tournament, Chowan (22-7) managed a hard-fought 73-68 win over the Hurricanes of Louisburg. Johnny Johnson, who enjoyed a good tournament for the Braves, tossed in a game-high 24 points and nine rebounds. He was followed by Kim Griffin, who knotted 13. Southeastern (19-7) stopped Mt. Olive, 54-50, in its semi-final.

Johnson, who collected 32 points in the championship game, said Southeastern has had "our number" all year. "I don't understand it," the 6-7 forward lamented. "We can have huge leads at one moment, and next it's erased and Southeastern is breathing down our backs."

Chowan held as much as a 14-point margin (40-26) with 6:10 left before the half when Jean Earl Williams tacked on the first end of a one-and-one. From that junction, SCC rallied for 18 points to Chowan's seven, to come within three, 47-43, at the break.

The last four minutes of the first half were played without a fouled-plagued Johnson, who netted 20 all told in the opening period. The Rams took advantage of his absence and Charles Webb, SCC's standout center, chipped in 12 of his 32 to move the Rams within stricking distance.

The score see-sawed back and forth for the next 18 minutes. Clayton White, the tournament's MVP, found his spot in the corner and the charity strip, and Webb did his thing down low to stymie the taller Chowan team.

"They aren't that big but they are quick and can sky," Johnson cracked. Southeastern took its largest lead in the second half when it went up 75-71 on a Webb layup with 2:36 left. Chowan retaliated to tie it again on buckets by Mark Moore and Larry Canady.

With just over a minute, the Rams went to their stall, and out of it converted on eight of eight from the line in a matter of 34 seconds to enjoy an 83-77 lead with 14 ticks left. White hit on six of the eight freebies.

Two buckets by Johnson and Haywood Evans left the tribe short.

The all-tournament was composed of Webb and White of SCC, Johnson and Griffin, Chowan; and Chad Bowlius of Mount Olive College.

Chowan and Southeastern were to compete in the Region X playoffs in Anderson, S.C., the following week.

Lady Braves Bow to Louisburg in Tourney; Coach Praises Squad, Calls Year 'Success'

By GREG BASSETT

The Chowan Lady Braves hopes for an Eastern Division Tournament crown were spoiled by conference champion Louisburg College in the second round of the tourney held at Peace College when the girl's team went down 91-66 on February 29.

The Lady Braves went into the tournament seeded fourth and tied with Mt. Olive College and Peace College for second place in the conference with an impressive 17-9 record. Last year the Lady Braves' record was a lopsided 7-16.

Before going down to top-seeded Louisburg, who defeated the Lady Braves twice during the regular season, Coach Roy Winslow's girls clobbered Southeastern's girls in the opening round, 115-65 on February 28.

In the first round tournament victory, Chowan's 6'0" freshman forward Donnie Stephens led the way with 24 points. Freshman guard Sandy Dixon

scored 16 points, retiring sophomore guard Willie Wilson threw in 14 while freshman forwards Nancy Fleming and Terri Tyler contributed 12 each.

In the loss to Louisburg, who eventually went on to win the tournament, Stephens scored 16 points, followed by freshman center Jackie Gore with 15 and Dixon with 13.

Coach Winslow hinted that his team may have pressed too hard against the tough Louisburg team.

"We didn't play one of our better games," commented Winslow. "We tried hard but we might have tried too hard. If we had loosened up and

played our game we could have beaten them." Winslow admitted the game was closer than the final score indicated and pointed out that the Lady Braves were able to close Louisburg's lead to seven during the second half.

Louisburg also beat Chowan 96-81 in the Lady Braves' last regular season game February 20 here. Freshman 6'2" center Judy Douglas scored 18 in the contest. The reliable Stephens pumped in 16 while Dixon scored 15, Willie Wilson hit for 11, sophomore guard Sandra Brown scored nine and Fleming scored eight.

Coach Winslow admitted he "can't wait" for next season with the opening of the new gymnasium and seven returning freshmen, four of whom are starters. Winslow feels he has every reason to be optimistic.

"We'll be looking for a big guard and a small forward in recruiting," said Winslow. "We need some perimeter people who can shoot from outside."

Winslow had praise for the squad's dedication and teamwork. "We've got seven kids who are good players with good attitudes. We've played team ball and there's no doubt this year has been a success."

Sports Trend By Women On Increase

(CPS)—Women's involvement in sports is beginning to reach significant levels, according to a study released by Benton and Bowles, a New York advertising agency.

The study shows that nearly 45 percent of all downhill skiers, 49 percent of all tennis players, and 36 percent of all squash players are women. The study credits more leisure time, deferred marriages, and fewer children for the increased interest in sports by women.

Ralph Carlson, vice president of Questor Corporation's Spalding Division, told the Wall Street Journal that it is difficult to tell how much sporting equipment is sold to women's teams because "you don't offer them pink basketballs. That would be condescending."

Women's sportswear is also changing. Richard Gelsler, president of Champion Products, a sportswear manufacturer, says, "The trend for women has shifted from fashion sportswear to functional athletic garments."

Med School Deans Get Highest Pay

(CPS)—As inflation erodes their buying power, faculty members have become increasingly militant in asking for salary raises, often comparing their plight to that of the relatively-wealthy university president. But a recent College and University Personnel Association survey found that medical school deans—not college presidents—comprise the wealthiest class of school administrators.

The association says public med school deans enjoy a median salary of \$63,500, while presidents of public universities earn a median of \$47,432. Private school deans averaged \$70,000, versus private school presidents' median \$55,100.

Conversion of Old Gym to Rec Center For Students Recommended by Group

By GREG BASSETT

A special school committee has recommended to the administration that the old gym be refurbished and made into a student recreation center that would provide a variety of activities for the college population.

According to committee member Jack Hassell, superintendent of buildings and grounds, it has been proposed that the aging gymnasium, which was built in 1954, be made into a complete "first class" student center that would feature a student lounge, laundromat, post office, game room and weight room. The center could hopefully become a popular meeting place on campus and serve as a location for various school functions including SGA dances.

"We hope to set up the student center so it can become a drawing card for all the students," said Hassell. "We want it to be a place students can go and enjoy themselves."

Hassell stressed the final format of the center is not complete and encouraged ideas from students as to how the gym could best be utilized.

"This is still in the planning stages," remarked Hassell. "We're wide open to any suggestions."

The planning of the recreation center began four years ago, according to Hassell, and was first conceived by a committee of students and administrative personnel. Hassell said the plans have varied little since then.

The current plan is for the north portion of the old gym which houses the locker rooms to become a game room containing pinball machines, ping-pong tables and various game machines. In the northeast section of the building, Hassell said hopes are for the construction of a full service laundromat where students can conveniently do their wash.

Plans call for the gym's weight room to remain where it is, complete with universal machines. Offices currently occupied by the coaching staffs will become the office of the recreation center's director. The area behind the offices on the southwest side of the building will be made into a student lounge containing a television and reading materials.

Hassell explained that the extreme south west corner of the building will

be removed and a large patio will be constructed. Students will be able to lounge in the area. Hassell explained that barbecue grills could also be installed and students could have cookouts along the lake. The SGA canoes would also operate from the center.

The walls in the gym would be removed and reconstructed at eye level to give an open feeling. Artificial 12-foot ceilings will be installed in all of the center's rooms but the basketball court will remain exactly the same so that basketball games could be played. A few sections of bleachers will also remain in the gym.

Hassell said the ceiling would be reinsulated and suggested that somehow it could be decorated in order to give the center a more pleasant appearance.

The college post office will be relocated in the recreation center in an expanded format, Hassell said, but

there are no plans for moving the College Bookstore.

Costs for the renovations have not yet been determined, but Hassell said work will hopefully begin two weeks after the close of school this spring.

"We hope to have it ready for when the students come back," said Hassell. "We don't know if we're going to have it done, but we're sure going to try."

Hassell observed that the student recreation center will have one obvious benefit. "I'm pleased that we will finally have an area large enough for a real recreation center. It will be nice not to have to move a whole lot of tables and chairs to have a dance."

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