

# Chowan President and Deans Welcome Students



LOWE

Throughout a very busy summer, we have been actively making preparations for a new academic year. It is now a real pleasure to welcome back on campus those students who are returning to continue their studies at Chowan. Of course, a special word of welcome goes to those students who are new to the campus and who are at the beginning of their college career.

Whether you are a new student or a returning student, I would assure you that Chowan College is interested in you as an individual personality, with individual goals, aspirations, and needs. Further, it is our desire for each of you that your experience at Chowan will be one of physical, spiritual, social, and intellectual growth. We are concerned for your total development.

Having said this, however, I would emphasize that Chowan is first and foremost a Christian institution. (See Lowe, Page 4)



WHITAKER

As we begin the 133rd year in the life and service of Chowan College, we genuinely welcome each of you to the campus. We anticipate a good year of work and growth, as well as fellowship, in association with you.

This is a special edition of "Smoke Signals", our campus newspaper. It has been prepared for you, especially those of you who are new to the Chowan campus.

Through the pages of this newspaper and in every way possible, we want you to know that your faculty and staff are interested in you and dedicated to helping you succeed in college. We believe that this special issue of "Smoke Signals" and the Student Handbook will assist you immeasurably, as will your Residence Hall Counselors and all the people in Student Development.

Chowan is an institution of Christian education. (See Whitaker, Page 4)



LEWIS

Since Chowan is primarily a residential college, you will be interested in knowing that leaving home and living in a residence hall enhances one's college experience. Residential students, according to surveys conducted across the nation, express more satisfaction than commuting students with student friendships, faculty-student relations and social life.

At Chowan we regard residential living as an essential part of one's education. Behavior controls are emphasized through residence directors, resident assistants and residence hall councils. Chowan has not eliminated policies which regulate behavior in residence halls. We seek ways to maintain a wholesome environment that is regulated through guidance and supervision from peers and staff members.

Hedonism, or devotion to pleasure as a goal, is not our aim. (See Lewis, Page 4)

## SMOKE SIGNALS

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# Gym Dedication Set Next Monday

## \$2½ Million Site Honors Sen. Helms

By HARRY PICKETT

Dedication ceremonies for Chowan College's new gymnasium-physical education center is scheduled here for Monday, September 1 at 10:30 a.m. with U.S. Sen. Harry F. Byrd, Jr. of Virginia as the featured speaker.

The \$2.5 million facility which was completed this summer, is being named in the honor of Jesse A. Helms, a Baptist layman and U.S. Senator from North Carolina. Last September an anonymous donor, who gave \$500,000 to the building's campaign, asked that the gymnasium be named in honor of the senator. Chowan's Board of Trustees and Advisors approved the request unanimously. Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, president of the college, said the gift more than doubles the previous single largest gift from an individual, foundation or corporation.

According to Dr. Whitaker, Sen. Helms is making plans to attend the dedication proceedings, which will be held inside the gymnasium.

Chowan began its campaign for a new \$2.5 million athletic complex in February of 1977, which was called "Accomplishing Our Mission." At the time the college, behind the efforts of Dr. Whitaker, began a quest for a key naming gift of \$500,000. All of the financial support came from alumni, foundations, civic groups and private business.

"We were successful because many, many people worked, prayed and gave," said Chowan's president of 24 years. "Those who served as volunteer leaders and workers and contributed to the campaign include alumni, trustees, advisors, parents, faculty and staff, and other friends and groups. To all of these and others our victory is due." The new facility, which had been expected to be completed last spring

semester, will be used both for Chowan's intramural program for men and women and for varsity sports in men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, and wrestling. It will include three full-size basketball courts, two classrooms, weight room, mini-gym, three handball and paddle tennis courts, and an Olympic-size swimming pool. The facility will provide 63,000 square feet of space and seating for up to 5,000. Space is also provided for faculty offices.

According to Dr. Whitaker, the Olympic-size swimming pool in the gymnasium will be named in memory of Ruth Camp Campbell of Franklin, Va. The late Ms. Camp, said the president, "devoted a lifetime of service to her church, community and region."

Sen. Helms, a native of Monroe, attended two Baptist colleges, Wingate and Wake Forest. During World War II, he served as a naval officer. After the war he went into journalism, serving as city editor of "The Raleigh Times".

Helms is a member and served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at Hayes Barton Baptist Church in Raleigh. He has served on the Boards of Trustees of his alma mater Wingate College, Campbell College, John F. Kennedy and Meredith College.

He was elected by North Carolinians to serve a six-year term in the U.S. Senate in 1972, and was re-elected in 1978.

Whitaker said the college has become "successful" in its drive to provide the last major facility envisioned on campus.

"This culminates over two decades of intensive physical growth and assures that future generations of Chowan students will have the benefit of studying and learning at one of the most beautiful and well equipped campuses in the nation," Whitaker said proudly.



## 4 Share Freshman Honors

By BELINDA ELMORE

Awards for citizenship, service and academic and athletic achievement were given to twenty-seven students during Honors Day, Friday, May 2.

Cynthia Gray of Richmond, Va., was awarded the Best All Around Student and the Department of Business Academic Award. She also received the Alpha Pi Epsilon Scholarship Award as the outstanding secretarial science student. She and Rochel Roland of Greensboro shared the Highest Scholastic Average for a sophomore.

The Superior Citizenship Award went to Surachai Fongamornkul of Bangkok, Thailand. Hope Vinson Clark of Murfreesboro received the Merit Award for significant contribution to the community and achievement in the face of obstacles.

Named to the Order of the Silver Feather for exceptional service and loyalty were Nancy Loy of Fairfax, Va., Pam Harris of Murfreesboro, Ron Thompson of Canton, Renee Lambert of Danbury, Conn., and Harry Pickett of Shallotte.

Four students shared honors for the Highest Scholastic Average for a freshman. They are Judy Carol Belch of Conway, Cindy Ann Hendrix of Hobbville, Teresa Ann Moseley of Triplet, Va., and William Franklin Thweatt of West Columbia, S.C. These students and Sharon Frances Banks of Chesapeake, Va., were selected as commencement marshals with Thweatt serving as chief marshal.

The Most Outstanding Athletes are Sandy Dixon of Jesup, Ga., basketball and softball player, and Doug Saunders of Woodlawn, Va., All-American wrestler. The Exchange Club Athletic Scholarship was presented to Mike Grant of Charleston Heights, S.C. Edward Adelstein of Richmond, Va., received the Joseph Lee Parker Scholarship for Physical Fitness.

The Department of Graphic Communications rewarded three students for Most Outstanding Graduate awards. Harry Pickett won in (See Honors, Page 4)

## Open Administration Pledged By Atkinson After Landslide Win

By HARRY PICKETT

Sharee C. Atkinson of Dinwiddie, Va. is president of the Student Government Association here at Chowan. The blue-eyed blonde was elected by the campus student body last March, when she defeated Steve Laney of Charlotte by a decisive margin.

Atkinson, who is the first female student body president since the 1974-75 year, was a Dean's List student last year, majoring in Pre-Engineering. She is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa's Iota Delta chapter, a national junior college scholastic honor fraternity.

The executive said last spring that she would strive to serve this year's student body "without any conflict of interest." She went on to say she would "represent" and "inform" the students of the SGA's various activities and explore the possibility of revising, if needed, the current SGA Constitution (last year's legislature revised this year's version).

Last year's election, according to then SGA president Mike Burke, was dominated by Atkinson-supported women. The school's females turned out in large numbers to offset Laney's large percentage of the black vote. Burke said the voter-turnout was probably the largest in Chowan's history. He said 500 students voted, compared to approximately 300 in 1979 when he sought the head job. "The increase in the black turnout was a big factor in the results of the election."

Darlene J. Keene of Ahoskie was one of two blacks elected. Keene defeated Jefferey D. Prillaman of Greensboro in the vice-presidential race, after delivering an inspiring and sincere speech to fellow Chowanians. Keene noted that she was new to the political scene, but offered that all great politicians had to "start" somewhere.

Ann W. Kellam of Onley, Va., Diane LaBreaux of Virginia Beach and Kathy DeHart of Stoneville all ran opposed. Kellam will hold down the office of secretary, LaBreaux treasurer and DeHart will handle the historian chores. Freddie Davis of Morganton was appointed by Burke to fill the office of auditor.

**Legislature**  
The SGA legislature consists of students representing the various dormitory floors on campus. One student is selected from each hall to act as a representative of all its residents, generally reflecting the opinions and feelings of his constituents.

The primary objective, inevitably, is

to provide entertainment for the campus community. Money allocated from the business office serves as the funds for movies, dances, trips, Parent's Day, Homecoming and Spring Festival. The SGA also gives loans to clubs and organizations in an effort that they may grow and develop into strong representatives of the school.

### Interesting People on Campus

By DEAN LOWMAN

Imagine feeding over 500 persons three meals per day at a cost of 66 cents per person per meal.

"We are allotted 80 cents per person per meal," revealed Ron Thompson, food services manager at Chowan College. "Out of this, we have to subtract our payroll, the cost of replacing broken utensils, and the cost of purchasing new equipment."

"This cuts down our allotment to about 66 cents per meal served," he added.

Thompson has been at Chowan since 1977. Before that, the rotund 46-year-old manager worked at hotels and institutions in the northeastern United States.

"Working up north helped me out when we got snowed in this semester. I was able to get to work easily and helped to get some of my employees to work too," Thompson claimed.

Certified as a chef since the age of 22, Thompson oversees a 61-man staff. "We have only about 20 full-time workers. The rest are part-time help and work-study students."

Although relying on the daily deliveries of bread and milk to "keep the students happy," Thompson's biggest problem is the loss of electricity.

"We can miss a delivery or two and survive," he said, "but if the electricity gets cut off, we're dead."

"I remember one time the power went out about an hour before lunch.

## 'Magic' Chef Feeds Students for 66¢ a Day

We had to switch from our planned menu to one consisting of cold-cuts at the last minute.

"However, we keep a 3-4 day supply of nonperishable items on hand just in case of emergencies. If this is depleted, we restock it immediately."

The menus are planned by Thompson of a rotating three-week basis. Four such menus are drawn up per semester to insure against the possibility of having beef stew and pork chops for dinner each Wednesday for two months or more.

"About the only way we have to find out what goes over with the students is to check what comes in through the dishwashing line," says the cafeteria boss.

Thompson also has to deal with the usual complaints about the food from the students: "Most just inform me that the food we serve doesn't taste like what they're used to at home. However, I don't think they realize what we have to work with when planning and preparing a meal."

The manager feels that students today "are a lot like they were when I was young. They still have 'crazy' dances and get drunk occasionally."

"However, I feel that the student of today may be a little less responsible than we were. At least, that's the feeling I get when I see someone too lazy to carry a tray a few feet and put it up."

"Maybe if they would just take a little more pride in themselves..."



Thompson Readies Salad Bar (Photo by Scott White)