



Editorials

We Don't Say Nothin'

We walked across campus this morning and spoke to several people. In most instances our greeting was answered with a 'Howdy' from a smiling face. Others did not return our greeting. Maybe they were too wrapped up in the newness of a college campus. Maybe they were lost in personal thought. Maybe.....

We were reminded of the Joel Chandler Harris literary work, *UNCLE REMUS TALES*, about two animals who met each other one day. One wanted to talk. The other didn't return that 'Howdy.' A threat was made and the two got balled up in a sticky situation.

With apologies to Mr. Harris, we thought of that chance meeting as we tried to speak to several students. Some of you may be outright offended by the unfriendliness of some people you'll walk by this week.

Visitors to Chowan's campus always tell administrators, staff and faculty how friendly they found the people to be. As new students, it is your responsibility to continue this tradition of friendliness. As returning students, administrators, staff, and faculty, it is our duty to renew our efforts at this tradition.

Will you walk around campus during the first days after your arrival and notice the different city tags on the cars? Places like Surry, Hubert, Tabb, Cross, Aroda, and Glasgow were sprinkled in between the Norfolk's, the Richmond's, and the Raleigh's.

Whether we are from a small cross roads community in low country South Carolina or a crowded metropolis from the Northeast there is one thing that binds us together at Chowan. We speak to each other as we pass.

More than likely, you grew up in a small community where everyone knew everyone. You just couldn't walk from your house to downtown and not meet someone you knew. And, you spoke to them because you usually knew that person, his parents, aunts, uncles, and most of his cousins, so there was always something to say.

And even when a total stranger was met, you looked him straight in the eye, nodded, and said "Hello". Nobody ever questioned the custom. You just did it.

Going off to college may change that habit for some of you. Granted, each of you may not know a soul when you get here, but you'll notice immediately that in going to class, that you'll rarely pass anyone who will look up from the sidewalks and pathways. Some of you will be intimidated by the newness of Chowan. It doesn't have the familiarity of the Sonic Drive-In or the Pizza Hut or what ever there was back home. If you are intimidated, then you'll hang your head and walk around looking for cracks to fall into. If you're not careful, the practice will soon become a habit.

On that first weekend home you'll walk downtown or around the mall with your parents. Unknowingly, you'll practice your stare-at-your-feet-as-you-walk method of traveling. You will pass some people you know and your Mom will gently tug at your sleeve and remind you to speak. You hadn't.

She will be right. You'll be treating those friends and relatives back home as though you didn't know them or care to know them. College life will have left its mark on you.

Chowan College is 'People Centered'. It is the people who comprise the student body, the staff, the faculty. The college would not be here if it were not for the students. All of us can speak. Will we do it? Yes, but for how long?

Chowan's Newspaper Is Student Project

Smoke Signals is a newspaper published by students of Chowan College for the campus community.

The newspaper functions on student participation. Any student can be a member of the Smoke Signals staff.

News stories are written by student reporters while students in the Graphic Communications Department print the paper. These students do everything from setting the type to running the presses.

Students who are on the staff are learning the business; they are not professionals. As in all learning processes, mistakes and errors will be made.

The operation of the paper is under the supervision of faculty members of the School of Graphic Communications and Photography.

We on the Smoke Signals staff anticipate a good year. We hope that through the cooperation of the citizens of Chowan we can serve the campus community in a satisfactory manner.

Meet Your Roommate Halfway; Be Friends

By RONALD MAJOR

Understanding, patience, endurance, give-and-take; these are a few of the many qualities that go to make a good roommate.

The best keys to getting along are honesty and unselfishness. This relationship between two individuals of different character, opinions and views on life is the best thing that will happen to a student at Chowan College.

One's roommate can be his best friend or his worst enemy. It's up to both as mature young adults to make the best of this relationship. One should make all efforts necessary to get along with a roommate.

A main purpose here at Chowan College is to improve or to better one's self. Being a good roommate is the first among many important attributes needed to make the best of the Chowan experience.

No one is saying that this is mandatory — that we get along — only that

we each must take the first step to make the other feel at home (away from home) in this situation.

If roommates voice opinions, talk things out and observe one another's study habits, there is ground for living together. If one roommate does something that offends or irritates, the other should kindly discuss it with him or her, not with others. This is between the two of you. Both should be mature about it, all human beings have faults; it's up to each person to make an improvement in his or her own character. The biggest man admits his faults.

Respect each other's feelings and use good judgment according to the fairness of the situation.

In any case, one should look forward to being the best roommate that he would want the other to be. First, start with a friendly attitude, and adjustment will be easier for both of you. Remember, you're both going through the same thing.

Feel Lost? Many Will Help You

By JAMES GRAHAM
Smoke Signals Faculty Advisor
(Retired)

Many of you entering freshmen students are living away from home for the first time.

You are free to make your decisions and to a large degree to shape your own destiny.

You no longer have to follow the guidelines established by your parents; you are your own boss.

This gives you a wonderful feeling of maturity. You consider yourself an adult. The world is yours to conquer on your own terms.

However, some of you may find this new-found freedom is a bit more than you can handle. You may make the wrong decisions. You may find yourself in trouble and wish you could turn to your parents to help you overcome your difficulty or solve your problem. But they are not here; they are back home in what seems to you now to be an entirely different world.

This is when you should realize that there are many people here at Chowan who are willing — even eager — to provide the help you feel you so desperately need.

The closest assistance, and the easiest to obtain, is in the presence of the resident assistant on your dormitory floor. The head resident of your dorm is also available. These floor residents are students who have been through whatever it is that is troubling you. They know the "system" and can advise you how to cope with it.

Don't be embarrassed or timid about approaching them; it's their job to help you. They will be happy to do so.

If your problem is such that you feel you need an older or more experienced person's advice, or if it is so personal that you don't want to share it with a member of your dorm family, you should seek your advisor.

Each one of you will be assigned to a faculty member during the registration period as one of his advisees. His first function will be to help you prepare a schedule of classes for this semester. He will do this for you at the beginning of each semester while you are in college.

Moreover, he will meet with you at intervals during the semester to discuss your academic work. He also stands ready at all times to talk with you about any aspect of college life.

Particularly, if you should transgress any college regulations and be summoned for disciplinary hearing, you should see your advisor. He will inform you of your rights at such a hearing and will, if you desire, accompany you to speak in your behalf.

Another avenue of assistance is your classroom teacher. Should you encounter difficulty in any of your courses, don't wait until you have fallen so far behind the others that catching up becomes an almost impossible task. Go to that teacher as soon as you realize you are having difficulty. The teacher will attempt to help you locate the source of your problem with the course and advise you the best way to overcome it. No teacher ever wants to give a student a failing grade.

There might come a time when you wonder what you are doing in college, whether you should stay or leave, or whether you would be better off in a different course of study. If this should happen to you, go to the counseling office for answers to this problem.

Remember, there are a great many people here at the college who stand ready to help you in whatever way you want assistance or advice. They are your friends; let them help you.

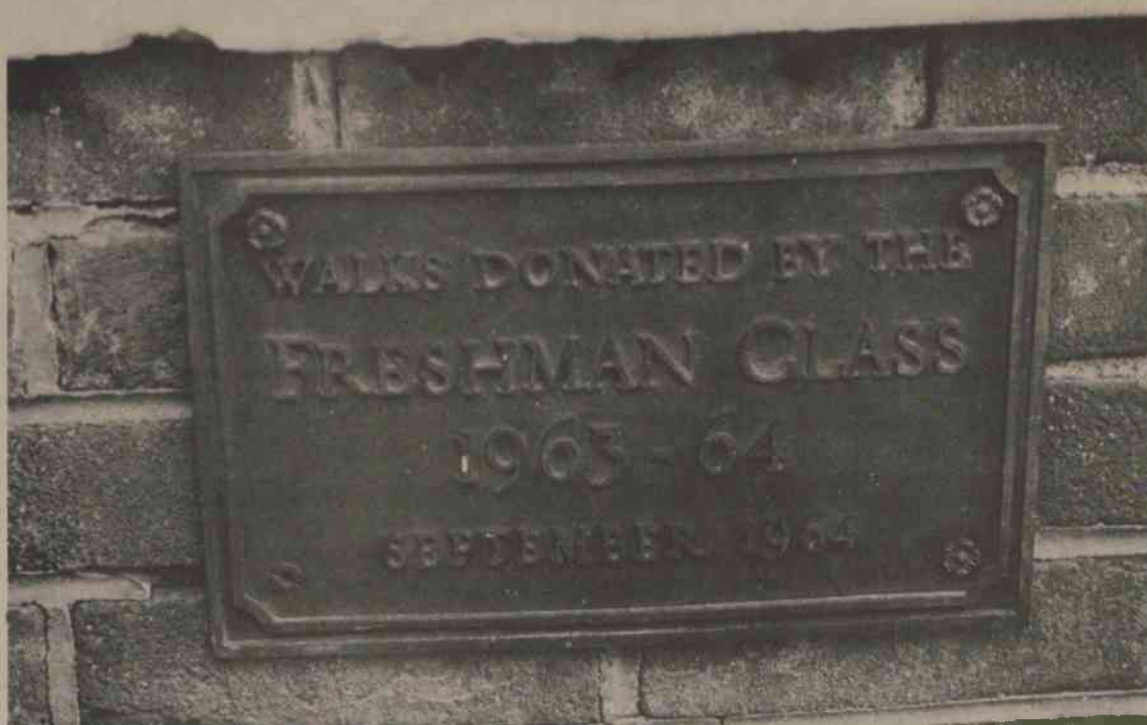
Chowan Is Interested

(Continued from page 1)

students, take advantage of it. Budget your time wisely; allow adequate time for your studies; and then find time for your other activities.

We are pleased to have each of you at Chowan College, and it is our sincere wish that this will be a year of personal fulfillment and happiness.

B. Franklin Lowe, Jr.
Dean of the College



Where Is It?

Entering its 135th year, Chowan College is steeped in tradition. Gone is the Crow's Nest. Gone is the Archway of Lights. The tradition is that Chowan can be seen by looking at Column throughout the year. There are monuments and markers located all around the campus. This is only one of them. As you begin your college life at Chowan, take a few minutes each day to look around you.

Entering College Not the Goal; How You Use Opportunities Is



R. CLAYTON LEWIS

The summer was rapidly slipping away. Mike had decided to take one last trip to the beach before his vacation ended. He enjoyed the lazy days of surfing and swimming with friends. But he couldn't help feeling excited as he thought of the adventure which lay ahead. In a few days, he'd be leaving his hometown. "It's a little hard to believe I'm really going to college," he told his best friend, Hugh. "I can hardly wait to be on my own. I'm going to take in all the football games and parties."

"Sounds like you're really going to live it up," noted Hugh.

"You said it," replied Mike.

Going to college — there's something romantic about that. Maybe it's because going to college has been glamorized by alumni who remember only the good old days. Movies and TV have often portrayed college unrealistically.

Perhaps you're a lot like Mike. For sometime, you've been looking forward to going to college. As of August 21, 1983, you are no longer going to college; you are now in college. There is a difference. Being in college is more than football games, homecoming, parties and attending classes occasionally as a respite between exciting events.

Today is a good time for you to re-think your priorities. Going to college is no longer your primary goal. Being in college now moves into the number one position and what are you going to do with it? How do the opportunities available to you at Chowan fit into your long-range plans for earning a living and learning to live?

This question includes such topics as: roommates, residence hall life, leisure time, values, a heterogeneous community, studying and research, faculty advisers, the right program of study for you, attending classes, career planning, personal growth and development, student government and college sponsored organizations.

Chowan College is a composite of all these topics and much, much more as stated in the catalog. Consider the many ways you can benefit from being at Chowan. You should establish some sound objectives. These will help you get greater returns from your Chowan experience.

Just being in college will not produce the desired results. What does Chowan College mean to you?

Being at Chowan means you are not in the thirteenth grade. You will experience greater academic demands from your professors than you did from your high school teachers. There will be tougher competition. Expect this in the classroom as well as in athletics. Accept competition as an elevating force.

Wholesome competition can stimulate your personal growth and development.

Being at Chowan is a big change from your previous life style. There are college policies and regulations, but you will experience greater freedom and less supervision than you had during the high school years.

This makes you a decision maker. You can succeed or fail according to the decisions you make.

Chowan has many people who are willing to help you make decisions. Among these are residence directors, resident assistants, faculty advisers, professors, student development staff members and peers. However, you have the freedom to either accept or reject their help.

The percentage of students who withdraw from colleges all over the country is great. This is a waste of human potential. Some Chowan students drop out because they never learned to accept help which is readily available. Others withdraw because they never adjust to the differences between going to college and being in college. They never learn what being in college is all about.

Being at Chowan, like most transitions in the life cycle, can be frustrating. Many freshmen suddenly realize they have enrolled in a curriculum that is wrong for them. If you encounter this problem, recognize it. Take care of it. Remember there are many people willing to help you at Chowan.

You may soon discover that you are ill-prepared to cope successfully with the expectations of your English professor. Receiving your first graded college English theme has traditionally been an "ego buster." Certain college courses are recognized as reading

courses. Assignments in these courses will be longer than those given to you in high school.

Under such circumstances you will begin to question the wisdom of being at Chowan. You will wonder if being at Chowan is worthwhile. You will begin to complain, to be critical of yourself and others, to be offensive, to be bored and to be unhappy with the quality of your existence.

Students of every generation have known these feelings of defeat and anxiety. One of the advantages of being at Chowan is that help is always available. Seeking assistance from members of the faculty and staff and personnel in the residence halls can eliminate needless anxiety. Let us help you when your world seems to be falling apart.

Remember, there is a graduation every May. Many people made it and you too can be a Chowan College graduate in two years if you correctly place your priorities.

Although being at Chowan is academically demanding, it is not all study and frustration. By budgeting your time, you can schedule fun into your Chowan experience. You are expected to have some leisure time. Members of the faculty and staff want you to enjoy being a Chowan student.

Nevertheless, fun and good times are not to be sought after, or even expected, all the time. You must be conscious of and faithful to the responsibilities of students.

Being a student is your vocation. Good students are not absent from academic pressures and demands. Chowanians do their best when they are accepting and responding to challenges presented by professors and life within the academic community.

By now I hope you have come to realize that going to college is different from being in college. Chowan can be a pleasant place as well as a frustrating place. Help is available to you as a Chowan student.

Within the next few weeks I want to discuss with you the difference between being in college and staying in college. Until then I urge you to often give thought to the following questions which relate to your being in college.

1. Why am I in college?
2. Why did I decide to attend Chowan College rather than some other institution?
3. How can Chowan help prepare me for my long-range career goals and for the quality of life I want to live?
4. Can I do what I really want to do without the benefits of a college education?
5. How can I profit from attending and participating in wholesome out-of-class activities?

6. Are my objectives in the right priority so that I can achieve my goals?
7. Have I intelligently sought help with my greatest problem or am I just complaining and permitting myself to develop negative attitudes?
8. Who within the college can best help me with my various concerns?
9. Have I had an individual conference with my faculty advisor and professors?
10. How can I make my Chowan experience more meaningful and pleasant?

Being in college is not staying in college. The way you respond to the questions presented above help make the difference. From experiences I have come to believe that most Chowan students, freshmen as well as sophomores, are responsible for the quality of their existence.

Members of the faculty and staff are anxious for you to experience success at Chowan. Ask faculty members for extra help when you need it. My associates in student development and I are more than willing "to go the extra mile" when you need help. Let us know when we can be of assistance to you.

R. Clayton Lewis
Dean of Students

Ground-Floor Opportunity

Would you like to be the first on your hall to take advantage of the newest course at Chowan College? Would you like to be a part of two first-rate publications?

If your answer was yes to those two questions, then you'll register for the Publications Workshop course this year.

Need that extra hour? Want to keep up with what is going on at Chowan?

The course is Publications Workshop.

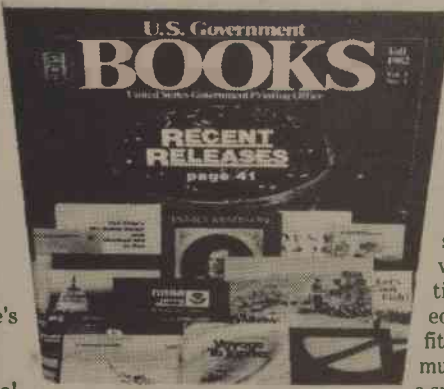
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