

SMOKE SIGNALS

VOLUME 15 Number 1

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF CHOWAN COLLEGE

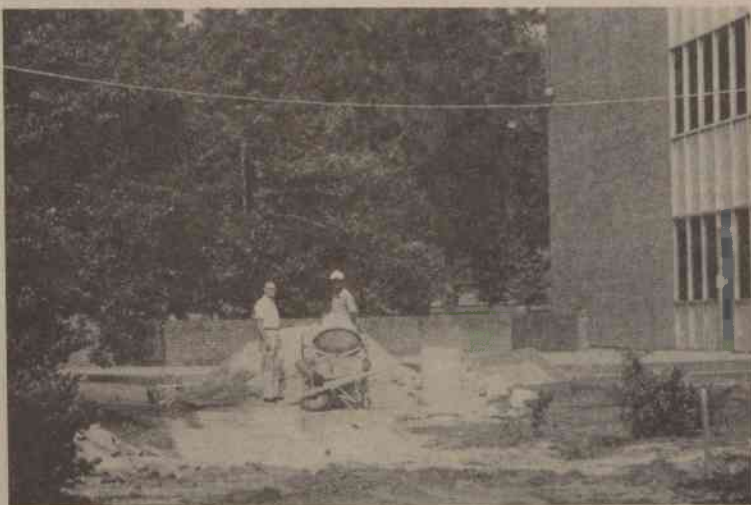
August 29, 1986



Jenkins Hall Gets a Face Lift

Renovations on Jenkins Hall were completed just prior to the opening of Chowan College for the fall semester. Individual air conditioning and heating units were added to the rooms as well as carpeting. The halls were equipped with emergency lights and smoke alarms. The kitchen facilities were enclosed to separate them from the back lounge and a men's restroom was added to the front lobby.

The changes and additions made to Jenkins Hall have made it a more comfortable place to live and its residents are very proud of their new "home".



Student Admissions Representatives

The Admissions Office is currently seeking student volunteers to serve as Student Admissions Representatives (SARs). The SARs serve as a link between the admissions officers and prospective students by giving a student's perspective of Chowan. By conducting campus tours, assisting during campus preview days, and serving as orientation counselors, they provide an invaluable service to the Admissions Office. Interested students may pick up an application in the Admissions Office located in the basement of McDowell Columns building.

Drinking Age to be 21

You have to be 21 years old to purchase, possess, or consume alcoholic beverages in North Carolina after September 1, 1986.

The Alcohol Law Enforcement Division (ALE) of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety is charged with enforcing alcoholic beverage control laws and regulations. However, through the court system, treatment of certain violators and the resultant penalty will be somewhat different due to provisions of the law.

If you are 19 or 20 and attempt to purchase, purchase, or possess alcoholic beverages, you will be charged with an infraction, which is punishable by a penalty of not more than \$25. An infraction is an unlawful act which, under the law, is not a crime. The conviction bears no consequence other than the payment of the penalty.

A person charged with this infraction will be given a citation by an ALE agent and can go to district court for trial. If you are found responsible for this infraction, you may not be assessed court costs and will not have a criminal record. A person can pay the \$25 penalty and not go to court, unless he has been convicted of an ABC offense within the last two years.

All other alcoholic beverage control law violations are misdemeanors, including the sale of alcoholic beverage to a person age 19 to 20. A conviction on a misdemeanor charge can result in up to two years in jail and a fine. This means a 19- or 20-year-old purchaser may be charged with an infraction, while the person selling the beverage may be charged with a misdemeanor.

The new law also amends the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) requirements regarding color coded driver's license and special identification cards. Beginning September 1, 1986, DMV will color code licenses and special IDs in two groups, ie, those persons who have not reached age 21 and those who have reached age 21.

ALE conducts public information programs on acceptable IDs. Acceptable IDs are driver's licenses, DMV special ID cards, military ID cards, and passports. Further, ALE agents remind persons that any ID must also bear a physical description of the person named on the card, and dates of validity or expiration must be current.

The use of a fraudulent driver's license or ID, or one issued to another person, in obtaining or attempting to obtain alcoholic beverages is still a misdemeanor. A conviction of this provision may result in a criminal record, the assessment of a fine and/or court costs and the loss of driver's license for one year. Additionally, 19- to 20-year-old persons are subject to misdemeanor criminal charges and one-year driver's license revocation for allowing another person to use their license or identification documents and for assisting another underage person to buy or consume alcoholic beverages.

The change in the drinking age was prompted by passage of the Surface Transportation Act of 1982 by the U.S. Congress. Any state not adopting the minimum drinking age of 21 by federal fiscal year 1987 will lose 5 percent to 10 percent of its federal highway funds.

DRINKING AGE CHANGE FACT SHEET

CAUTION

As of September 1, 1986, it is unlawful for anyone under age 21 to purchase, possess, or consume any alcoholic beverage. N.C.G.S. 18B-302.

IF YOU ARE	AND ATTEMPT TO PURCHASE	PURCHASE	POSSESS
UNDER 19	Misdemeanor & One-Year License Revocation	Misdemeanor & One-Year License Revocation	Misdemeanor
	Infraction for all if it is for beer or unfortified wine		
19 & 20	Misdemeanor for both if it is for spiritous liquors or fortified wine, plus one-year license revocation.		Misdemeanor if it is for spiritous liquors or fortified wine.
ANY USE FRAUDULENT ID	Misdemeanor for all ages & one-year license revocation		

An infraction is an unlawful act which, under the law is not a crime, and the conviction bears no consequence other than the payment of the penalty.

A misdemeanor is a penalty punishable by a fine of up to two thousand (\$2,000) or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

N.C. ALCOHOL LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Note:

Malt Beverage is beer, 1/2 of 1% to 6% alcohol.

Unfortified Wine is wine 6% to 17% alcohol.

Fortified Wine is wine of not more than 24% alcohol.

Spirituous Liquor is distilled spirits or ethyl alcohol, including spirits of whiskey, rum, brandy, gin, etc.

ALE offers program presentations to youth groups on ABC laws and the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs. If you would like to take advantage of this public service program, or if you desire further information, contact:

Director, Alcohol Law Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611
Telephone (919) 733-4060