

## Abbot Jude Cleary Honored By Wake Forest University

On Monday, May 17, Abbot Jude Cleary, O. S. B., was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by Wake

Forest University. In his letter of acceptance Abbot Jude said, "With all due humility, I accept this

esteemed honor as tribute to the community of which I am a member and as the University's affirmation and support of man's quest and hope for achieving oneness in God."

In the past months Abbot Jude has been actively involved in the Ecumenical Institute, which is co-sponsored by both Belmont Abbey and Wake Forest.

During the graduation exercises at Wake Forest University, the following citation was read in honor of Abbot Jude:

"Let him who is to be appointed be chosen for the merit of his life and his enlightened wisdom." Thus did St. Benedict, more than fourteen centuries ago, prescribe the qualifications for the abbot of a monastery founded according to his Rule.

Last July JUDE CLEARY was elected by his brother Benedictines as Abbot-Nullius of Belmont Abbey. Born George Joseph Cleary in Savannah and educated at Georgia Tech as an electrical engineer, he had entered the monastery in 1951, taking the name of the Apostle Jude because, he said, "I wanted the name of someone who had been physically close to Christ." During the twenty-four years that followed he had been teacher, admissions officer, registrar, dean, and



Abbot Jude, O.S.B., receiving his honorary degree at W.F.U. (left to right) Dr. William Angell, Department of Theology, Wake Forest University; Abbot Jude Cleary, O.S.B., Belmont Abbey College; Dr. James Ralph Scales, President, Wake Forest University.

president of Belmont Abbey College. He had also — faithful to St. Benedict's charge, "then are they truly monks when they live by the work of their hands" — done manual labor. At the time of his election as to abbot, he was digging ditches for the Abbey's underground light system.

Since 1969 Abbot Jude and his fellow Catholics of Belmont Abbey have worked, worshipped and witnessed with Baptists of Wake Forest in the programs of the Ecumenical Institute. Together they have responded in service and in prayer to the will of Christ that we all "may be one."

"For the merit of his life and his enlightened wisdom" Abbot Jude Cleary is presented for the degree Doctor of Divinity.

On Saturday, May 15th, preceding his award at Wake Forest, Abbot Jude

was honored with the "Medal of Excellence," which was presented to him by Benedictine Military School in Richmond,

Virginia. Abbot Jude graduated from Benedictine in the class of 1944. The "Medal of Excellence" is an annual award which is granted to Benedictine alumni who have become distinguished in their communities.

## Athletic Foundation Gaining In Popularity

In a time when many colleges are cutting back on their athletic programs, Belmont Abbey College is doing something to help themselves out of the financial crunch. One of the means being used is the Athletic Foundation. Formed in 1972, the foundation is trying to bring people as well as money to the school. Back in the infant stages, the Athletic Foundation was faced with two problems . . . lack of community support in terms of participation and interest, and no outside source of income for purposes of athletics except for money in the General College fund. It is for the solution of these two problems that the foundation was formed.

Coach Bobby Hussey played a major role in starting this organization. He set out in 1972 to research ways to bring in community interest and dollars, with help from a small group of alumni and friends.

In the Fall of 1973 the organization was chartered by the state of North Carolina as a non-profit organization.

During the past year

the foundation grew to 127 members and brought almost ten thousand dollars to the College. The money was divided between the college, the foundation and the athletic program. One of the biggest projects this year for the foundation was the WBTV Carolina Classic invitational tournament at the Wheeler Center. More than three thousand dollars was raised at that event. Concessions and Ad sales for the program accounted for most of the money.

Future Projects? Coach Hussey mentions six for 1976-77: "The annual picnic for all members; fall yard sale; WBTV Carolina Classic; Tipoff Dinner; spring yard sale; and the Athletic Banquet."

You don't have to be in the area to be a member of the Foundation. Many people from as far away as New Jersey are members. Write to the Athletic Foundation in care of The College. A pamphlet and application to join will be sent. The Athletic Foundation is you. So become a part of a growing organization.

## Abbey Receives \$50,000 Legacy

## Albert G. Myers, Friend Of The College Dies



Albert G. Myers

Mr. Albert G. Myers, Sr., a long time friend to the College, died on April 15th of this year. Myers, who received an

honorary Doctorate of Law degree from the Abbey in 1957, was an advisor to the College and will be greatly missed.

Born on a small, unproductive farm in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, in Janu-

ary of 1880, Mr. Myers went on to become one of North Carolina's foremost industrialists. He

pioneered in both textiles and banking, but his interests were varied and wide.

The first step in his ladder of success was made in Gastonia in 1906, where he became a cashier at The Citizens National Bank. He rose to the post of Vice-President, and Chairman of the Board before he retired in 1967.

During the 1930's he had a guiding hand in merging some two-dozen different plants into one

consolidated firm, Textiles-Incorporated, of which he served as President. When the failing company went into bankruptcy he was selected as receiver and guided the company through the depression.

With wise financial planning and skillful management, Myers and his colleagues successfully paid off the nearly 3 million dollar debts of Textiles - Incorporated and managed to return to the stockholders a cash dividend.

He continued as Presi-

dent of Textiles-Incorporated until 1952 when he became Chairman of the Board and then Chairman of the Executive Committee in 1959. In 1966 he retired from the company, but remained an honorary director until his death.

Upon the reading of Mr. Myers' will it was announced that \$50,000 would be donated to Belmont Abbey College. No announcements have been made as to whether or not the donation is earmarked by Myers for specific usage.