



Chowan College has selected its Most Valuable Players for the 1976-77 season. The award winners are, from left, Robert Levy, Richmond, Va., tennis; Stewart Philips, Battleboro, wrestling; John McConnell, Williamsburg, Va., baseball; Berry Sowell, Murfreesboro, golf; Craig Votser, Virginia Beach, football (tie); Cindy Downs, Silver Spring, Md., women's volleyball; John Twitty, Tryon, football (tie); Stanley Dodd, Hanover, Va., cross country; Joe Liverman, Silver Spring, Md., basketball; and Gerald Wright, Timmonsville, S.C., track. Not pictured is Nancy Williams of Suffolk, Va., who won the honor in women's basketball.

Cover Story

Dr. Whitaker Completes 20 Years As President

Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker has begun his third decade as Chowan College's president.

Whitaker's election as president of the two-year college in 1957 signalled an era of progress that continues to this day. When he came to Chowan from his position as secretary of the Student Department of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the campus consisted of five buildings and a student body under 300.

During Whitaker's 20 years of service, Chowan has been transformed into a modern pacesetter institution. Early in his administration, Whitaker led in the formation of a Master Plan, designed to upgrade every segment of college life. As a result, many friends of the college insist that a "modern miracle" has taken place in the rural, northeastern part of the State.

From 1957 to 1977 more than \$12 million was added to the assets of the college. Seventeen new buildings were constructed. Enrollment climbed to over 1,000. Church support - through the Cooperative Program of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina - foundation, support, annual giving and bequests climbed toward new highs. For the past 19 years, the college has succeeded in operating in the black.

Progress has also touched the human resources of the college. Chowan is known today for its able, dedicated faculty and staff. As for the students, over 85 per cent of Chowan's graduates continue their studies at a four-year institution. Many others enter careers upon completion of their academic program at Chowan.

Provision of modern facilities for

Chowan's students has been a major concern of Whitaker. The facility opened most recently is the \$1.3 million science-engineering facility, Carrie Savage Camp Hall.

Chowan's president is now involved in a campaign called "Accomplishing Our Mission" to provide a new gymnasium-physical education center and further strengthen Chowan's position as one of the nation's leading two-year, private colleges. With the building of this facility, Chowan will have succeeded in rounding out the major construction items of the Master Plan.

Whitaker's leadership ability has been recognized and tapped by many different state, regional and national educational organizations. He has served as president of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools, president of the North Carolina Foundation of Church Related Colleges, and president of the National Council of Independent Junior Colleges. He is now president-elect of the North Carolina Association of Colleges and Universities; and member of the Board of Directors of both the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

Whitaker's strongest supporter during his 20 years as Chowan's president has been his wife, the former Esther Adams of Conover. Not only does Mrs. Whitaker serve as hostess for a number of receptions in the president's home each academic year, but since 1957 she has served as professor in Chowan's Department of Religion and Philosophy.

The Chowanian

Chowan College, Murfreesboro, North Carolina, a standard junior college controlled by the North Carolina Baptist State Convention and founded in 1848. Printed, designed and edited by the students and faculty of the School of Graphic Arts at Chowan College. Send changes of address notices to The Chowanian, Chowan College, Murfreesboro, North Carolina 27855. Published six times a year in July, September, October, December, February and in May-June.

Second Class Postage Paid at
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