Finding yourself at Winthrop

More students than ever before began classes at Winthrop today, forcing college officials to make changes and prepare to carry the extra load. This issue of TJ, the first one of the year, deals with what changes were made and how the college plans to handle the recent growth.

But where do you fit in? Whether you are an inexperienced freshman, beginning your first venture away from home, or a seasoned upperclassman, returning to the old stamping grounds, you must face the unhappy possibility of being lost in the crowd that greets you at Winthrop. Where do you fit in? Each must find his own niche. Many opportunities are available to a student who is willing to accept them.

Dinkins Student Union may be the answer. Any student who has ever wanted to know what it's like to be behind the scenes will find a happy home in the organization that exists merely to promote fun. The Union provides people a chance to fuse their ideas and discover their creative sides.

Imagine yourself helping to decide on films which the entire campus will enjoy viewing, planning excursions which many will participate, or discovering creative means of informing fellow students of Dinkins activities. You don't have to be specially talented to work on Student Union committees, just have a desire to get behind the scenes and be a part of the action. Ronnie Laffitte, Student Union president, will help you find your niche. Call 323-2248.

Another possible direction toward your individuality is athletics. Winthrop athletics is expanding rapidly, and you may find a place for yourself in its broadening fields. Basketball, baseball, softball, tennis-whether your inclination, you won't have trouble finding an area in which to excel.

Ideal fitness is a worthy goal, and you may discover a new and better person when you work toward increasing your athletic skill and energy.

Yet another opportunity to keep your head above the masses and find yourself is to run for student office. Someone must hold each position and perhaps you have some undiscovered talent which may surface when you undertake the responsibility of representing a group.

Start small if you wish as dorm senator or such until your confidence grows and you can work up the ladder of student government. John Hay, SGA president, is campaigning for more student involvement and would appreciate your interest. Visit him in the SGA office upstairs Dinkins.

Whatever your inclination, Winthrop has a place for you to fit in, to find yourself. Don't get lost in the crowd.

Bonnie Jerdan  
TJ editor

Growing campus brings changes

BY BONNIE E. JERDAN

Growth means change, and returning Winthrop students will find many changes made on campus this year to accommodate the recent spurt in enrollment.

Perhaps the most complicated of the changes is the relocation of departmental and campus service offices. These offices, originally located in Bancroft Hall, were shuffled to other sites around campus when efforts to convert the hall into a student dormitory began.

Workmen have created 68 new offices and converted or reworked 32 rooms around campus.

Former dean of students Iva G. Gibson's house has been converted to office space for admissions, financial aid, foreign student counseling, and some other offices that were housed in Bancroft. The house, now named the Student Affairs Building, is located at 638 Oakland Avenue, across from the Human Development Center.

Classrooms in Kinard building were converted to offices for the sociology/social work department.

The ground floor of the college infirmary was converted to offices for the athletic department. Thurmond building got 22 new or reworked offices, three new storage spaces, and a seminar room.

Another change in Winthrop this year was turning Richardson dorm, one of the high rise dorms generally housing freshman girls, over to the men. Thomson dorm was converted to all male last year.

At least 148 freshmen girls find their home in the former Quality Inn on Oakland Avenue, now known as Winthrop Lodge.

The status of other Winthrop dormitories is: Bancroft, female; Lee Wicker, female; Margaret Nance, female; Phelps, female; Wedford, female.

To ease the housing problems in the coming years, Winthrop trustees voted in March to apply for a $4.5 million low-interest loan from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to build a new residence hall.
Winthrop gears for growth

BY RITA PETTIT
Winthrop College Public Affairs Office

Winthrop College is suffering a few growing pains, but no one is complaining.

The number of applicants this year exceeds the total for last year by 2,000, Ed Knight, director of admissions and financial aid, said.

The amount of financial aid awarded is expected to exceed $3 million this year, Mollie Beth, student aid officer, said. More complicated grant procedures will make the Financial Aid Office's workload heavier, "We feel understaffed now," said Beth.

The cafeteria "can handle what's coming in," said Fred Angerman of Euporie Food Services. After numerous meetings with administration about Winthrop's growth, he says, the cafeteria can handle the boarding limit of 2,500 with minimal renovations.

Since Dinkins Student Center is the resident student's living room, the growing number of students living on campus is dictating the need to expand, said Tom Webb, associate dean of students and director of the student center.

The more diverse group of students created by the increasing enrollment and the changing complexion of Winthrop means that programming must also become more diverse. Innovative programs such as travel and short courses will expand. Traditional picnics and dances, however, will be retained.

Webb said that a shortage of space will eventually lead to the construction of a second building which will include an auditorium seating 400 to 600 people, a self-contained game room which might eventually include bowling alleys and a candy store.

"Athletics helped create the image that Winthrop is a good college," he said. He doesn't anticipate any problems due to increasing enrollment. Instead, he believes such growth will offer more justification for a planned 6,000-seat multipurpose field house and give teams in sports such as tennis and volleyball more facilities (those who try out for an intercollegiate team without being recruited) to choose from.

Evans Brown, intramural director, said that he is hoping for more involvement in intramural sports as enrollment increases. Twenty-six percent of the student body participated in intramural sports last year.

Sports can be added according to demand if funds and space are available.

More students mean more cars and more people to manage, but Robert Williams, chief of security, said his department is in good shape. A total of 5,438 cars are registered, and Williams says, "I think what we've got to accept is that parking on the main campus is critical." He added that, "We've got simple parking, but it's inconvenient parking." His staff of 11 officers, he says, can handle projected growth.

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