

Dr. Evans Speaks

101 Get Degrees At WPCC Finals

By DOROTHY CABLE

News-Herald Education Editor

Success comes as the result of teamwork whether in life or in picking up an American flag blown over during commencement exercises.

At Western Piedmont Community College Friday evening the importance of teamwork was stressed by Dr. Hawthorne E. Evans Jr., president of Lees-McRae College at Banner Elk.

To listening black-robed faculty members and graduates in their silver gray robes with blue trim, Dr. Evans pressed the idea that breaks a man or woman gets in climbing the ladder of success do not come with individual effort alone.

This is not enough, he said.

Dr. Evans noted that success is accompanied by helping hands in the background. Yet he advised students to continue efforts to prepare themselves as best they possibly can to do their work. They must be ready to take advantage of the helping hands of others when they are offered.

Make the most of your opportunities, he advised.

As for the flag

A sudden gust of wind toppled it as Dr. Gordon C. Blank, WPCC president, conferred degrees on the 101 candidates who were presented by H. D. Moretz, acting dean of instruction.

For a moment it had looked as though the flag would hit Dr. Blank. Almost without changing pace of shaking hands with graduates, he stepped out of line long enough to pick it up and beckon to a small boy to take it in charge.

Particularly appealing to the crowd was the pride of the little fellow as he stood straight holding the flag until an usher could reach him and set it back in place. The youngster, Mark Hawes, about five, is the son of Marvin Hawes who teaches natural science at the college.

A standing room only crowd, about 800, gathered for the commencement exercises on the college plaza. Seats were full and the crowd spilled over onto sidewalks and steps as the graduation exercises opened with music by Mrs. John W. Whitener, organist for the First Baptist Church, and an invocation by Rev. Edward Landrus, minister of education at

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the First Baptist Church.

Dr. Blank then presented Dr. Ben E. Hoffmeyer as representative of the board of trustees who introduced Dr. Evans.

Prior to going to Lees-McRae in 1968, Dr. Evans had been at Carson-Newman College for six years. There he was instructor, later chairman of the department of psychology and education, director of teacher education, placement director, director of student teaching, and chairman of the lyceum committee.

He received Carson-Newman's faculty service award in 1968 given for outstanding campus and community service. In addition to a wide range of civic club and community activities, he has been an active member of the National Education Association and belongs to Phi Delta Kappa, honor fraternity for educators.

He received his BA from Carson-Newman in 1950, his MA from Columbia University, and his doctor of education degree from the University of Tennessee in 1958. Then he was with Morristown City Schools and in 1959 was named Tennessee Teacher of the Year.

Immediately following Dr. Evans address came a surprise presentation, a plaque of appreciation given Terry Childers, outgoing Student Association president. This was presented by Joe Avery, a member of the group.

Graduates then received their diplomas. Candidates were presented by Moretz, Dr. Blank conferred the degrees, and these were awarded by Miss Louise Davis, registrar.

There was recognition for those 13 being graduated with high honor, meaning a grade point average of 3.6 or above, and those with honors, having averages of 3.25 and 3.59.

Graduating with high honors were Gaynell Suddreth Allred, Joy Sue Pate, and Kathy Lou Rogers, associate in arts degree; Shelda Cloer Aultman, Linda Josephine Propst, Ruth Owens Roberts, associate in applied science degree in accounting technology; Wilma Deane Baker, Sally Lou King, in executive secretary; Albert Lee Epley, Stewart Wayne Whisnant, industrial engineering technology; Virginia McKinney Parker, medical secretary; and Priscilla Imogene Poole, nursing.

The 19 graduating with honors were Larry James Annas, Mary Juanita Edney, John Welborn Herold, Richard Morell Lonon, Judy Ann Mabe, John David Pitman, Thomas Newton Robinson, Laura Ellen Snipes, associate in arts degrees.

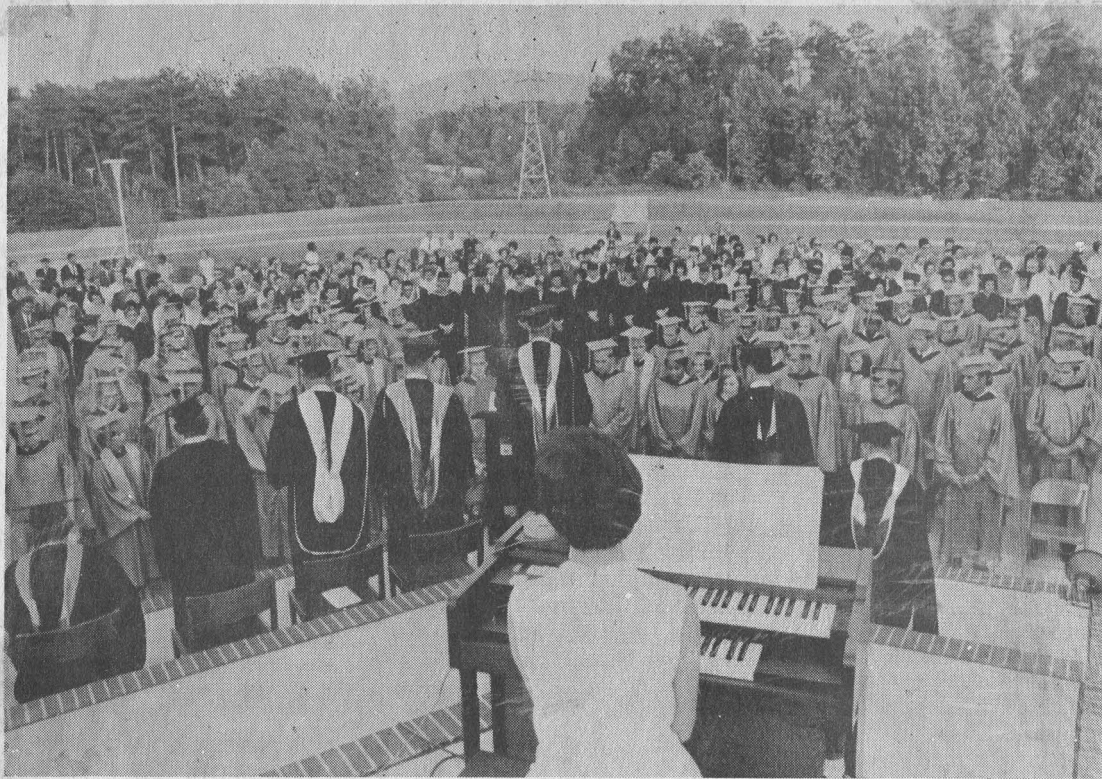
Also in associate in applied science, accounting technology were Donna Reid Glasbrooks, Dana LaVern Rominger; Douglas Wynn Justice, in business administration; Karen Faye Sisk, executive secretary; Ralph Clifford Ballew, Donald Everett Clark, James Ronnie Shuffler, industrial engineering technology; Karen Delores Cannon, June Gilliam Church, Susan Deal Farris, medical secretary; Barbara Sue Mast, and Phyllis Ann Ray, in nursing.

Rev. George Lipsey, pastor of Slade's Chapel AME Zion Church, pronounced the concluding benediction.

Serving as chief marshal was Mrs. Cheryl D. Wilson. Other marshals were Miss Carol R. Snipes, Miss Bobbie Y. Short, Alan M. McGilliard, and Bruce M. Rhea.

Ushers were Joe W. Avery, Miss Toni L. Brown, Miss Jackie Conley, Miss Joyce B. Hoke, Odell Johnson, and William H. Rogers.

As the formal program ended, the crowd broke into laughing chattering groups. Proud parents and little brothers and sisters pulled out cameras to make snapshots of the graduates in their caps and gowns and here and there were even happy tears among the smiles.



Opening Invocation