

May 14, 1992

OTC board narrows presidential applicants to five; await state approval

35 C/S

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

The name of the future president of Ouachita Technical College is on a list in the possession of the OTC board of trustees. That's a Wednesday night, the board narrowed the list of 13 quarter-finalists applicants to five. Which of those five candidates will be named president isn't known. But this is the semi-final round and the wheels are in motion.

The board must submit the five candidates to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education for approval. From that list, the president

will be named. The board hopes to have the president named before the end of June. "We plan on sending the five selected out of 13 to the state department of (higher) education," Dewey Stiles, chairman of the committee to hire a president, said following the executive session of the OTC board. "We plan on (sending the applications) today or tomorrow. After that we'll have interviews and select somebody." Stiles said the names of the final five candidates couldn't be released until "background checks" were done. Those checks, he said, should take a couple of weeks. The full board will make the final selection. An advertisement in a nationally circulated magazine directed at colleges and universities two months ago began the search. The original applications were submitted from almost every state. Following the original process of elimination, Stiles said the board began checking for qualifications and credentials. The original number of applicants numbered 105. Stiles said the list contained the names of college deans and administrative officials at the top level of administration in community colleges. The OTC six-year plan, following one month of review, was approved. The original

Malvern, Arkansas 72104

wording of the plan was modified slightly. The original document outlined that the administrative assistant would be appointed from the "existing administration." The plan was modified to allow the future president to select the administrative assistant. Board member Dewey Stiles said the board had "an obligation" to consider the present staff for any open positions. "We're still in the reviewing process," Board member Jim Crownover said of the six-year plan. "We can make future changes. Whatever you like." Earl Clevenger, director at OTC, agreed with Crownover about the flexibility of the document. "This six-year plan is a working document," Clevenger said. "It can be amended later on." Crownover said he'd read it "from cover to cover" and didn't see a problem with the wording. Steve Faris, chairing a committee to study space requirements the school will need to meet in the transition from vocational school to college, said a full report would be given at the next meeting, June 3.

4-8-92 Malvern Daily Record

Growing pains continue to plague OTC board

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

Refining Ouachita Technical College's mission statement to meet the needs of the school was a topic leaving the OTC Board of Trustees scratching their heads in Tuesday's board meeting.

The mission statement, which states the goals of the institution, must soon be intact and the goals reachable. OTC is preparing for the North Central Accreditation team, which will evaluate the school in its transition from a vocational school to a college.

The board agreed to have a committee work on the mission statement to tailor it to exacting needs. The board hopes to have the statement refined for a meeting in two weeks to again discuss the document.

The transition, which has left the board unsure of exactly where OTC stands in relationship to progress being made, has presented several dilemmas.

OTC Director Earl Clevenger said he was aware the school had much work to do. Whether expansion would be needed in terms of space mandatory to meet the needs required to reach college standards was an item the board agreed needed more research, although the general

assumption was the school would need much upgrading, which included expansion.

Board member Steve Faris presented Clevenger with a hypothetical situation. Faris asked if books were donated to OTC's library, would there be a place to put those books? Clevenger said a large amount of books couldn't be put to immediate use as space presently wouldn't permit that scenario.

"Can you foresee space needed in the near future?", Faris asked.

"Yes, I can," Clevenger said. "I can't say absolutely we won't need space sometime this fall."

The present library, Clevenger told the board, didn't approach the needs of a college campus.

"We have nowhere to put a lot of books if the books were donated," Clevenger said.

Board chairman George McClure Jr. admitted a comprehensive plan was needed that would include facilities necessary "five or six years" from now and "we need to do a little more planning before we do anything."

The space needed will cost money, money OTC finance director Bob Jones says the school doesn't pre-

Please see OTC, page 14



Continued from page 1

sently have. Board member Dewey Stiles said if OTC could get \$250,000 from the state in matching funds "maybe we can improve this campus to look like a college."

Those matching funds from the state can be made only from what is termed "local funds" from donations and other sources.

Rohr Industries located in Arkadelphia recently, a manufacturer of aircraft components, the needs for electronic and machine shop experience should help OTC in several ways, it was stated.

"Hopefully there will be an economic benefit because we're a technical college and Rohr has asked us to train their people," McClure said.

Clevenger said an agreement to train Rohr employees hadn't been

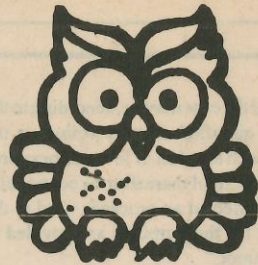
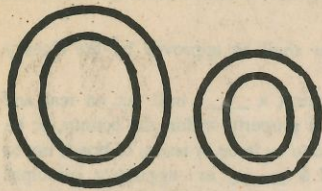
worked out.

OTC recently sent a team of four to a Chicago seminar to learn more about meeting North Central Accreditation requirements.

OTC business education instructor J. Louis Moles, the program steering director, said the school was still in the dark to some degree about meeting North Central requirements.

"I feel like, as far as our self-study goes, we haven't even started — and we haven't," Moles said. "North Central itself is going through a tremendous change. These changes are definitely going to effect us in the next five years. By August, there will be published requirements and criteria."

Moles said much of what he was telling the board Tuesday was from "reading between the lines" about what's going to happen in the future.



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Malvern Daily Record, Friday, October 23, 1992

NEEDED: Instructor to operate mobil computer lab for dislocated worker program. **DUTIES:** Maintain attendance records, listing of activities, curriculum list, daily activity and monthly summary calendars, and inventory. Also, conduct survey of local area business needs, interviews with students as needed, post-termination interviews with each program enrollee. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Thorough knowledge and use of computers and software; general knowledge of interviewing techniques, resume writing, and employment and training opportunities. Must relate well to adults; must be self-starter. Prefer teaching experience and BS/BA. **SALARY** depends on experience. **APPLICATIONS** accepted until 4:30pm, Friday, November 20, 1992. **SUBMIT** application/resume and three (3) recent letters of reference to: Dr. Ken Martin, President, Ouachita Technical College, P.O. Box 816, Malvern, AR 72104. Phone: 332-3658. Ouachita Technical College is an Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

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Malvern Daily Record, Friday, November 13, 1992 — 3

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10 — Malvern Daily Record, Friday, November 13, 1992

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Malvern Daily Record, Monday, November 30, 1992

Malvern Daily Record, Monday, December 14, 1992

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2 — Malvern Daily Record, Friday, December 18, 1992

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Malvern Daily Record, Monday, December 7, 1992

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2 — Tuesday, December 15, 1992

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6 — Malvern Daily Record, Thursday, December 24, 1992

Have a safe holiday season!

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Malvern Daily Record, Wednesday, December 30, 1992

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Malvern Daily Record, Thursday, December 31, 1992 — 9

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2 — Malvern Daily Record, Thursday, December 31, 1992

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Malvern Daily Record, Monday, December 28, 1992

Editorial

OTC goals take shape with choice of leader

The tedious task of recruiting, interviewing and hiring a president for Ouachita Technical College has been a priority on the agenda of the OTC Board of Trustees for months. That time-consuming task is now close to being completed.

Only those working in close relationship with the board and the committee to hire a president, headed by chairman Dewey Stiles, could begin to understand the seriousness and importance involved in the process.

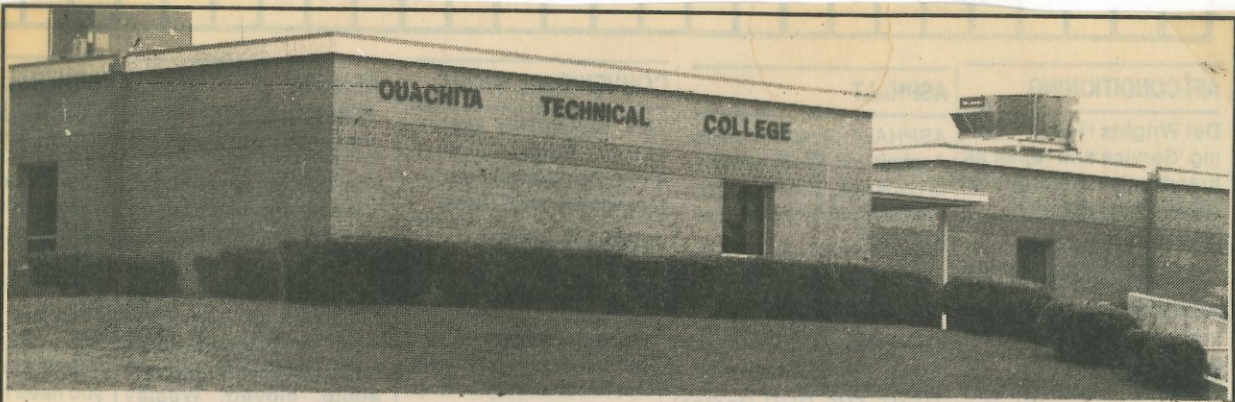
The OTC board has no ambitions of settling for a short term solution. OTC's president, the board agrees, is a vital ingredient in shaping the institution in the complex transition from a vocational technical school to a college. The board intends for the president to be here in the beginning, when decisions made will be of utmost importance in forming OTC's direction and goals. And the president is intended to be here to carry those goals through. Just as important, the selection committee desires for the incoming president to become a part of the Malvern community. As a member of the community, and only as a member, could the president understand the needs of our residents and how OTC can best serve those needs.

Over 100 applicants for president were on the original list. That list was narrowed to five. From that five the final selection will be made, and OTC's direction for the future can begin to take shape.

The selection committee understands Hot Spring County, its needs and desires. Among those needs and desires are for all residents to have quality education, at an affordable price. Having that luxury here in the community will be a long term asset.

OTC is, and will always be, one of the most positive contributors to the people of Hot Spring County.

OTC's president will know that and will assure the school continues in that direction.



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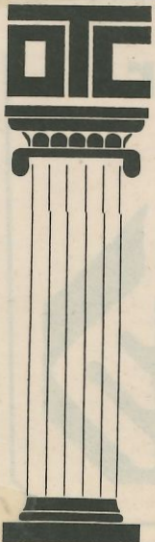
BASIC SKILLS ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE (ASSET)

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| - July 23 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - July 24 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - July 30 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - July 31 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - August 6 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - August 7 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - August 13 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - August 14 | 8:30 a.m. |
| - ACT August 18 | 9:00 a.m. |

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12 — Malvern Daily Record, Wednesday, July 22, 1992



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April 20, 1993

*Aug 20, 1991
Daily Record*

Vo-Tech Fun Day



Daily Record Photo—Allen

Lip-sync contest

Jeff McJunkin lip-syncs his rendition of "Nothing But a Good Time" by Poison, while David Buie

(left) and Brady McDonald accompany on the broom guitar. Ray McJunkin plays the air drums.

Search continues, Candidates for OTC President narrowed

M DR 6-22-92

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

The search goes on. Dewey Stiles, chairman of the committee to select and hire a president at Ouachita Technical College, says following Saturday's executive session, the naming of the president isn't much closer, but the schedule is not behind.

"No, nothing yet," Stiles said this morning of progress in naming a president. "We've interviewed one candidate but there's been no decision. We're trying to start interviewing to see what they look like. Hopefully, we'll interview more in two or three weeks. That's the process. It's just time consuming."

The committee began with 105 applications after having an ad published in *The Chronicle*, a nationally circulated magazine directed at colleges and universities. Stiles said that number had been narrowed down to five finalists. Stiles said of the five, one has apparently elected not to pur-

sue the position.

Mandatory background checks of the candidates has been one of the major hurdles and Stiles said that and the interviews should be completed "before long."

"We haven't scheduled any more (interviews) mostly because other background checks are going on," Stiles said. "I'd say in a week or 10 days we'll have those (background checks) back."

The committee has hoped to have a president named before the end of the summer to assist in OTC's transition from a vocational school to college status.

Of the applicants, almost all regions of the country were represented, with several seeking the position having experience in top levels of administration in community colleges. One of the requirements for applicants was for the individual having either a doctorate or five years experience in the top level of administration in a community college.

OTC board hears committee reports

By **MARK BIVENS**
Staff Writer

Receiving reports from the Ouachita Technical College Academic Committee and Foundation Committee, the OTC Board of Trustees found the direction both committees have taken is probably ahead of schedule.

In OTC's transition from a vocational-technical school to technical college, the committees' roles have been vital in shaping OTC in the transformation.

Jim Crownover, chairing the Academic Committee, echoed the feelings of the entire board. J. Louis

Moles, business instructor at OTC and in charge of adopting guidelines that will assure OTC meets the requirements mandated by the Department of Higher Education, outlined a faculty handbook to the board. Crownover, upon review of the faculty policies, student policies and course catalog Moles presented, was pleased.

"Basically I think we have three pretty good documents that could be ammended (if necessary) later," Crownover said, finalizing OTC committee and board meetings that

Please see **BOARD**, page 10

INSIDE TODAY: Area students earn honor roll recognition. Education, page 8

COMING FRIDAY: Coverage of the regional solid waste board meeting.

Malvern Daily Record

February 27, 1992

Malvern, Arkansas 72104

35 Cents

Board of Trustees accepts qualifications for president



Daily Record Photo—Bivens

Dr. David Craig, Stiles, and McClure discuss proposal.

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

Ouachita Technical College's advisory board wants a president in office by June. Wednesday, the board invited area officials to help in the search for a president to a luncheon. Advice was sought to outline an approach to obtaining a president and OTC Board of Trustees Chairman George McClure Jr. stressed the urgency to those in attendance.

"We started a new endeavor as of last July," McClure said of OTC's transition from a vocational school to higher education. "We're sailing new waters. We have six years to become accredited by North Central and the clock is ticking. The first thing we need to do is hire a president for the college and we'll be in the process of selecting a president over the next few months."

Board member Dewey Stiles, speaking as the chair for the advisory board, said the step is an important one.

"This is probably the most important decision we can make while as a board," Stiles said. "The procedure

(of selecting a president) will be after we advertise nationwide. They'll be screened down and submitted to the State Department of Higher Education and the local board will make the decision."

Stiles credited OTC director Earl Clevenger with "doing a good job in meeting guidelines" during the transition's early stages.

McClure said reaching a decision and gathering candidates needed to be a community endeavor.

"We're sure open for discussion and I'd sure like for everyone to speak up with what's on your mind," McClure said. "A lot of what direction this school takes will be molded by this president. The individual will basically create something. I hope we can contact that type of individual."

The board agreed it was too early to make any commitments on a salary for the position since the amount of funding available is unknown. McClure said considerations have to be made when campaigning for a president.

Please see OTC, page 10

OTC

Continued from page 1

Among those would be considering whether that individual would be suitable for the environment. McClure said someone accustomed to New York City might not be happy in a rural setting. Any potential candidates for the position would need to be told in advance about the area.

Those in attendance generally agreed the setting in the Malvern area would be a plus, not a negative, in luring a president to the area.

"There are a lot of people looking to get in this type of area to get out of the hustle and bustle," Malvern Mayor Bill Scrimshire said.

The requirements for a president were distributed in Wednesday's meeting. The president must meet 11 requirements. Those are:

1. Commitment to the concept of a comprehensive Technical College, having experience with the accreditation process, with recent senior-level administrative experience.
2. An earned doctorate from a recognized university. (In unusual situations, at least five years of training and experience in a community/technical college may be accepted in lieu of an earned doctorate.)
3. Effectiveness at working with state and local governments, business/industry, labor, local school districts, the community at large, and other related organizations.
4. Demonstrated ability to direct foundation work and local fundraising activities.
5. Strong leadership qualities and ability to make solid decisions, furthering a common sense of purpose throughout the college.

Malvern Daily Record

March 4, 1992

Malvern, Arkansas 72104

35 Cents

Center for Workforce Excellence potential drawing card

By DELEISA BAILEY
Editor

A new pilot Center for Workforce Excellence should serve as drawing card for industries seeking highly skilled employees in the Hot Spring/Clark counties area, according to state Sen. George Hopkins of Malvern.

The center was established by legislation introduced by Hopkins and approved by the General Assembly in its special session last week.

"What we are hoping will come from the center is that people in this area will be trained so that the plant will be ready for them and they

will be ready for the plant," Hopkins said. "The more we teach our workers to do the better they will be paid and the better chance we will have to bring other industries to this area."

The center sprouted from the decision by Rohr Industries to setup a facility in Clark County. Hopkins said Rohr officials were looking for an area where their workers could continue their education, technically and in other areas.

Hopkins said the Rohr Arkadelphia plant will be unique in that its employees will work with little supervision on specialized projects. Also employees will be rewarded for continu-

ing their education.

But Rohr will not be the only industry to benefit from the center which is a cooperative effort between the state Department of Higher Education, the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, Henderson State University, Ouachita Technical College, Arkadelphia High School, Malvern High School, private industry and others.

"In the past we have had no coordination in training," Hopkins said. "We are not trying to create a whole lot of new programs, but to integrate existing programs."

Hopkins said Reese Wilson, a consultant for

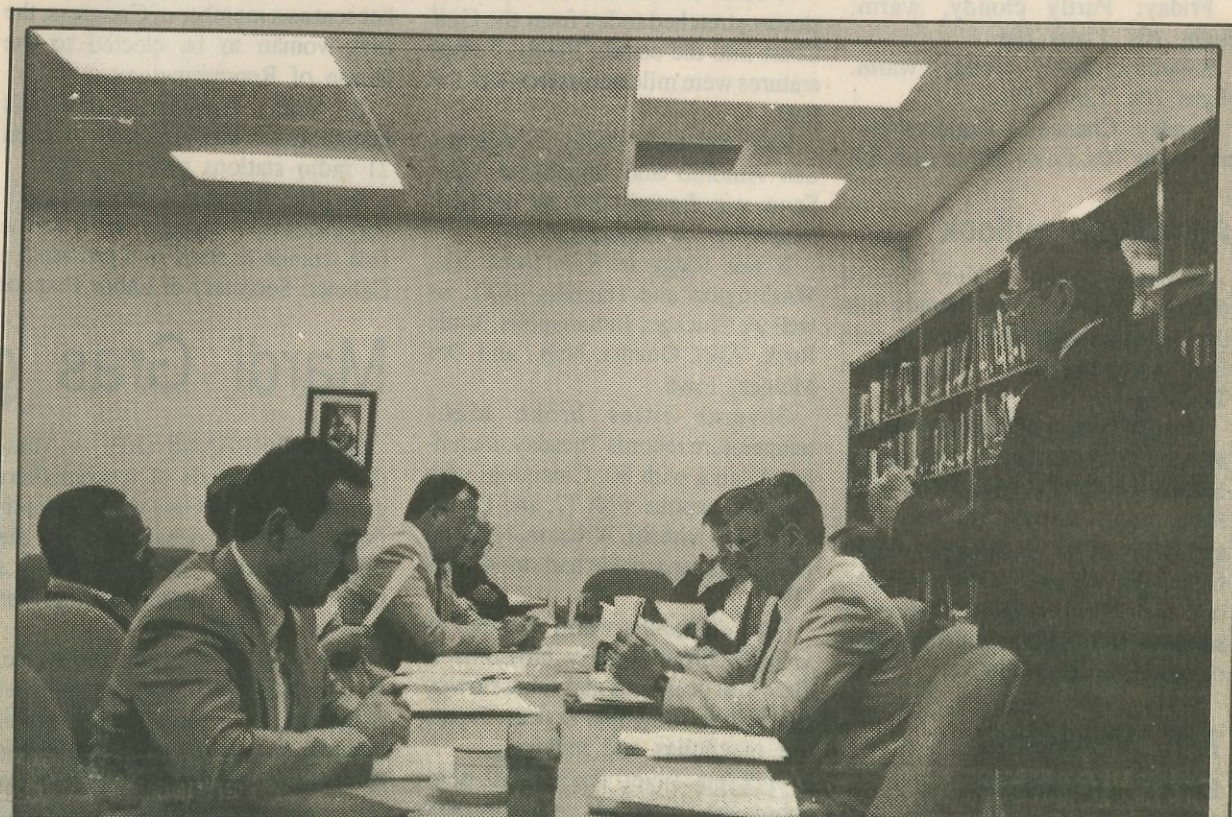
Rohr; Bob Fisher of HSU; Steve Faris, OTC board member and representatives of Rohr, began discussing the possibility of creating such a center about four months ago.

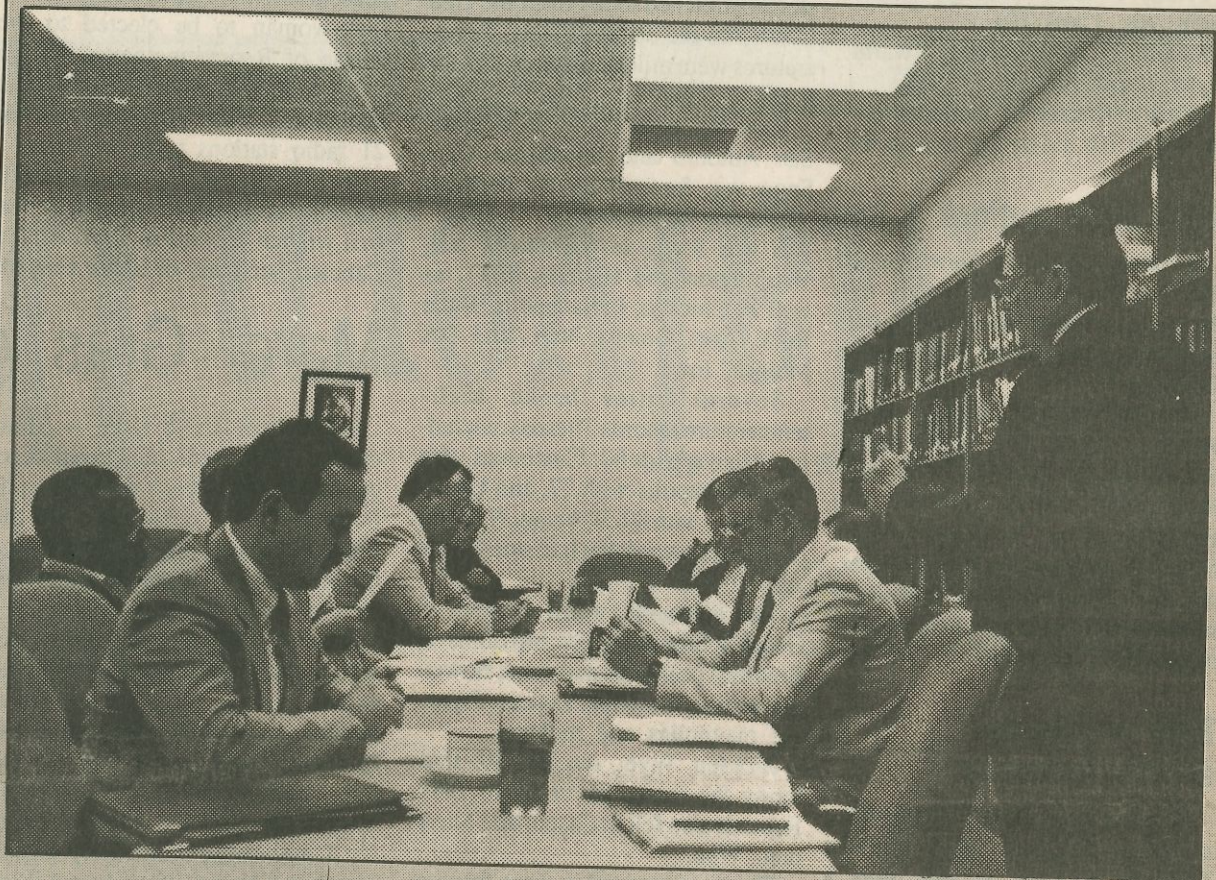
Hopkins said much of the training needed by industry is presently available, but that there is no coordination among entities offering that training.

"We want the training to be readily available for the high-skilled job market we hope to create here," Hopkins said.

The legislation contained no appropriation

Please see CENTER, page 12





Daily Record Photo—Bivens

Clevenger (standing) plans as Sen. George Hopkins (left) listens.

OTC mission statement awaits approval

By **MARK BIVENS**
Staff Writer

Noon Tuesday, a cross section of community leaders and educators congregated at Ouachita Technical College to decide what director Earl Clevenger and OTC Board of Trustees Chairman George McClure Jr. have called the most important step the institution will make in its transition from vocational education to higher education. Two hours later the matter was accomplished, leaving only the formality of approval by the OTC academic board and the board of trustees.

That major step Clevenger and McClure referred to was establishing a mission plan. That mission statement will focus on what direction OTC will take as an

educational facility and as a fixture in the community.

The mission statement proposed is one revised from a similar statement taken from Northeast Iowa Community College. It reads: "Ouachita Technical College, an institution of higher education, has the mission of responding to educational and human needs of the community with emphasis on quality vocational, technical, career option, college transfer, and continuing education."

The statement was tailor-made to suit OTC's needs.

OTC requested mission statements from over 50 institutions of higher learning to consider possible

Please see **OTC**, page 12

Center

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to fund the project, rather the center will be dependent on the financial support of "local industrial groups, local government units and private enterprise," the bill stated.

Hopkins said the ultimate goal for the center would be to hire a full-time executive director which would serve as a liason between all the entities involved and also work in industrial recruitment. If funding for an executive director is not found, Hopkins said, volunteers will be needed to help the facility operate.

A survey of area industry would be needed to determine the needs of industry. Also, a survey of the educational facilities involved would also be necessary to determine their ability to meet those needs.

"We will have to determine what types of new electronics we will need. We have a good beginning, but we will have to spend some money to upgrade the equipment I'm sure," Hopkins said.

The center will be regulated by the

state Department of Higher Education, but will locally be guided by an advisory board. The board will contain representatives of the AIDC, the Department of Higher Education, HSU, OTC, Arkadelphia and Malvern high schools and private industry.

"This is not just a Hot Spring County project. It is not just a Clark County project," Hopkins said. "The center creates the proper framework to bring all the groups together with common goal and purpose," Hopkins said.

"If it works well, it will serve as a model for other parts of the state. It depends totally on community effort, community input and community financing," he said.

Hopkins said another meeting of the center's proposers is scheduled for March 17. He said he feels the center can be up and operational within a month of when the state Department of Higher Education establishes the guidelines under which the center will operate.

OTC

Continued from page 1

outlines.

"So we will have some ideas of other schools," Clevenger told the invited guests, faculty and board members of the reasoning for soliciting missions from other schools. "We're not saying what we write up is exactly what any of these schools have."

Clevenger warned the mission statement "needs to be something we can accomplish" and some wording should be viewed cautiously.

"We don't want to say we'll make (students) better citizens," Clevenger said. "By whose definition (is a good citizen)? This is going to be a community endeavor."

Clevenger said the statement needed to be broad enough to include all six areas of education at OTC and focus on what the school is trying to accomplish.

McClure was leery about making the statement too

broad.

"If we put too much in here are we gonna bite off too much?" McClure warned.

Glen Coston, superintendent of Magnet Cove School District, said flexibility in the statement would be a good safety precaution.

"Five years down the road there may be a need in the community we need to meet," Coston said of potential changes.

Connie Roberts, the Henderson State University program coordinator at OTC, said wording of the Northeast Iowa Community College mission statement fit particularly well with what OTC was trying to accomplish.

The mission statement needs to be approved before June 1. McClure said he anticipated having it settled in a matter of weeks.

Ouachita Technical College

First Summer Term, 1992

June 1 - July 2

| | | |
|----------------------|------|-----------------|
| Dev. Composition | M-TH | 10:00am-12:10pm |
| Academic Reading | M-TH | 12:30 - 2:40pm |
| Elementary Algebra | M-TH | 2:50 - 5:00pm |
| Intermediate Algebra | M-TH | 2:50 - 5:00pm |
| Intermediate Algebra | M-TH | 10:00am-12:10pm |
| College Algebra | M-TH | 5:30 - 7:40pm |
| Intro to Computers | M-TH | 10:00am-12:10pm |
| Freshman English A | M-TH | 10:00am-12:10pm |
| US History to 1865 | M-TH | 5:30 - 7:40pm |
| American Nat. Gov. | M-TH | 5:30 - 7:40pm |
| General Psychology I | M-TH | 12:30 - 2:40pm |
| Intro to Sociology | M-TH | 2:50 - 5:00pm |
| Intro to Computers | M-TH | 5:30 - 7:40pm |
| Oral Communication | M-TH | 12:30 - 2:40pm |
| Humanities: Ideas | M-TH | 2:50 - 5:00pm |

ACT at OTC on May 26 at 8:30am

ASSET at OTC on May 21 at 8:15am

Questions Call: 332-3658

Registration: May 28, 4-6 pm

(Classes are at OTC but accredited by Henderson State University. \$20/hour fee for students who attend only at OTC.)

Technical Classes

ABE/GED

Air Cond./Refrigeration

Automotive Service Technology

Business Data Processing

Business Secretarial

Cosmetology Instructor

Diesel Mechanics

Industrial Electronics

Machine Shop Technology

Pipe Welding

Welding

Food Service

Enroll Now for Technical Classes!

Tuition: \$25 per credit hour or \$300

maximum per semester

Classes start August 24, 1992

Call for ASSET Testing Schedule

332-3658

OTC gets serious about gala event

6-12-1992

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

Continuing to get the ship in shape before the arrival of the president, Thursday Ouachita Technical College hashed over present and future plans to assist in making the transition from a vocational school to a college a smooth one.

The hiring of the president should be done following final interviews this month. The Board of Trustees and sub-committees of the board hope to have plans fashioned to raise \$250,000 needed to acquire matching funds from the state, an amount needed to be raised to qualify for the funds that should be in hand within the time frame of one year. Those plans and a course of action, the board hopes, can be made before the president arrives. The president, the board agrees, should be a vital part of raising the revenues.

In a meeting last week, area politicians and dignitaries were invited to

the meeting to brainstorm for ideas on raising that needed money. Judge John Cole surfaced with the most popular idea. Cole suggested having 1,000 tickets printed for a gala event, an event in which the drawing card would be a big-name singer or entertainer, such as Lee Greenwood. The tickets, Cole proposed, should be sold for \$250 each. Cole's suggestion met with a chorus of approval.

Thursday, following a week of mulling over Cole's idea, the committee again heard suggestions and alternatives based on Cole's recommendations.

"I think we definitely need to create a committee for this gala event," State Sen. George Hopkins said.

The Lee Greenwood idea wasn't eliminated, but OTC Finance Director Bob Jones wanted to be as realistic concerning the event as possible.

"If we have this special event, the real name entertainers stay booked," Jones said. "We're gonna have to get

one booked (early)."

Three other entertainers were named. Jim Ed Brown was one name Hopkins mentioned. Cole tossed out Jerry Van Dyke, the assistant coach on the hit TV series "Coach," who lives in Benton. Committee chairman Steve Faris mentioned Frank Bonner, of "WKRP Cincinnati." Bonner is from Little Rock.

Faris requested volunteers to form additional committees. Terri Colanni, an instructor at OTC, will head the Faculty Committee, to unite the OTC faculty in the drive to raise funds and organize events. Jones will head the Administrative Committee.

A Special Event Committee was formed, with Pete Paladino, Don Walsh, Hopkins, Cole and Faris as members.

Jones told those in attendance an architectural firm had donated a drawing of the proposed library and that should be available in a couple of weeks.

Southern Tech closure could benefit OTC

MDR 5-20-92

By MARK BIVENS
Staff Writer

HOT SPRINGS – When Southern Technical College announced last week it would no longer be registering additional students – ever – many area high school students had their post-graduation plans thrown into shambles.

The electronics course, probably Southern Tech's most popular, will render numerous students in search of a course of action or force alterations of plans.

Earl Clevenger, director at Oua-

chita Technical College in Malvern, said a number of students, and even Southern Tech faculty, had inquired about programs at OTC.

"We have talked to people at Southern Tech," Clevenger said. "They've been knowing about this (shutdown) several weeks. Students are wanting to come here and we can help them a lot cheaper. We've had some (Southern Tech) instructors visit campus. They've been aware they (Southern Tech) had financial prob-

Please see OTC, page 14

OTC

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lems."

Clevenger said he understood Southern Tech would "finish out" students already enrolled and expected even more potential students to visit OTC about enrollment later in the summer.

Vaughn Kesterson, OTC counselor, said response has already hit the OTC registration office.

"We've had a number of responses in all areas, particularly electronics," Kesterson. "Some of our classes will fill up (regardless of Southern Tech's

closure). We had to turn two men away from electronics (last year)."

Kesterson hinted registration prospects should be gaining much momentum for reasons other than the Southern Tech situation.

"Our associate with higher education (in the transition from vo tech to college) has helped our credibility," Kesterson said. "Vo-tech had been used in terms of less credibility."

Despite Southern Tech's location, in mid-town Hot Springs, many high school students from Malvern and the rest of Hot Spring County included Southern Tech in their future plans.

Kesterson said Southern Tech had a good advertising program to lure students into attending the school,

good programs and good instructors. OTC has the latter two.

"They (potential students) tend to be appalled by what we're charging," Kesterson said of OTC's low tuition rates. "In any of our programs a person can find work (following graduation). I don't care what it is. Jobs are not a problem."

OTC has a job placement program.

The old belief, Kesterson said, that "greener pastures are on down the road," had a lot to do with some area high school students making plans to attend school in Hot Springs.

"In relating to Malvern High School graduates, it's (OTC) right here at home," Kesterson said of the obvious advantage.

Technical college board sets direction

A board of seven people, recently appointed by Gov. Bill Clinton, has an awesome responsibility ahead of them — the future of Ouachita Technical College.

Gov. Clinton announced his appointments to the Ouachita Tech board Monday.

The local governing board was created along with the college by Act 1244 of 1991's General Assembly. The act boosted the former vocational-technical school to technical college level, bringing college-level courses to Malvern, Hot Spring County and surrounding areas.

The effects of the change are already being felt in the community with the demand for more college courses being made almost every day.

In the meantime, the college continues to offer its traditional vocational-technical course offerings and adult basic education courses to help provide for the educational needs of all in the community.

The newly appointed board will have plenty of hard work ahead, because much is needed still in order to make the college a true success.

There is a definite need for expansion of the facilities. The addition of college courses has left the campus bulging at the seams. If course offerings and class sizes are to continue to grow, a building expansion program is a must.

The college's library needs expansion. The higher the level of education the broader the base of reference needed. Ouachita's library is small and very tailored to the college's former roll as a vo-tech school.

Most importantly, the college needs community support and involvement. Its survival will depend on how strongly the people of the area want the technical college and how much they are willing to give to it, not necessarily financially.

These are just a few of the issues the board will face as they take the reins of command. They will govern the school, as well as set the course of future direction.

With a spirit of cooperation and a goal of providing the best education for the people of Malvern and Hot Spring County, the board will be able to secure the future of Ouachita Technical College and improve the standard of education in the area.

Ouachita, community congratulated

Dear editor:

The residents, students and staff of Hot Spring County and the Ouachita Technical College (OTC) can be proud of their accomplishments since opening in February of 1971.

From a humble beginning, the vo-tech campus has grown to an enrollment nearing 1,000 students and is in the process for accreditation from the North Central Association of Institutions of Higher Education. Freshman and sophomore college courses are now available at O.T.C.

Time and space doesn't allow me to name all of the past and present staff, but they have all contributed to the success of O.T.C.

I would like to mention Earl Clevenger and his staff members who have provided 20 years of service to our community: Bob Jones, Hugh Looney, J. Louis Moles, Dean Carter and Gary Garrison.

The *Malvern Daily Record* staff are to be commended for keeping us informed about the growth and progress of O.T.C.

Your friend,

Don Henderson
County Administration
Hot Spring County DHS

MDC 4-27-92

Ark. Democrat/Gazette 3-3-92

Voters asked to OK 1/2-cent sales tax for college improvements

BY LARRY YOUNG
Democrat-Gazette Jonesboro Bureau

POCAHONTAS — Randolph County voters will decide March 10 whether they are willing to pay a half-cent sales tax to pay for building projects at Black River Technical College.

The college must make certain improvements to the campus to pass accreditation standards. A new library, science and physics classrooms and a computer science facili-

ties are some of the requirements that must be met.

The state will give the college \$250,000 each year to help, but the county must come up with a like amount, Richard Gaines, director of the college, said.

The county had the option to raise millage rates, ask for contributions or increase the sales tax. The county Quorum Court decided Feb. 6 to ask for the sales tax.

"We thought in this county

at this particular time a sales tax would be a fairer tax because it would not hit on one particular group," Gaines said.

Randolph County Judge David Andrews said the state and county sales taxes now total 5 1/2 cents.

Andrews said the increase would bring the county \$350,000 each year, but state law allows towns in the county to keep a portion. About \$26,500 would be kept by the smaller towns: Mavnard

\$12,000; Reyno, \$8,500; and Biggers, \$6,000.

Pocahontas has agreed to give its share to the school, Gaines said.

Gaines said enrollment in college-credit course has increased 60 percent, leading to some crowding. The school has nearly 1,200 students.

"There is never a good time for a tax increase," he said. "I feel like a messenger, I'm just laying the facts out there for them."

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2 — Malvern Daily Record, Friday, September 4, 1992

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*Education is the best
provision for old age.*
— Aristotle