



THE BELLE



Introduction .								,						. 2
Academic Highlig	ghts													. 6
Student Life .				٠										30
Athletics														74
Classes														78
Organizations .														120
Honors and Reco	gni	tio	n											140
Commencement					,									152
Tributes								,						160
											•	•	•	- 00

Belle Staff

Pamela Griffin, Editor Tonni Sullivan, Assoc. Editor Kathy Colbert, Layout Asst.

Photographers: Myra Davis, Debbie Hodges, Aaron Garrett, and Bernedette Hamilton

Staff Researchers: Ellen P. Brinkley, Karen Dixon, Elise Staley, Carolyn Davis, Felecia Gatson, Betty Brown, and Tonya Martin

Advisor: Miss Myra Davis





Dedication

The Belle Staff dedicates the 1980 yearbook to Miss Alsie Trammell. She retired in May after having served as college nurse for 33 years. We wish for her a fruitful retirement.



Trying Times

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," said

Charles Dickens many years ago.

There can be little disagreement that the days of 1979-80 were indeed just that. In fact, at times it seemed like most of our days were the "worst of times." But for intent and purpose, we shall call it simply, "trying times."

"Trying times" because we continued to seek "a lining at

the end of the rainbow.'

Reflect for a moment on the topics which dominated the

news and indirectly our daily lives.

Gold prices and interest rates surge to record highs; Arab nations jack up oil prices and threaten international peace; Black voter registration lags; Black higher education threatened; Military registration and draft of women considered; Soviet-American relations shaky; Cambodians starving; Teachers and firemen strike; and Radical organizations clash over conflicting ideologies . . .













And life went on behind the red brick wall.

While many of us tried to pretend that "all was well," we heard speaker after speaker admonishing us to become productive parts of the solution process rather than victims of the turmoil. We were challenged to develop our leadership and critical thinking skills in order to assume new roles demanded by uncertain job markets. Slowly came the realization that to overcome "trying times" we needed faith in God, hard work, and determination. And many of us tried . . .













"... faith in God, hard work, and determination."

ACADEMICS





ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Trying Times, Crying Times

The fall semester began without too much confusion. Once the registration anxieties ended, we played the games of academe.

"Tive been searching for the magic success formula which did not include long hours of studying, initiative, and reading. After three years, I haven't found it."

"It's disgusting to hear about freshmen with 3.5 and 4.00 g.p.a.'s. I heard that Myra George's favorite entertainment is reading and that she studies better when it's quiet."

We were jarred when the status quo at Bennett was questioned by some black Methodists who recommended that we go coed to offset financial problems.

"Wasn't it great that our trustees spoke out in support of our women's college tradition."

"If I had wanted to attend a coed college, I would have done so."

Some of us obviously didn't realize that too many courses don't compensate for learning. The faculty moved to reduce curriculum pattern loads.

"I do think it makes more sense to make A's, B's, and C's in five courses, than to struggle with six or seven courses."

"I sometimes get sick when the instructor attempts to solve a problem or explain a concept and finds himself challenged by someone who speaks not from research but from opinion. Afterall, it's too hot in here for more hot air." "Oh, that's nothing. I really had a problem and needed to discuss it with Dean Tipton, but he was away giving a clarinet concert."

"It you really want to know about tryin' times, try to get an excuse from a college official for attending a function off campus."

"I know about that, the "excuse run-around." I was first told that I needed an official excuse from Dr. Tipton or Miss Harris, so I decided to start from the top. Dr. Tipton told me to see Miss Harris who told me to see Miss Power — the advisor for the trip — who told me to see Mr. Bragg who told me to see Dr. Tipton. I gave up."



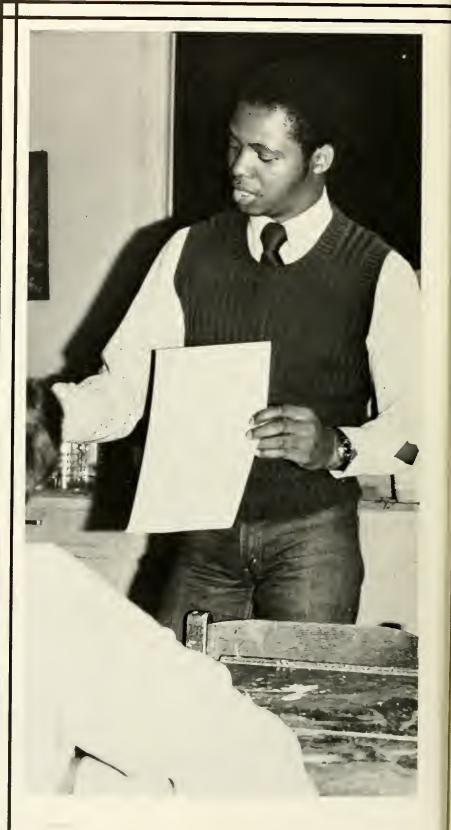












Humanities

It might be that I am bragging about this division. You're right, I am. There is a great deal of creativity, innovation, and in-dividualism. And when you realize this, it makes the "tryin" times" seem trivial. One of the highlights of the academic

year was the implementation of the Comprehensive Communication Skills Program. It focuses on the development of reading, speaking, and writing.

"But, I'm quite disappointed that we are losing our drama courses."

"Yea, I was most impressed with the quality of the drama productions this year."

"On my way to the library last week, I heard the band students practicing and I

wondered if we cut back in the right area."
"The Artist-In-Residence Program was a tremendous success. I enjoyed the interaction with the artists."

"Did you hear the moans and groans during the English Comprehensive Exam?"









An Evening of Public Speaking

We attended the "Evening of Public Speaking in September and hardly made it in time to get a seat. Banner reporter Myra George concluded, "It was graced by excellent speakers, logical preparations and thought-provoking presentations.'

"I think it takes a great deal of guts to address an audience of Bennett Belles,"

said Bernedette Hamilton.

The contestants competed in three categories of presentations — dramatic inter-

pretation, original interpretation, and original oratory.

The winner of the dramatic interpretation was freshman Stephanie Durham who recited Nikki Giovanni's peotry. Said George, "Her two selections, "Nikki Rosa" and "Ego Tripping — There May Be A Reason Why," contrasted with each other, one showing Giovanni at her lowest and the

second, at the peak of her career.'

Rosalyn Scott's original oratory won top honors. "Positivity — The Key To Success" stimulated much audience response. "If it's possible to drive a Mercedes Benz, why drive a Toyota?"

Linda Anderson, taking a serene approach, won the original interpretation category. She presented a selection of poems, "Hope Chest."
Says George, "The program was ex-

cellent."























In his first year as director of the Education Division, Dr. John T. McDonald had to brave the winds of reaccreditation of the Teacher Education Program by the State Department of Public Instruction.

"We passed. I can say that I am quite impressed at the teamwork of the faculty and students who made this period of orientation a meaningful one."

Pam Griffin enjoyed watching Kathy Crosby collapse each day after student

teaching in an "open class" situation.
Said Kathy, "I certainly hope I qualify for an administrative position soon."

We were casually strolling to the dining hall one morning for breakfast when a breeze suddenly hit, almost knocking the curlers from my hair. "What was that?"

"That was a student teacher trying to get to breakfast and to meet her ride in ten minutes."

Education





















Sciences





Dr. J. Henry Sayles continues to aggressively pursue those activities that will propel more black women into the scientific tields. The latest development is the implementation of the Guided Initiative Competencies Based Systems Approach.

"I asked my roommate about that and

she looked at me like I was crazy."
She said, "It actually means more work, more time in the lab, more research, and more tutoring for me."
"Edwina Johnson will be entering dental

school back home in Oklahoma."
"She and Edwina Wilson spent more time in the labs Ihan they did in the dorm."

The Home Economics Department celebrated its 50th anniversary.

"By the time I had tinished those drapes

for Mrs. Bell's class, I was seeing doubles."
"If you want to know about a "trying"

experience, ask anyone about diving in the deep end of the pool for the first time."





50 Years of Home Economics

"A friend of mine had a nightmare the day before the Home Economics Fashion Show."

"What about?" I asked Chick.
"She thought Mrs. Streat was standing over her as she hemmed her gold dress at the last minute."

The Home Ec. majors put in some long hours preparing for the celebration of the department's anniversary.

"If Shelia Drayton can't find a job in

clothing, she can fix small appliances while job hunting."









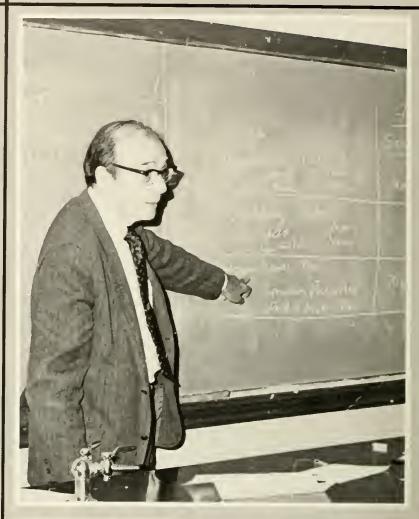
Things were quiet in the Social Science Division this year. "Things were routine and I don't know if that's good or bad." "Mrs. Addo was so involved in that section on Germany that I found myself dreaming that Hitler came to power in Black Hall." "Professors have feelings — good days and bad days — which accounts for their delivery on certain days." "I went into business administration, not expecting any miracles and I didn't get any." "Once the lecture is over, Dr. Trader has a beautiful sense of humor." "Somewhere at the end of the economics rainbow, I will find some answers and hopefully, before the next exam."



Coping with the Times

"Each day that we spend on this earth represents a precious moment. Plan each day to the fullest. Live each day so that your life will be remembered in the best possible way."

> Mrs. Vereda King Economics Instructor





Social Sciences













The Administration -



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Dr. George Breathett Dir., Planning / SDIP



Mrs. Mary M. Eady Director of Records

Dr. Perry V. Mack Director, Development



Mr. James J. Scarlette Business Manager



Dr. Chelsea Tipton Dean of the College



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Mr. William Aicorn Asst Professor Education

Or Charlotte Aiston Chairman Music Department

Mr. Julia 8 Anderson, Instructor Behavioral Sciences (pt)

Dr. Marshena M. Baird. Asst. Professor Education

Mr. Norman Barbee Instructor, Art Department

Mrs. Queen Hester Bell. Assl. Professor. Department of Home Economics

Mrs. Lovie Booker, Asst. Professor, Department of Home Economics

Mrs Ednita W Bullock Instructor Library Science

Dr. V. Mayo Bundy. Asso. Professor, Dept. of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Mrs Montez G Byers, Head Librarian & Assistant

Mr. Leander Canady. Instructor of Art

Mr. Walter Carlson, Instructor Department of Musicipt)

Mr. Alfred T. Carter, College Diganist

Dr. Dawn S. Chaney, Chairperson, Department Of Physical Education





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Mr Michael Gaspeny Instructor English

Miss Withelmina 1 Gilbert Asso Professor, Dept of Business & Economics

Mrs Anne C Gillespie, Instructor English

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Dr Roxy B Wilson, Instructor, Dept of Chemistry

Mrs Pauline M Wyrtch Asso Media Coordinator

Coping in Strife

Enforce self discipline or experience self annihilation. The control of self determines the direction in which you will go.

-Gillespie

Take full advantage of the opportunities a college education affords you. Don't be afriad of diligent work. It will give you the stamina to survive the

-Griffin

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Rev P E Addo College Chaplain

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Mrs Margarel Williamson Admissions Counselor

Mr. Dilie Williams, Maintenance Department

Mrs Eula Willis, Assistant Dietitian

Ms Celestine Wilson Admissions Counselor

STUDENT LIFE







President's Pre-Freshman Institute

Someone finally admitted that we don't always enter college with the sophistication and skills expected of us. At least

that's what they tell us.
"When I received an invitation to attend the President's Pre-Freshman Advance-ment Institute, I thought it would be like regular summer school."

"In a way it was. My parents were more excited about it than me."

Students attending the one week sessions got a headstart on other freshmen. They were introduced to college personnel; attended seminars designed to make college adjustment easier; were introduced to young men in the city; and spent time evaluating their communications skills.





Unraveling the Tangles

The opening of Bennett each year doesn't really change. "Of course not!" It's always exhilirating to see Union Drive come alive again . . . harried parents and anxious daughters unloading and unpacking. "I saw one freshman with enough clothes to fill livey's first floor." "But you never know just what to bring that first year Chick"

fill Ivey's first floor." "But you never know just what to bring that first year, Chick."
It's fun to watch freshmen scurrying to and from, not accomplishing much, but covering a lot of ground. "I'd rather watch the sophomores returning with their airs of accomplishment or juniors who make it known that they are bored with this whole routine."

We stood around watching the new students get their first dose of Bennett... you are not completely oriented until you face Mr. Scarlette or Dean Bragg. "Lord knows, to have to hear Dean Bragg tell us about ______

Bennett tradition."

I had dreamed that over the summer, Mrs. Jones would greet us with a new weekly menu. "Come on, Chick, don't ask for miracles!"

We watched the freshmen as they attended their sessions and usually, on time. "I gave them a month to change those good habits."

"Did you notice the expressions on their faces when they got a taste of registration mix-ups?"

































A Race With the Clouds on Labor Day . . .





















Miss Bennett, Kathy Crosby '80







Between Times



October Highlights Speakers

Speakers for the Founders' Convocation included Dr. Matthew Carter and the keynote speaker, Dr. Fred E. Harris, president of West Virginia Wesleyan College. (October 7)
Authors Norma Jean and Carole Darden presented a workshop and addressed an assembly about their book, Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine. (October 18-19)







The Coronation

Living Madonnas,





A Living Tableaux



Parents' Weekend -





Founders' Celebration —





Halloween Fun-















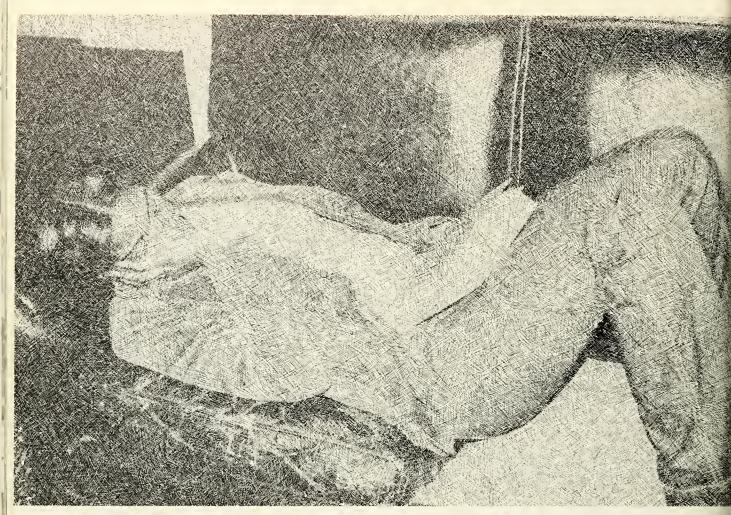
The Other Side of Daylight ...



























RESIDENCE HALLS WEEK Dates: March 31 - April 7, 1980 There: "Tre Bec Cees" Onday. Game/Vight-Coffe :.. Wesde : Communica Services, 10:00 am, Chaper; Residence Halls Seminars Wednesday: Fashion Show Tentative) Dursday: Interfaith Center. D:00 am.; Residence Halls Semi-lars (Repeats) Fiday: Talent Review, 7:30 p.m. Cience Hall Assembly aturday: Dirner Dance Terring Inday: OpenHouse, a Disting Sinday: (Easter Monday), Field Mactivities, Food Bootnes, Egg





WEL OME TO ONES





Drama Department Phased Out?





Excerpt From "Purlie"

Farewell, my deep and Africanic brothers. Be brave.

Reep freedom in the family Do what you can for the white folks And write me in care of the Post Office.

Now, may the Constitution of the Unifed States

go with you.

The Declaration of Independence stand by you.

The Bill of Rights protect you.

And your own dreams be your only boundaries.



The End of an Era of Creativity . . .



The excitement of the Drama Department's rejuvenation was short lived. The success of its three productions fail to survive college retrenchment. No drama courses will be offered next year. The drama experience will be dependent upon the voluntary interest of the Bennett Players next year.

The vision and creativity of first year drama instructor Elliott Moffitt inspired a number of amateur actors from Bennett and surrounding campuses. Overlooked by the "academic powers," this was indeed a great contribution. He successfully presented "The Sirens," "The Owl Killer," and the musical, "Purlie."

The short drama, "The Owl Killer," was one of two plays presented November 14-18. Highly praised by the local press, it was an emotional story about a family whose members could



not relate to each other. Actors were Cynthia Mitchell, Avery Verdell (A&T), and Aretha Tharrington.

The second production, "The Sirens," did not fare as well with the reviews, but boasted a talented group of actors: Josie Hudley, Ramona Rousseau, Monica Motley, Stephen Lipscomb (A&T), and Anthony Johnson (A&T). It was the story of a single parent's attempt to raise a daughter in the ghetto by "working the streets."

The musical "Purlie," was a project most said could not be done at Bennett. It was a humorous satire of one man's dream to free his people from the old plantation system. Heading the cast were Arnold Pinnix (A&T), LaSandra Muldrow, Kimberly Merritt, Ricky Crank, Jim Pyecha, Ellen Graves and Calvin Bradley.

Abbyssinian Performance Highlights Choir Tour













After hours of practicing, members of the college choir engaged in an exhausting tour of the east coast. Under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Charlotte Alston, the group performed in Washington, D.C.; Harrisburg, Pa.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Montclair, N.J.; Newark, N.J.; and New York, N.Y.

No tour is without its "little" people and travel problems — of course, the bus can get lost. And boy, did it tour the area. Eating, riding, sleeping and singing was the theme of the experience. Yes, we had our share of fried chicken, baked chicken, and broiled chicken with string beans

chicken with string beans.

The highlight of the week tour was the performance at Harlem's grand Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City.

One of Whitest Winters, One of the Best ...











Service and Community Action

Bennett students continued to give of their time and talents to the com-

of their time and talents to the community and the campus.

Students coordinated and implemented a blood drive, health fair, registration drive, benefits for the United Negro College Fund and NAACP, and service to the Girl Scouts. They participated in tutorial programs for area high school youth. Some worked to make campus special events a success by servings as special events a success by servings as hostesses and guides.











Computer Card Bingo

As the battle over control of the computerized A.C.E.S. cards was waged, we waited for the outcome. Our hope was that in the confusion, they would be cancelled. No such luck.

"But once I made it to some of the programs, I discovered that these people had something to offer."

"Yes, but it's hard to admit that."
Among those lyceum presentations and special programs we really enjoyed was the Martin Luther King Birthday speaker, Rev. Cardes Brown; our own Gloria Brown Wise, the first woman to participate in the Greensboro Sit-ins; authors Carole and Norma Jean Darden; Ben Ruffin, special assistant to the governor; and the Morehouse Glee Club.















Speaking of Wisdom

Dr. Peter Gomes Plummer Professor of Christian Morals Harvard University

Dr Gardner Taylor Pastor, Concord Baptist Church Brooklyn, N Y

Dr. Hector Grant Board of Higher Education & Ministry UMC, Nashville, Tenn.

Mrs. Mallye H. Briley '49 N.C. Agricultural Extension Robeson County

Mrs. Agnes Loyall

Executive Secretary, Women's Department, Methodist Church, Southern Asia

Mrs. Jerry Turner Educator, Freetown, Sierre Leone

Dr. Flemmie Kittrell Founder, Bennett's Home Economics and nursery school programs

Ella Quick Thomas '72 Attorney, South Central Bell

Susan Kidd Local Television Personality

Everyone Has a Role to Assume





Staff Talent Show, A Feat of Courage











Candid Camera Games













VOLLEYBALL



Julia Hosch Kim Coleman Vicki Walker LaTonya Reeves Andre Dixon Gewn Walker Len Milton Dawn Wilson Vonnie McFadden Karen Shields Vicki Goodrich Veta Covert Terry Byrd Coach. Mary Lentz

Record: 6-11









B A S K





MEMBERS OF TEAM Annie Jones

Pontheola Simmons

Valerie Callendar

Portia Dixon

Conference Record Overall Record

Elwanda Blue

Rhonda Bradley

Andre Dixon

Denise Wilder

12-5 12-11



Bennett College's Athlete of the Decade

Once in every life someone comes along who makes a lasting impact on the experiences of others around her. Andre Dixon completed four outstanding years of athletic involvement in basketball and volleyball. She began her season on a team that had lackluster appeal and more losses than wins year after year.

wins year after year.

Andre dominated team play with her showy defensive and offensive plays. Her jumping ability made her a leading team rebounder and her sharp shooting skills, a top scorer in basketball. Her hot serves and returns made her a

volleyball player to be taken seriously.
She was named to both the NCAIAW
Division III All Tournament Team and
the All Conference Team in 1980.

















SENJORS





Enter to Learn ...

Dr. Miller's Words . . .

"... As far as being a student of Bennett, most of your record is history. You have but a tew additional days ... to write any more."

"Bennett College is first and foremost for all, part of a process — a process of leading, guiding, nudging, shaping, and helping you to become a new different person than you were when you came here just a few years ago."

"The question each of you must ask today is has College made a difference in me. Has Bennett helped me to walk the pathways of life, equipped with wisdom, compassion, patience, and tolerance? These are questions you must ask and answer yourself."

Senior Day '80









Our Special Day

Ah yes, Senior Day! Waiting patiently (with knees shaking slightly) for one's name to be called ... Dealing with snaps or hooks which won't tasten . . . Trying to find arm openings in sleeves that were there last night . . . Dropping caps ... Stumbling down steps that appear from nowhere ... Frozen smiles and entangling hugs ... Loving symbols from sorority sisters.

Senior Day, surviving movements and wars, is one of those "trying times" which will later provide many moments of laughter. It symbolizes for some, a new beginning and for others, time to get it together. It remains one of those few times when we

all had our place in the spotlight.

What did Dr. Miller say? "If you don't put something into life, you really don't get much out of it?" It suddenly hits each of us that there are a few academic items to be taken care of before May.









Depart to Serve.

























































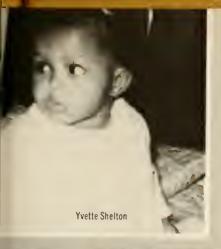


































Celeste Holmes

Gwendolyn I. Allen Seattle, WA Business Administration Highlights: College Choir 2; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; NAACP 1-3.



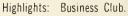
Pamela Allen Burlington, NC Social Welfare Highlights: Social Welfare Club 1-4.

A Tribute To Seniors



Robin C. Arnold Washington, DC Pre-Medicine Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4.

Belinda G. Bailey Winston Salem, NC Business Administration





Doris A. Barbour Monroe, NC Art Highlights: Art Club.



Wilmington, NC
Psychology
Highlights: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 34; Bennett College Choir 1-2; Pi Gamma Mu
Social, Social Honor Society.

Debra E. Benbow

Rhoda W. Blaır Norfolk, VA Special Education

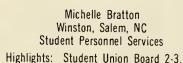
Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4; Education Club 2-4; NAACP 2-3.





Dino M. Bradley Cincinnati, OH Biology

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 2-4; Bennett Scholars 1-4; Honors Convocation 1-4; Dean's List 1-4; Beta Kappa Chi 3-4; Alpha Kappa Mu 3-4; Senior Honor Society 4; College Choir 1; Who's Who among Colleges and Universities Students 4; Fisk UNCF Pre-Med Program 2; Graduation With Honors.







Angela V. Briley Lumberton, NC Biology

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Mu 3-4; Beta Kappa Chi 3-4; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities 4; Honor's Convocation 1-3; Dean's list 1-3; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 2-4; Student Union Board 1-3; Vice-President Sophomore Class 2; Senior Honor Society 4; President Senior Class 4.



Ellen P. Brinkley Trenton, NC Social Welfare

Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4: Freshman Dorm Secretary 1; Judicial Council 3; Interdormitory Council 4; President Junior Class; President Student Government 4; Residence Hall Assistant 2-4; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities 4; Sophomore Dorm Vice-President

Cynthia D. Brown Eden, NC Political Science

Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4; NAACP 2-4; President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 4; Social Science Tutor 4; Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Society 3-4





Sandra M. Brown Charleston, SC Professional English

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society; Dean's List 1-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; Banner 2-4; Honors Convocation 1-3; Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society 3; Senior Honor Society 3-4; Student Union Board 4; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities 4; Graduation With Honors.



Highlights: NAACP 2-4; Pre-Alumni Council 2-4; Student Union Board 2-4; Photography Club 4; Art Club 4; Omicron Eta Chi 2-4; Recreational Council 4.



Teresa Campbell Albany, GA Business Administration

Highlights: Business CLub 1-4; Assistant Dormitory Director 4; Special Activities Chairperson 2. Felita Claybrooks
1 S P/Home Economics
Martinsville, VA

Highlights: Home Manager of the Year 3; National Register of Dutstanding College Graduates 3; Omicron Eta Chi 3.



Cynthia Cody Columbus, OH Pre-Medicine Highlights: Biology Club 1-4.





Kathy Colbert Long Island, NY ISP/Commercial Art

Highlights: Miss Senior 4; Vice President Student Union Board 2; Sophomore Class Treasurer 2; Honor Convocation 1; Dean's List 1-4; and Senior Planning Committee 4.

Kathy M. Crosby Charlotte, NC Early Childhood Education

Highlights: Miss Bennett 4, Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities Students 4; Dance Group 2; NAACP 1; Pre-Alumni 4; Judicial Council 2-3; Honor's Convocation 1; Dean's List 1-3; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4.



Bebe D. Davis Concord, NC Clothing and Textiles

Highlights: Kappa Omicron Phi National Home Economics Honor Society 4; American Home Economics Association 1-4; North Carolina Home Economics Association 1-4; Omicron Eta Chi National Home Economics Society 1-4; Honors Convocation 1-3; Dean's List 1-4; and Photography Club 4.



Highlights: Basketball Team 1-4, Co-Captain 3, and Captain 4; Volleyball Team 1-4, Captain 4; Physical Education Majors Club 2-4; and NCAIA Division III All Tournament Team 4.



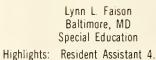


Katie Dodson Greensboro, NC Music

Highlights: Music Educators National Conference 3-4.



Suzette E. Edmonds Brooklyn, NY Highlights: Business Club 1-4; Senior Class Treasurer.







Kathleen Fears Decatur, GA Sociology

Jennifer D. Fennell Wilmington, NC Intermediate Education Reading Highlights: NAACP 3; Senior Class Secretary 4; SNEA (President) 4; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



Sharon E. Gist Wilmington, DE Business Administration Highlights: Business Club 1-4.

Pamela E.Griffin Laurens, SC Business Administration

Highlights: Business Club 1-4; Junior Class Treasurer 3; NAACP 3; Editor, Bennett Belle 4; President, Interdormitory Council 4; Dean's List 2; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4.



Karen Hargraves Chapel Hill, NC Biology Highlights: Biology Club.





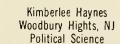
Joann Harper
Blackstone, VA
Special Education
Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 24; College Choir 2-3; Dean's List 2-3; PreAlumnae Council 1; and Special Education
Club 2-4.

Mary F. Harris Charlotte, NC Special Education

Highlights: Pre-Alumnae Council 1-3.



Janice Harvey
Green-Level, NC
Social Welfare
Highlights: Pre-Alumnae Council 1-3.



Highlights: Political Science Club 1-4; Judiciary Council 3; Student Union Board 4; Newspaper Staff 3-4; Player Hall House Council 4.





Debra A. Hodges ISP/Communications Media Mount Holly, NJ

Highlights: Treasurer Student Senate 2-4; Assistant Editor Bennett Banner 3 and Editor 4; College Choir 1-3; Gospel Choir 1-3; Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society 3-4 and Secretary 3-4; Honors Convocation 1-4; Dean's List 1-4; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities Students 4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; President's Excellence Award 4; and Graduation With High Honors.



Celeste Holmes Windsor, CT Health Sciences

Highlights: Honors Convocation 2; Dean's List 2; Pre-Alumnae Council 2-4; NAACP 3-4; Bennett College Choir 4; Vice-President, Cone Hall 3.

Lorna Horton Morehead City, NC Special Education

Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; Council for Exceptional Children 2-3; Bennett College Concert Choir 1-4; Bennett College Ensemble 1-4; Parliamentarian, Player Hall 4.





Julia Y. Hosch Winston-Salem, NC Early Childhood Education Highlights: Student National Teacher Association 4; Pre-Alumnae Council 4;

Volleyball Team 1-4.

Annie M. Howell Bayside-Queens, NY Health Therapuetic Recreation

Highlights: Dance Club 1-3; Gymnastics Club 2-3, Physical Education Majors Club 1-4; Women's Athletic Association 1-3; Pre-Alumnae Council 4.



Patricia Hudgins Philadelphia, PA Special Education

Highlights: Special Education Club, Girl Scout Leader, Drama Club, Student Union Board, and Children's House Aide. Dorothy L. Ingram
Greensboro, NC
Student Personnel Services-Psychology
Highlights: Secretary, Student Personnel
Club 2; Pre-Alumnae Council 4; Student
Union Board 4.



Rose M. Irby Blackstone, VA Home Economics Education

Highlights: Dance Group 1; Omicron Eta Chi 1-4; American Home Economics Association 1-4; Kappa Omicron Phi National Home Economics Society 4; Dean's List 1; and Treasurer Player Hall 4.





Valerie Jefferys Raleigh, NC Pre-Medicine hts: Dean's List

Highlights: Dean's List 2; National Register of Outstanding College Graduates 4; Resident Assistant 2-4; and Biology Club.



Highlights: Bennett College Dance Group 1-4 and President 3; Physical Education Club 1-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4.





Edwina V. Johnson Oklahoma City, OK Pre-Dentistry

Highlights: Vice-President Freshman Class 1; National Register for Outstanding College Graduates 4; Honors Convocation 1; Dean's List 1-3; Beta Kappa Chi 3-4; and Resident Assistant 2.



Highlights: Bennett Scholars 1; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities Students 4; Concert Choir 1-4; Gospel Choir 1-4; Music Educators National Conference 1-4; Honors Convocation 1; Dean's List 1-3; Band Ensemble 1-4 and Student National Educators Association 4.





Ursula J. Joyner Washington, DC English

Highlights: Bennett College Choir 1-4; Student Union Board 1-4; Banner Staff 2-4; Secretary Student Government 4.



Roberta C. Judd Greensboro, NC Home Economics Education Highlights: Omicron Eta Chi Home Economics Society; Kappa Phi National

Home Economics Honor Society.

Wanda K. Kelker Tuskegee Institute, AL ISP — Biology and Chemistry Highlights: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.





France P. Kay
Charlotte, NC
Special Education
Highlights: 1980 Edition of Register for
Outstanding College Seniors; Delta Sigma
Theta Sorority 2-4; NAACP 1-3; Miss NAACP
2; Dean's List 2; Drama Guild 1-2; and
Dance Group 1-2.

Valerie E. Littlejohn Spartanburg, SC Clothing/Textiles and Related Art

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society 3-4; Omicron Eta Chi Home Economics Assoc. 3-4; Senior Honor Society 3-4; Bennett College Scholars 2-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; Honors Convocation 1-4; Dean's List 1-4; Photography Club 4; and National Dean's List 3; and Graduation With High Honors.



Loretta Brewington Kelly
Hamlet, NC
Social Welfare
Highlights: NAACP 2-3; Miss NAACP 3;
College Choir 3.

Christine Lloyd Greensboro, NC Social Welfare

Highlights: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4; Dean's List 2-3; NAACP 1-2; Marshall Board 1; Pep Squad 1.



Robyn M. McCollum Philadelphia, PA Music Education

Highlights: Music Educators National Conference 1-4, President 3-4; College Choir 1-4; College Band 2; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; and NAACP 2.





Margaret S. McDowell Mt. Vernon, NY Clothing/Textiles

Highlights: Omicron Eta Chi Homes Economics Society 4; American Home Economics Assoc.; North Carolina Home Economics Assoc. 4; NAACP 2-4; Pep Squad 1; Outstanding Designer in Costume Design 4; and Photography Club 4.

Natalie McLean Greensboro, NC Pre-Medicine

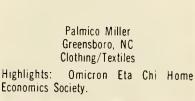
Highlights: Honors Convocation 1 and Dean's List 1.





Libby Malloy Fairmont, NC Political Science

Highlights: Debate 2-4; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 3-4; Drama Guild 1-3; NAACP 2-3; Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Society.







Barbara G. Murphy Pollocksville, NC History Education

Highlights: Honors Convocation 1-4; Dean's List 1-4; Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Society 3-4; Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society 3-4; Graduation With Honors.



Joyce Murphy Greensboro, NC Art Highlights: Art Club 1-4.

Debbie Nelson Lynchburg, SC Home Economics Education Highlights: Omicron Eta Chi 1-4.



Linda Pittman
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
ISP—Accounting
Highlights: Dance Group 1-3; Business
Club 1-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 3-4.

Sheila D. Pulley Rocky Mount, NC Spanish Education

Highlights: Cone Hall House Council 3; Honors Convocation 1; Junior Class Parliamentarian 3; Dean's List 1-4; Recreational Council 2; SNEA Vice-President 2; Player Hall House Council 4; Vice-President Senior Class 4.



Shelia Purnell Berlin, MD ISP—English

Highlights: Bennett Banner 1-4; Student Union Board 3; Photography Club 4; Dean's List 1; Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society 4; NAACP 3.

Lorie D. Raikes Jacksonville, NC Clothing and Textiles

Highlights: Student Union Board 3; Photography Club 4; Omicron Eta Chi 1-3; NAACP 3.



Patrice M. Rainey Bridgeton, NJ Psychology Highlights: Psychology Club.





Jacqueline A. Ransom Washington, DC Pre-Medicine

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 3-4; Assistant Concert Mistress A&T State Univ. 1-4; Dean's List 2; Interdormitory Council Vice-President 4; NAACP 2-3; and Secretary, Sophomore class 2.

Sandra C. Ratliff Morven, NC Political Science

Highlights: Dean's List 1-3; Honors Convocation 1; Interdormitory Council 4; Pi Gamma Mu 3-4; Player Hall House Council 4; Pre-Alumnae Council 4; and President of Player Hall.





Yvonne Reese Greensboro, NC Special Education Highlights: Marshall Board 3-4,

Cherisse R. Robinson Greensboro, NC Art

Highlights: Art Club 1-4; Coronation Ball Committee 4; Dance Group 1-2; First Attendant Miss Bennett 3; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4.





Celia A. Ross Burkesville, VA Home Economics

Highlights: College Concert Choir t-3; Most Outstanding Nutrition Educator 3; Omicron Eta Chi 1-4.



Cheryl A. Rutherford
Charlotte, NC
Special Education
Highlights: Pre-Alumnae Council 1-4 and
Student Union Board 1-4.

Cora Shaw Greensboro, NC Social Welfare Highlights: Omicron Eta Chi 1 and Marshall Board 1-3.



Yvette I. Shelton Salisbury, NC Pre-Medicine

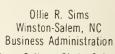
Highlights: Beta Kappa Chi 3-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; Student Government Association 3; Peer Advisor 2-4; Bennett Scholars 1-3; Bennett Banner 2; Honors Convocation 2-3; Dean's List 1-2; and Student Union Board 2.

Darianne Sills Richmond, VA Special Education

Highlights: Senior Class Parliamentarian 4; Basketball Team 1-2; Women's Athletic Association 1; and Student National Education Association 1.



Donna L. Simmons
Atlanta, GA
Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Highlights: Physical Education Club 1-4
and Dance Group 1-4.



Highlights: College Choir 2-4; Business Club 4; Student Union Board 4; and Bennett Banner 4.



Angela Smallwood Jamaica Plain, MA Biology

Highlights: President of Pre-Alumnae Council 4 and Member Student Union Board 3-4.



Evangeline Smith Raleigh, NC Pre-Medicine hts: Sophomore Class

Highlights: Sophomore Class Secretary 2 and Biology Lab Assistant 3-4.

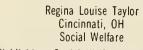
Jacqueline Smith Charleston, SC Pre-Medicine

Highlights: Biology Club 3-4; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 2-4; and Dormitory Counselor 2-4.



Gwendolyn D. Speight Wilson, NC Intermediate Education

Highlights: Bennett's Christian Fellowship 2-4, Dean's List 1-3, Debate Society 4, Drama Club 1-4, Honors Convocation 1-2, National Student Educators Association 4; and Secretary Freshman Class.



Highlights: Social Welfare Club 3-4 and Dormitory Residence Assistant 4.



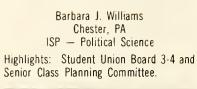


Benay C. Warren Winston Salem, NC Social Welfare

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 3-4 and Student Union Board 1-4.



Renée E. Wells Wilmington, DE Business Administration Highlights: Business Club 1-4; NAACP 2; Dance Group 2-3; and Students For Christian Social Concern 2.







Elfrida Williams Albany, GA Business Administration Highlights: Business Club 1-4.

Deborah Wilson Sumter, SC Biology Highlights: Science Club 2 and Pre-Alumnae Council 3-4.



Edwina Wilson Blackstone, VA Pre-Medicine

Highlights: Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society 3-4; Beta Kappa Chi Science Honor Society 3-4; Senior Honor Society 3-4, President 4; Who's Who 4; Honors Convocation 1-4; Dean's List 1-4; Peer Advisor 1-4; Physical Education Club 2; Science Seminar Club 3; Graduation With High Honors.

Debra M. Wingo Amelia, VA Business Administration

Highlights: Business Club 1-4; President, Sophomore Class; Honors Convocation 2; and Dean's List 2.



Wendy R. Woods Indianapolis, IN Mass Communications

Highlights: Dance Group 1; Bennett Banner Sports Editor 2; Volley Ball Team 1-2; S.O.B.O.S.S. 2; NAACP 2-4; N. O. B. U. C. S. 4; O.B.S. 4; Dean's List 1-2; Speech Club 1; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. 3-4.





Debbie S. Wright Dalzell, SC Art Highlights: Art Club.

Natalie D. Young
East Spencer, NC
Medical Technology and Chemistry

Highlights: Science Club 2-3; Beta Kappa Chi National Honor Society 3-4; Dean's List 1-2; Honors Convocation 1; College Band 1-2.





PASSING THOUGHTS

"I think the big problem with being a junior is that too many of us are content to sit around and wait for the senior year."

- Betty Brown

"I don't consider myself smart because I have to study very hard in order to fulfill my goals and to be what I want to be — the best in everything I do."

- Pauline Nzeribe

"Many people may call this sisterhood "a lot of rubbish," but as far as I'm concerned it is anything but. Bennett College is truly a unique experience because of the sisterhood that, for me, really does exist."

- Kimberly J. Merritt





UNDERCLASSES





Anthony, Darion Ashe, Lydia Delphine Benjamin, Belinda Blakney, Teresa







JUNIORS

Blue, Elwanda Felita Brandon, Jane Martha Broadnax, Deborah Brockman, Addie Brooks, Darleen











Brown, Windy Yvette Brown, Yvonne Chambers, Lydia Cobb, Rita Paulette Coleman, Kathy Renee











Covert, Veta J Davis, Billye Davis, Janet Elaine Dotson, Veronica Drayton, Sheila











Dulin, Precious Mae Echols, Shaun Edwards, Linda Fallen, Venus Gatson, Felicia











Hamilton, Pamela Hayes, Regina Yvonne Heck, Karen Michelle Hopkins, Audrey Leaf Johnson, Lisa Ann











Jones, Tina Ruth King, Audrey Jean Kiser, Regenia Ann Lake, Bonita Lampkin, Lisa















Martin, Tonya



McKinney, Vanessa



Mills, Eva Denise



Moyer, Jacqueline



Muldrow, LaSandra



Offley, Sonia Marie











Paige, Denese Paige, Jo-Ellen Pegram, Regina Phillips, Lynn Phillips, Tracy

Pinnix, Marilyn Monia Pittman, Lisa Raimer, Brenda Faye Raimer, Linda Kaye Reeves, Lakeitha Kay











Profiles Plus

There has always been something strange about the Junior Year. No one seems to be able to describe what it is, but general comments range from "dull" to "ho hum." In spite of the lackluster, some continued to achieve recognition . . . La Sandra Muldrow won another talent contest . . . Ola Sims and her drums received great applause throughout the choir tour . . . Elwanda Blue continued to score double figures on the basketball court . . . Veta Covert dominated volleyball play . . . Venus Fallen was an outstanding SGA leader in Union affairs . . . Edwina Mitchell demonstrated creative leadership . . . Katherine Winston was a proven scholar.



Roberts, Harriett Robinson, Joan Scott, Rosalyn Sealy, Doris Mae Simpkins, Mary Jane



Thomas, Venetia Townsend, Cheryl Wade, Terri Ann Wells, Jennifer Gaye West, Angela Marie





White, Yolanda M Wiley, Gail V Wilkins, Pameler J Winston, Katherine

Bendolph, Valarie Brown, Windy Leak, Landas Thompkins, Patricia



Reflecting

The junior year is ... well, it's ... it's simply the third year in college experience. The truth of the matter is, says Betty Brown, that there is no way to describe it. Having lost the freshness of the freshman year and the excitement of the veteran sophomore, the junior finds herself on the thresh hold of completion, but not having made it.

"The best thing about the junior year is that one becomes a senior when it ends." says one student. "It's that point when we finally began to see our dreams reach fruition."

But while there were no cannons exploded by the class as a whole, some of us still had our special moments and some of us made our voices heard in a number of leadership positions. Each will someday reflect on this junior year and laugh at the little things that somehow just didn't seem important in 1979-80.

'The true meaning of the Big Sister relationship became more meaningful," said Karen Heck. Tonya Martin cherishes the experience of being a Big Sister to 26 Ivies. Billye Davis got a new boyfriend and began to travel. Regina Pegram "finally" hooked that special young man. Venus Fallen enjoyed dressing up to impress her date for the Cabaret and the R.O.T.C. Ball. Doris Sealy will always remember the glamour of the R.O.T.C Ball. Jackie Robinson thinks long hours of studying finally paid off when she made the Dean's List. Linda Anderson, Shari Williams, and Rhonda Wade tried a new sport, skiing. Darleen Brooks cherishes the memory of attending a party given by Congressman Ron Dellums in Washington.

You see, we did have our moments.

Asbury, Cynthia

SOPHOMORES

Barbour, Yvette Carol Barnes, Cassandra









Bell, Joyce Ann Bernard, Beverly



























































Gibson, Terri Ann Glenn, Patrice Green, Eileen Grittin, Beverly Groce, Renee



Memories

We arrived at Bennett for the second year with a bit more sophistication and experience. Although, some faces were missing and some of the leadership talents were less obvious, some personalities stood out. Josie Hudley continued to demonstrate her theatrical abilities. Carolyn Davis was selected Miss Black Greensboro. Portia Dixon led the basketball team in scoring. Terri Phillips continued to prove that brains and beauty go together as she represented the class in the Coronation Events. Sylvia Wilder received recognition for being an outstanding Banner writer. Lisa Manley continued to direct the Gospel Choir with great vigor. Monica Motley proved to be a great actress in such diverse roles as a "woman of the street" to a madonna in the "Living Madonnas." Lisa Harris was on hand to lend a helping hand when needed. Karen Dixon, a three-year R.O.T.C. student became the first Belle to receive a R.O.T.C. Scholarship.

Terri Lynne Phillips returned to the campus after a busy, but exciting experience at Meharry Medical College's summer program. She received recognition for her outstanding academic ability at the end of the session.

Harris, Lisa Joanne Hayes, Jacquelyn Hicks, Margaret Ann Hickson, Anita Joyce Hinton, Rosa Marie

Horton, Sharon Anita Hudley, Josie James Rosa Maria Jeffries, Paula Anita Johnson, Cynthia Dee

Johnson, Deborah Johnson, Phyllis Jones, Elizabeth Ann Kenlay, Brenda Elaine Kennedy, Deidre Ann

Lee, Lynnette LeSane, Wanda Sue Lowe, Arlisa Manley, Lisa Anne Matthews, Debora



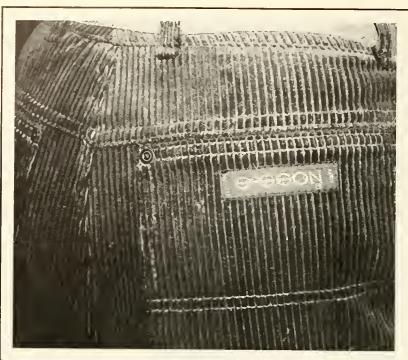


Memoirs

For each of us the sophomore year had its highlights ... Venus McDowell will cherish memories of the Greensboro Sit-in Commemoration because she became aware of the role Belles played in the civil rights movements ... Robing her Big Sister was an honor for Yolanda Moore ... Carolyn Davis got a chance to express herself on — and off — stage in the Miss Black Greensboro Pageant ... Artreatha Tharrington's participation in the Little Theatre productions allowed her to develop her talents ... Sandra Baker saw her first, second and third snow.

Cynthia Johnson will probably remember quiet moments shared with special friends on warm winter days





Pop Culture

Pop culture had its impact on each of us through the media and the market place. As relevance was the key issue of the decade of the 70's, we, too, enjoyed "60 Minutes," "Good Morning America," "All in the Family," "The Young and the Restless," "Ryan's Hope," "Saturday Night Live," and the numerous TV movies. Sometimes, we turned to comedies to get away from the gloomy realities such as "Mork and Mindy," "Alice," "Mash," "Three's Company," "Taxi," and "Laverne & Shirley." Even "The Muppets" had its share of BC viewing power. We spent our dollars seeing "Kramer Versus Kramer," "The Electric Horseman," "The Muppet Movie," "1941," "China Syndrome," and "The Jerk."

Fashion met our terms with accent on status. It was seen in status jeans, blouses, gold chains, ski jackets, and shoes. Slinky dresses, splits, the western look, and blazers were in.

Settle, Iris Siler, Donna Lynn



Smith, Donna Marie Spencer, Lupino



Staley, Elisa Stewart, Carolyn



Stewart, Charlotte Taylor, Valerra













Tharrington, Artreatha V Thomas, Karen Lee Thomas, Valerie Jean Thorne, Zephalee Lynn







Thornton, Leisha Ishole, Elizabeth Tue, Rhonda Pearl Turner, Pargie Vanstory, Louna









Walker, Joan Adele White, Regina Wilburn, Rebecca Wilder, Sylvia Williamson, Bonita





















McNeil, Arlene Moore, Yolanda LeNee Phillips, Terri Phillips-Wilson, Toni Thompson, Teresa





FRESHMEN

Alaman, Sharon Y Anderson, Brenda

Anderson, Kimberly Baker, Annette











Mozetta Williams was one of many treshmen who discovered the

Mozetta Williams was one of many freshmen who discovered the best form of adjustment, involvement. She participated in the "Evening Of Public Speaking."

Barnes, Gwendolyn Baughman, Adriane

Beatty, Tommie R Bell, Beverly Y. Bendolph, Jacqueline Bennett, Marian Bradley, Rhonda















































DeVaughn, Janice DeWitt, Cathy Dooley. Wendy Dunston, Edith Durham, Stephanie











Edwards, Wanda Ferguson, Sharon Free, Dotty Maria Gabriel, Orian George, Myra Jewet



An Early Start

Some of us received an early dose of the Bennett Experience during the summer. We arrived at the President's Pre-Freshman Advancement Institute eager to find out what was before us. It was our way of getting a headstart. And we did.

We discovered the traditions and met many of the personalities which seek to mold us into "Belles." It was a chance to make early friendships and to get some of the "unanswered questions" answered.

When we arrived in August, we felt at home. Surrounded by a nucleus of summer friends, we found the start of the Experience to be less awesome.























Harbison, Betty Hayes, Effie Hayes, LaMona A. Hingleton, Regina Holmes, Lisha

Holt, Carolyn Tracy Hunter, Benita Ingram, Gwendolyn Jefferies, Janice Jenkins, Sylvia Ann











Jessup, Donna LaJoie Johnson, Yolande







Kennedy, Jacqueline Lacy, Marchetta





Lenoir, Sandra Mack, Karen Lavita Marsh, Sheila Ann

Mason, Myra Denise McClain, Bonita

Lang, Duwan Lynette Lassiter, Patricia











McCrary, LaVoris Ann McFadden, Nanette McKinney, Veronica McMickens, Sabrina McMillion, Meta

























Adjustments ...

The freshman year is generally a time to deal with new personalities in a new environment. Most freshmen share the anxieties of adjusting to a new roommate, residing with a dorm full of women, classes and faculty, new found independence, and life away from "Mom and Dad."

Many ingredients go into the formula for positive adjustment. Some members of the class attributed it to: "Mr. Gaspeny's personal appeal for hard work," "BC's idea of academic achievement," "emphasis on the Bennett Ideal," "Moral support from home," "Lisa Manley's genuine concern," "Dr. Harris's lectures on studying," "The sisterhood of the choir," "The Special Services Program and Miss Gravely's support," and "This general concept of sisterhood."



Neal, Lisa Dawn Nelson, Rose Lynn Nesbitt, Deborah Nunnally, Gloria Otter, Alva Danita

Oliver, Tonya Leona Owens, Darlene Palmer, Janice Parker, Sharon Rena Parker, Wanda Gayle

Penick, Delphine Perkins, Paula Perry, Vicki Pickard, Amelia Pillmon, Janice

Pratt, Teresa Mae Pruitt, Valarie Ratlitf, Elizabeth Richardson, Patrice Ricks, Gail Lynn

Rousseau, Ramona Scales, Lillie Schumpert, Jacquelin Shepard, Tracy Lynn Short, Jeannette Jear Snelling, Theresia Sumpter, Theresa Swan, Mary Jane Taylor, Alice Faye Thorpe, Yelta Patrice Tillery, Phyllis Ann Tipton, Cheryl



Ussery, Mary Alice Walker, Gwendolyn







Walker, Patricia Ann Waller, Jacqueline Eulalia Watson, Valeshia Bonnette White, Jennifer Lenore





Widemon, Debra Ann Williams, Brenda Williams, Kimberley Williams, Mozetta Williams, Venessa

















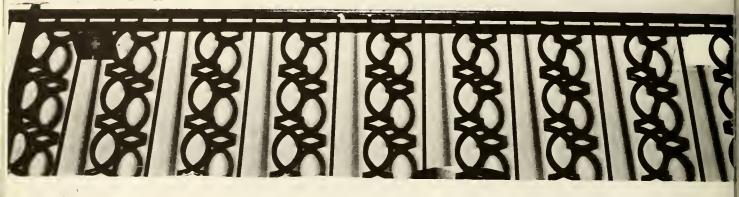




Yarboro, Michelle Youmans, Jadon Capel, Yvonne Viola Jones, Felecia Lynn Spearman, Robin



ORGANIZATIONS



Bennett

College

Let the Grove Master Lunk you right on up?





Student Senate





President, Ellen P. Brinkley; Vice president, Sharonlyn Jones; Secretary, Joann Joyner; Parliamentarian, Shaun Echols; Treasurer, Debra Hodges

"The biggest problem any SGA leader has is asserting the role of SGA in a situation which does not trust student authority. We didn't get the advisorship we needed when we needed it. While some administrators agree a problem exists, they gave no advice how to eliminate it. WE must eliminate the credibility gap or it will kill SGA."



Student Union



The Student Union Board under the presidency of Edwina Mitchell, had a busy year. Among the creative persons working with her were Venus Fallen, vice president; Sherrel Larry, secretary;

Ollie Sims, treasurer; and Veronica Dotson, parliamentarian.

Some of the activities sponsored were Labor Day Happenings, a campus drycleaning service, movies, Fun Night,

Kite Flying Contest, the Haunted House, a scavenger hunt, and Christmas decorations in the Union.

Interdormitory Council



President, Pamela Griffin



Vice president, Jacqueline Ransom



Secretary, Deborah Little



Parliamentarian, Arlisa Lowe

Class Officers

Freshmen

President, Vikki Goodrich
Vice President, Robyn Dessaure
Secretary, Brenda Anderson
Treasurer, Janice DeVaughn
Parliamentarian, Rose Nelson

Sophomores

President, Mary Cooke
Vice President, Bonita McClaine
Secretary, Pamela Phifer
Treasurer, Marlene Hopkins
Parliamentarian, Lisa Manley
Historians, Bernedette Hamilton
and Anita Coleman

Advisors, Leander Canady and Bobbi Smith









Juniors

President, Tonni Sullivan
Vice President, Tracy Phillips
Secretary, Lynn Phillips
Treasurer, Monia Pinnix
Parliamentarian, Leila Mickens

Seniors

President, Angela Briley
Vice President, Sheila Pulley
Secretary, Jennifer Fennell
Treasurer, Suzette Edmonds
Parliamentarian, Darianne Sills
Advisors, Donald Martin and
Dorothy Harris

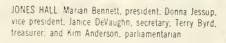
CONE HALL. Veta Covert, president, Venetia Thomas, vice president. Betty Brown, secretary; and Beverly Rumley, treasurer

PLAYER HALL. Sandra Ratliff, president, Kim Haynes, vice president, Shelia Pulley, secretary; Rose Irby, treasurer; and Lynn Horton, parliamentarian









REYNDLDS HALL: Regina Scott, president; Wynetta Scott, vice president. Ton: Phillips, secretary: Sharon Horton, treasurer, and Artreatha Tharrington, parliamentarian







House Councils

MERNER HALL Rebecca Wilburn, president, Monica Motley, vice president, Wanda Hawkins, secretary; and Mary Cooke, parliamentarian

BARGE HALL Sherri Williams, president, Robi Dessaure, vice president, Cassandra Barnes, secretary; Gwen Barnes, treasurer, and Tara Murray, parliamentarian



PFEIFFER HALL, Patrice Richardson, president, Carolyn Holt, vice president, Debra Nesbitt, secretary; Sharon Parker, treasurer; and Jacenta Lorrick, parliamentarian



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Editor-in-Chief

Associate Editor

Associate Editor

Beverly Rumley

Advisor

Layout Editor

Bernetta Hamilton

Myra George, Karen Heck

Business Manager

Ollie Sims

Cartoonists

Norman Barbee, S. Marie Brown

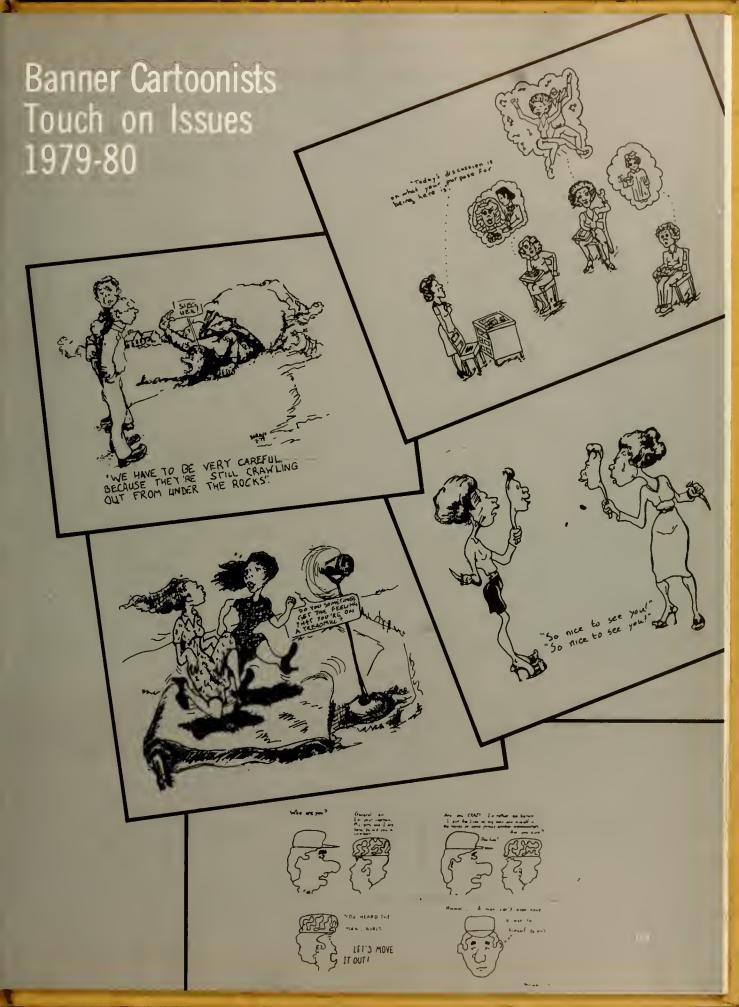
Myra Davis, Bernetta Hamilton

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Linda Anderson Shelly Coston Felicia M. Gatson Myra J. George Beverly Griffin Betty Harbison Lisa Harris

Karen M. Heck Joanne Joyner Libby Malloy Shelia Purnell Katherine Winston Denise Wilder Stephanie Wright







Dance Company

India Richmond Joan Walker Sherry Safaam

Regina Hayes Sharon Horton Donna Jessup Venetia Thomas Anita Coleman Cynthia Wilson Jackie Walleron Sherry Williams



Pre-Alumnae Council

Angela Smallwood (President) Brenda Lykes Betty Brown Florence Stokes Mary Harris Sheila Pulley Karen Hargraves Belinda Benjamin Debbie Wright Cheryl Rutherford Portland Johnson Doris Barbour Cathy Morrison Sharon Gist Sandra Ratliff Celeste Holmes Valerie Calender Kathy Fears

Joyce Murphy Jennifer Bryan Valerie Bendolph Wanda Crouch Lydia Ashe Anita Coleman Bernita Hunter Stephanie Durham Mozetta Williams Jacenta Lorick Elfrida Williams Saunda Baker Beverly Bell Gwen Barnes Millicent Jones Allyson Ford Deborah Nesbitt Kathy Crosby

Marshall Board

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(President)
Darlene Brooks
Marchelle Boatwright
Cynthia Cody
Kathy Coleman
Wanda Crouch
Karen A. Dixon
Shaun Echols
Sharon V Ferguson
Felicia M. Gatson
Hallie Glascoe
Doris L. Glover

Lisa Harris Cheryl Johnson Venus McDowell Arlene McNeil Jacqueline Ransom Harriette L. Scott Cora Shaw Mary Jane Simpkins Elisa C. Staley Tonni Sullivan Theresa Sumpter Valerie Taylor Gwendolyn Walker





NAACP

The Officers are, Jane Brandon, President Stephanie Wright, Vice-President Rosalyn Scott, Secretary Valerie Wills, Treasurer Carolyn Dixon, Executive Chairperson

College Choir



Sharon Alaman Annette Baker Emily Baurnet Beverly Bell Angel Bynum Terry Byrd Princess Campbell Carolyn Chaffin Carolyn Davis Betty Harbison Cassandra Harvey Celeste Holmes Lynn Horton Gwen Ingram Debra Johnson Jackie Johnson Phyllis Johnson Randye Jones Joanne Joyner Sherrell Larry Robyn McCollum Lisa Manley Myra Mason Shawn Miller LaSandra Muldrow Amelia Pickard Monia Pinnix LaTonya Reeves Rosalyn Scott Ola Sims Ollie Sims (President) Vastine Staley Brenda White Kim Williamson Dawn Wilson Katherine Winston



Business Club

Renee Wells Mary Ashe Marchelle Boatwright Melissa Graves Ollie Sims, President Lamona Hayes Teresa Sumpter Wanda Parker



MENC Student Chapter

Robyn McCollum (President) LaSandra Muldrow Phyllis Jones Katie Dodson Gwen Ingram Sharon Alaman Shawn Miller Phyllis Tillery Rosalyn Scott Duwan Lang

Omicron Eta Chi

Valerie Littlejohn (President) Billye D. Davis Regina Pegram Bebe D. Davis Shelia Drayton Darleen Brooks Robin Thorton Brenda Boyette Margaret McDowell Jennifer Bryant Pamlico Miller Patrice Vailes Eileen Green Wynetta Scott Sherry Slaam Leila Mickens Carolyn Joyner
Roberta Judd
Anna Darling
Phyllis Gray
Felita Claybrook
Celia Ross
Rose Irby
Cora Shaw
Sabrina Sturgis
Joan Walker
Lauralyn Peoples
Swanda McCormick
Debbie Nelson
Hallie Glascoe
Leisha Thorton
Valerie Bendolph



National Greek Sororities











President, Cynthia Brown Vice President, Gail Wiley Secretary (Recording), Pam Griffin Secretary (Corresponding), Edwina Mitchell Treasurer, Wanda Kincaid Parliamentarian, Rosalyn Scott Business Manager, Linda Pittman

MEMBERS

Gwen Allen Robin Arnold Rhoda Blair Ellen Brinkley Sandra Brown Qundal Chambers Corliss Clark Alisia Coachman Kımberlı Coleman Olivia Dabney Billye Davis Carolyn Davis Karen Dixon Terrilyn Ellis Venus Fallen Rosa Faulk Jennifer Fennell Wanda Green Bernadette Hamilton Januce Hargrove Joanne Harper Anita Hickson Rosa Hinton Debra Hodges Miranda Holmes Lynn Horton Sharon Horton Josie Hudley

Mondrell Jester Phyllis Johnson Robin Johnson Wanda Johnson Sandra Jones Frances Kay Lynette Lee Valerie Littlejohn Christine Lloyd Lisa Manley Robyn McCollum LaSandra Muldrow Regina Pegram Lisa Pittman Phyllis Price Lakeitha Reeves Renee Robinson Lisa Rouse Beverly Rumley Loretta Shaw Yvette Shelton Jackie Smith Elisa Staley Linda Stanley Artreatha Tharrington Leisha Thornton Ellen Warren Valerie Wills

PROJECTS

Blood Drive, Dating Game, Fashion Show, Benefit Cabaret, Benefit Car Wash, Sickle Cell Drive, Clothes Drive, and UNCF Fundraisers.



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority





Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority



President, Dino Bradley Vice President, Lisa Johnson Secretary, Angela West Asst. Secretary, Debra Benbow Treasurer, Lenora Dowe Dean of Pledgees, Tonya Martin Asst. D.P., Angela Briley Parliamentarian, Lynn Phillips

MEMBERS

Linda Anderson Sandra Baker Cassandra Barnes Beverly Bernard Jane Brandon Windy Brown Carla Burley Veta Covert Sheila Dawkins Pamela Daye Shaun Echols Wanda Hawkins Regina Hayes Sharonlyn Jones Wanda Kelker Sherrel Larry Landas Leak Victoria Lockett

Libby Malloy Kimberly Merritt Leila Mickens Michelle Murphy Sonia Offley Terri Phillips Tracey Phillips Laurelyn Peoples India Richmond Harriet Scott Regina Scott Tonni Sullivan Venetia Thomas Cheryl Townsend Rhonda Wade Benay Warren Rebecca Wilburn

PRDJECTS

Health Fair, Fashion Show, Faculty Follies, Christmas Carolling, Reading Project for Public School Children, and support to United Negro College Fund

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority



Bennett students Terri Wade and Doris Sealy pledged at North Carolina A & T State University







Greek Doings

HONORS & RECOGNITION

Fall Dean's List

Sophomores 3.20 or above

Seniors 3.40 or above

Cynthia Annette Asbury Valarie Dawn Callender Qundal Yevette Chambers Olivia Lois Dabney Carolyn Parniest Davis Wanda Yvette Dick Selina Denise Fox Bernadette Hortensia Hamilton Juanita Harris Wanda Lee Hawkins Sharon Anita Horton Sandra Maureen Jones Debra Jean Moore Pauline Ntıvanu Nzeribe Pamela Lou Phifer Terri Lynne Phillips

Angela Vernet Briley
Carolyn Halls
Edwina Virginia Johnson
Randye LaVonne Jones
Roberta Causer Judd
Valerie Eileen Littlejohn
Libby Malloy
Barbara Gail Murphy
Joyce Burleson Evelyn Murphy
Sheila DeNise Pulley
Donna Louise Simmons
Edwina Christine Wilson

Juniors 3.30 or above

Linda Faye Anderson Lydia Delphine Ashe Marchelle Kay Boatwright Betty Louise Brown Lisa Ann Johnson Sharonlyn Maureen Jones Nichola Martin Lane Mary Jane Simpkins Katherine Winston

Spring Dean's List

Freshmen 3.00 or above

Adriane Elizabeth Baughman Emily Baunet Beverly Youtha Bell Kimberli JoAnne Coleman Robyn Dessaure Janice Nanette DeVaughn Wendy Beatrice Dooley Drian Yvonne Gabriel

Myra Jewel George Betty Alexandra Harbison Lisha Marie Holmes Sylvia Ann Jenkins Donna LaJoie Jessup Jacqueline Elaine Johnson Sandra Ramona Lenoir Karen Lavita Mack LaVoris Ann McCrary Rose Lynn Nelson Gloria Cecila Nunnally Alva Danita Offer Wanda Gayle Parker Teresa Mae Pratt Tonia Ann Royal Jacqueline E. Schumpert Carmen Marcia Smith Nscobong Grace Usoro Gwendolyn Carol Walker Jacqueline Eulalia Waller Sherri Lynn Williams Cynthia Darlene Wilson Dawn Ruth Wilson

Sophomores 3.20 or above

Cynthia Annette Asbury Qundal Yevette Chambers Valarie Dawn Callender Olivia Lois Dabney Carolyn Parniest Davis Wanda Yvette Dick Juanita Harris Wanda Hawkins Carla Rae Jackson Sandra Maureen Jones Sherrel Larry Lynnette Lee Arlisa Cheryl Lowe Debra Jean Moore Jacqueline Tonoa Moyer Pauline Mtiyaau Mzeribe Pamela Lou Phifer Terri Lynne Phillips Nellie Faye Privette

Iris Willette Settle Donna Lynn Siler Pantheola Simmons Artreatha V. Tharrington Vicki Lynn Walker

Juniors 3.30 or above

Adenike Asabiokin Adejunmobi Marchelle Kay Boatwright Alisia Dionne Coachman Regina Yvonne Hayes Nichola Martin Lane Leila Markeld Mickens Harriett Jacqueline Roberts Wynetta Scott Katherine Winston

Seniors 3.40 or above

Gwendolyn Irva Allen Laurie Melvania Asbury Doris Ann Barbour Debra Elaine Benbow Sandra Marie Brown Kathryn Diane Colbert Bebe Denise Davis Katie Lou Dodson Melissa Lee Graves Carolyn Halls Joann Mechael Harper Debra Ann Hodges Edwina Virginia Johnson Valerie Eileen Littlejohn Loye Lockett Barbara Gail Murphy Sheila DeNise Pulley Sheila Verna Purnell Barbara Jane William Edwina Christine Wilson Deborah Carlton Witchey Debbie Sandra Wright

* Each Semester G.P.A.

Fall Honors Convocation

Sophomores, 3.20 or above

Seniors, 3.40 or above

Cynthia Annette Asbury Valerie Dawn Callender **Qundal Yevette Chambers** Olivia Lois Dabney Wanda Yvette Dick Selina Denise Fox Bernadette Hortensia Hamilton Juanita Harris Wanda Lee Hawkins Sharon Anita Horton Phyllis Elaine Johnson Sandra Maureen Jones Debra Jean Moore Pauline Ntiyanu Nzeribe Pamela Lou Phiter Terri Lynn Phillips Regina Scott Donna Lynn Siler

Juniors, 3.30 or above

Adenike Asabiokin Adejunmobi Linda Faye Anderson Lisa Ann Johnson Sharonlyn Jones Mary Jane Simpkins Dino Michele Bradley Melissa Lee Graves Debra Ann Hodges Valerie Eileen Littlejohn Barbara Gail Murphy Edwina Wilson

*Cumulative G.P.A.

Spring Honors Convocation

Freshmen 3.00 or above

Adriane Elizabeth Baughman Emily Baurnet Beverly Youtha Bell Kimberli JoAnne Coleman Janice Nanette DeVaughn Wendy Beatrice Dooley Wanda Denise Edwards Orian Yvonne Gabriel Myra Jewell George

(4.00 average) Betty Alexandra Harbison Lisha Marie Holmes Sylvia Ann Jenkins Donna Lajoie Jessup Jacqueline Elaine Johnson Sandra Remona Lenoir LaVoris Ann McCrary Rose Lynn Nelson Gloria Cecilia Nunnally Alva Danita Offer Wanda Gayle Parker Teresa Mae Pratt Tonia Ann Royal Jacqueline E. Schumpert Carmen Marcia Smith Grace Mseonong Usoro Gwendolyn Carol Walker Jacqueline Eulalia Waller Sherri Lynn Williams Cynthia Darlene Wilson Dawn Ruth Wilson

Sophomores 3.20 or above

Cynthia Annette Asbury
Valarie Dawn Callender
Qundal Yevette Chambers
Olivia Lois Dabney
Carolyn Parniest Davis
Wanda Yvette Dick
Bernadette Hortensia Hamilton
Juanita Harris
Wanda Lee Hawkins
Carla Rae Jackson

Sandra Maureen Jones Debra Jean Moore Pauline Ntiyanu Nzeribe Pamela Lou Phifer Terri Lynne Phillips Iris Willette Settle Donna Lynn Siler Artreatha V. Tharrington Vickie Lynn Walker

Juniors 3.30 or above

Adenike Asabiokin Adejunmobi Linda Faye Anderson Marshelle Kay Boatwright Lisa Ann Johnson Sharonlyn Jones Mary Jane Simpkins Katherine Winson

Seniors 3.40 or above

Dino Michelle Bradley Veronica Siler Emerson Melissa Lee Graves Debra Ann Hodges Valerie Eileen Littlejohn Barbara Gail Murphy Linda Beatrice Smith Edwina Christine Wilson

Angela



Affiliated with several honor societies, Angela Briley hopes to continue professional study in the medical field. Described by her roommate, Kathy Colbert, as "a bubbling personality," she ended her Bennett studies as president of the senior class, truly a "tryin" experience." She was the assistant dean of pledgees of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Kathy



Kathy Crosby represented Bennett well this year as Miss Bennett College. Beauty and brains, sophistication and charm, and hard work characterized Kathy, an elementary education major from Charlotte, N.C. She also served as an assistant residence hall director. "She's a good role model for first year college students," says one staff member. "She is what I perceive this notion of the Bennett Ideal to be."

WHO'S WHO 1979-80

In spite of the confusion of the selection process, Who's Who is certainly one of the highest honors a college student can receive. It recognizes the well-rounded student — one who is active in college affairs, demonstrates leadership ability, and achieves on the scholarly level.

Randye



When she's not caught up in the imaginary world of Star Trek, Randye Jones is off to herself in her world of music. A music major from Greensboro, she not only sings, but plays a variety of musical instruments. Her acquaintances view her as an assertive individual, but if she desires can be a very supportive companion.

Debra



Debra Hodges, soft and ultra feminine, demonstrated outstanding academic and service abilities. Her academic talents were boosted as she was named a recipient of the President's Excellence Award and graduated with high honors. Not only was she affiliated with several honor societies, she was editor of the Banner and treasurer of the S.G.A.

Sharonlyn



The first junior recipient of the President's Excellence Award, Sharonlyn Jones has consistently mixed good scholarship and active involvement. An elementary education major from Montgomery, Ala., she proved to be a creative leader as vice president of the S.G.A. and as a peer advisor. The last of three sisters to attend Bennett, she is also the second to be elected president of S.G.A.

Ellen



Ellen Brinkley attempted to turn the student government association around with her brand of creative leadership. A social welfare student, she has become quite adept at working through "red tape" and administrative smoke screens. As president of S.G.A., she established the Presidential Council which met periodically with Dr. Miller. Ellen was also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Dino



"Three times a lady" best describes Dino Bradley, a biology major from Cincinnati. She's intelligent, active, and feminine. A well-rounded young lady, she was president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a peer advisor, a Bennett Scholar, and a member of several honor societies.

Linda



Linda B. Smith is just what the engineering world needs, a feminine personality who knows her area. An honor student, she is pursuing dual degrees in mathematics and electrical engineering. A resident of Greensboro, she is embedded in Bennett tradition through her family. Described as a quiet, beautiful personality, Linda spent most of the year on an IBM cooperative education assignment.

Gail



Gail Wiley's presence is felt in a number of college activities. To her credits, this junior from Madison, N.C. lists vice president of the NAACP, dean of pledgees of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and assistant teacher of a freshman orientation class. Says a friend, "Gail is definitely a leader. She is articulate, compassionate, responsible, and independent."

Regina



"Politeness captures the total essence of Regina Pegram," concludes a peer. "She certainly carries herself with self confidence which makes it easy for her to maintain good human relations with others." a junior clothing student from Durham, N.C., she served as vice president of Omicron Eta Chi, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and member of the Interdormitory Council.

Roberta



Mrs. Roberta Judd was a practicing nurse when she decided to return to college for a new career. As a home economics student, the Greensboro resident and mother of one college-age son proved to be a good student who was consistently honored at Honors Convocation and on the Dean's List. She was involved in all aspects of student life and enjoyed her second time around.

Sandra



"Neat as a pin and smart as a whip," says one friend of sweet Sandra M. Brown, a Charleston, S.C. Belle. Majoring in the communications media area, she has been quite active on the Banner staff and involved in student activities. Sandra has been an honor student throughout her college years and is affiliated with several honor societies.

Carolyn



Carolyn Hall, a product of Cross, S.C., is another symbol of the Bennett Ideal. "She's neat, intelligent, and responsible," says a peer. Carolyn is a goal-oriented individual who has charted a course characterized by success.

Edwina



Edwina Wilson is a quiet personality who has made her impact on the Bennett Experience through her academic achievement and multi-faceted involvement. She was a very positive role model for the underclassmen. Pursuing a career in the medical field, she spent many extra hours in the labs, but found time to be involved in campus student affairs. Edwina resides in Blackstone, Va

WHO'S WHO

Mary Jane

Mary Jane Simpkins wants to become a certified medical technologist. A junior from Waynesboro, Ga., she is well liked by her peers and very much involved in the peer advising program. She is affiliated with the Bennett Scholars, the Marshall Board and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Marchelle

Marchelle Boatwright, a studious Belle from Cincinnati, Ohio, believes in prioritizing. Her beautiful smile and soft spoken ways have won her the respect of her classmates. She is a Bennett Scholar and a member of Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society.

Melissa

Melissa Graves, a Burlington, N.C. resident, is known for her beautiful sense of humor and academic achievement. She is affiliated with several honor societies.

Recognition Day Highlights

ALPHA KAPPA MU DEPARTMENTAL RECOGNITION

Accounting Linda Pittman
Biology Edwina Wilson Edwina Johnson Natalie Young
Business Adenike Adejunmobi Debra M. Wingo
Clothing Valerie Littlejohn
Educational Media Karen Thomas
Elementary Ed Sharolyn Jones Iris Settle
Special Ed Grace Usoro Kathryn Winston
English Sandra M. Brown Ursula J. Joyner
Home Ec Ed Roberta C. Judd
Mathematics Linda B. Smith Loye Lockett
Music
Physical Ed Donna Simmons Cynthia Johnson
Political Science Sandra Ratliff
Psychology Debra Benbow
Secondary & Professional Studies Katle Dodson Betty Harbison
Social Welfare Ellen P. Brinkley
Sociology Melissa Graves
Spanish Sheila Pulley
Student Personnel Dorothy Ingram

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Faculty Scholarships

Education				Debra Moore
Humanities				Rosalyn Scott
Science				Valerie Callender

Lula Donnell Award Cheryl Tipton

Social Science Wanda Dick

George M. Bell Scholarship Mary J. Simpkins Linda Anderson

Cressie T. Haven Scholarship Pauline Nzeribe

Belle Tobias Scholarship Myra George

Catherine H. Waddell Scholarship Sharonlyn Jones

> Rose Karfiol Award Libby Malloy

L.G. Streat Scholarship Wynnetta Scott

Home Ec Faculty Award Valerie Littlejohn

> Goode Prize Valerie Bendolph Sheila Drayton

Marie G. Moffitt Scholarship Leila Mickens Regina Pegram

Torrance Scholarships Vicki Goodrich Lisa Neal Cheryl Tipton

President's Excellence Awards Myra J. George, Freshman Pauline Nzeribe, Sophomore Sharonlyn Jones, Junior Debra Hodges, Senior

BFA Achievement Award Joyce B. Murphy

Honeywell Scholarships Loye Lockett Arlissa Lowe Linda Smith

Scholarly Achievement in Business Adenike Adejunmobi

Business/Economics Awards Linda Pittman Debra Wingo Gladys Rogers

Honor Societies

Senior Honor Society and Alpha Kappa Mu General

Michelle Bradley Valerie Littlejohn Edwina Wilson Debra Hodges Angela Briley Barbara Murphy Sandra Brown



Beta Kappa Chi Science

Dino M. Bradley Angela Briley Edwina Johnson Pauline Nzeribe Laura Perry Yvette Shelton Lisa Johnson Edwina Wilson Mary J. Simpkins Pamela Morris Natalie Young

Sigma Tau Delta English

Linda Anderson Sandra M. Brown Marchelle Boatwright Sheila Purnell Terri Wade



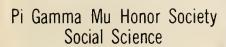
and Scholarly Organizations





Bennett Scholars

Pamela-Morris (President) Valerie Littlejohn Toni Sulfivan Mary Jane Simpkins Lisa Johnson Terri Phillips Tina Jones Vicki Walker Juanita Harris Wanda Dick Marchelle Boatwright Sharon Horton Wanda Hawkins Linda Anderson Dino Bradley Dlivia Dabney Selina Fox Sandra Jones Debra Moore LaSandra Muldrow Pauline Nzeribe



Libby Malloy Barbara Murphy Sandra Ratliff Jacqueline Moyer



COMMENCEMENT





Address Delivered By Dr. Willa Player

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Willa B. Player May 4, 1980

President Miller, Faculty and Staff, Graduates, Parents and Relatives, Students, Friends and Graduating Seniors, let us rejoice and be thankful that we have yet another opportunity to celebrate both yesterday and tomorrow as we greet the returning graduates of Bennett College and salute the graduating seniors on this day. It is always a moving experience to be on the Bennett campus. Although I am increasingly reluctant to speak to collegiate audiences of this size and stature, I am incapable of saying no to Bennett College where I spent 35 years of my life. So, Dr. Miller, I appreciate the invitation to come again. Thank you.

"To be warm is to have first of all a good inner sense of self."

Mona Lisa, as you know, is considered the most famous painting of Leonardi da Vinci. The portrait hangs imposingly in the Louvre in Paris, France. And here I quote: "An uncanny, haunting quality seizes the imagination of every beholder, however prejudiced. The Mona Lisa simply won't leave us alone. This is its real mystery."

Perhaps this is in part the reason why the late Nat King Cole made Mona Lisa one of the finest vocal performances of his brief musical career.

Do you recall the words of the song?

Mona Lisa, Mona Lisa men have named you You're so like the lady with the mystic smile Is it only 'cause you're lonely they have blamed you For that Mona Lisa strangeness in your smile?

Do you smile to tempt a lover, Mona Lisa Or is this your way to hide a broken heart Many dreams have been brought to your doorstep They just lie there and they die there Are you warm, are you real Mona Lisa Or just a cold and lonely lovely work of art?

Are you warm, are you real Mona Lisa or just a cold and lonely, lovely work of art?

What does it mean to be warm and real? That is the question we would like to consider with you for a few moments. To be warm is to have first of all



Dr. Willa B. Player served in a number of administrative and faculty capacities at Bennett over a 35-year period. She is the only woman to serve as president (1955-1966).

a good inner sense of self. Have you sometimes stood before the mirror and asked yourself, "Who am I?" What do I feel within me which validates my personhood - which gives authenticity to my own being? Each of us has to go through a kind of self-examination which enables us to establish our own identity. Before we can lead any kind of purposeful existence, we have to love ourselves enough to believe that there is nobody else in the world exactly like us. Our self-esteem is enhanced in proportion to our ability to sense the very essence of our personality and to come out saying, "I'm O.K."

Of course it is too much to expect us to arrive at this conclusion all by ourselves. This is why our quest for knowledge is so important; not just knowledge per se, not knowledge as a solution to our frustrations, not knowledge as a display of superiority, but knowledge which provides a sense of personal adequacy.

We take what we come to know from our study of the sciences, the humanities and the social sciences and by a restrained and disciplined application of it to daily experience we come to understand the intellectual and spiritual realities which contribute so richly to the development of our individual selfhood. Education is the key to self-fulfillment. It helps us to es-









tablish our autonomy while at the same time it defines the reach of our individual minds and spirits.

I like to think of the campus queens of Ebony Magazine as an attractive sampling of young black women in our colleges and universities across the land whose collegiate aspirations have helped them to come to terms with themselves so that their identity has been firmly established through degree preparation in a wide variety of fields and anticipated careers.

To be warm is to feel deep within our being the capacity to care. I believe it was the Overstreets who said, and I quote, "There are many directions the human mind can take, but the most exciting and the most rewarding is toward another human being."

Caring exists whenever we can include within ourselves, the self of

"... to be real is to live on two levels of experience—true to ourselves and genuine concern for all mankind."

another. Caring exists whenever man aftirms his fellow man. Martin Luther King challenged the Bennett students on this very campus some years ago, and I quote, "To rise above the narrow confines of individual concerns to enter the new age with a love which embraces the broader concerns of all humanity."

To feel the capacity to care is to recognize a new dimension within the self which impels us to respond in love one for another. "A new commandment I give unto you, says the Biblical text, that ye love one another." I suppose the modern version would be to "reach out and touch someone's hand". To be warm in this relationship thus becomes an act of unpretentious self — fulfillment where each person seeks to relate to another in love and faith. It follows then, that to be real is to live on two levels of experience — true to ourselves and genuine concern for all mankind. Harry Emerson Fosdick in his volume, On Being a Real Person, defines the real person as one who has achieved a high degree of unity within the self. "A real



person, says he, is integrated. A mature and genuine person is a supreme work of art — a symphony whose constituent factors are noises that by themselves can be raucous and dissonant, and whose glory lies in the way they are put together."

Genuine concern for others implies a commitment so strong that it releases an incredible burst of human energy, driving us to accept responsibility for something beyond the self which translates into community responsibility. When this happens we find ourselves working voluntarily to wipe out hunger, to eliminate poverty, to care for the elderly, to overcome disease and to work for peace and justice. This is why the sit-in demonstrations of the sixties were so noble and so rewarding. Or else why after 20 years would Greensboro celebrate this thrust toward gaining

civil rights in which Bennett faculty and students were so triumphantly involved? And you who are guaduating today will be genuine representatives of the Bennett tradition if you sense your responsibility to walk in your integrity whenever situations arise in our culture which demand that you take a stand for the common good. This is to be real.

Are you warm, are you real, Mona Lisa or just a cold and lonely, lovely work of art?

If our sense of self is nothing other than a nameless blob of protoplasm —

If our minds are tilled with so much clatter and disharmony that we cannot hear the sound of the genuine in another —

If our concern for others is uninspiring —



We are cold!

If we continue to cling to the withering concept of the "me" generation —

If we choose to remain closeted within ourselves —

If our purposes are frail -

If we stand in elegant isolation from the problems of daily living —

We will in truth be lonely!

Today you are gracefully clothed in caps and gowns — you are soon to bear



the title — Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science. Take care lest your loveliness becomes something to be observed, perhaps admired but never fully appreciated.

We are living in a time of crisis when every aspect of life which we have regarded as permanent has acquired a tentative status.

We are living in a time of turmoil when men refuse to accept the rationale which admits that all men are made in the image of God.

We are moving into a turbulent decade where we experience acute deviations and conflicts in ideas and practices at home and abroad.

But we need not despair! We may not be able to solve the hostage crisis in

"Take care lest your loveliness becomes something to be observed, perhaps admired but never fully appreciated."

Iran; but we can love our enemies and do good to those who despitefully use us.

We may not be able to do much of anything about the problem of inflation; but we can practice economy in every aspect of our daily living!

We may not be able to wipe out corruption in government; but we can vote for the candidates who will champion the cause of justice and fair play.

We may not be able to prevent the devastating use and effect of drugs by the youth of America, but we can refrain from using drugs ourselves.

And so, like the portrait of Leonardi da Vinci, the Mona Lisa by Nat King Cole "simply won't leave us alone". The song would have merited a golden record had this been the practice of that time. There are other golden records whose meaning shines through perhaps even more vividly.

Today we honor four young women who 50 years ago gave this institution

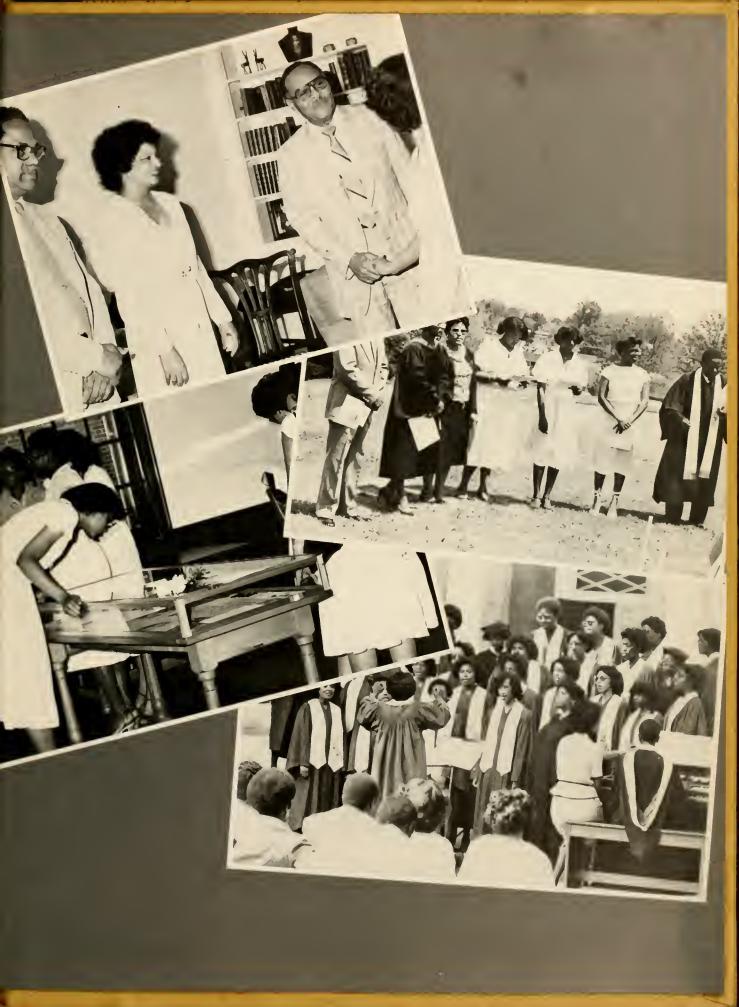


its reason for being an accredited four year college. They are the first graduates of Bennett who are celebrating their golden anniversary. Their records of love and service to their families, their communities and their college embody the meaning of all we have been attempting to say in this message of warmth and realness. We salute them even as we congratulate you on this day.

Are you warm, are you real Mona Lisa or just a cold and lonely lovely work of art. Thank you for your gracious attention.









FINALE?

Sure, it was a trying period in the lives of most Americans as we realistically began to face the problems of escalating fuel costs, embittered racial strife, clashing ideological radicalism, recession and inflation, and international disasters. But somehow, we managed to survive one more year.

We pause to pay tribute to three pillars of the Bennett Experience . . . Mrs. Willie Mae McCallum, Mrs. Carrie Shute and Miss Alsie Trammell. They retired this year, but their selflessness, humility, commitment, integrity and sense of community will long be a part of us. They have certainly been the role models for hundreds of black women.

Reflect on the good times and the bad. But look forward and strive to achieve. Take your cue from Ossie Davis's "Purlie Victorious."

A BEGINNING

I find in being black, a thing of beauty,
A joy, a strength . . . a secret cup of gladness,
A native land in neither time nor place —
A native land in every
Negro face!

Be loyal to yourself; your skin, your hair, your lips, your Southern speech, your laughing kindness — Are Negro kingdoms, vast as any other?

Accept in full the sweetness of your blackness — Not wishing to be white, nor red, nor yellow, Nor any other race, or face, but this . . .

