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## Students Leave, but Not Because Bennett Is Lacking

# Withdrawal Rate From Bennett Is Low

by Deborah Tillman

Every year colleges and universities are required to keep a record of students withdrawing from their respective schools. This is done to see what effects a decline in enrollment will have on the academic program, the budget, and the number of instructors needed.

At Bennett, Mrs. Mary Eady, Director of Admissions and Miss Dorothy Harris, Director of Freshman Studies are working on this study.

"At this point, Bennett is below the national average of students withdrawing from schools," says Mrs. Eady. "Once the girls have completed their sophomore year, they are very well-established in the school. Most of your transfers and withdrawals come from the freshman class."

Since Miss Harris is mainly familiar with the freshmen, she has more information concerning the reasons why the freshmen are among the highest to withdraw from college.

Her special concern is whether or not the students who withdraw were satisfied with the academic program and student life at Bennett. "If a great number of students withdraw from Bennett, then we know there has to be something seriously wrong," said Miss Harris.

When students request their transcripts, this is usually a sign that they are planning to either transfer or attend summer school. Once it is learned that a student, especially a freshman, plans to transfer, Miss Harris is then contacted by Mrs. Eady and the student's academic advisor. Miss Harris has a form asking the exit-prone students to state their reason for leaving the college.

At the end of last semester, nine freshmen withdrew from Bennett. Among the nine, two students did not wish to fill out the form. They only said that their reason for withdrawing was a personal reason. The remaining students were willing to complete the form.

An early childhood major from Charlotte, North Carolina, transferred because she was homesick and because of illness in her family. She is presently attending Johnson C. Smith University so that she can be near her ailing grandfather. "I think Bennett is one of the finest black liberal arts colleges in North Carolina. I loved the friendly atmosphere but I was unable to cope with being away from home especially since my grandfather is ill," she replied.

"I transferred because my grandmother was sick and I wanted to go to a school closer to home so that I could be near to help her," answered an elementary education major from Petersburg, Virginia. She now attend Virginia State. She thought the academic program met her needs and is very good. She enjoyed her classes because her instructors showed great concern for her. Her only negative statement was that the dormitories were too noisy.

A nursing major from Philadelphia left because she was unhappy and depressed. Her reason for coming to Bennett was that she thought it offered a four-year nursing program, but when she found out differently she decided to go to a school that offered a four-year nursing program. She felt she was wasting time in her classes and did not like the idea of compulsory class attendance. Another factor was the curfew.

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## Students' Endeavors Rewarded At Recognition Day Ceremonies

More than 100 students were given recognition for their achievements at the annual Recognition Day ceremonies held in the Chapel on March 18.

For many the recognition came in the form of cash awards or scholarships. The Belle Tobias Scholarship for the freshman with the most outstanding academic record went to **Bertha Dolberry**. **Cynthia Willis** was awarded the Lula Donnell Prize and the Class of 1921 prize went to **Diane Stevens**. The Goode Prize in Home Economics was awarded to **Jerrylyn Davis**.

The three divisional faculty scholarship awards went to **Mary Jane Lewis** and **Lisa Anderson** in the Humanities Division, **Thorna Humphries** in the Science Division, and **Bettye Phifer** in the Social Science Division.

The Virginia A. Tucker Scholarship in the Humanities was awarded to **Laura Goodman** who also received the Catherine Hughes Waddell Scholarship. **Belinda Foster** was given the Cressie Thomas Havens Scholarship.

The J. B. K. McClure Educational and Development Fund Scholarship, restricted to residents of Western North Carolina, went to **Carolyn Hazel**. NASA Fellowship Awards went to both **Nanetta Lowe** and **Frances Davis**.

**Joyce Bass** received the George M. Bell Scholarship and the David D. Jones Leadership Award was made to **Vastie W. Clark**.

Fifteen Davidson - Foreman Scholarships for 1975-76 were announced. They were awarded to **Loretta Canty**, **Nancy Dolfinger**, **Katie Gales**, **Mary Gamble**, **Karen Forney**, **Dorothy Gibson**, **Sharon Gilford**, **Lisa Green**, **Rother Harper**, **Hedy House**, **Burma Moss**, **Gloria Quick**, **Lucy Suddreth**, **Ethel Wiggins**, and **Sabrina Woods**.

Three students received the J. B. Cornelius Scholarships for 1975-76. They were **Karen Forney**, **Thalistine Miller**, and **Crystal Phifer**.

Sigmund Sternberger Scholar-

ships for 1975-76 went to **Vaughnetta Carr**, **Lisa Greene**, **Michelle Grandison** and **Crystal Phifer**.

United Methodist Scholarships for 1975-76 went to seven students: **Barbara Black**, **Demetria Chavis**, **Yulaundra Ferguson**, **Vastine Staley**, **Fernaundra Ferguson**, **Michelle Crosby**, and **Carolyn Lipscomb**.

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## New ALA President To Speak at Bennett

The president-elect of the American Library Association **Mrs. Clara Stanton Jones**, was the guest speaker for the observance of National Library Week this morning in the chapel.

Mrs. Jones who is also the director of the Detroit Public Library also spoke at an informal meeting with library-media education students last night.

Articles by and about her have appeared in several professional journals. Among the articles she has authored that have been published are: "Reflections on Black," "Ruminations and Reflections," "Women in the Inspiration of Librarianship" and "Survival? Politics for Libraries."

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## Laugh!!!

Quite a few years ago when a child took her/his report card home there was an asterisk or star by a given subject matter to indicate that the child had done well or excelled in the said subject.

When little Herman took his report card to his old, feeble-minded, partially blind and not particularly well-educated father, the father's first question was "where are all the stars???" The little boy had done poorly in almost all his subjects so his response to the question was that they didn't give stars anymore. "Instead they give us moons," he said.



Sabrina Woods, '76, from Newark, New Jersey simply signs the oil, acrylic and other works in her first exhibition "Mental Realities Sabrina." The exhibit is part of her Interdisciplinary Studies-Art major curriculum. All inquiries concerning prospective purchases may be addressed to the artist.