

Students Chosen after Extensive Screening

11 Bennett Scholars Plan for Future as New Program Begins First Year of Operation

Eleven students selected last spring as Bennett Scholars are planning their programs this fall as the Scholar's Program swings into its first full year of operation.

The students, who underwent extensive screening before being selected for this new honors program, are sophomores **Marilyn Moore**, **Vajira de Silva**, **Tonya Jessup**, **Bertha Kay Dolberry**, **Rosalyn Lawrence**, **Eva Ablorh**, **Marion Johnson**, **Marcelle Miranda** and **Ardelia Davis** and juniors **Cassandra Jones** and **Thalistine Miller**.

To be eligible for the program the student has to have a B average. Last spring all freshmen and sophomore students who were recognized at the Honor's Convocation were invited to state whether they would be interested in becoming Bennett scholars.

Students who filed slips expressing interest were interviewed individually by the members of the Bennett Scholar's Committee, which consisted of **Mrs. Janet Cochran**, last year's coordinator; **Dr. Mattie Moss**, the present coordinator; **Dr. Charlotte Alston**; and **Mrs. Willie Mae McCallum**.

All interested students were then given a 50-question cross-disciplinary qualifying examination. Thirty students elected to take the examination. On the basis of this exam, 14 students were chosen and asked to submit a letter of acceptance and a recommendation from one faculty member.

Formal interviews were then held by the committee and 12 students were chosen to become the first Bennett scholars. One student, **Jocelyn Johnson**, a Greensboro sophomore, subsequently transferred to Howard University on a playwriting scholarship.

Each student in the program was assigned a faculty associate in her

area of specialization to assist in the planning of the student's program and in any other way necessary. Serving as faculty associates this year are **Dr. Ebele Eko** (for Marilyn and Tonya), **Dr. Benjamin Duhart** (for Vajira), **Mrs. Evelyn Jones** (for Marcelle), **Dr. Virginia Tucker**, (for Kay), **Dr. Moss** (for Rosalyn), **Mr. Jimmy Faison** (for Eva), **Mrs. Julia Anderson** (for Marion), **Dr. Dorinda Trader** (for Ardelia), **Dr. Howard Higgs** (for Thalistine) and **Dr. Helen Trobian** (for Cassandra).

In addition, two other faculty members will serve on the committee of each student to assist in guiding her through her Bennett career.

The close relationship between the scholar and her committee is one of the most desirable aspects of the program and will extend beyond the purely academic relationship.

Bennett Scholars must maintain a B average with no grade below a C. They will also be expected to participate in certain special programs such as a cross-disciplinary honors colloquium and to present a senior thesis. They will be encouraged to make use of all the kinds of educational experiences available both from special options at Bennett and through cross-registration at other colleges.

A student in the program may plan her complete program to meet her special needs. If she elects to take a traditional major, she must meet the requirements of that major but she may choose a concentration (24 hours in an area) instead of a major or a combination of concentrations.

The Bennett scholar will receive special recognition at the time of her graduation.

Freshmen presently entering Bennett will be eligible to apply for the program at the end of their first semester if they have a B average at that time. Soon after the spring Honors Convocation all such students will be contacted by the committee and encouraged to apply.



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OPENING



NEW DOORS IN WOMEN'S EDUCATION

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College Doctor Resigns; Replacement Is Male

by Cleo Branch

Dr. Barbara Jane Gravely, a black and female physician in Greensboro, resigned from her office as campus physician of Bennett College in July 1976 after rendering eight years of service to the college.

Dr. Gravely had been working at Bennett College since Fall 1968 and was spoken highly of by Dean Bragg, the dean of student affairs. "We are very appreciative of her years of service to the college and her record as a physician is very high," said Dean Bragg. He also mentioned that Bennett was very fortunate to have had a physician of Dr. Gravely's caliber.

Through mutual agreement by Dr. Gravely and Dean Bragg, they felt that the time was appropriate to make a change in campus physicians.

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Sheree Johnson New President Of Bennett SGA

by Marcelle Miranda

This year's Student Government Association president is senior law major, **Sheree Lynn Johnson**.

Sheree has jurisdiction over a six-member cabinet consisting of **Rochelle Moody**, vice president; **Cassandra Jones**, treasurer; **Cleo Branch**, assistant treasurer; **Bettye Phifer**, parliamentarian; **Tonya Jessup**, corresponding secretary; and **Hattie Purnell**, recording secretary.

Sheree, who feels that the activities of this year's SGA will reflect a more varied interest said, "Bennett students should be more aware of political activities on a larger scale than the college community."

Sheree is also looking forward to more participation of the student body in supporting SGA activities.

She also felt that student support of Bennett's teams and student organizations would improve campus activity and interest.

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New ACES Rules in Effect This Fall

by Thomasina Stallings

Controversial differences between students and administrators and discontent over the structure of the Academic and Cultural Enrichment Program were among many reasons for the changes made in the program. Students now simply receive a pass or fail grade which is based on a 75 per cent attendance of all programs. Six semesters of A.C.E.S. with a pass are required.

Students have asked such questions as: What brought about the idea of a change? Is this a temporary decision? How will this affect seniors? Who was responsible for the change? How is the grade determined?

The dean of student affairs, **Harold E. Bragg**, gave some interesting feedback to these questions. When asked what brought about the idea of a change in the A.C.E.S. program, he commented by saying: "Since six semesters are required, we hoped the students would see the value in A.C.E.S. and with the option of bonuses this should show a better attitude toward the cultural and educational enrichment the programs provide."

When asked if this was a temporary idea or the final decision he commented by saying: "It wasn't designed to be used on a trial basis but should over 50 per cent of the students seem to disagree it might be reconsidered."

What about the graduating seniors, would this change effect their chances of graduating? To this question Dean Bragg commented, "Well for the most part, this class came in on the first requirements of A.C.E.S. so most of them have already met requirements."

When asked how a passing grade is determined, Dean Bragg replied, "The number of A.C.E.S. programs has been pre-set as 20; if the student goes to fifteen she will pass—any over 20 would be considered bonus events." Dean Bragg commented on how the A.C.E.S. programs are chosen by saying: "It varies. Agents have my name so I get tons of brochures, and then again, students have suggestions. We then choose what we feel is best and a vote is taken for rejection, acceptance, or uncertainty."

When asked about future A.C.E.S. programs, Dean Bragg stated: "Students may look forward to many outstanding programs in the near future. I have told many I have come across on the campus I feel we're going to have a good year. Unfortunately, because of economic reasons, there will be some cutbacks and more Bennett family participation. But in spite of this we plan to have some fulfilling programs."

Dean Bragg went on to say: "This matter was brought up before the Curriculum Committee

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New Class Swells College Enrollment

220 Freshmen Enroll at Bennett

by Kathy Torrence

On August 17, 220 freshmen were enrolled at Bennett.

The new freshmen came from a variety of places ranging from North Carolina, which has the largest amount of freshmen, to as far away as the states of Washington, Maine, New Mexico and California.

A total of 158 freshmen
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New Students Tell Why They Came

by Gena Haskett
and Yvonne Wiggins

Freshmen entering Bennett this fall gave many reasons why they chose to join the Bennett family and they talked about their first impressions of their new home.

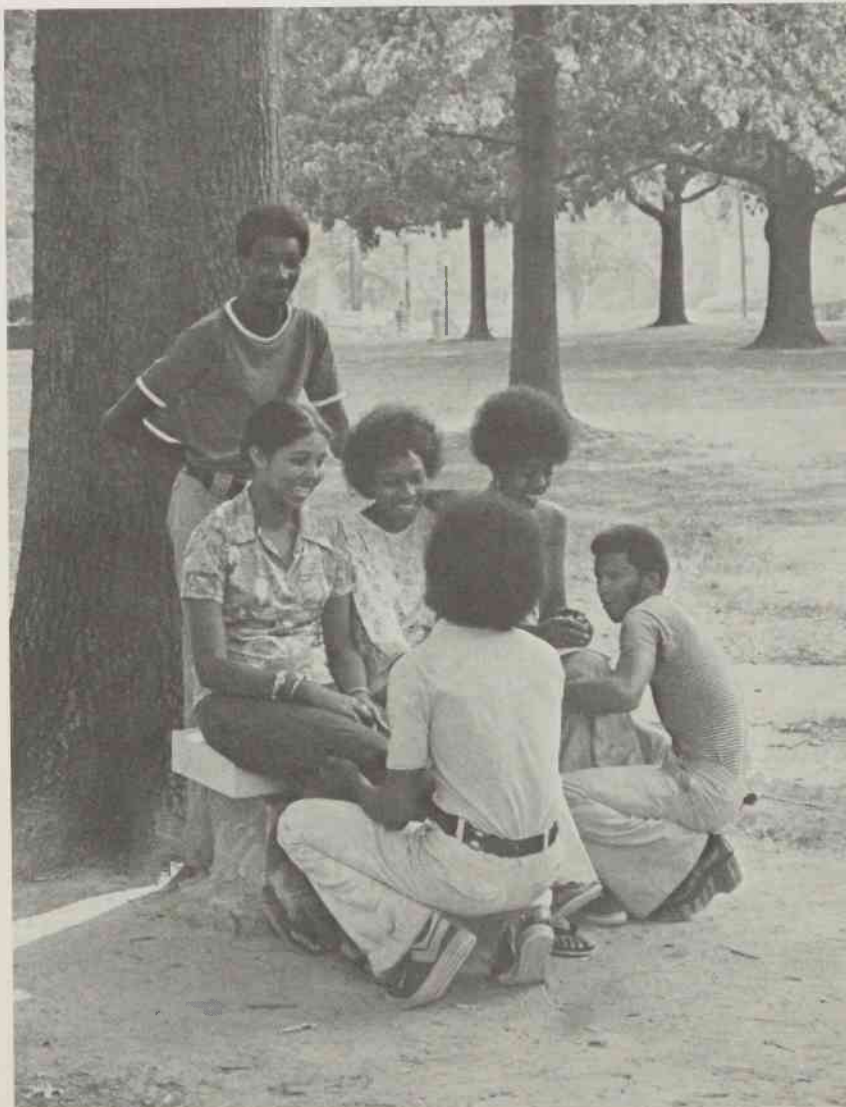
Many came because they had been influenced by some other person, often a present or former Bennett Belle. **Joan Robinson** said that she was influenced by her cousin who goes to Bennett and that Bennett "seemed like a good school academically with a good reputation." So far she still thinks Bennett is a good school and she likes the atmosphere but thought some things could be better organized, such as freshman registration. She also questioned some of the rules and regulations which govern freshmen.

Another freshman influenced by someone else said, "I was influenced by my aunt. She said she had attended the school and now her daughters were. She also said Bennett had a nice Home Economics Department." She feels that she still has some getting used to Bennett to do.

Recruitment counselors were also influential in some decisions. **Elfrida Williams** of Albany, Georgia, was recruited by **Ruth Dennis**, a recruitment counselor at Monroe High School.

Academic programs were special attractions to some. **Regina Lynch** of Black Mountain, N. C. said, "What influenced me to come to Bennett was that I was searching for a college which offered me the courses that would enable me to go into the field of fashion advertising or merchandising. I was also at

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Freshmen take a break from rigors of registration.

Photo by Joyce Bass