



Photo by Myra Davis

Authors of "Spoonbread and Strawberry Wine," Carole and Norma Jean Darden, presented a seminar on writing tips and career planning as it related to their careers in education, theatre and modeling during their recent visit.

## Lao offers light

by Linda Anderson

Many of us are searching for substance in our lives. Our days are spent in an idle stupor about ourselves and the world around us.

"The Way of Life According to Lao Tzu," translated by Witter Bynner, is a collection of 81 sayings for the Tao religion. According to Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu, this book constitutes observations about "poise, assurance, and the ways of serenity."

Legend has it that Lao was "immaculately conceived by a shooting star, carried in his mother's womb for sixty-two years and born, it is said, white-haired, in 604 B.C. . . ." During his lifetime, Lao looked around the world and decided that "man can be a doer without being an actor" and that "the way to do is to be."

In contrast, 18th Century American Puritan Jonathan Edwards believed that only through passivity would man receive God's grace. Although many thinkers sharing beliefs like Edwards' consider Lao Tzu's vision as bordering on "vacant inaction or passive contemplation," Lao actually promoted a kind of "creative quietivism."

Curiously enough, many of the same ideals espoused by Lao Tzu bear strong resemblance to the convictions of American Romantics Henry David Thoreau and Walt Whitman, who felt that through the inward journey and the contemplation of the self, man acquired an understanding of God

and the universe. Hard-line Puritans like Edwards subscribed to the rejection of the self.

The crux of Lao's philosophy lies in his certainty that "men's conduct should depend on instinct and conscience." Lao's principles advocate the quest for inner faith and simplicity.

Dr. I. W. Heysinger describes Lao's basic premise as "the integrating principle of the whole—the spirit, as if it were the universe—instinct with contrivance, which flows with purpose."

One of the most impressive aspects of the book is its simplicity. Lao writes with the intention of exposing the frailties of human nature. He offers his idealism as a means of overcoming mortal weakness.

Lao says: "It is better not to make merit a matter of reward lest people conspire and contend, not to pile up rich belongings lest they rob, not to excite by display lest they covet. A sound leader's aim is to open people's hearts, fill their stomachs, calm their wills, brace their bones and so to clarify their thoughts and cleanse their needs that no coming meddler could touch them: without being forced, without strain of constraint, good government comes of itself."

Such wisdom might not be the answer to your problems, but at least you will find some direction in the thoughts of Lao Tzu.

This book is available in the campus bookstore.

## Pacino challenges the law

by Joanne Joyner

"... And Justice for All" portrays the injustices of the criminal court system. It was produced by Norman Jewison and Patrick Palmer. Norman Jewison is also the director.

Arthur Kirkland, played by Al Pacino, was an energetic defense attorney. He cared about the welfare of his clients. All he asks is that they tell him the truth. As the movie opened, Kirkland was being released from jail for striking Judge Henry T. Fleming, played by John Forsythe. Kirkland felt his actions were justifiable in lieu of the fact that the judge refused to hear one of his cases.

Jeff McCullaugh, one of Kirkland's clients, had been in jail for a year and a half because one of his tail-lights was out. The police had stopped to warn him about the light and they did a routine check. They received information that a Jeff McCullaugh was wanted in another state. The police felt Jeff fit the description although it turned out to be a case of mistaken identity. While Jeff waited in jail, a guard was stabbed and the weapon was placed in Jeff's cell, and this "crime" resulted in a charge of murder. There was substantial evidence that proved Jeff's innocence, but Kirkland could not get Judge Fleming to hear the information because, according to a statute, the evidence was three days late.

Meanwhile, Judge Fleming

was arrested and jailed for rape. He wanted Arthur Kirkland to represent him for political reasons. Fleming felt that everyone would think he was innocent if his most despised adversary defended him. Kirkland, although hesitant, was not given the opportunity to decline the offer.

An ethics committee was established to filter out the corrupt and unstable lawyers and judges. Kirkland felt the committee members were par-

## Hair deserves salubrious treatment

by Monica Motley

Get a headstart on your hair this season by getting to the root of the problem. Your hair is definitely one of the most important parts of your body, so treat it with kindness.

If you have scraggly, flyaway hair, do something about this problem by investing in a professional haircut. A haircut can do so much for you. It can make you look more alive and give you a different image. Once you get a cut, don't let it go down the drain because of negligence and laziness. Your hair can only look good as long as you let it. Get the ends trimmed about every four to six weeks or as often as your hair requires trimming.

A tip to keep your hairstyle looking nice is to wash your hair frequently to relieve it of dirt and oils that can cause hair to look dull and spiritless. Invest in quality shampoos that are designed specifically to treat your type of hair. Shampoos usually come in three different types—

# One-acts start season

by Josie Hudley

Bennett College's Little Theatre has undergone some changes for the productions, "The Sirens" by Richard Wesley and "The Owl Killer" by Phillip Hayes Dean, which started Wednesday, November 14 and will run until Sunday, November 18.

"The stage of the theatre was too small for the productions I had in mind," stated Elliot Moffitt, the head of the drama department and director of both plays. With the assistance of some students, Moffitt replaced several rows of seats with an extension to the stage. There was also insufficient lighting for the newly built and old stage, so new lighting cables were installed on each side of the theatre walls. These changes came about just in time for the season's opening of two

one-act plays.

"The Sirens" deals with the different aspects of street-life and certain people's dreams of getting out. Mavis, played by sophomore Josie Hudley, is a young woman who has an opportunity to emerge from the street-life but is not sure she is able. Sophomore Monica Motley portrays Pepper, a hooker desperately trying to find a better way of life. Betty, played by sophomore Ramona Rousseau, is a teenager who just wants to be loved.

Two males were recruited from A&T State University to participate in this production. Stephen Lipscombe plays Bobby, a high school boy struggling to better himself. Portraying Duane is Anthony Johnson. Duane left his wife years ago to fulfill his ambitions and is now returning to take his wife with him. Cameo

appearances are made by Mr. Moffitt.

"The Owl Killer" is a drama depicting how a family handles the fact that one of its members—Lamar, the son—has killed someone. Another recruit from A&T State University is Avery Verdell, who portrays the father (Noah). Noah disowns his son for having committed the murder and wants nothing to do with him. Emma, the mother, played by Freshman Cynthia Mitchell, is torn between obeying her husband's commands and helping her son escape town. Sophomore Areatha Tharrington plays Stella Mae, the disowned daughter who is determined to help her brother skip town.

Certain time is 8:00 p.m. General Admission is \$2.00. Bennett College students get in free with I.D.

## Prof talks to congress

by Libby Malloy

Dr. Nellouise Watkins, director of the Bennett College computer center, testified as an expert at a Congressional hearing of the Committee on Science and Technology Oct. 9.

Watkins appeared in order to support a bill providing for the U.S. to maintain research in information technology comparable to programs in other countries and encouraging the use of computer-based

techniques applied to the learning process at all levels.

Watkins expressed surprise at the invitation, but she decided that two factors influenced her selection—her work on the board of the National Science Organization in Minority Institutions and her involvement with an Advanced Institutional Development Program (AIDP) grant which allowed her to gather statistics relevant to computer

research.

"It was awesome but at the same time educational," Watkins stated about her work in Washington.

She was particularly impressed by a speech from an IBM expert forecasting future innovations in computer technology. Watkins compared the computer revolution to science fiction that is very close to being a reality in America.

One of the inventions predicted by experts is the merger of the computer and the home television set so that customers can pay bills within the confines of their own houses and shoppers can order necessities from the grocery store. All that is required for these breakthroughs in convenience is a new gadget that would be connected to the TV.

Watkins maintained that the great advantage of an advanced computer system is the eradication of expenses for paper. "With the new computer you don't use cards—only terminals," she observed.

The visit to Congress only further confirmed Watkins' faith in the importance of computers to the nation. The progress of science may cause some difficulties, but Watkins believes that "America solves the problems that technology creates."

## Spouses share detective profession in charming t.v. series 'Hart to Hart'

by Shelia Purnell

Can a husband and wife work together in the same profession? "Hart to Hart" proves this statement to be true. Jonathan and Jennifer Hart are a husband and wife detective team. Max, their

butler, helps his employers to solve their cases.

Jonathan is a hard-working man who puts his life on the line to help other people. Jennifer is a beautiful, intelligent, ambitious woman who devotes her life to the welfare of other people. Max serves as a humorous butler who adds a special touch to the family.

Robert Wagner plays the part of Jonathan Hart. Stephanie Powers is Jennifer Hart, and Lionel Stander portrays Max. After watching all the other detective stories I feel that "Hart to Hart" is different and it shows great potential. If you want romance and drama at the same time, tune in to "Hart to Hart."

## Eubie Blake gets toe-tapping tribute

by Joanne Joyner

"EUBIE!" is a musical created in recognition of the world-famous composer/pianist Eubie Blake. The residents of Greensboro were given the opportunity to behold this outstanding display of talent on October 22 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

For those of us that are too young to remember, Eubie Blake was born in Baltimore, Md. in 1883. At 17 he became a professional pianist, and in 1915 he and Noble Sissle formed a partnership as lyricist and composer, later becoming the well-known vaudeville team—Sissle and Blake. Their first show was "Shuffle Along" which opened in New York in 1921. Since that opening blacks have not been barred from the Broadway stage.

During World War II, Blake toured five years with the USO. In his more than 75 years as a composer he has written hundreds of songs and for the past few years he has been making frequent ap-

pearances on television and radio, as well as in movies and personal appearances at universities. He now resides with his wife Marion in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The seven-woman, six-man cast presented a variety of music, including jazz, gospel, ragtime and blues. They performed some of his famous numbers such as "Shuffle Along," "I'm Just Wild About Harry," and "Low Down Blues." They wore very colorful costumes that were reminiscent of the early 20th century.

The members of the cast were Susan Beaubian, Chris Calloway, Tony Franklin, Jackée Harry, Marva Hicks, Donna Patrice Ingram, Bernard Manners, Robert Melvin, Francine Claudine Moore, Keith Rozie, Deborah Lynn Sharpe, Roderick Spencer Sibert, and Vernon Spencer.

The show was a fitting, dynamic tribute to Eubie Blake's rich contribution to American music.