

# Hill challenges Belles

by Avanti Allen

Belles were encouraged by Dr. Shelia Gibbs Hill, Bennett graduate, to "Accept the Legacy" during the 23rd annual Spring Honors Convocation.

Hill, class of '72, is supervisor of Gifted and Talented Education in Chesapeake, Va.

Belles were asked to accept the legacy after Hill reminisced about the accomplishments of black women. Hill spoke on the topic of legacies because she is a legacy. Her mother was also a graduate of Bennett College.

"Our heritage is rich," according to Hill. Women such

as Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, Mary Church Terrell and Willa B. Player helped to make our heritage rich. These women achieved many firsts for the betterment of black people.

"In order to continue the legacy, black women must have a well-defined life," stated Hill. Supporting our own institutions and other black-owned operations is also necessary. Black children need role models so that they also can continue the legacy, commented Hill.

Hill extended congratulations and special challenges to students being honored.

They were asked not only to accept the legacy but to continue investing in their future.

"Let excellence be your standard for life," Hill stressed.

Honorees were again complimented after Hill's address with certificates presented by the Dean of the College. Sixty-eight students received honor certificates. Special recognition was given to sophomore Adrian Phillips and freshmen Odessa Henderson, Andrea Murphy, Janice Smith and Donna Williams for attaining 4.00 averages for the semester.

## Precocious student

# She's on move

by Yvonne Breece

The high-spirited young woman always knows how to enjoy herself among friends older than she is.

LaVonda Trimble, a freshman, turned 17 on Dec. 18. She matriculated at 16. How was she able to attend college so soon?

"As an elementary student at Concord Baptist Elementary School in Brooklyn, N. Y., instead of taking only reading, writing, and arithmetic, I also took black history, phonics, cooking, sewing, and Spanish," she says. This became the turning point in LaVonda's life.

Unlike her 14- and 15-year-old classmates and friends, LaVonda was 12 years old when she attended the eighth grade. After a year at Braithwaite Junior High, she decided to attend Mahalia Jackson I. S. 391 for a better education.

"It was very demanding because I was in the 8SP class which teaches the students eighth and ninth grade courses," LaVonda states. The SP class is the most accelerated class in the eighth grade. LaVonda was able to skip the ninth grade and attend the tenth right after the eighth grade. Like few others, LaVonda was ahead of her age group at school. Not only was LaVonda keeping up with two years of school in one year, she also found time to participate in hockey, softball, badminton and gymnastics.

As a 12-year-old among her 14- and 15-year-old friends, LaVonda got along with everyone. Some of her friends did not know exactly how old she was. They all took it for granted that she was 15 because she attended the eighth grade and high school with them. The friends that knew of her true age were as proud of her as her parents and family were. Not only was LaVonda ahead of her age group, she was an all-around sports player.

As a senior in high school, LaVonda was not able to do as all her classmates did. She had to come in earlier or was just limited to the things she was able to do.

"I wasn't able to go out with my classmates. I was always on the inside looking out. Because of my age, my parents kept a tight hold on me. After a while, my days started to turn into a routine. I would come home from school, watch television and do my homework without bothering to ask my parents if I could go out somewhere with my friends," LaVonda remembers and laughs.

None of this really matters to LaVonda now because she is as equally proud of herself as everyone else is. She loved being 16 and a freshman in college. LaVonda handled the situation casually because everybody takes it for granted that she is like all other students.

An excellent roller skater, she loves playing the drums, reading, using the computers, eating and like most other young ladies, watching "All My Children." When she mentions eating, her eyes light up.

As a student in college, she realizes the big difference from high school. The work is different and more demanding, but she feels as though she can keep up with what

ever is expected of her. And now that she is in college, she is able to do a lot more than she did in her previous years.

"I will be able to keep up with the crowd and the demands of college," LaVonda believes. There are definitely no regrets on LaVonda's part.

LaVonda will not let anything keep her back from whatever it is that she wants.

"LaVonda always seems to bring out the best in people. Even though she acts a little crazy at times, she is fun to be with," remarks one of LaVonda's many friends.

## Belle troubled by lost season

by Shonna Luten

The cancellation of the basketball season has disillusioned a promising player.

"Basketball to me would have been a major part of my college life . . . Playing basketball to me is like going to history class — that's how much effort I put into the game," said freshman Latanya Hart, who has played organized basketball for seven years.

She played varsity ball in high school for three years. As a senior she won the MVP award and also the All-Rowan County award.

One of the main reasons Hart attended Bennett besides a four-year academic scholarship was that she had heard about the basketball team. She played on the college volleyball team but that is a "minor sport," in her book, compared to basketball.

"An effort was made to keep the basketball team going . . . When we found out that there was going to be no team, we went out to find people who could play or would be willing to practice hard to keep the team going. The most disappointing aspect is that there are people who can play and play very well, who did not come out . . . It was the people who were not that skilled who worked their butts off and tried to keep the team alive," she says.

"First they let us have a team. Then they cancelled it. Then they let us have it again. Then they took it away from us again. I believe if they are going to have a basketball team, they need a set standard of how many people they want on the team. Even though Coach Mussington told us how many players we needed to play, why let us start out, not intending for us to finish?" she asks.

Hart also feels badly about how she learned the season had been cancelled.

"She [the coach] could have sat down with the team and told us exactly why the team was cancelled and how she felt about the whole situation . . . Most of the team heard of the cancellation by word of mouth from one of the other players on the team. If you tell one, why not the rest?" she asks.

Hart says that the lack of a basketball team next year will force her to transfer.

" . . . I'm going to attend another school so I can play, even though I have a four-year academic scholarship here. That's how much basketball means to me," she states.

# Twins are different

by Yolanda Lloyd

Being the only child can be lonely and have a brother or sister can sometimes be frustrating, but having a twin sister is another story. This is Andra and Audra Henning's story.

Andra and Audra, better known as the "twins," are two closely knit sisters born in Ottoma, Iowa on Feb. 10, 1966 just a few minutes apart. They now reside in the west side of Detroit.

One may wonder if having a twin would cause difficulty in self-identity? Audra says "no," because her parents tried to encourage their different personalities. But there are some disadvantages of having a twin. For example, their relatives had to shop in pairs and if there was only one item, neither one of them could get it.

Looking alike and being mistaken for one another doesn't upset the twins. "Nope, because it happens all the time. Even though we

don't look alike anymore, people have a hard time with our names," says Andra.

One distinguishing mark that could help determine Andra from Audra is a birthmark that Audra has on the right side of her face. Half of her eyelash is gray; half of her eyebrow is gray; and she has a touch of gray on the right side of her hair. Andra, on the other hand, is a little smaller than Audra.

Because of their external features, people tend to confuse Andra and Audra. "We are confused all the time. If it's not from possibly our personalities, then it's the way we dress, or the way we act," says Audra.

When they were younger, their mother used to dress them alike all the way up to grade school. Later that changed because one would want to wear a dress that day and the other would want to wear pants. It was easy for their parents to tell them apart, but when they took pictures it was hard for their

mother to tell them apart, but easy for their father.

"Hey, twins!" or "Where is the other twin?" Andra and Audra have heard this almost every day, but that doesn't bother them at all. "I have no problems being called 'twins,' because it's like a nickname," says Audra.

You can rest assured that they get a lot of attention being at the same college and living in Pfeiffer Hall.

Audra was coming to Bennett, but got accepted at Spelman. Some conflicts developed which made her go to Bennett with Andra. Not everything the twins do is alike. Andra is majoring in English and Audra is majoring in law.

They may appear to be the same, but they are as different as the colors black and white. The next time you see Andra and Audra together, there is no need to blink twice. Your eyesight is telling the truth. You're not seeing double!

# Restaurants rated

by Margo Gilmore

Often overlooked by Belles are two eating places offering good food at reasonable prices and interesting atmospheres.

The Church is located at the corner of Bennett and Market Streets. It is, in fact, exactly what the name says, a church where food is prepared and sold in the basement. You can eat in or take out.

This restaurant has a daily menu that includes fried chicken, greens, cabbage, candied yams, meatloaf and gravy, string beans, mashed potatoes, cornbread, macaroni and cheese, tea or soda. Every Friday a fresh fried fish special is offered on the menu. For dessert you have a choice of chocolate cake or hot apple pie.

For a balanced home-cooked meal, you need only \$3.50. You may also be lucky enough to be there when their gospel choir is rehearsing upstairs, and get an earful of good music while you eat. Geena Bounsell, a senior accounting major, said, "I like eating at the church because the food is like good old grandma's cooking. They give you a lot and it is not very expensive."

Monroe's is located on E. Bessemer Avenue, only six minutes away from the col-

lege. This place captures the attention of many kinds of people.

"It reminds me of 'Happy Days,'" said junior Yolanda Lloyd. You will notice a big yellow "M," and beneath that, a red sign that says "Monroe's." This sign is like a McDonald's sign. Many people turn in thinking they are going to a McDonald's, but instead they find themselves in a drive-in restaurant.

You don't have to get out of your car. You simply drive in, blow your horn, and a man dressed in a red jacket will come to your car to take your order. Monroe's menu includes barbecue, hamburgers, ribs, steak and cheese, French fries, fried shrimp and fish. Milk shakes, sodas and beer are available for drinks.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, this drive-in turns into a hot hangout spot. You can expect a line of cars waiting to enter. Some people merely want to drive through and show off their new cars and others may want to find a date. People are constantly pulling in and out until around midnight.

You can spend anywhere from \$1.90 to \$6 for a good meal.

"Although Monroe's may not be the best-looking place to go eat, the price is low and they have the best French

fries in Greensboro. They season them with some kind of seasoned salt which adds to their taste," said junior Andrea Chan.

"And don't forget the tip . . . They might not want to wait on you the next time," said junior Allyson Oliver.

These two eating places have three things in common. The price is affordable for college students, the food is different, and you don't have to wait for hours to be served.

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office. She feels that the college deserves a fall break. She would like to build the sisterhood on campus and strengthen the SGA budget. Most important, she is working hard to motivate the students spiritually, educationally and socially.

Tracey Townsend, a junior and a member of the Bennett Scholars, states: "I have noticed that when a program is scheduled the student body is informed in advance. So that gives us time to prepare ourselves. To me, this is a sign of good leadership."

Karen and her cabinet are working diligently to bring Bennett College standards back to the way they once were.