

On break: Media specialist Myra Davis in favorite environment.
(photo by P. Johnson)

Davis is a professional

by Vicelia Howard

You may know her as that petite woman with the friendly smile and flashing camera, rushing about as if she had a million things to do in one day.

For the past 12 years, Myra Davis has devoted her time and efforts to the concerns of Bennett College. Davis is head of the public relations office. She is also a Bennett graduate, with a bachelor of arts degree in history and a master's in adult education. Myra is a native of Charlotte and has been employed here since her graduation.

Her job is demanding and exciting. Myra is responsible for having full contact with all areas of the media. She has to make sure that Bennett gets all the publicity it needs. Her work allows her to have freedom, which she feels is one of the strongest points of the job.

"I'm not behind the desk

all the time. I get a chance to meet and truly get to know how the students, faculty and staff feel about this institution," said Davis.

Myra spends her work days meeting deadlines and making sure that all events on campus are covered by the media.

Myra also deals with the recruiting of new students. What she finds most frustrating about her job is that there just isn't enough money to attract the students needed.

"Recruiting students is very competitive. We don't have the budget needed to go across the country to recruit students. It's like comparing a pencil to a computer; you are expected to get the same results," said Davis.

She got her job by volunteering. When she was a senior, she would always run errands for the man in charge of the publications office. It so happened that he retired and she was asked to

take the job. Myra feels that anyone that is going into the communications field should prepare herself.

"I think that students should broaden their knowledge by developing their communications skills, such as speaking and writing. One thing I would like to see is more journalism classes taught on campus. The students need to gain experience in their field of study. Try to write for the campus newspaper. Get internships. Take advantage of the audio-lingual lab and increase those typing skills. Learn to work with deadlines and under pressure. Because that is what you deal with in the real working world," said Davis.

Davis has faith in her institution and her mission.

"I have enjoyed my experiences at Bennett. There is a lot of talent here and I believe in this institution. I hope that others get involved and start believing, too," she said.

Counselor is devoted

by Karen K. Exum

She came a long way from being a public school teacher and librarian, and the campus is glad she undertook the journey.

The calm, soft-spoken woman has found her niche as coordinator of the counseling center where she has helped many Belles with their problems.

Mrs. Julia Anderson has logged many miles and done many jobs. Although her roots lie in North Carolina, having grown up in Rocky Mount and attended Livingstone College in Salisbury, Anderson has been involved in education in many states, including New York, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio and Arkansas. She moved often because her husband was a Methodist minister.

The turning point in her career came when she listened to her students' problems after class and derived satisfaction from helping them.

She knew she wanted to be a counselor.

She came to Greensboro when her husband became the minister of St. Matthew's Methodist Church, in whose basement Bennett College was founded long ago. She already thought highly of the school.

"As a young person growing up in the state, I always had great respect for Bennett College and what it stood for," she says.

Taking a master's in guidance and counseling, she began at Bennett in 1967 in the co-curricular office and then became a counselor.

What's the secret to success in her field? First, she doesn't tell people what to do. She helps them see they have the capacity to solve their own problems.

"I try to help you realize that things are not as bad as they seem," she explains.

Second, she believes successful counseling depends on a student's seeking help vol-

untarily. She can't force her assistance on the student.

Students' problems haven't changed much since she entered the counseling field, but Anderson feels that students are better able to work out solutions due to an increase in financial aid and support from the community.

Her biggest difficulty is changing the image of the counseling center, which some people see as an option for only those students afflicted with psychological emergencies.

Anderson believes in the importance of talking. When she has a problem, she consults another counselor or depends on friends.

Anderson may have come a long way, but she's not resting. Recently, she met the standards set by the National Board for Certified Counselors.

She will continue to make the campus a healthier, happier environment.

Making much of time . . . Mason gets the maximum

by Valarie Reid

As hard as Mr. Fred Mason works, you'd think his slim leisure time would be spent winding an alarm clock or buying gasoline instead of driving a vintage car.

The college organist goes the extra mile in more ways than one. Every weekday, he consumes nearly two hours in commuting from Durham where he lives with his wife and two children. He teaches four courses, accompanies the choir during all performances and studies at UNC-G on Mondays, preparing for his doctorate.

Often his days start early and, after evening choir rehearsal, end late. Does he convalesce on the weekends? Hardly. On Saturdays, he plays at his Seventh Day Adventist Church and on Sundays at St. Joseph's.

Why doesn't he ever look tired? Maybe his hobbies rejuvenate him. He loves an-

tique cars, deep-sea fishing and card playing.

The stylish Mason's appreciation of style is reflected in his 1956 Oldsmobile, which he drives only on Sunday afternoons. This summer, he will take the prized conveyance to Washington, D. C. for a meeting of the National Antique Oldsmobile Club to which he belongs.

"I want to own a 1950 or '51 Packard," Mason says, energetically pulling out the *Car Spotters' Encyclopedia* from the music texts on his desk.

Mason also finds harmony at the ocean and the card table.

"I love deep-sea fishing, and I go to Morehead City or Carolina Beach when I find the time, or I fish at lakes near Durham. I love to play cards but only Rook . . . During the summer, I will play all day or all night," he said.

It would seem the present-

tense demands of his schedule and his attempts to work in his hobbies would fully occupy the organist, but, like most strong achievers, he's acutely conscious of the past and future.

He reached Bennett a long time before he was ever employed here, attending a humanities summer school program in 1967 and living in the now-departed Kent Hall. Back then, he imagined himself teaching here. The college became a part of his plan. He's taught and played here for four years.

Mason is presently on a trip to England, France, Germany and Switzerland where he is seeing the organs in the great cathedrals. Mason also plans to enter a full-time doctoral program soon, possibly this fall.

Perhaps he'll roll up to the graduate school in the glimmering Olds. No matter how he arrives, he'll bring dedication and style with him.

Seniors compose final testaments

by Kim L. Romeo

The waiting period is becoming unbearable. Now that the seniors have received their caps and gowns, the thought of graduating is becoming a reality, not a distant goal. While preparing for finals and confirming appointments for job interviews, a few seniors found time to pass on their last wills and testaments to the sisters they are leaving behind.

"I have two mottoes," writes Jackie Williams. "One which I have changed a little to suit my needs is taken from a song by McFaddin and Whitehead called 'Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now.' The second one is, 'Where there's a will there's a way.' With these thoughts instilled in my mind, I have been determined to come this far. Good Luck, Bennett sisters."

G. Kathy Brown says: "Being of sound body and semi-sound mind I will to Valia, Tanya, Suzanne and Lynn my love and dream for Bennett's future, and the realization of the education obtained at a black institution. To my little sister Sharon I will my wit, charm, and unflinching ability to sleep in anyone's room."

Senior Alaina Cloud comments, "Bennett has made me appreciate being a young black woman. To the sophomore class, I would like to leave this personal quote, 'Be ambitious and don't settle for less.' Don't just go to class and go to your room. Be active, participate in campus activities, and stay on top of your class. Good luck, little sisters, for being a wonderful class."

Tonya Lynette Horton, graduating with honors, leaves these words behind: "I, Tonya Lynette Horton, being of sound mind and body bequeath to my Bennett sisters a sincere wish that each and every one of you will find the motivation, zeal, desire, drive and perseverance to drain every ounce of knowledge from the Bennett faculty who strive so hard to instill it in us. To my very special little sisters, Pamela R. Singletary, Latosaka C. Stevens and Vera L. Walker, a prayer for success and happiness in both your endeavors at Bennett College and in the world. You are the little sisters I never had and are three of the most important reasons why I will always consider Bennett College home. I love you. To my sorors of the Omicron Delta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. a heartfelt desire that you will keep the ideals of our national founders alive through your words and deeds."

Teresa Ann Lipscomb gives advice to the underclasswomen and her sorors: "All my Bennett sisters strive to reach your goal and don't stop until you reach the rainbow. To my sorors of Omicron Delta, keep the faith and always remain as one. I love you all!"

Belinda Drayton writes: "For a word of advice from a woman who knows what achievement is—when the roads get long and the hills are hard to climb, remember the class of '85's motto, 'We create our tomorrow by what we dream today.' To my Bennett sisters, I leave behind my wit, charm and loveable personality."

Art of the dance is communication

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cles. My time has to be budgeted because dancing is hard work."

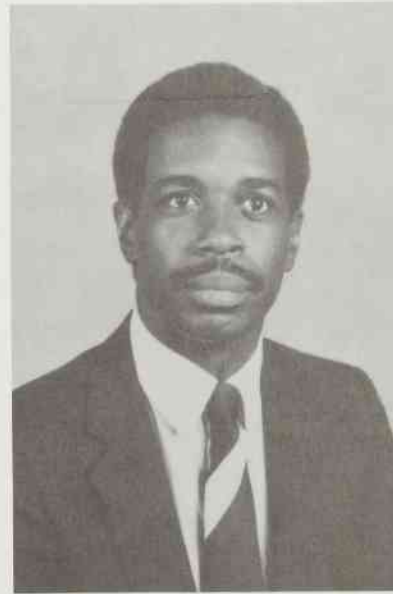
Dancing is a form of communication and a confirmation of sisterhood for Roberson.

"I joined the dance company because I needed something to do," she says. "I enjoy dancing a lot. I have been dancing since the age of five. It's a good way to keep up and become closer with some of my fellow Bennett sisters."

Evans emphasizes the interior advantage of dancing.

"Dancing helps to discover new ways to express yourself," she says.

The company will tune up for its campus appearance with an April 12 performance for alumnae in Reidsville.



Renaissance Man: Fred Mason has a variety of interests, including cathedrals and cars.

Be sure to see
Dance Company