



News expert: WFMY-TV's weekend anchor Ms. Joyce Taylor appeared here Oct. 21 to share the secrets of her success. (photo courtesy of Ms. Taylor).

President emphasizes commitment

by Charloie Pettway

President Gloria Dean Randle Scott called for renewed dedication to the success of the college by all members of the Bennett Family in a Founders' Day address Oct. 4.

As America is honoring the principles of its Constitution, the college must uphold its mission, Scott said.

"Our nation is now celebrating the bicentennial of the Constitution. It allows free people to make their own decisions," said Scott.

A person should use his freedom as a foundation for striving. "Commitment means stretching oneself by giving one's all. The concept of commitment goes beyond a constitution," said Scott. "It takes extra dedication to move forward."

Scott challenged the audience to devote itself to creating a better Bennett College. "Bennett College was designed and created as an institution to provide education to free slaves in 1873," said Scott. She compared Bennett to the Constitution, in that the document and the institution both serve as beacons of progress.

Scott explained how Bennett can be improved and by what commitments. She stressed "outside-of-the-classroom" dedication.

"As faculty, we can make contributions by appearing for our classes on time and being prepared. This means going beyond that day into the aisles of the dormitories and the libraries and into the lives of the students," said Scott.

Students can extract the most from the Bennett experience through disciplined class attendance, the pursuit of academic excellence and participation in campus activities.

Scott urged the staff to "be committed to the growth and the development of these young (Bennett) women." This commitment means investing dollars, energies, time and love.

"Last but not least, we must return to the Constitution to recommit ourselves," said Scott. "We the people, in order to form a more perfect union . . . It is unity which will guarantee a thriving future."

Students were inspired by the speech.

"Dr. Scott has motivated me to perform better in my classes and to take my college education more seriously," said junior Cheryl Clark.

"Dr. Scott has truly created high spirits here," sophomore Tonya McCrea said.

Sophomore Pamela McCoy found Scott's speech moving. "Dr. Scott is a talented and positive president. Her speech will be remembered for a long time," said McCoy.

"Very informative and exciting," said former Miss Freshman Stacey Smalls.

Speech winners

(from page 1)

is smoking a joint is a slower process of suicide than shooting yourself." McClenton gave listeners a phone number which they could call if they, or anyone they knew, had an addiction to alcohol or drugs.

The four winning participants received certificates at the event and will receive trophies soon.

Winners' reactions

(from page 1)

Hate," which is about a young girl's suicide attempt over the breakup with her boyfriend.

Radford presented this piece because "I've done something like it before that had the same ending, but the beginning of it was different. I was familiar with it and comfortable, so I stuck with that." She plans to enter the competition again next year.

Under the special issues category, senior Dale McClenton won with the topic "Drug and Alcohol Awareness: A Time for College Students to Act and React."

McClenton, who felt "absolutely wonderful" about winning, chose the topic because of "a prior interest in drug abuse."

"I just thought I'd show in a humorous way how people really don't think when they think they think," says McClenton.

McClenton informed the audience that effects of drugs are as lethal as the weapons normally used in suicides, such as guns and knives.

Belles express problems

by Karen Horne

In a recent study of students and their problems at Bennett, there were mixed reactions as to how students felt about the administration and the student activities.

Some students had positive feelings on the administration and about student activities.

"It takes time to get things in order, but I look forward to the rest of the year. And I think that the new administration will do good things for the college," says Gwynn Midgette, a senior. Freshman Stephanie Jones said that she thinks the administration is trying to get better and felt that if more students take advantage of what is here that they would get more from Bennett.

Other students addressed the problems they have with faculty and student-adviser relationships.

"The communication between faculty and students is poor," says junior Nichelle Gordon.

Cheryl Floyd, a freshman, feels that the instructors are

not motivated and that makes for a lack of communication between students and faculty. Sophomore Sondra Sells feels that poor student and adviser relationships have been the reason that she has been misadvised.

Most students were also concerned with the lack of unity and togetherness.

"The biggest problem is the lack of sisterhood," said sophomore Tina Gray.

Deidra Robinson, a sophomore, said that she feels that students here are not involved enough in Bennett. She also mentioned that students should be challenged more often.

Senior Ophelia Hayes felt that students are not close enough because too many people just don't care about Bennett.

The need for more campus activities was high on the list of problems. Some students felt that there are just not enough things to do.

"The Student Union needs more activities and it will probably get better," says

Wilma Bell.

Sophomore Debbie Bryant says, "Here at Bennett there really are no activities. This causes depression in the sense that besides all the class work there is really no way for a person to unwind through various activities."

One student felt that the lack of positiveness is another problem here at Bennett.

"I don't think there's enough positive thinking on campus. There are too many people with negative thoughts," says junior Wanda Albert.

Another student felt that the problem of lack of activities could be solved if more students got involved with the student government.

"I think that more students should attend the SGA meetings and other meetings so that they can talk about what their problems are. Also, if more students joined clubs and actively stayed with them, they could create more social activities," says Karla Williams, a senior.

Laundromat solves need

by Karen Horne

There's a new addition to the campus, and it's the much-needed laundromat in the power plant behind the Student Union. It opened Oct. 28.

Mr. Gerald Leighton, director of environmental services, is excited about the new facility and hopes it will be successful.

"It was quite an effort to put it together for the students, and it's important that the students help maintain the condition of the laundromat," says Leighton.

The laundromat has six washers and four dryers. The washing machines are larger than those in the dormitories, and the dryers are a better quality than the dorm dryers because they use gas heat.

The laundromat is painted white and trimmed in a reddish pink color. There are a newly installed bathroom and folding tables and two sinks for hand-washables. Leighton plans to add study carrels and sitting stools. The facility is very well lit, and Leighton believes that it will offer stu-

dents a good study area. In addition, the area outside the laundromat has improved lighting.

"I believe it is a quality atmosphere and it's convenient. We will be lighting the alleyway to increase safety. Security will be checking student identification to make sure only the students are using the facility that's being provided for them," said Leighton.

The college has been working on the laundromat since July and has spent quite a bit in financing the new facility. Leighton estimates the cost at \$27,000.

Most students welcome the facility.

"I feel that the laundromat is a good idea. It's better because the dorms have one or two washing machines. It's a big advantage to the campus," says Joy Elliott, a freshman.

Michele de la Coudray, a junior, says, "I think it will be very helpful because the dorms don't have enough washers. I think I'll use it quite often."

One student expressed re-

servations about the facility.

"It's good, but they need more washing machines. But I don't think I'll use it," says junior Paula Johnson. "I wasn't notified as to when it was opening, and I don't think the new laundromat is a good idea. I think they should have put it in the dorms."

However, comments from the administration and faculty were positive.

Dr. Dorothy Harris, vice-president for student affairs, hailed the laundromat as the culmination of a plan to improve basic services for students. Harris had backed the facility for a long time.

Mr. Michael Gaspeny, an English instructor, sees the laundromat as an important development.

"In my eight years of reading freshman essays and letters to the Bennett Banner, I've found that one of the students' main complaints was the limited number of washers and dryers on campus. To be inconvenienced in doing one's laundry creates frustration. The laundromat answers an urgent and long-standing need," Gaspeny said.

Misbehaving men

(from page 2)

earlier in the day inadvertently made me feel embarrassment, humiliation and disgust.

How? These gentlemen, during the plenary session of the conference in which decisions concerning proposed amendments to the Constitution were to be discussed by the entire body, decided to be rude. They began to snicker, crack jokes, laugh, and make all types of unnecessary comments throughout the session. I know that as black Americans we are labeled with stereotypes. My questions are: why place foundation under these stereotypes, why put reality into these myths, and if these four men represented the best from that particular black college, what do their actions say about the average students they were representing?

This experience caused me to realize more fully that I represent myself, my race and my college when I participate in functions such as these and basically everywhere I go. I have prayed that I would never make my black brothers and sisters feel what I felt that day.

Janice Smith

Help the hungry

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Bring canned goods
To Student Interfaith Center