



Sisterhood in action: Mrs. Mary R. Scarlett, adviser to the campus Girl Scouts, shares a moment of merriment with a special friend. (photo by Waller)

## Scouts hold day

by Tanya Goodwin

The Bennett College Campus Scouts held their annual Girl Scout Thinking Day Celebration Feb. 13 in Black Hall Assembly.

Thinking Day is a program dedicated to "thinking about" Girl Guides and Scouts around the world.

This year's theme was "Around the World in 80 Minutes." The program was presented by the International Students Organization. Ruelita Woods, a junior from Liberia, West Africa and president of the I.S.O., said "Thinking Day was a good program. It educates the children about other countries and their various activities."

The program consisted of mini-visits to selected countries, group-singing of international songs, and a special presentation by Brownie Troop #699.

Italy and Japan offered the first visit. Talia and Monique McCray and Debra Bryant from Denver conducted this workshop about their experiences in these countries. Talia, a junior, stated, "I was very surprised with participation for Thinking Day. I felt the program was very successful."

Bryant, a sophomore, said "I really enjoyed my visit to Italy and was happy to talk about my experiences during Thinking Day." She also said, "Thinking Day was a very good experience for me and I really enjoyed myself."

The special presentation by Brownie Troop #699 was titled "A Glimpse of India." Mrs. Lapha Rao and daughters Sailaja and Srikala provided the audience with a glimpse of India. Mrs. Rao is the wife of Dr. Sekhar Rao, director of the division of natural sciences and professor of biology.

Mrs. Phyllis Redfearn, parent of Paula Redfearn of Troop #699, stated, "I really enjoyed it. The program was very educational for the girls. I feel everyone should have experience of learning about different cultures."

Senior Gladys Forster from Banjul, Gambia and Ruelita Woods discussed their countries and the activities they participate in.

Freshman Akosita Ngaue from Salt Lake City, Utah gave an enlightening over-

view of her homeland, Tonga. She stated, "I enjoy living in the U.S., but someday would like to return to the island."

The program concluded with remarks from the service unit personnel and the singing of the song "Taps."

There are 25 Belles involved with campus scouting. The officers are Kimberly Martin, president; senior Teresa Kelly, vice-president; senior Deborah Dixon, scribe historian; junior Sonja Cloud, treasurer; Mrs. Mary R. Scarlett, adviser; and field representative for unit 22, Elaine Morehead.

Senior Kim Martin from Sedalia stated, "Being a member of the Girl Scout troop for four years and president for two, I've had the opportunity to work with a number of girls with varying scouting knowledge. During this time we've taught and learned from each other in order to build a united organization. Once we had our foundation as a group, we were able to extend our knowledge of scouting to those that are less fortunate as in the Ray Warren Troop."

The Campus Scouts participate in Community Out-Reach, where they sponsor Troop 780, the Ray Warren Troop. There are 21 girls enrolled in the troop, which is divided into two levels - Brownie Girl Scouts, ages six through eight, and Junior Girl Scouts, ages nine through 12. Activities of the troop include trips to the mall and ShowBiz Pizza, a mini-camping trip and double dutch jumping.

Other Campus Scout activities include working with different scout troops, working in the Girl Scout Council and taking leadership training under the direction of Mrs. Scarlett.

Mrs. Scarlett, assistant professor of education, said, "I've gotten a lot of gratification from this year in getting to know and work with the girls here at Bennett in another setting. They are able to relate to the children in a warm and friendly way."

Dr. Gloria Scott, president of Bennett College and former Girl Scout U.S.A. president, said, "I am very proud of the campus Scouts and hope to have a major Girl Scout conference here on campus."

## Children's House helps

by Shavaughn Neal

The Bennett College Children's House is shaping, educating and enriching the minds that will be the leaders of the future.

The Children's House is a school within a school. It was erected in 1953 with funding from the National Negro College Fund. Its purpose is to introduce learning and education to children between the ages of two and five.

The children are taught a basic curriculum consisting of language, social studies, science, health and math. They are also taught sequencing and correspondence and learn songs and poems. One of the more special things taught is correct table and social manners. The children also learn to ask for things politely and to respect each other as well as adults.

The Children's House is under the direction of Mrs. Naomi Dupree. There are two full-time teachers, Ms. Wanda Williams and Mrs. Jeanette Keith. They are assisted by several student teachers who work on a daily basis.

Most of the students are assigned through the work study program or are getting experience in their major fields. The majors include early childhood education, special education, nutrition, psychology, sociology and related human service fields. The students gain experience in teaching and educating children through extensive observation and participation.

Dupree has been the director

of the Children's House for two years.

She says, "The French scientist Louis Pasteur once wrote, 'When I approach a child, he inspires in me two sentiments, tenderness for what he is and respect for what he may become.' Every child at the Children's House inspires just that and is very special. He deserves the best from all persons who place a mark on his life."

Williams, head teacher and instructor of the pre-kindergarten class, says, "It's an enlightening experience to watch the children grow and learn. They seem to make progress every day."

Keith, the nursery teacher says, "To see the accomplishments and progress of the children is a rewarding experience. It's a wonderful feeling to see the knowledge they have acquired since they first arrived and know that you were responsible for it."

The student workers are enthusiastic about their experience.

Petrola Torrence, a junior majoring in early childhood education, says, "The Children's House is a great experience, and I enjoy every minute of it."

Rolanda Sutton, a freshman majoring in early childhood education, says, "It's fun. It helps me get experience in my major. It also gives me insight on how to deal with children."

The children participate in activities sponsored on the campus and their teachers say that

they are always eager to perform in front of a crowd.

Felecia Ash, a freshman majoring in business management, says, "The kids are very intelligent and learn quickly."

Sharon Black, a sophomore majoring in English, says, "There is a lot of eagerness and the teachers really seem to care about the children's education."

The Children's House is situated on the far end of the campus facing Gorrell Street. It is often mistaken for the YMCA that has its center in Goode Gymnasium until the Y facilities are reopened.

The Children's House is not a day care center. The children who attend must be officially enrolled and their parents pay a bi-weekly fee. It is not a nursery school but is considered an "academic support and enhancement program."

Since it opened, the Children's House has helped educate approximately 1200 children. The enrollment is 35 students per year.

The children's meals are provided by the TWM Food Services, and there is a full-time cook, Mrs. Dorothy Graves. She praises the children's intelligence and says she loves it when the children say, "Mrs. Graves, you're a good cook."

Mrs. Louise Levette, part-time custodian at the Children's House, says, "It's so refreshing to see how the kids act and use their energies. It seems that they love to learn."

## College family expresses ideas on coping with death

by Tammy Winchester

Death is something that most people never really give much thought to until it happens. The bereaved cope with their losses in different ways.

Pam Sampson, a junior from Clinton, says, "If someone close to me dies, I get quiet and try to picture that person not being there anymore. It's always difficult if it's someone close. I never really feels as though I have lost a part of myself, but a dear friend. For me to cope personally, I try to picture the person taking a long trip, knowing he will never return; that's the only way for me to cope with death."

Many people throw themselves into their work or into their religion to avoid facing the death of a loved one or friend. Some cry; some go into shock and others just can't accept the reality of the

situation, so they pretend that it's not true.

Denise and Diane White are twins and freshmen from Los Angeles. They experienced the deaths of their grandmother and a close friend around the Christmas holidays.

"I'm usually shocked and stunned by a death. If it's someone close, I find it hard to cry because of the disbelief. When I'm here at school, I don't have to deal with it as much as if I were home. It's easier for me to pick myself up here at Bennett. Death makes me feel as though I have lost someone special," says Denise White.

"I'm always shocked by a death. Both of my parents are alive, but I have always felt that I would die before them. I never really realize the depth of the situation until I view the body. It's the death of older family members that

makes me feel as though I have lost a part of my youth. I usually cope by crying or going to sleep to forget for a while," states Diane White.

Mrs. Daisy Brown, the residence director of Player Hall, says her encounters with death have left her with a feeling that the family is dwindling.

"It's hard to cope with death. I cry the normal way but it's always hard to get yourself together. I can't really describe the feelings of depression. The feelings are just so hard to release. I feel that you never really get over the death of a loved one. The pain lessens, but every once in a while, it comes back. Some people never really get over a death. I always feel as if I have lost a part of myself especially if it's a family member. It hurts to watch the family dwindling down," says Brown.

## Students choosing between classes and soap operas

by Tondalayo Clark

The '80s are full of day-time soap operas which students find interesting enough to schedule classes around.

"I watch soap operas because I like to see them and I don't want to miss them," said sophomore Tracy Sullivan from Indianapolis. "My stories come on at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. which are 'All My Children' and 'General Hospital.'" Sullivan also said, "On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays I made sure that I didn't have any classes during these times."

"I can't live without my soaps," said senior Kecia Brown from Willingboro, N.J. "My soaps come on at 1 p.m., and after lunch I like to take a break and watch the stories before I go to class." Brown added, "They're so exciting."

"My favorite soap opera comes on at 1 p.m., 'Days of Our Lives,'" said junior Tanya Goodwin from Cincinnati. "I schedule my classes around my soap operas because

I want to see them and it's like a break from my classes." Goodwin said, "It's like a fantasy world—some things are reality, but most of them are fantasy."

Sophomore Kimmerly Waller from Oakland, Calif. said, "My favorite soap operas are 'All My Children,' 'One Life to Live' and 'General Hospital.'" Waller adds, "The reason I schedule my classes around soap operas is I started looking at these when I was young and now I am totally addicted."

Sophomore Gillian Hodges from Springfield, Md. said, "I watch soaps because they're interesting. No one else's life is like that. But some of them are rather stupid." Hodges adds, "I've watched 'General Hospital' since I was a kid. I find the stories to be like cliffhangers."

There are students who like soap operas, but do not indulge in scheduling their classes around them.

Senior Andrea Shields from Indianapolis said, "It just happens

that the classes I have seem to fit around the soaps, so I can at least watch one or two of my favorite soaps between 12:30 and 2 p.m. I'm not really addicted to the soaps. I just like to watch them because of the fictional plots." Shields also said, "But I'm not here for that purpose."

Sophomore Sara Williams from New Haven, Ct. said, "I do not watch soaps because if you don't watch them for a long time you don't know what's going on. I know the basic characters, but I'm not into them. I'd rather watch cartoons," Williams adds, "If people want to schedule their classes around soaps, fine. I would not schedule my classes around them because I could just ask someone what happened."

One student simply despises soap operas and would never consider scheduling her classes around any such programs.

Sophomore Debra Bryant from Denver, Col. said, "I do not watch the soaps because they're nothing but trash."

## Enjoy Easter Break