

Columnist stresses being necessary

by Yvette N. Freeman

William J. Raspberry, the famed columnist for The Washington Post, is now a member of the Board of Visitors.

Raspberry was the guest speaker Jan. 22 for the convocation in memory of David D. Jones.

During his speech, Raspberry told the audience that his best advice to them is to "be necessary."

"If you are to save the world, you must first save yourself, and to do that you must be necessary," he said.

The renowned writer also urged students to learn as much as they can through "self-education," and not wait for instructors to teach them everything.

"... Learn about places and learn about people..." he stated, because "learning about people will help enormously in learning about yourself."

Raspberry also told students not to rely on their degrees in order to reach success. He explained that credentials only help get your foot in the door. After you're in, personal traits help you succeed.

"It's up to you to take whatever opportunity falls your way and fashion it to your needs," he added.

Raspberry then urged the student body to "use your four years at Bennett, not only to get a diploma, but to get an education."

Raspberry was also the

guest of honor at a luncheon for communications majors at the president's house.

During the luncheon, he told the students of his climb to success, and the daily pressure of coming up with ideas for his column.

"I used to worry a lot about coming up dry," he stated. But Raspberry confided that ideas can come from anywhere, even in the form of a letter from an angry reader.

Raspberry added that "these things don't happen without the pressure of a deadline."

The columnist also told students of "the pressure of being fairly sure about your facts."

He advised everyone that they should attack an argument from all sides in order to learn more about the topic, and know exactly what you're talking about, especially controversial topics.

"Make sure you understand the other person's argument," he stated.

Raspberry also explained that he doesn't write to evoke impulsive action in his readers. Instead, he says, "I want people to think about what I'm saying, rather than reacting emotionally."

Raspberry is a graduate of Indiana Central University with a degree in history. In 1965, he was awarded the Journalist of the Year Award. His column is published bi-weekly in The Washington Post, and throughout the country.

Basketball team improves

by Monetta Brown

Some coaches would be shaking their fists at the Fates if they were entering the last days of the basketball season with a 3-15 record.

But Coach Joyce Spruill has seen worse times. There are signs that things are getting better. For instance, with victories over Piedmont Bible College (twice) and Mount Olive College, the Belles have already won one more game than last year.

And harmony has distinguished the team's performance.

"I appreciate the team members who have stayed with us from the beginning to the end because it has not always been easy. But we've hung together through it all, and I appreciate the club's togetherness," Spruill says.

This spirit has enhanced the team's play. "Improvement, total improvement" is the way Spruill describes the Belles' progress. "The scoring

deficit has been decreased. The continuity of the players is jelling, and the attitude has gotten better."

The Belles have survived with only 10 players on the roster. They include guards Erica Salter, Perdita Patrick, and co-captain Hyler Jones; forwards Artlisa Alston, Kandys Taylor, Yvette Williams and co-captain Pamela Warner; and centers Valencia Floyd, Debra Dilworth and Celena Edwards. The team managers are Robin Curry and Karen Warren.

"At one point in time, all the players have made their contributions," Spruill says.

Warner, the squad's leading scorer and rebounder, has been crucial to the Belles' improvement. When Williams sustained an ankle injury in the Winston-Salem State game, the coach moved Warner to forward where "she has played the position very well," according to the coach.

The 6-1 Floyd, who joined

the team this semester, has brought the team a lift. "She has given us more scoring and more power on the boards," the coach observes.

Spruill is especially appreciative of Edwards' contribution. "Celena came out when we needed people and has been with us ever since," the coach says.

The team has overcome numerous injuries. "Our injuries have ranged from feet to ankle to leg to knee. But I must say the players have done a good job of hanging in there," Spruill says.

Like the team's record, fan support has risen this season. "Support has been better than last year," Spruill explains. "So I guess I could say it's been increasing from year to year. We've had loyal fans to stick with us through wins and losses."

The Belles' season is ending with this weekend's tournament at Meredith College in Raleigh.

Dilworth has versatility

by Vicki Wilkins

Deborah Dilworth is an outgoing person who loves to have fun. In the dormitory, she is always trying to learn the latest dances and slang terms, but she is also a very serious person.

She juggles her time between work, her family, and school.

Deborah is a 28-year-old senior from Bartow, Fla. who has a 7-year-old daughter, Chastity, who stays with Deborah's parents while she attends school.

Deborah came to Bennett in 1987. She says, "I wanted to improve my abilities and personality as well as my standard of living."

Deborah is a member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the basketball team, Inter-Greek Council and the ac-

counting club, and she is also a Brownie troop leader at Bethel AME Church.

"I enjoy being a part of these organizations because they enhance my skills and help me to become a positive role model, and they just let me be me," says Deborah.

She has an overall g.p.a. of 3.4. Deborah's achievements include Bennett honors and dean's lists and the National Dean's list for the past two years.

Although her activities keep her busy, she still finds time to work. Deborah has been assistant residence coordinator in Cone Hall for three years, a job which demands a lot of her time.

"I knew this job would be a challenge," says Deborah. "I enjoy taking on responsibilities that will strengthen

my character."

Her friends and co-workers find her funny and easy to work with. Sonya Foster, a senior from Reidsville, says, "Deborah is a fun-loving, caring person. She is always willing to give advice."

"Deborah appears to be an individual who is truly motivated," says Karen Williamson, a senior from New York, N.Y. "She seeks out a goal, then tackles it wholeheartedly."

Deborah has been called everything from mature to nutty.

Lisa Price, a senior from Pelham, says, "Deborah likes to have fun, but she is also a serious-minded individual."

Deborah has learned to manage her time and juggle her roles. She has excelled because of her determination and hard work.

Singers praised

by Erica Salter

A new choir has been formed, and the music is inspiring to all who listen.

The Belles of Harmony Gospel Choir, which consists of 25 to 35 members, sings every third Sunday in the chapel for morning worship service at 11 a.m.

Reverend Barbara Woods' main purpose for starting the choir was for singing on the third Sunday. "It would have been too much of a demand on the college choir," said Rev. Woods.

In looking for a musician to direct the gospel choir, she found Mr. Duncan Butler, a Greensboro native who graduated from A&T in 1987 with a degree in music education. He was available on the third Sunday so they discussed it and organized the choir.

He formed the Belles of Harmony spring semester of 1989 and said, "Compared to last year, they have made great improvements."

Butler also works with the children's choirs at Shiloh Baptist Church and Bethel A.M.E.

Tyrone Butler, Duncan's brother, is the only male member of the choir, and Tammy Walden is the drummer.

Attitudes toward the gospel choir are all positive.

Two past members of the Bennett College Choir gave much credit to the Belles of Harmony.

"Being a former member of the college choir, I feel that I am more able to express myself through gospel music than classical arrangements. The gospel choir gives the students more of what they're looking for when it comes to

music," said sophomore Na'Neice Carpenter.

"We should have a gospel choir, seeing that this is a black institution," said senior Pam Kittrell. "People seem to appreciate their music more than the regular choir."

Senior Kim Howard agreed with Kittrell that "it was time for a change."

"Gospel music is more appropriate for this type of atmosphere, meaning Bennett," said senior Sharron Miles.

"Black people created their own music (Negro spirituals)," said senior Catrina Carson. "This music was used to send a message of direction and hope to other blacks. Likewise, gospel music gives us direction and hope."

Senior Mary Earley likes both choirs.

"The regular choir is culturally enriching, but I like the gospel choir better because I can relate to the music," she said.

Commenting on the group's performance at worship service Nov. 19, junior Sheron Randolph stated, "They really sang from the heart. I enjoyed the service." Junior Robin Curry added, "They are inspirational."

"It has been requested that Sunday service be held twice a month," said Rev. Woods. This, however, has not been decided. In regard to the choir, Woods stated "I'm lovin' it."

"The choir has done an excellent job so far," said Duncan Butler.

The group invites all who did not know that Bennett had a gospel choir to attend services and encourages newcomers to join the group.

The return of Hobart Jarrett

Sit-In movement recalled

by Yvette N. Freeman

A former Bennett professor returned Feb. 2, to meet some of the present Belles while commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Greensboro sit-ins.

"It is a very, very pleasant experience to see Bennett College, which I loved and still do," said Hobart Jarrett, a professor of English and also chairman of the humanities division from 1949 to 1961. During his visit, he told the students of campus life during his tenure here.

He stated that students "could not get into a classroom if you were late," and that Pfeiffer Hall had not yet been built, so Black Hall was the science building.

Jarrett also recalled when Martin Luther King, Jr. was allowed to speak on campus.

"With the Civil Rights Movement, . . . there was desire on the part of citizens of Greensboro, to bring Martin Luther King to Greensboro to speak," he stated.

During that time, according

to Jarrett, "A&T could not grant use of its auditorium and the various churches weren't big enough, . . . but he could speak at Bennett College."

Jarrett added that to accommodate the large number of spectators, King's speech was piped into Black Hall for people in the auditorium.

The former faculty member also told the students how each faculty member had the responsibility of counseling a certain number of students.

He added that "one of the rare experiences in group communication, that I saw, was here at this college." He went on to explain that President David D. Jones had every student and faculty member read The Old Man and The Sea by Ernest Hemingway.

Jarrett also reminisced of his experiences with the Greensboro Citizens Association, of which he was a former president.

He explained how that organization was able to elect Dr. William Hampton as the

first black man to the City Council.

Jarrett also spoke of the racial tensions in Greensboro during his 12 years at Bennett.

"It used to bother me, and it still bothers me, that the United States can be impartial and cruel to members of its own constituency . . ." he stated, remembering when German prisoners of war could sit where they wanted on trains, but blacks could not.

This was one of the reasons Jarrett supported the A&T sit-ins, and worked as a liaison between the A&T students and the Greensboro Citizens Association.

After the sit-ins, Jarrett left Bennett in 1961 to become associate professor of English at Brooklyn College. After three years, he became a full professor, and is now a professor emeritus of English.

But Jarrett is quick to say that although he left Bennett in 1961, "Bennett remains in my heart, and I've never lost the love."