



**BATTLING BELLES:** Bennett finished second in the North Carolina-Virginia Women's College Basketball Tournament held here last weekend. After pounding Sweet Briar, the Belles suffered a gallant, heart-stopping, double-overtime loss to Meredith, 94-86, in one of the most exciting games in the college's history. Forward Yvette Williams won the tourney's most valuable player award, and she and point-guard Tonya Braswell made the all-tourney team. In picture above, front row, left to right, are Erica Salter, Braswell, Dennice Rippey, and Hyler Jones; back row are Pamela Warner, Kishaena Wanzer, Artlisa Alston, Karen Tillery, Celena Edwards, Gay Morris and statistician Karen Weaver. The squad was coached by Ms. Joyce Spruill. (photo by Lt. Col. Andrew Johnson Jr.)

## Group helps children

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take in any child that applies."

Funded by a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the program's focuses are tutoring, mentoring, cultural enrichment and parental involvement.

Through a network of trained volunteers from the community, 15 sites for tutoring are in operation at public facilities in the neighborhoods where participating children live. One hour per week is required for tutoring. A trained adult monitor acts as a liaison between the program and the public facility.

One such site is located in the McGirt-Horton Public Library at 2509 Phillips Ave.

Tameka Hayes, a third grade student at Erwin School, said that she enjoys coming to tutoring. "I couldn't read before and now I can," Hayes said.

Emphasis is placed on getting volunteers from the five area colleges and universities.

"When I first started I didn't think I could do it, but it's worked out fine," said Gretchen Ennett, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering at North Carolina A&T State University. Ennett tutors a kindergarten student who didn't know her ABCs or numbers when she started. The student recited her ABCs for Ennett, who applauded.

The mentoring program involves role models from various trades and professions. Students are expected to spend a day at the work site of the mentor.

"We feel that mentorship is key to African-American children because quite often they don't see blacks working in areas in which they feel they can aspire," said Valdes. "We want to be able to show them that African-Americans are working in all walks of life, and once the child builds a relationship with the mentor, the relationship is like glue."

Cultural enrichment activities help build self-esteem. The children have taken field trips to such places as the Mattye Reed African Heritage Center, the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial and the North Carolina A&T State University student space lab. A workshop was held on developing a hobby. "We believe that we need to give children the 'can-do' attitude no matter what it is we're doing with them," said Valdes. "We want them to see that they can succeed at whatever they want to do."

Parental involvement in the child's education is a key element. Workshops are held to educate parents on the school system's policies and methods.

"Too often parents kind of hear things from the school and they have to go along with the program," said Valdes. "We want them to be sure that's the best thing for their children."

"Each One-Reach One" has matched 325 children with volunteers. The goal by 1991 is to match 500 children.

The vice-president of the NBCDI of Greensboro, Walter Pritchett, said, "Black Child Development is the best thing that has ever happened for black children in Greensboro."

## New professor shows commitment

by Kimberly Dargan

A new teacher with a lot of knowledge and a love of English has become chair of the English department, replacing Dr. Carol Meeks. She's also a good friend to students.

Dr. Juanita Lewis is a native of Boone. She attended Appalachian State University where she received her bachelor of science degree in English and French. She continued her studies at Appalachian University where she received her master's in English. She received her doctorate at UNC-G in 1986.

Lewis wanted to be a librarian because she enjoys reading. She was influenced by several English teachers to choose English as her career.

Many people inspired Dr. Lewis. She says, "My father was a proud and a stubborn man. He always wanted me to do well because the last grade he finished was the seventh grade. A professor at Appalachian University, Rogers Whitener was my second father. He gave me advice and he was always there for me. A high school teacher who stayed anonymous paid my first semester in college."

Lewis feels that her purpose on earth "is to do whatever I can to make things better for other people. I chose education to make things better."

Lewis says, "I would like to see a change in students by being actively, energetically engaged in intellectual issues. I like to see them as

scholars participating in academic excellence."

Dr. Lewis says, "The students do not give me a hard time. What the students do is waste a lot of energy complaining about nothing. They waste energy and time; sometimes they waste time in class and that can be annoying for me and other students. There are a lot of students that are serious about their work."

Sophomore Angela Z. Green says, "I admire Dr. Lewis because she is honest and compassionate. She is unlike other teachers that I've had."

Sophomore LaShawne Hart says, "She scares you at first and many people may get the misconception that she cares only about her assigned work, but once you get to know her one-on-one, anyone will quickly find out that she is very flexible and she genuinely cares about you as an individual as well as a student. When people say looks are deceiving, it applies to Dr. Lewis."

Junior Jeanette Simmons says, "Dr. Lewis is an excellent teacher. She is strict in her ways and will not give you a good grade if it is not deserved. The student has to master the work that is given."

Lewis says, "Students come by to talk about things in their lives, such as what their plans are and just other courses. I love Bennett College and I enjoy the students and the faculty members. I feel comfortable here at Bennett and I wouldn't give up teaching and my long hours at Bennett College for anything."

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