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Belmont Abbey College

VOLUME III ISSUE 2 AUGUST 1974

Abbey Graduates Class Of 1974

Governance Structure Change Announced

At graduation exercises in the Wheeler Center on May 12, 1974, 131 graduates were awarded the baccalaureate degree. The following students graduated with honors:

Summa cum laude: Virgil S. Steele, Patricia A. Seitz, and Jesse Michael Shipman.

Magna cum laude: Charles Ed Janus, Daniel Keith Wilson, Bobby E. Bradley, Jack A. Cowan, Vernon L. Harrison, Thomas J. Porzio, Gary Paul Urtz, and Wade H. Messer.

Cum laude: William Ray Smith, Douglas C. Caskey, Henry Van Don Dillard, Alexander Kenneth Kozak, Timothy P. Lehan, Charles Arthur Lober, Walter Achumba, James R. Barrett, Henry Allen Morris, and David A. Bowers.

Harry Creemers, who served as president of the Student Government 1973-74, received the coveted "Abbeyman of the Year" award.

Three important announcements were made at this year's Commencement exercises.

Abbot Edmund McCaffrey, announced that he expected a change in the governance structure of the College would be completed by August. This fundamentally important matter in the life of the College has been under study for a number of years and will bring to the governance of the College the expertise of lay Trustees, while at the same time assuring that the Catholic and Benedictine identity of the College is in no way eroded.

The President of the College, Father John P. Bradley, made two announcements:

1) The Boards of Trustees of Wake Forest University and Belmont Abbey College have concluded an agreement to sponsor jointly an institute of ecumenical affairs; Dr. Claude U. Broach, for many years pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Charlotte, has been appointed Director of this Institute and will have an office on both campuses. (An article on this important new development will appear in the next issue of CROSSROADS.)

2) Through the generosity of Dr. Carsbie C. Adams, the College will have a funded professorship in the Department of Philosophy. (An article on this appears in this edition of CROSSROADS.)

Dr. Hays Delivers Graduation Address

Honorary doctorates were conferred on the Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardin, Archbishop of Cincinnati, who preached the baccalaureate sermon at the Solemn Academic Mass in the Abbey Cathedral, and on Dr. Carsbie Clifton Adams, an eminent scientist and author, who has shown himself to be a generous friend of the College over the past few years.

Archbishop Bernardin, who serves on the Board of Trustees of the Catholic University of America, is a native of South Carolina and has been a close friend of the Abbey for many years. Recognized nationally as a leading churchman in the United States, Archbishop Bernardin was recently elected as one of the four delegates from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops to attend the 1974 Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Dr. Carsbie Clifton Adams, for many years a close friend of Father Bradley, the President of the College, has received numerous national honors including listings in **Who's Who in Space, Leaders in American Science, Who's Who in Commerce and Industry,** and **Who's Who in World Aviation.** Among his many books and scientific papers are **Careers in Astronautics and Rocketry,** and DIVIDENDS FROM SPACE, both co-authored by Wernher von Braun, "NUTRITION IN SPACE," and "NUTRITIONAL ASPECT OF SPACE FLIGHT." It is intriguing to note that Dr. Adams is also a published poet: his **Cold Days of Summer** was published by Golden Quill Press in 1971. A man of many parts, Dr. Adams also owns and operates a medical center near Washington and is the owner of a number of oil and gas wells in West Virginia. At the graduation exercises he was presented with a plaque commemorating his establishing of a funded professorship in philosophy at Belmont Abbey College (see accompanying article).

Another distinguished friend of the college, the Honorable Brooks Hays, who received an honorary doctorate from Belmont Abbey College in 1969, delivered the graduation address. A former member of the United States Congress for seventeen years, Dr. Hays also served as a special assistant to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. He is a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was a leading figure in the establishing of an ecumenical institute at Wake Forest University, and served as the first Director of the Institute.

Most recently his close association with Belmont Abbey College led to the discussions which culminated in the joint sponsorship of this Institute by Wake Forest and Belmont Abbey College. To the surprise of no one who knows him and has heard him speak, Dr. Hays' graduation address regaled his audience with a characteristic blend of wit and wisdom.

The Honorable Brooks Hays

Archbishop Bernardin