

# Lonise Bias challenges students to live freely

A pin could be heard if dropped in Turner Auditorium when Lonise Bias took to the podium to speak to over 300 students during a SAAD Rally, held in late October.

Bias, who was the keynote speaker for the daylong rally, arrived later than expected, but came to an audience of students who wanted to listen and did just that.

"I left my hotel in Boston at 5:45 this morning and three airplanes and eight hours later I am here to speak to you beautiful young people," said Lonise Bias.

### Three Things First

"There are four things I want you to know before I begin. First, I love you each and every one of you. Secondly, I see

neither blacks, whites, orientals, hispanics. Thirdly, I come to offend no man and fourth, because I love each and every one of you, see neither black, white, oriental nor hispanic and come to offend no man, I care nothing about what any man thinks about me.

"My faith and belief in God," said Bias, "tell me that God took one man, my son, to save millions. My son died so that millions will live," said Bias. "I did not come here to eulogize my son. We did that on June 21, 1986. I came here to bring you a message of hope—a message about life. Mrs. Bias is the mother of Len Bias, who was a student at the University of Maryland, and a star member of the basketball team.

"You have no control over when you will live or when you will die. All you should be concerned with is that dash in between. I come to talk about that dash—your lives."

Mrs. Bias talked about the Whitney Houston tune, "The Greatest Love of All." She repeated to the youth the first verse of the song, which she stated is what she was going to talk about. "We believe the children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they process inside.

### The Real Problem

"Ninety percent of the problems that exist," said Bias, "stem directly from us dealing with the symptoms instead of the cause. Drugs and alcohol are only symptoms. Ninety percent of the problems that exist," she continued, "stem from peer pressure. 'The greatest love' has nothing to do with the names which you wear on your back," said Bias, referring to the designer names the young people are wearing.

"If you don't know who you are, it's all in vain. That's how the trap is set for you. You have to show just how 'bad' you are. Everyone who laughs and grins in your face is not your friend.

"A true friend is someone who understands your past, believes in your future and accepts you just the way you are today," emphasized Bias. "The best friend you have right now is there in your own home. Don't take your parents for granted. Yes, they ask you to call home and want to know where you are and who you've been with, but that's only because they love you. They have a charge to keep,



Mrs. Bias tells students they are the nation's greatest natural resource.

to bringing you up a certain way," Bias exclaimed.

"The foundation for understanding is the willingness to listen. Listen to those who are in authority in order to receive understanding," she went on.

### "Be Different"

"If you stand up for what's right, your so-called friends will talk about you in front of your face. If you go along with the negative, those same so-called friends will talk about you behind your back. You have been betrayed, young people, whether you stand up for what's good or for what's bad.

### Lessons to Learn

Bias talked about the insensitivity of young people in this day and time. "You're insensitive to one another. You don't have compassion and you don't know how cruel you are. Someone could have been almost killed and you keep cracking jokes and laughing. All of you who dish out the cruelty, it's going to come back to you—ten times worse than it was. I give goodness," said Bias, "and goodness comes back to me. All I want to give back is goodness. You can make it young people. Decisions have to be made.

**"It's like a cup of honey and a cup of lemon. It doesn't become life until you stir them together."**

Anyone can go along with the crowd—but who will dare to be different," Bias emphasized.

"You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Each of you are different and you don't even know who you are. You have to fight for your space today, young people," said Bias. "It's not alright to do everything everybody else is doing. Love takes place on the inside rather than the outside.

"We need to work on serving the whole man. You are this nation's future. Where are you going? I don't care what you're going through right now, someone is going through something tougher. Everyone has something they're dealing with everyday. It's called life. It's like a cup of honey and a cup of lemon. It doesn't become life till you stir it together."

"Fight for your beautiful lives," said Bias. "You are a miracle. Love is forever. Love is everyone. That's how change comes. That's how you get to the root of the problems.

"The number one killer of our young people will not be drugs, alcohol and suicide. Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem," Bias pointed out. "Every life has reason and all problems have solutions," she stated.

"I hope that none of you have to drink from the cup I have," she said in referring to the death of her son. "It hurts so bad and you never get over it. All problems have solutions," assured Bias.

"The number one killer of our young people within three years will be AIDS,"

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## Computer Workshop conducted

The Department of Business offered a non-credit six-hour intermediate level workshop on Lotus 1-2-3 in McSweeney Computer Center in late November.

Stated Professor George Hazelton, "This was an intensive workshop presenting the array of financial functions available in Lotus. While some spreadsheet financial models were presented as class exercises in order to illustrate these types of functions from Lotus, workshop participants were invited to submit problems of their own to be used as possible class exercises.

Hazelton explained, "The workshop did require some background in Lotus and was given for those users who wish to go beyond the basics of electronic spreadsheet design and to do something meaningful for the business with the microcomputer.

"The workshop consisted of 'hands on' work with the department's IBM-PCs, 286-XTs, and ATs. Each computer is equipped with a hard disk and supports Lotus graphics."