



BENNETT BANNER

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Kittrell To Work As Hostess for GGO Week

Rhonda Kittrell, a freshman, has been selected as Bennett's representative on the roster of hostesses for the Greater Greensboro Open, the annual spring tournament which attracts such stars of golfdom as Arnold Palmer, Lee Trevino, and Charley Sifford and briefly turns Greensboro into a city with nothing but golf on its mind.

From 123 girls, representing all local colleges, who competed for the honor, 19 were chosen. One of these girls will be crowned Miss GGO.

Rhonda's new duties began in late November with a Kick-Off Banquet at the Plantation Supper Club. There the newly-chosen hostesses were formally presented to the full membership of the Greensboro Jaycees, the sponsoring organization. While the girls are usually required to wear identical clothing, furnished by the sponsors, on this occasion they were asked to express their individuality and come in evening gowns of their own choice. Rhonda wore green.

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CHAVIS CROWNED SHRINE QUEEN

Bonita Chavis, a senior, was crowned Miss Khalif Temple 1975 recently after taking first place in the Sixth Annual Talent Scholarship Pageant sponsored by Khalif Temple No. 144, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

In the pageant, which was held



Bonita Chavis

in Richard B. Harrison Auditorium at A&T State University, Miss Chavis competed with nine other young women from Bennett and A&T. She sang "Csardas" from Johann Strauss' opera "Die Fleidermaus." As winner of the competition, she received a \$100 scholarship toward completion of her education and a chance to participate in the contest.

Runners-up, who also received cash awards, in order of their selection, were, Diane Inez Brooks, Bennett; Coretta Nanette Kelly, A&T; Sherrie Ann Hill, Bennett; and Joanne Ardella Scales, A&T.

SENIOR EXPELLED

Deborah McIntyre, a senior from Chicago, Illinois, was expelled from the college, for the remainder of the academic year, effective January 24. The expulsion resulted from her violation of a previous suspension by the College Judicial Council.

McIntyre's first suspension came after the discovery of a male guest in her dormitory room about 2:00 a.m. December 12, 1974.

Student Government President "Hopeful" To End Dormancy

by Cheryl E. Johnson
Student Government President, Paulette Wicks, described the SGA in one word: "hopeful." "I am hopeful," she said "for a greater amount of student involvement, because a student government is only as good as its student body."

Wicks feels that Student Government Association "dormancy" is largely due to "student dormancy" or "apathy." "Suggestions have been requested for activities, but only a precious few have been returned," she said. "Everyone complains that there is nothing to do," she went on but, "when activities are held on campus there is not a large amount of student support." She also said that if she knew the reason student support was so low she would know what to do.

According to Wicks, the student government is presently planning for this semester. When asked why plans for this semester were not completed last semester she said, "Last semester plans were made but it has since become necessary for some revisions." Therefore

the SGA is now in the revising stage.

Among its objectives in the planning stage are a Negro History Week observance as well as some plans for improving campus life. She also plans to discuss the possibility of chartering a bus for students so that they may attend some out of town games the basketball team has scheduled.

In improving campus life top efforts are towards, "the things students complain about, such as the dining hall," Wicks said.

Wicks finds her job a frustrating task at times, "sometimes because of the hassel and attitudes you must deal with from both students and faculty," she said. "Students say they want this change and that change but when its time to implement, nobody has time to do the work. It sometimes appears that students only have time to raise h--- and leave it at that," she added.

In concluding she said, "if you are not willing to energize then please do not be so willing to criticize!"

David D. Jones: Campus Builder and Shaper of Bennett Tradition

by Joyce Bass

This month on January 26, the Bennett College Family honored one of its early presidents, Dr. David D. Jones. It was during the Presidency of Dr. Jones that a new Bennett College took shape.

Dr. Jones served as president of Bennett College from 1926 to 1955. When he and Mrs. Jones came to the campus in 1926, the campus had "ten students, four buildings, and about 35 acres of 'campus' planted in corn and turnips." A former Methodist co-educational institution founded in 1873, Bennett had run downhill. But under the careful planning and leadership of Dr. Jones, the campus was built into one of the most attractive 40 acre institutions in the country with 30 buildings and worth 2.5 million dollars. Bennett College became known as the "Negro Vassar."

The first few years were tough for Jones and Bennett. Then in 1932 the doctor got the General Education Board to give \$250,000 of Rockefeller money, which was matched by Mrs. Henry Pfeiffer, a chemical heiress.

Over the years, contributions from both have totaled over a million dollars to the college. Through their worthy contributions, the erection of many campus buildings were made possible, such as the Pfeiffer Residence Hall, Merner Residence Hall, Pfeiffer Memorial Chapel, the Pfeiffer Plant, the David D. Jones Student Union, Black Hall and the Little Theatre. Dr. Jones got his money, some said, by showing off his tidy campus and his gracious-mannered girls.

Under the direction of Dr. Jones, the College accumulated many of the traditions which gave the school a unique atmosphere. Some of them, like the ringing of the bell, are holdovers from the days when the school was co-educational. The traditional ringing of the bell sets the time for classes and meals. During the Jones' years, the girls had to be in their seats when the bell stopped ringing. It was an honor to be appointed bell-ringer.

Among the other traditions were those which involved dress. Whenever a "Bennett Belle" went downtown, she dressed and with hats and gloves. Slacks and shorts were only worn on hikes or on recreational activities, to work and breakfast. This was true of the campus until the mid 1960's when students went through a period of protest.

One of the earliest features, which is still observed today, was "the class sisters" policy. As freshmen students were introduced to Bennett academic and traditional activities during Freshman Orientation, they were also assigned to junior students who sought to assist them in campus adjustment.

One of the most beautiful events that took place on campus were the Campus Illumination Ceremony, which symbolized the moving up of each class.

Among the most significant and lasting traditions of the college is Senior Day which is a day set aside to recognize seniors. During the Jones' era, it symbolized the obtaining of special senior privileges.

Seniors are excused from their classes on this day and in the afternoon, at the designated hour,

they line up for the processional march through the ceremonial gates with their sophomore sisters. The sophomores carry the robes and caps of the seniors. After the students, who all were dressed in white and proceed after the choir, pass Merner Hall, the administration and faculty follow the procession into the Chapel. After the presentation of the class to the president by the dean of instruction, the main address is delivered by the president of the college.

President Jones instituted the Senior Breakfast which was held at the home of the president. This was a way of honoring the seniors. The students were given the opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss the development of the college.

Under the administrations that followed, this same tradition still held and holds true.

President Jones maintained that each student became a working part of the institution. The Bennett student has traditionally had the responsibility of involving herself in the maintenance, as well as the social and academic development of the college. All students were required to do "Beauty Work" in the dormitories which meant performing chores such as cleaning their rooms, bathrooms, and parlors. Polishing the brass ornaments and serving tables in the cafeteria were not unusual tasks. The students complained about the beauty work, but the general overall feeling was summed up by one student, years ago, who said, "After all, we do this work to make our dorms and campus more beautiful."

President Jones set the tone for
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