

What Price Loyalty??

Would you be surprised to read about an institution of higher learning that remained stagnant because it couldn't decide what is wanted? How about a college where the students want good instruction but do not care for putting in personal appearances in class or a place where dedication is paramount yet the dedicated are discarded prematurely?

This editorial is about "dedication" and a person who is unmistakably dedicated to Bennett College and her ideals. The person is **Don Webster** who was in charge of grounds until he was fired. The reasons for his dismissal sound good; there is the underlying fact that Don spent some time at a mental hospital and this is the reason he has been denied his job. For more details on Webster's stay at Dorothea Dix turn back to page one or better still ask him next time you see him on campus around.

Don tells a funny story about how he came to Bennett. He said that he was working for MANPOWER when the guy in charge asked "How'd you like to go to Bennett and rake some leaves?" Don's reply: "Sure I'll go to Bennett College and rake some leaves for them." And this was the beginning of his three and a half year love affair with Bennett.

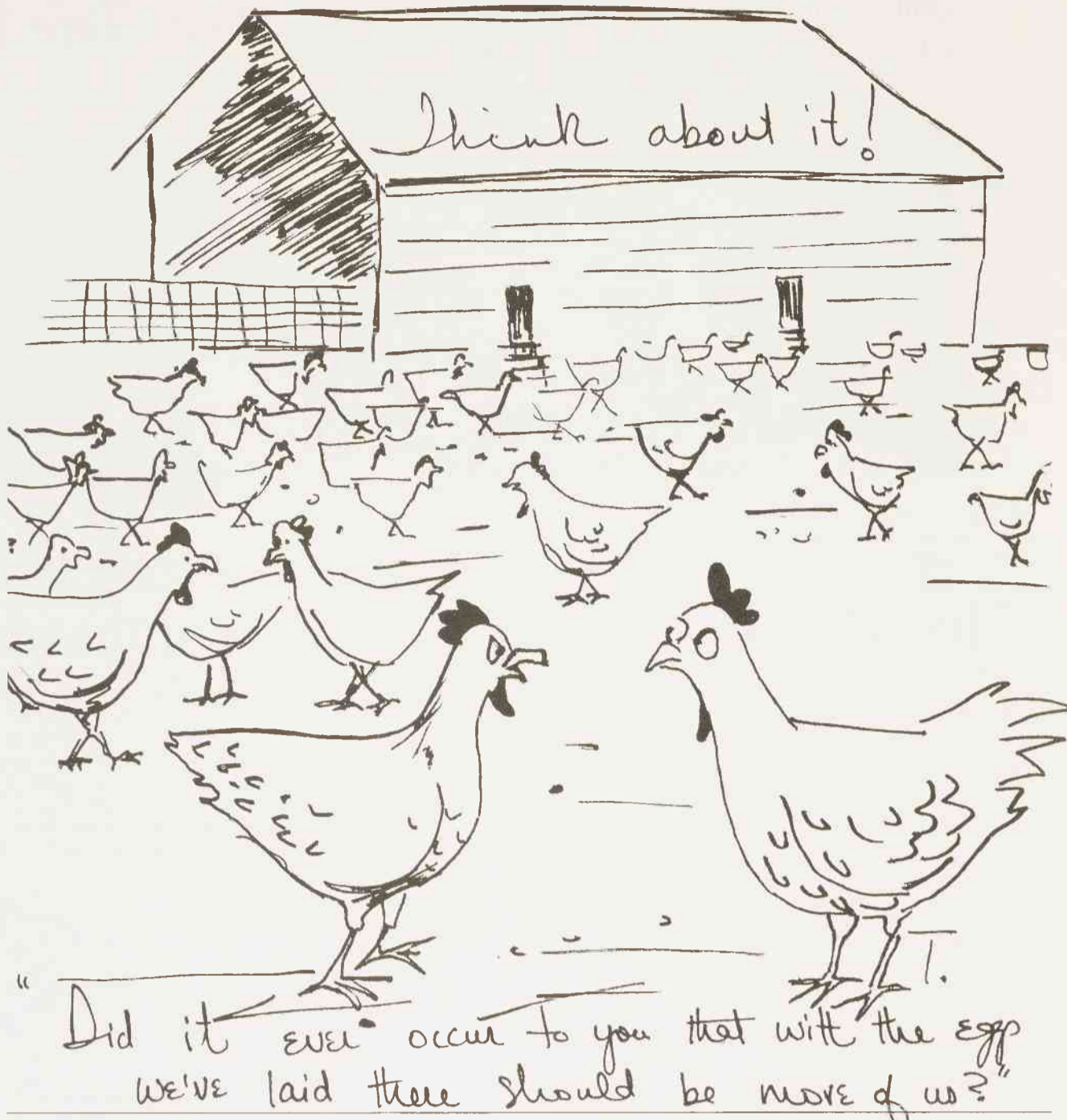
At first all he did was rake leaves. Don said that one day he was raking when Mrs. Humphrey made this remark in passing "You rake those leaves like a machine!!" So effective was he at leaf raking that he received a promotion. Soon he became interested in drama, responding to Dr. Eady's constant beckoning for males to act in plays. The performance Webster delivered in *Old Times* was described as "polished" by one city newspaper critic. His last endeavor before he went away was a plan to raise money for the new health center. It is true enough that his "SESSIONS" as he called them were strange but they were undertakings that came straight from his heart just for Bennett.

I am sure that the faculty person who became indignant the first time I stated, in an editorial, "Webster doesn't chase the girls around" has long since quit reading these editorials, so let me reiterate, Webster doesn't chase the girls around and he's always pleasant. Whenever you met him on campus he probably will speak to you first.

I personally am more comfortable around Don than some of the other people on campus . . . I've seen his release papers from Dorothea Dix and they indicate that he's O.K.

Perhaps one reason that Bennett students lack a true sense of dedication toward Bennett, college in general or anything is because they haven't been exposed to a genuine enough model. Webster is just such a paragon and for this reason alone he should be kept here at Bennett.

One student feels that the grounds haven't looked as good since Webster's departure. You may or may not agree with the thinking that Don is some sort of horticultural expert but would you go along with this: If Don doesn't get his job back the error will be another flower in the Bennett College family bouquet "bloomious idiots" better known as blooming idiots.



Little Theatre Guild to Perform 4 in 1 Night

by Katie Gailes
On April 10, 11, and 12, the Little Theater Guild will perform for the Bennett community. They will be presenting four short, short plays each evening, each play being a brief comment on life and people.

Save Me A Place At Forest Lawn, according to Drama Director **Dr. Fred Eady**, is a delightful little comment on life and people getting along with each other. This play is a dialogue between two old women, Gertrude and Clara, who have been close friends for a very long time. They share everything, even Gertrude's husband. But Gertrude valued their friendship so much that she never confronted Clara with the matter. After the husband dies, Gertrude and Clara decide to spend the rest of their lives together. They even want to be buried in the same mausoleum. Come see **Cassandra Jones** (Gertrude) and **Norma Jeffries** (Clara) in this exaggerated example of true sisterhood.

The Owl Killer is an ugly drama depicting the bare facts of life: the frustrations, the denials, the love, the hatred, and the hopes. The plot concerns Noah, a man who runs his house with an iron hand. He is afraid of life and he makes his family suffer for it. He despises them because they are at home when he is at work. Therefore he denies his children the affection they need. He even refuses to give them desserts after meals. Lamar, his son, kills and stuffs owls to relieve his frustrations. But it's not enough! Lamar robs a store and mutilates the owner. Noah is so angry that he decides to destroy Lamar and his owl collection . . . but instead he destroys himself. If you want to know how, come let **Alex Anderson** (Noah Hamilton), **Linda Crawford** (Emma Hamilton), and **Renée Carrington** (Stella Mae Hamilton) tell the story.

Happy Ending will add a smile to the gloom with a truly happy ending. It is about jobs, pride, and dignity in the lives of black people. The plot surrounds a nephew who is ashamed of his aunts because they are domestic workers. But they believe that cooking, washing and cleaning is good honest work. The happy ending un-

folds as they convince him of that and thereby strengthen his self-image. The cast includes: **Milanda Penquite** as Vi, **Genevieve McCormick** as Ellie, **Dwight Lyles** as June and **Keith Miller** as Arthur.

Mojo is about people wanting to be free to do what they want to do, and as a result, to achieve happiness. It is emphasizing the idea that our belief in Africa gave us some foundation and some substance in our lives. It takes place in the form of a love story between husband and wife. **Eric Miller** (Teddy) and **Sherron Daye** (Irene) will perform in *Mojo*.

This second production of the second semester promises to be an enlightenment as well as entertainment. DON'T YOU MISS IT!

Humanities Festival Planned April 19

by Joyce Bass
The Humanities Division of Bennett College will sponsor its annual Humanities Festival, Saturday, April 19, in the college quadrangle from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The focus this year is on the contributions of the Afro-American Woman to the American Cultural Heritage. The theme is "From Drums of Defeat . . . Only the Strong Survive."

Highlighting the day's festivities will be 1) a water ballet; 2) art exhibitions featuring contemporary Afro-American women artists and other student works; 3) competitive Olympic sports; 4) music, dance and drama.

The festivities will be climaxed by a Gospel Jamboree.

Make plans to be there. The college family as well as the community are cordially invited!

Names Omitted

A few names were inadvertently omitted from the Recognition Day list printed in the last issue.

The following students received special recognition by their departments: **Gwendolyn Johnson**, Biology; **Linda Sprueil** and **Glennda Simmons**, Business Education; **Bobbetta Jones**, Chemistry; **Amonia Edwards**, Sociology; and **Clo-rinda Lee**, Psychology.

Students Attend NCSL Meeting

by Dawn Holder

Bennett College sent three delegates to the 38th Annual Session of the North Carolina Student Legislature. The delegates were **Cassandra Jones**, **Faye Howard** and **Lucy Suddreth**. **Dawn Holder** went as a reporting observer and **Dr. R. Lucier**, as advisor.

The purpose of the NCSL is for students to gain insight into operations of the governmental bodies. It also gave the delegates an opportunity to speak on the issues that confront the state and the nation.

Forty-five colleges and universities were represented, including six predominately black colleges and universities. In 1970 the predominantly black schools walked out of the NCSL. The black colleges accepted their invitations for the first time this year since the walk out in 1970. This year the black students were to decide on their objectives and the roles they will play in the NCSL.

Current student body enrollment determines the apportionment of the House of Representatives.

Bennett is in the 0 to 1000 enrollment, so they can send at least 3 delegates and 2 alternates for the House of Representatives. In the Senate they are allowed 2 delegates and 2 alternates. The number of observers cannot exceed the total number of delegates and alternates.

Deltas Start Drive For Books For Ghana

The Zeta Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is involved in a project of sending black-related books to Ghana and are requesting faculty members and students who have surplus books on such subjects to donate them to the chapter.

This is a national project of the sorority in which the local chapter has been asked to participate.

Anyone interested in making a donation of books may contact one of the following students or any member of the organization: **Patricia Teal**, **Esther Canty**, **Patricia Davis**, **Yardley Nelson**, and **Sandra Johnson**.

THE BENNETT BANNER STAFF

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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Todd Nathaniel Johnson, son of **Nathaniel** and **Ruby Caldwell Johnson**, was born in Greensboro, North Carolina, on July 7, 1971. He departed this life Tuesday, March 18, 1975 in the Moses Cone Hospital. The Johnson family would like to thank their many friends for the kindness and also offer a prayer of thanks.

Dear God, thou has promised that thou wouldst never leave us nor forsake us. Lord, make us feel thy presence today that we may be comforted and strengthened in our faith. We thank thee for the privilege of bringing our burdens and sorrows unto thee that we might leave them before thy throne of grace and graciousness. Dear God thou hast promised that him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out. Thou hast also said that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord. Thy promises are precious to us today as we come to thy throne asking for comfort, succor, and consolation. Sorrow and grief have bent us low, but we find in thee perfect peace of mind and soul. Through our faith in thee we have found thee to be the same yesterday, today and forever. We

commit all our ways unto thee and come now to find rest in thee in sorrow, trouble, trial and disappointment. Wilt thou speak to our hearts so that we may feel thy presence and rejoice in thee.

Todd Nathaniel Johnson was the son of **Nathaniel Johnson** of the Bennett College campus security, also the grandson of **Lt. Edgar Johnson** also of the Bennett College security.

Service was conducted at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Reverend Frank Williams, officiating. Interment was at Piedmont Memorial Park.

The Johnson Family

To The Editor:

I have learned of the honors won recently by "The Banner," Bennett College's student newspaper, at the 1975 Columbia Scholastic Press Association competition.

I know that all of you worked hard and I want to offer my congratulations to you and all the staff members on this fine achievement.

Cordially,
Richardson Preyer
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.