### Students Design New Courses of Interest To Enhance Curriculum

by Barbara Hamm

Two student-designed courses, Geriatrics and Philosophy of Law have been planned by students this semester. Both courses are of the nature of a mini-course for one credit hour.

Geriatrics, (the study of the aged), was designed by junior home economics major Olivia Penn who stated that "at the end of the three-week course students will hopefully have an understanding of the conditions of the elderly in this country and a working idea of how to help the situation. We plan to have various outside speakers and some current research on the subject."

The course was designed with the assistance of Mrs. Carrie M. Shute, co-component coordinator of Student-Designed Courses and the associate instructor of the Geriatrics course. About the course, Mrs. Shute said, "Some questioned under what discipline one would find a geriatrics course but the field of geriatrics is of an interdisciplinary nature. We will try to do a good job in teaching the course."

The other student-designed course, Philosophy of Law, was inspired by junior interdisciplinary studies major Dawn Holder, who, along with other North Carolina Student Legislature members wanted a course on Bennett's campus about law. The course includes instruction in parliamentary procedure, the philosophy of law and the method of writing laws. The associate instructor for the course is co-component coordinator of Student-Designed Courses, Dr. Ruth Lucier.

Students interested in designing a course of their own should contact a faculty associate to assist in making an outline containing the objectives of the course, ways to meet the objectives, a timetable, and a method of evaluation. The course must be one that is not taught on campus and at least five students (including the designer) must be interested in the course before it will be implemented. The course must meet the approval of Drs. Ebele Eko, director of Academic Options, and George Breathett, director of Planning/AIDP.

About the student-designed courses Dr. Lucier said, "I'm glad we have the option because I think it gives students more freedom to explore subjects that they are particularly interested in, in a way that they find particularly interesting.

Students interested in Geriatrics should contact Mrs. C. M. Shute in Black Hall, room 200H; Dr. Ruth Lucier in Fine Arts, room 107 should be contacted by those interested in the Philosophy of Law course.

### Ms. Troutman Likes New Job

# Instructor Excited

by Faye Howard

A positive concept of Black colleges, combined with Bennett's outstanding heritage, have greatly heightened Ms. Denise Troutman's enthusiasm towards working with the Little Theatre Guild.

Ms. Troutman, the new drama instructor, has a very positive attitude towards Black institutions with their rich heritages, especially Bennett College. She referred to the 'daring' roles that Bennett women played in the turbulent '60s with the sit-ins at Woolworth in downtown Greensboro. She stated that "the opportunity for assuming leadership roles is greater at historically Black colleges."

Ms. Troutman has declared her primary goals as getting more students interested and involved in drama because she feels that drama can be an outlet for stu-

#### **Announcements**

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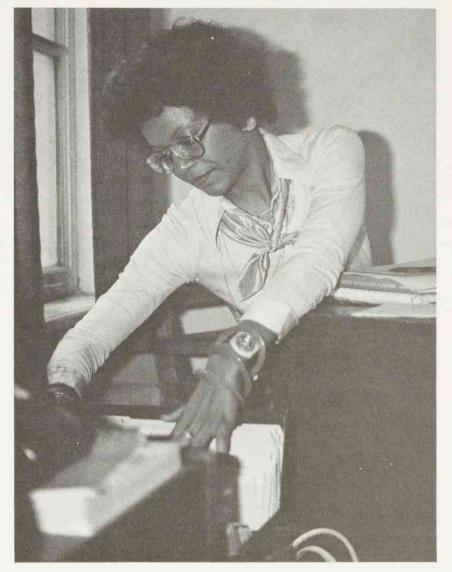
The Publications Committee of the college has adopted a new logo for the institution. The logo will be used on publications. Art work may be secured from the Office of Information and Publications. The key is symbolic of the college's role in higher education.



dent expression. Publicity informing the students and interested people in the community of tryouts will be distributed soon. The first play for the year will be "Day of Absence," a comedy written by Douglas Turner Ward. She prefers not to tell the plot because she wants everyone to come and see the "interesting" play.

As for problems with selecting plays for an all-female cast, Ms. Troutman does not foresee any. She explains that "this will be a great indication of the kind of actresses we have and that a greater degree of potential will be demonstrated as females play the roles of males." However, she will be recruiting male performers from other campuses as needed.

A native of Daytona Beach, Florida, Ms. Troutman's undergraduate work was at Bethune-Cookman College with a major in English and a minor in Speech. She then studied speech and theatre arts with a concentration in radio and television in graduate school at Colorado State University. She concludes that her positive attitude about the things she wants to do, the students, and the college, should insure some very good experiences in the Little



I know I put it in here.

photo by Joyce Bass

## **Danforth Graduate Fellowships Offered**

by Bianca Hurley

Wilhelmina J. Gilbert, chairman of the Department of Business and Economics, also local campus representative for the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis, Missouri, is inviting any interested Bennett students to inquire about Danforth fellowships.

The Danforth Graduate Fellowships, which will be awarded in March 1977, are open to any persons who have a genuine interest in teaching careers in colleges and universities, and who are planning to study for advanced degrees

in any field of study common to the undergraduate liberal arts curriculum in the United States.

Seniors and recent graduates who are considered "Early Entry" applicants in the program, will be awarded approximately 60-65 fellowships. Post-baccalaureate persons who are called "Late Entry," will be awarded 35-40 awards and will apply directly to the Foundation. In this program, it is preferred that the "Early Entry" component is given to persons under 30 years of age and in the "Late Entry" component to persons 30-40 years of age.

In addition to the percentage of age requested, applicants for the Early Entry awards may not have undertaken any graduate or professional study beyond the baccalaureate and must be nominated by liaison officers of their undergraduate institution by November 15, 1976. Direct applications for the Early Entry Fellowships are not accepted by the Danforth Foundation.

The Danforth Graduate Fellowship is a one-year award, but is normally renewable until the advance degree is completed with a maximum of four years of graduate study. The stipends of the fellowship are based on individual need, but do not exceed \$2,275 for single Fellows and \$2,450 for married Fellows for the academic year, plus dependency for children. Tuition and fees are also covered by the fellowship.

The Foundation is presently concentrating on bringing qualified persons from the racial and ethnic minorities into the teaching profession. The expected percentage of these awards, which is approximately 25 percent, will be awarded to American Indians, Blacks, Mexican-Americans, and Puerto Ricans.

### Firms Sponsor **Writing Contests** For Students

by Diane Stevens

Do you have any literary talent that you are just bursting to display? Well, why not show it off and win some money as well. Three writing contests are being sponsored by the United Negro College Fund and the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co., the American Collegiate Poets Anthology and The Datsun Student Travel Guide; 1st place prize money for each contest is \$1,500, \$100 and \$1,000, respectively.

The UNCF-Schlitz Contest must be a 500-1000 word essay addressing "the State of the Union, 2000 A.D." A special awards ceremony will be held in Washington, D. C. for the prize-winning and honorable-mention contestants.

The American Collegiate Poets Anthology is sponsoring a poetry and creative writing contest which may deal with the topic of your choice.

The Datsun Student Travel Guide contest must be an essa dealing with travel in the United States. Any kind of travel, any kind of style, fiction, humor, personal experiences, reflections, interviews, a how-to article, or whatever appeals to you.

For more information please contact the English Department or the Humanities Division Office.

Volunteers needed by the minute, hour or day,

Democratic Headquarters 118 East Market Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

### **Browning Attends Annual Convention**

by Kelly Gardner

Zack Browning, maintenance supervisor, attended the Annual Convention of Physical Plant Administration of Universities and Colleges in Atlantic City, N. J. in the spring.

The convention was directed towards the energy crisis and cutting down on the maintenance budget. "Fuel, oil and natural gas es may not be able to meet the demand over the next ten years," stated Browning in an official report, "if we don't start conserving energy now."

Physical plant directors will play an important role in the

photo by Joyce Bass

energy crisis in colleges and universities, he said.

Lowering of the the mostats, and the elimination of unused lights will be helpful in the conservation of energy in the dorms.

Browning feels that he has worked out a more organized system of maintenance at Bennett since attending the convention. He has also developed techniques of cutting maintenance costs since the maintenance budget is the first to be cut at some colleges.

At the convention colleges and universities were represented from all parts of the U.S. and some parts of Canada.

A new plan of maintenance was discussed at the convention, the preventive maintenance program. The total system would be computerized and it would allow the maintenance supervisors to know when light fixtures needing repairing or when a particular building on campus needed repainting.

"It would take approximately 10 years to set up an effective program," said Browning.

This computerized system would also possibly be a great help to the problem of energy conserva-

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