

"Hatt" Proves Quite Rewarding

by Rochelle D. Moody

"Hatt", an original musical production was presented by the Bennett College choir, October 8, as part of the Founder's Day weekend activities.

The musical was first presented last spring as a part of the activities that celebrated Bennett's 50th year as a women's college.

Dr. Charlotte Alston, chairman of the Music Department, and Mrs. Mary Jane Crawford, an instructor in the music department, were responsible for the music and script of the play.

The play was based on the life of Harriett Tubman, a slave, and the development of her philosophy that every man should be free.

"The subject matter was anti-quoted and in the music I tried to employ certain musical idioms, that would suggest a certain ethnic sensitivity," said Dr. Alston.

In the music, Dr. Alston stated

that there were two things she had to worry about.

They were (1) that the choir was not a professional group; so the music had to be catchy but not too complicated to learn in a short period of time, and (2) keeping the music and script balanced.

Dr. Alston feels that any musical idiom, characteristic music of a certain group of people, is valid when it evokes a response from people.

"Many black musicians shy away from 'blackness' in their writing," said Dr. Alston. "They may perhaps take traditional spiritual melodies and weave them into some type of orchestral arrangement, but recreating the naturalness of your blackness takes nothing away from the person," she added.

"I'm glad that I've had the opportunity to work through this experience with the people at Bennett," said Dr. Alston.

"The ultimate worth of anything depends on whether you feel good about the overall achievement," she said. "It makes me feel good to be able to whistle Beethoven's 5th symphony and then to be able to go on to my own compositions," she added.

Mrs. Crawford wrote the script and all of the original lyrics for the songs.

"I was intrigued by Harriett Tubman even as a youngster," said Mrs. Crawford. "Many of the people I knew as a child were brought to life in the characterizations," she added.

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"Kool-Aid," Transfer Student from Columbia College Is Interested in Pursuing a Career in Grief Therapy

by Robyn-Denise Berryhill

They call her "Kool-Aid"—not because of her love for the popular soft-drink of the same name but for the way "I did not let things bother me" she says of her high school peers "and the nickname stuck," she added with a smile. But for 18-year-old sophomore Vanessa Bartley, her major here at Bennett encompasses a subject familiar yet "uncool" to

most of us: death. Or, to be more specific, grief therapy.

"I met a mortician one summer and wound up baby-sitting for his family," she explained. "While baby-sitting I would go into his study and read books on death. One book in particular interested me—Death—The Final Stage of Growth by Elizabeth Ross. That statement still stays on my mind." Surprisingly, services to the de-

ceased other than funerals are nothing new. For a number of years there have been cosmetic firms that deal in products exclusively for the dead; there is currently a very active union called the Professional Pallbearers Association; and yes there are even professional mourners. And let's not forget the role of the florists for these solemn occasions. With all these services perhaps the role of the grief therapist is not that unusual.

What led to Vanessa's interest in pursuing this career? "Eventually I started to go down to the funeral home and I would answer the phone and do other errands. In doing this I would come into contact with the families of the deceased and would talk to them. Originally I had wanted to go to Johnson C. Smith University and major in sociology but after being around the funeral home I saw a need for this kind of counseling."

Born in Washington, D. C. but a long-time resident of Columbia, S. C., "Kool-Aid" is the youngest of two children and as she proudly flaunts "the only granddaughter." She transferred here this year from the all-girl and predominantly white Columbia College in Columbia, S. C. She chose Bennett after a long deliberation between here and the University of Alabama "because of the ISP program." This semester she will be doing independent study at Smith Funeral Home and will in-

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A girl with an unusual name and major!

photo by Gena Haskett

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ROBYN'S NEST



Political Party Knowledge Quiz

by Robyn-Denise Berryhill

With the upcoming presidential election only weeks away and knowledge on candidates and issues being abundant, the BANNER takes this opportunity to test your political knowledge.

1) The initial "R" in Gerald Ford's middle name stand's for:

- (A) Ricardo (B) Rudolph (C) Reggie

2) Mr. Ford is a candidate for what party:

- (A) Republican (B) Federalist (C) Democratic

3) The word incumbent in relation to a presidential candidate means:

- (A) is having trouble with marital relationship (B) currently holding office and seeking re-election (C) a part of a tuxedo worn to banquets

4) The last name of President Ford's running mate is:

- (A) Dole (B) Del-Monte (C) Dickerson

5) Prior to running for office, Jimmy Carter was best known for having been:

- (A) a farmer (B) an actor (C) governor of Georgia

6) Recently, Carter criticized Ford over his failure to fire a Cabinet member: Was the Cabinet member's name:

- (A) John Dean (B) Earl Butz (C) John Erlichman

7) Jimmy Carter's controversial interview was published last month in a popular magazine. The magazine's name was:

- (A) Player's (B) Playboy (C) Playgirl

8) Who is Walter Mondale?

- (A) Democratic vice-presidential candidate (B) CBS news reporter (C) a current Cabinet member

9) Should he win the election, Ford will be the _____ man elected to office:

- (A) 38th (B) 50th (C) 39th

10) In politics, the "party platform" is:

- (A) an elevated place outdoors to "jam"

(B) the views of a specific political party

(C) a disco

(D) a social gathering for political candidates

11) Gerald Ford's respective profession is:

- (A) law (B) medicine (C) clergyman

12) What organization sponsored the televised debates between the candidates:

- (A) The U. S. Congress (B) The League of Women Voters (C) The KKK

13) If elected, Carter has promised to:

- (A) increase taxes for the rich and tax the church (B) legalize marijuana (C) neither of the above

14) The 1976 Democratic and Republican conventions were held in what cities:

- (A) Lebanon and Beirut (B) San Francisco and Washington, D. C.

(C) New York and Kansas City

15) Jimmy Carter's wife's name is:

- (A) Betty (B) Elizabeth Ray (C) Rosalyn (D) Amy

16) Carter was a member of what branch of the service:

- (A) Army (B) Navy (C) Foreign Legion (D) Marines

Please score 6 points for each correct answer. If you score falls between:

96-90 Excellent, 89-83 Very Good, 83-77 Average, 77-71 Fair, 71 and below — no comment

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