

Bennett's Choir Runs Smoothly

by "Kool-Aid" Bartley

Music is the thing this year for the Bennett College choir as they prepare for an exciting year of singing.

According to **Dr. Charlotte Alston**, Director of the Bennett College choir, "We plan to be daring, bold and experimental in selecting the repertoire of music this year. The girls are highly motivated and that makes it possible for me to plan and develop new programs. I have absolute confidence in this group."

Also according to Dr. Alston the concert and gospel choir on the average practice six hours a week. This does not include section rehearsal.

Since choir members spend a lot of time together, Dr. Alston comments, problems do arise with choir members." Like every thing else, a choir is not without problems. It is natural and typical to have some difficulty. But I can truthfully say when there are problems they are quickly resolved. The girls manage themselves and each other. All I have to do is teach the music. They do the disciplining."

She added, "Yes, there is something special about being in the choir. The choir is a teacher. When you become a member, you learn responsibility, organization and unity. It gives you that certain 'high feeling' when you put yourself in different types of songs and you sing with meaning. All of this takes a special person."

The Bennett College Choir through the years has remained close to the tradition. However a gospel choir does exist. Many students express concerns over the fact that one has to be a member of the concert choir in order to be in the gospel choir.

Dr. Alston commented by saying, "There is an advantage in being in both choirs. The gospel choir is an enhancement of the whole choir. There is no division. Much of what is learned in the concert choir is carried over to the gospel choir. The gospel choir should be impressive and not be run of the mill gospel choir."

The Bennett family will be hearing different types of music this year. Dr. Alston says, "Special effort is being made to enlarge the repertoire. There is no limit in the expectation of our choir. We must go beyond the expected levels. And we plan to do exactly that this year. The girls have the potential and are enthusiastic about the choir."

Plans are being made for the spring tour. But the choir has a jammed calendar to keep them busy. Already the choir has presented the original musical *Hatt*." The choir has also performed at the installation service for Bishop Scott Allen in Charlotte, North Carolina.

On October 25 the college choir will perform at Duke University at a large United Methodist con-

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Home Ec majors turn out for fall meeting and demonstration of wigs and wiglets. L to R: Mrs. Doray Wallington and Mrs. Gloria Tatum, beauty operators at Harshaw's Hair Palace, Jerrylyn Davis, '77, Roanoke, Va., Jacqueline Dickerson, '77, Pearisburg, Va., Terressa Williams, '77, Lumberton, N. C. and, seated, Yvonne George, '76, Whiteville, N. C.

Fisk Experience Is Great

by Rochelle Moody

Several Bennett students spent a memorable summer studying at Fisk University, located in Nashville, Tenn.

Participants were **Marcelle Miranda**, **Karen Bell**, and **Vajira de Silva**, sophomores, and **Lee Coleman** and **Kamala Manchigiah**, juniors.

The summer program was headed by **Dr. Prince Rivers**, and the program's title was the United Negro College Fund Pre-Medical Summer Program.

Dr. Rivers received much praise from Marcelle who stated, "He made the program work. He was fantastic!"

Marcelle said that even though she didn't do as well in the program as she would have liked to

have done, she felt she received an excellent preview of what a medical school chemistry course would be like.

"I just don't think eight weeks is long enough to really grasp the subject matter," she said.

Vajira felt that the program would also be helpful to those students not in a science field in college, but who had an aptitude for science.

"I had a tutor who majored in music in college. She attended the program one summer and found that she was interested in science; she will be entering Meharry Medical School this fall," Vajira said.

"I think the main theme of the program was to get more minorities interested in medicine," she

said.

Vajira was in organic and biochemistry. "My teachers were excellent. I liked the way the teachers were rotated from day to day. The rotation was to show the students what it is like in medical school."

Kamala felt the program was helpful in that it gave a preview of what problems are encountered after entering medical school.

She said, "It was my first year in the program, and I enjoyed it very much." She felt the courses gave her an idea of what standards would be expected after entering medical school. "I was also glad of the encouragement given by the instructors, and I was able to meet students from other colleges," she added.

Chemistry Majors Work at NASA

by Rochelle Moody

Working during the summer months can be a very rewarding and exciting experience, as well as a learning one.

This fact was undoubtedly illustrated by **Shawn Humphries** and **Burma Moss**, two chemistry majors, who spent their summer working at NASA in Sunnyvale, California.

The program was for minority colleges and universities. Because Shawn and Burma were chemistry majors, they were chosen by **Dr. Henry Sayles**, head of the Science Division, to participate in the program.

For participating in the program, the two students received the summer's work plus \$2500 for this year.

Although Shawn and Burma worked in the same program, their jobs were different, which added more variety to their summer experience.

Shawn's job title was research assistant. Her duties were to help do research on the gas exchange experiment of the Viking Mission which landed on Mars this past July.

"It was a great learning experience," Shawn said. "I was able to learn laboratory techniques that will help me in the future." Shawn also said, "I was familiarized with lab instruments not used at Bennett."

"As for being in California, I really enjoyed it," she added. "I would definitely recommend California for tourists."

Burma's duties were somewhat different. Her job title was also research assistant and she assisted scientist Glenn Pollack.

"I worked on projects to see if life existed on Jupiter," Burma said.

Burma also worked on the iron exchange methods of separation of TLC (Thin Layer Chromatography).

"I would definitely like to make research my life's work," she explained.

Burma said she liked California for visiting, but she's not sure if she would like to live there.

Poll Elicits Varied Views on Break

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the same schedule as other colleges and universities in this area, and therefore Bennett should update their school calendar."

Another junior, **Mellisandre Breathett**, from Greensboro, favors having a fall break. She feels that a fall break would serve as a tension breaker for those students who soon become bored with the daily class routine after the first few months of school.

"A fall break would benefit both the students and instructors; however it seems that a fall break would confuse the system more than it is now," stated **Elizabeth Adams**, a junior from South Carolina.

Shawn Humphries, a junior from Florida, opposed the idea of having a fall break. She feels that the Christmas holiday serves as a fall break. She went on to say that "a fall break might shorten the Christmas holiday."

Matilda Allen, a junior from Georgia said, "If we have a fall break it would have to be in October, meaning that we would have a break each month and then we would be rushed for exams."

Some seniors gave the opinion that a fall break is not necessary.

Pamela Thomas, a senior from Florida stated, "No, I don't think that we should have a fall break; however, I feel that we should start to school after Labor Day, and this could serve as a fall break."

Sheree Johnson, a senior from New Jersey also feels that a fall break is not necessary.

Campus Opinions On ACES Mixed

by Lennet Hill

A.C.E.S. has been talked about since the program began. The faculty has opinions about A.C.E.S. as well as students.

The general opinion of A.C.E.S. by faculty was favorable. Most members felt that the basic idea is good.

Dr. Abdul Mansuri, associate professor of biology, said "A.C.E.S. is a very good culture program. It brings people from other countries and usually good ideas are exchanged."

Other favorable opinions were expressed by **Mrs. Bowens**, assistant professor of health and physical education, she said, "I think that they are extremely beneficial. They expose students to a lot of things that they would not otherwise see." She added, "Students should be given a schedule of A.C.E.S. programs so students can be selective about which programs they want to attend."

A Bennett Belle, **Mrs. Mary Ann Scarlette**, chairman of the department of elementary and special education commented, "A.C.E.S. has a place in that a person tends to improve her audience behavior. This includes the when to, and where not to applaud for example, also learning to respect the speaker." She added, "If A.C.E.S. achieves these purposes the result would be the development of good listeners, critical people, and tolerant people, then A.C.E.S. achieves its purpose, but if A.C.E.S. does not achieve those goals then the purpose of A.C.E.S. is defeated."

One idea was brought out by **Dr. Mattie Moss**, chairman of the department of math, she said "It is unfortunate that students should have to be required to go to A.C.E.S.," but she feels that their participation would not be as great if it were not a requirement.

Dr. Ewa Eko, director of the division of social sciences shared a similar opinion. He also said, "It is unfortunate to have to institute A.C.E.S. as a requirement, but attendance was very low before it was a requirement and until students learn to attend these sort of programs, required attendance is a way to get student participation." He stated further, "College is an institution of higher learning and that it is a responsibility of the college to provide programs of a social and cultural nature."

Dr. Eko concluded, "Students need to learn to appreciate programs which are different from their own interests. This is a part of the broadening process of education which makes students more sophisticated than they were when they came to college."

The opinion of students differed greatly from that of the faculty. Most students feel that A.C.E.S. are a waste of time and that they should not be required.

Karen Bucksell, a senior, said, "A.C.E.S. doesn't teach people anything. Most people have already been to those kinds of events or they haven't. If they haven't they aren't going to go after they leave here."

Another senior **Frances Davis** said that seniors would not be required to go.

A junior, **Andreze Bailey**, said, "Students shouldn't have to go and not get credit," and added, "Students will go to a program they want to see without being forced."

Further comments from students include: **Karen Lewis**, a sophomore, said, "A.C.E.S. is alright if it is something you want to see. Half of them we could do without."

Another student said that she liked them when students can relate to them, while one other student said that she couldn't stand them, and that there is no purpose in them."



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