

President Urges Involvement, Discipline

by Marion Johnson

"Whatever Bennett is or may become, my input will make a significant difference; therefore the quality of my input must be in the highest order."

These were the sentiments **Dr. Isaac H. Miller**, president of Bennett College, asked his hearers to share as he spoke to an attentive audience at the Opening Assembly held in Pfeiffer Chapel on Sept. 22.

President Miller began his address by engaging the audience in a hand-holding exercise and the recitation of a prayer. A variation from the traditional opening assemblies was the president's presentation of the address in the form of an open letter from a father to his freshman daughter entering Bennett.

Letter to Daughter

The letter opened with the exchanging of farewells as the daughter and her parents separated. "College is the beginning of longer separations and absences. Together our relations may become one of increasing maturity and meaning," stated President Miller.

He noted that college is a new experience for most people, leaving home and leaving the comfort of knowing there is always some-

one to guide and protect you. "However," President Miller said, "though the guiding hands of your parents won't be here at Bennett, the residue of all their teaching will be present to assist you in decision-making."

Need For Ideals

President Miller continued his address with the statement that "Bennett College has ideals that are ideals everyone should stress and abide by." He expressed the importance of Bennett as an opportunity to continue the process of education.

The President then stated the need "to set certain priorities for yourself, for example self-discipline. At Bennett you will find cultural activities and spiritual enrichment as well as learning and studying. Try to develop a personal outline for survival."

Outline for Survival

The President then listed and expounded on several points for a suggested outline.

1. Continue to cultivate your life of spirit by going to church.
2. Keep your own accurate record of progress.
3. It is your responsibility to learn, no one else can do it for you.
4. Keep up with your financial obligations.
5. Don't be afraid to ask your

teacher for help.

6. In the subject or discipline utilize symbols and definitions, make reason and logic hang together. Read your assignments before class. Attentive and analytical listening is the key to success in the class.

Importance of Friendship

President Miller then spoke about friendships and college life. He stated "That you must chose

your own friends. Be selective when establishing friendships."

As far as college life is concerned, President Miller suggested limiting the amount of television watched, limiting the amount of stereo played and organizing your time.

Need for Prayer

President Miller concluded his address by urging students to utilize the campus resources: peo-

ple, books and prayer, in times of distress or need. "God manages all things in this land; develop a prayer to strengthen inner resources," he concluded.

Music for the assembly was provided by the Bennett College Concert Choir and Gospel Choir under the directorships of **Dr. Charlotte Alston** and **Ellen Warren**. **Dr. Richard Anderson** provided organ music.

Public Speaking Contestants Discuss Motivating Forces

by Dotty Brown

The greatest concern of many people who sponsor or attend a contest is the fear of repetition.

Too much of the same idea or subject can give a program, no matter how well planned, a boring, monotonous quality.

This was not so with the 3rd Annual Evening of Public Speaking held on Sept. 20. There were eight contestants in this program. From **Hattie Purnell's** dramatic interpretation of Langston Hughes' "Soul Gone Home" to **Sierra Joyce's** "abstract" poetry, the au-

dience was taken on a journey through the talented minds of eight of Bennett's students.

Originality and individuality can very well be said to have been the most outstanding features of the program. But what were the motivating forces that drove each student to enter the contest, and why did they choose to give the presentation that they did?

Hattie Purnell, a junior communications major from Ocean City, Md., says "I have very deep feelings for my mother. I wanted to convey these feelings to other

Bennett sisters in an attempt to make them realize (if they don't already know) how precious their parents are to them."

Deep thought this summer was the motivating force which encouraged **Darlene Franklin**, a sophomore psychology major from Watchung, N. J., to make a speech entitled "We Can't Stop Now." Darlene says, "It's a feeling I had all summer long and this was a good opportunity to get the message across."

The evening of public speaking gave **Avau Teo**, a freshman hospital dietetics major from American Samoa, the opportunity to answer some of the many questions that she had been asked by her Bennett sisters.

Terri Wade, a freshman pre-med major from Fairmont, N. C., says about the evening of public speaking, "At Bennett you have to find something to do and it was something to do." Terri says about her poems, "Black Woman" and "Ode to a Baby," "they just happened to be the two that I remembered."

Rochelle Moody, a senior communications major from Gary, Indiana, says that her idea of "Superwoman" came from readings and discussions about career women who are also housewives and mothers. Rochelle says, "I enjoy speaking in front of an audience although I don't do it often."

"I was tricked," says **Debra Hodges**, a communications major from Mt. Holly, N. J. Debra's speech, entitled "Television Violence," was anonymously submitted to the contest. The basic idea stemmed from a psychology class discussion. Debra says, "It's really interesting how children learn and we really don't pay that much attention to them."

Sierra Joyce, a junior English major from Washington, D. C., said about the evening of public speaking, "I liked what the contest was about." Through her poetry it was Sierra's aim to compliment today's black men and women.

My speech, "Save the Children" was originally written for a speech class. I was surprised to find out that the subject of juvenile delinquency interested the class. Entering my speech in the contest gave me the opportunity to try it out on a large audience.

All of these thoughts, attitudes, and feelings put together made an evening of public speaking that was very delightful and successful.

Exam Required For Graduation

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communications Department; **Wilhelmina Gilbert**, chairman of the Business Department; **Linda Ado**, assistant professor of History; **Evelyn Jones**, assistant professor of Biology; **Mary Scarlette**, chairman of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; **Dr. Virginia Tucker**, associate professor of English; **Louvenia Milling**, instructor of English; and **Georgie Latimer**, assistant professor of English.

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