



The Dean's Corner

Dean gives Reasons to excel

Myra Jewel George

higher education, I have encountered many students from varied disciplines and backgrounds who have raised such questions as, "Why excel?" "What is the use?" "How will higher grades help me reach my objective?" These questions invariably lead to a rather lengthy explanation. Of course, the earning of grades is not an end within itself. More importantly, there are many by-products resulting from a student's high academic achievement.

First, one who excels tends to develop a keen sense of setting priorities. The technique of prioritizing will have a lifelong effect on the student in the world of work and the world of leisure. Secondly, high academic achievement can't help but provide extra knowledge and understanding of life. As an example, a student who excels in economics would in all probability be able to better cope with family economic problems which beset many of the American families and, indeed, many families all over the world today. And too, the academic community is rapidly turning

towards a test-oriented society. Soon there will be test requirements to enter many marketplaces.

Already, the National Teacher's Examination is required to get a teaching position in most states. The Graduate Record Examination is required to enter major graduate schools. Law schools and medical schools and so forth have their specialized tests for admissions requirement. Since these tests normally examine one's accumulation of general and specialized knowledge and test-taking skills, it is reasonable for me to believe that the student who excels will have an excellent chance to rate high on these examinations.

Finally, to excel is self motivation for more acceleration. This is to say that a student who becomes academically successful will feel good about herself and develop self esteem which will have a very positive effect upon her for the rest of her life. So, we salute the honorees of the Honors Convocation and challenge other students to work towards it. It is well worth your while.

About this time each year we salute and honor those students who have performed well while matriculating at Bennett College. The 29 honorees participating in the Fall Honors Convocation are sophomores who have maintained a cumulative academic average of 3.20 for two semesters of work; juniors, 3.30 for four semesters of work; and seniors, 3.40 for six semesters of work. Freshmen normally are not included in the Fall Honors Convocation since they will not have earned a cumulative average by that time. Given the internal and external environmental forces which might impact negatively on the student's ability to excel, these students who made it should receive the highest commendation. These students have excellent minds, are disciplined, organized and seem to have a mature sense of purpose.

During my 17 years of academic administration in

Magubane's pictures tell a true story

Karen M. Heck

Peter Zweekibanri Magubane is an excellent photo-journalist from Soweto, South Africa. His black and white photographs are ones no viewer could easily forget.

The title of Magubane's work is "A South African Child from Birth to Death." He cleverly uses actual events to his advantage. Magubane captures the rarity of a newborn entering the world. He also emphasizes the mother gritting her teeth to help the infant along.

Magubane's camera goes on to illustrate young children being baptized and being fed with a breast and a teaspoon.

On film he manages to show crowded classrooms of South Africa. He is also able to reproduce the eagerness to learn

on each student's face.

Like youngsters all over the world, they love to play games. Soccer is shown as the most popular sport. Enthusiasm is written on their faces.

As the photographs progress the mood drastically changes. The children are older. Desperate frowns take the place of jovial grins. Playgrounds become battlegrounds for racial equality. Adolescents are now courageous leaders.

With this new leadership comes violence. With violence comes pain. Faces are cut. Tears are shed. Blood is everywhere, but the fight still must proceed. Death is sure to come and it does.

Magubane's pictures can only be called chillingly realistic. May his artistic eye for life never be harmed.

Talent pays off

Jeanette Hatch

Three of Bennett's talented Belles have been accepted into the 1980-81 Star Child Dance Company of Greensboro. They are: Sunsan "Cricket" Smith, Joan Walker, and Venetia "Nini" Thomas.

Venetia is one of the two directors of the dance company and has been with Star Child for over a year. Last year she directed the five-member company as well as taught classes in dance for Star Child.

The Star Child School of Performing Arts has been in existence

for three years under the direction of Mrs. Deborah Bryson and Ms. Debbie Smith. It is a non-profit, federally tax exempt organization, and is presently housed at the Hayes-Taylor Y.M.C.A. Star Child seeks to help cultivate and expose those who may have talents but do not have the proper surroundings or professional people to expose or encourage them.

Star Child offers classes in Modeling, Dance, Drama, Art and Music for which registration is presently opened. They also have touring companies in the areas of Modeling and Dance.

Fall season opens for A&T players

Jeanette Hatch

The Richard B. Harrison Players of North Carolina A&T State University proudly opened their fall season with the play "Mulatto," written by one of America's finest black writers, Langston Hughes. The play tells the saga of one black American family in the early 30s, divided against itself by race and racism in the Southland.

Colonel Thomas Norwood is the owner of a 1,000-acre plantation, which he seeks to maintain with the help of

black sharecroppers whom he has exploited. The wife, Mrs. Norwood (who is deceased), has not produced any children, while the black mistress, Cora Lewis, has produced five children of mixed blood. These mulattos prevail, despite the diabolical machinations of the white male chauvinists.

The story's plot is realistic, dealing with miscegenation. It is a story known to many black Americans but carefully shielded from white Americans.

"TP" breaks the chart

Pamela Y. Pate

Teddy Pendergrass has done it again with his latest release entitled "TP" featuring Stephanie Mills. This album is predicted to go platinum or gold.

Side one starts with a tune called "Is It Still Good to Ya," which was written by Valerie Simpson and Nick Ashford. This inspiring song tells the story of a man very much in love.

The next song is "Take Me in Your Arms Tonight," which has a Jamaican-sound with the brass and wind instruments coming through loudly.

The last song on side one is "Can't We Try," which is

a soft and flowing tune about a young man who lost his girlfriend and wants her back.

On side two the first song is "Feel the Fire," a tune written by Peabo Bryson. In this song Teddy and Stephanie give a portrayal of two people seriously in love.

Next up is "TKO," which has a lot of meaning and seems to be based on one of Teddy's personal experiences.

The final song on side two is "Let Me Love You," a tune that has a dreary effect and the back-up singers, whose pitch is unpleasantly high, overwhelm the vocalist.

This is still an outstanding LP for those of you who are

Teddy Pendergrass fans.

Teddy and Stephanie will be appearing at the Greensboro Coliseum Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.

Clothing class works on new project

Lisa Harris

The Family Clothing 221 class, taught by Mrs. Q. H. Bell, is working on a renovation project. The purpose of this project is to help clothe the entire family on a limited budget.

The students are taking old, worn, and used clothing that has been discarded and altering or renovating the garments.

Alteration is the changing of a garment so that it is different,

making it larger or smaller. In renovation one can change the entire character of the garment.

Members of the class are also conserving funds by taking garments that belonged to older adults and reconstructing and or changing the entire character of the garment to fit today's clothing trends and at the same time have a perfect fit.

Mrs. Bell claims, "The students seem to be working hard on this project and enjoying it as well."



On Sept. 29 students from several colleges gathered in Washington, D. C. to observe Black College Day. The event was designed to call attention to the need to maintain the institutions which for more than a hundred years have produced the black leadership of our nation. The demonstration was a good experience for the participants and many feel that a great deal was accomplished.

One of the hazards of such a demonstration, however, is that the central and vital theme "save black colleges" can be so easily obscured in the extravaganza and the excitement. It is for this reason that Bennett College par-

The President's Corner

How to save Bennett

Participants were admonished "Know why you are going to Washington before you board the bus."

One of the abiding realities is that the historically black colleges are constantly under attack from many quarters and this is a situation which is likely to persist throughout the 1980's. A wave of conservatism in America could generate retrenchment which will limit the resources traditionally available from government agencies and foundations, and this trend must be carefully monitored.

Demonstrations in behalf of black colleges must now come on campus, assuming dimensions other than parades, flag-waving, and sloganeering. No strategy for institutional prosperity and vitality is more crucial than the demonstration that an essential mission is performed superbly by the institution. Nothing demonstrates superb performances more eloquently than the quality of a college's graduates. Bennett women who go into the job market consistently well prepared, self-assured, and armed with alternatives will eventu-

ally make it to the executive suite and in the process validate controversy the worthiness of Bennett College.

Bennett College will flourish and prosper as her graduates embody the value of the "Bennett experience." How then does the student help to "save Bennett College?" By giving herself to the rigorous pursuit of academic excellence and high scholastic endeavor. The student must have ambition and vision, and then address with discipline and diligence the exercises and activities which lead to ones becoming well educated. The Bennett woman must make the difference for the future of our race; therefore she can ill afford to be casual about class attendance, the execution of assignments, the use of the library, the perfecting of basic academic skills, or the development of her personality.

I strongly urge each Bennett woman to strive for excellence and determine to make a difference. This will guarantee that Bennett College is here in the year 2000 to serve another generation of young women.



Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, undersecretary for special political affairs of the United Nations, was in 1950 the first Black American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.