

# The Bennett Banner

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BENNETT COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

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## Dr. Baird initiates change

Shelly J. Coston

On Nov. 13 Dr. M. Baird presented the Norfolk, Va., 6th Southeastern Conference of the International Reading Association with her research concerning developmental reading.

Dr. Baird stressed a need for instructors to stop insulting the student with basic reading skills. "With the structure of education today it is believed that the intelligence is related to one's communication abilities (reading, speaking and writing)," she said. "The purpose of reading and the student's attitude towards reading need to change. Instead of teaching to locate details, the information the reader obtains should be related to what she is presently learning and how to decipher com-

plex grammatical construction," Dr. Baird added.

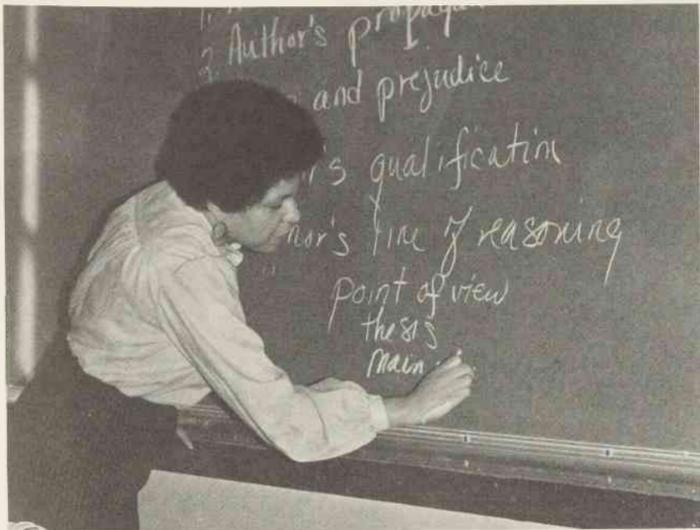
Dr. Baird began her teaching career at the University of Massachusetts as a graduate reading assistant. In 1973, she received her Master's in reading and in 1979 her Doctorate in administration and development, both from the University of Mass. She also has a Bachelor's in foreign languages.

Some of Dr. Baird's future plans include developing a workshop to help those interested in her research. She says, "The workshop would aim towards two points. One is sensitizing reading teachers to the fact that the basic reading skills presently taught are unjust to the students. The other point is to sensitize students to the educational process and how measurement of their abilities impact on their future employment, intake of knowledge and how they are viewed by others."

There are a few changes Dr. Baird would like seen made at Bennett. "From an informal survey I took at the conference, I

learned that of the representatives I asked, Bennett is the only school which offers only one hour per week of reading," she explained. The other schools offer anywhere from three-six hours per week. "I'm still developing a course for next semester. It is important to me that I improve on my theory and techniques," she said. This semester she experimented using a technique which required four readings. The first reading consisted of a skim and scan of the material. The second reading dealt with finding the main idea. In the third reading, the reader develops her own conclusions, and the final reading was a review of the material.

The students here at Bennett pose a tremendous challenge for Dr. Baird and she enjoys working with them. "Dr. Baird is a really hard, but nice instructor. She really wants you to know the material," responded one student. "I feel that she really tries to prepare us for the outside world," said another.



Dr. Marshena Baird offers innovative approaches for reading instruction. She already has some ideas in mind for the college.

(Photo by Myra Davis)

## True liberation discussed

Yolanda DuRant

The true liberation of today's woman was the subject of the lecture given at N. C. A&T State University by Lyvonne Sewell, a follower of Elizabeth Claire Prophet. Prophet is the spiritual leader at Summit University in Malibu, Calif.

Sewell, one of Prophet's students, spoke of her personal beliefs and practices. Sewell said that blacks today are wrapped in a "success cult vibration" because they have "made it." She stated that leadership in the black community represents material things and does not deal with the real self. In commenting on the Klan-Nazi trial she said, "In Greensboro there is a feeling of fear and injustice because of the trials," which is bad because fear is a destructive force.

Sewell says that people, espe-

cially women, are being manipulated and brainwashed into negative actions. She believes that the body of the woman, which is also the body of the mother, is being filled with poisonous materials. The food and drinks that are put into the body have so many different chemicals in them that we have no possible way of knowing what we are taking in.

She said that there is also a whole lot of subliminal manipulation where the whole idea is to manipulate an idea into someone's subconscious so that one can like or either dislike something. This is done a great deal through the communications media. Clothing designers are designing see through blouses and splits for the purposes of overexposure and seduction. Women must stop manipulation by becoming aware of it and by depicting the divine woman. Sewell said that black

men look for a mother figure in black women because they need someone to nurture them and be sensitive and strong for them. Black men would be more enticed by what they could not see, not by seeing too much of what is there.

Sewell stated that women are putting more harmful chemicals into their bodies now than ever, including cancer-causing birth control pills, alcohol, and marijuana. Marijuana increases genetic damage, sterility, is harmful to the lungs, and stops one from being creative. Marijuana also affects tissues and cells in the bodies and stores itself into the fatty tissues and the organs.

Sewell closed her lecture with a statement on the ERA—Equal Rights Amendment. She said that many people are for ERA because they really do not know what the

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## Rape prevention

Veronica McKinney

Ms. Lisa Abolasia, a Rape Counselor, visited Bennett's campus to inform students in the residence halls about ways to prevent themselves and other from becoming rape victims. She gave students many tips on rape prevention.

Abolasia is a worker and Counselor of the Rape Action, Prevention, and Education Center, which is a group of concerned people seeking to provide assistance and support for victims of rape and sexual assault. The services include:

1. Emotional support for victims and family or friends.
2. Referral information.
3. Companionship during hospital and criminal justice procedures.
4. Transportation to and from the hospital and police courts.
5. Speakers Bureau to address school and community groups concerning the issues surrounding rape.
6. Self-defense and rape preven-

tion classes.

7. Information about hospital and criminal justice procedures.
8. Training of companions to aid rape victims.

She also stated that rape can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere. Ms. Abolasia asked the question, "What if it happens to you?" She explained, "The immediate reaction is usually anxiety, disbelief and fear. Every person reacts to stress in a different way. At this time, you must decide about medical care, whether or not to report the rape to the police, etc. You don't have to face it alone. A family member, friend, or Companion from the Rape Center can offer assistance and support."

If any person is interested in joining the Rape Center or needs some help from the Center you may call Rapeline: 273-RAPE (273-7273) or the Office: 379-5229 (9-4, M-F). All information concerning the victims will be kept CONFIDENTIAL!

## Role and Scope to aid college in its mission for the 80's

Toyie Winton

Bennett College is now in the process of a Role and Scope Study which will assist in redefining the college's mission and the direction in which it should proceed in the 1980's.

Dr. George Breathett, Director of Planning/SDIP, has been appointed as chairman of this study committee. Dr. Isaac H. Miller, College President, will serve Ex Officio. A major outcome of the Role and Scope Study will be the development of a long-range plan for the college. It is anticipated that this plan will cover a five-year period, rather than the usual ten-year period. The five-year period was decided upon because of the tremendous changes now taking place in society as a whole.

Bennett College is being assisted in the Role and Scope Study by the Education Improvement Program of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This will strengthen the study since the Southern Association is our regional accrediting agency.

The following Role and Scope Study Commissions have been appointed and are now in the process of formulating preliminary reports. The commissions are as follows: Commission on Christian Higher Education, Commission on Liberal Arts/Career Education, Commission on Single Sex Versus Co-Education, Commission on Organization, Management and Governance, Commissions on Women's Studies and International Dimensions for Women's Colleges, Commission on Curriculum, Commis-

sion on Student Services Development, Commission on Plant Management and Development.

The representatives from the Southern Association were on campus on Oct. 30-31, 1980 to conduct a workshop and meet with the several commissions. Dr. Edsel Godbey and Dr. George Rolle represented SACS. They conducted one general meeting of the Role and Scope Study.

During the month of December, commission reports will be completed and the next phase of the study will go into effect. After all reports from the Role and Scope commissions have been reviewed and analyzed, a new long-range planning committee will be appointed using these findings as a backdrop for their plans and procedures.

## 61.5% pass exams

Shelly J. Coston

Statistics from the Nov. 13 English Comprehensive Examination showed that of the 133 students taking the test, 61.65% have passed. This is an increase of 4.92% from the 79-80 fall statistics.

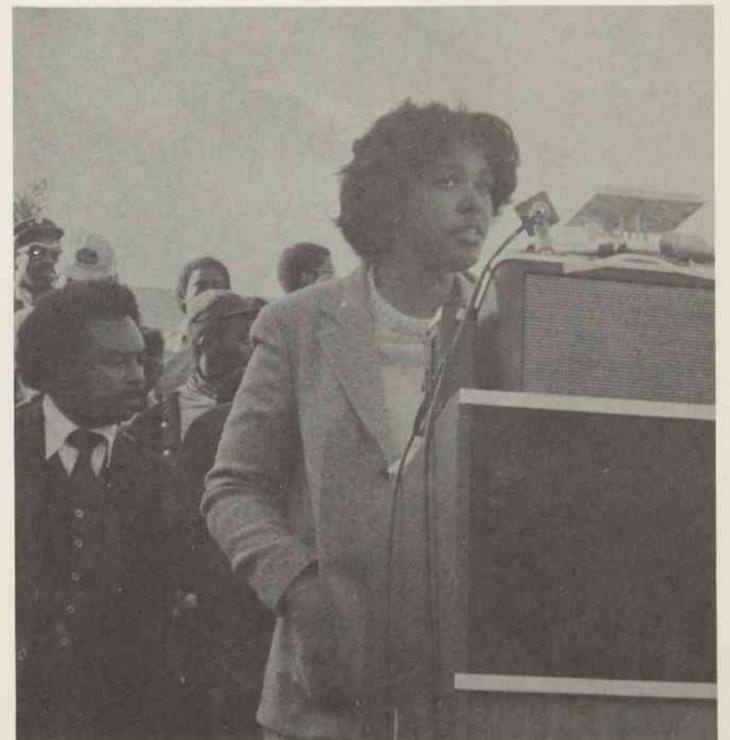
The statistics show that of the major errors the most frequently made were failure of subject and verb agreement, verb errors, pronoun errors, run-on sentences and

failure of consistency of point of view. Other frequently-made errors were commas and comma faults, diction (poor or wrong word choice), awkward or incoherent sentence or confusing of words, capitalization and failure to follow instructions.

The English Comprehensive Examination is given during the fall semester of the junior year and a passing grade is required for graduation. Those who fail the

test during the fall will have an opportunity to retake the test during the spring.

For those who have failed, a course will be offered during the spring semester which will concentrate on grammar and sentence structure. The spring statistics reveal a higher percent of students passing the test. Many accredit this to the course taught last semester by Mrs. A. Gillespie here at Bennett.



Student Government leaders from the local colleges showed their feelings about the Nazi-Klan trial verdict by endorsing and participating in a march held November 20. Pictured is Bennett's SGA vice-president Linda Anderson. (Photo by Shelly Coston)