

The Bennett Banner

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BENNETT COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

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Campus celebrates annual Senior Day

Myra Jewel George
"Remember the past, but live for the future . . . open the road to new horizons," is the motto for the Senior Class. With this theme in mind, the college celebrated Senior Day on Thursday, March

19 in the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel.

Senior Day is the second of three formal convocations observed on this campus in which the faculty and staff wear the appropriate academic attire and participate in

a processional and recessional. The other two formal convocations are Founder's Day and Baccalaureate. Senior Day is one of the few traditions that Bennett had kept through the years.

According to Mrs. Mary Scarlett, of Special Events, the purpose of Senior Day is to "recognize those students who have achieved senior status and are anticipating graduation from the college." All seniors who are expected to have completed graduation requirements by May are eligible to participate in Senior Day as well as any student who completes the requirements in December or in the summer.

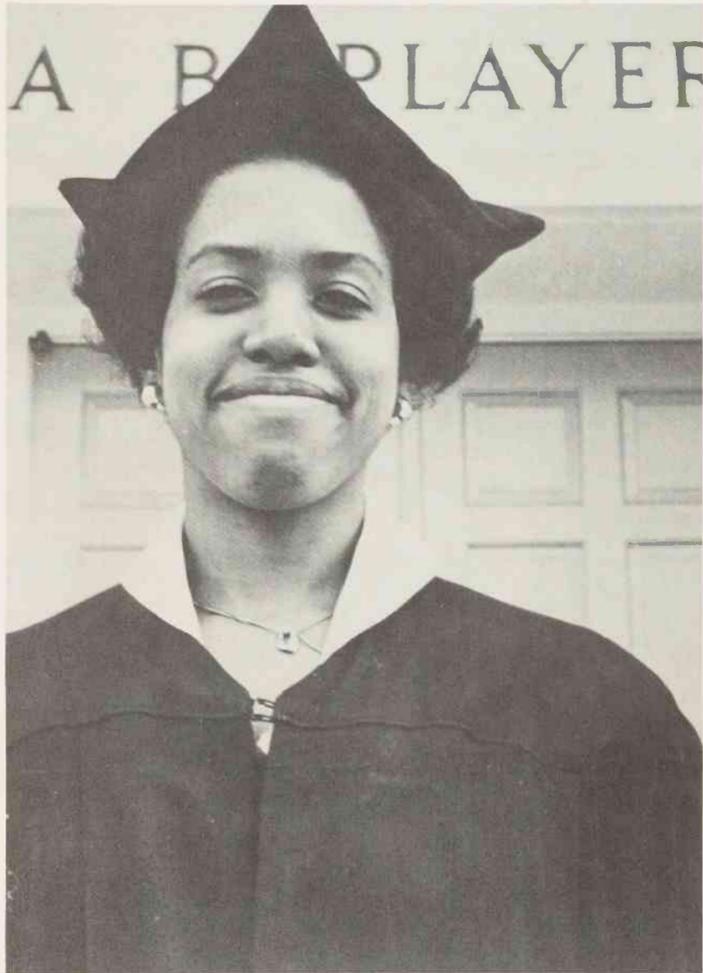
The highlight of the ceremony came when Dean Tipton announced the students eligible to graduate with honors and with high honors and presented the Senior Class for robing. Tonni Sullivan, class president, was robed first. Her little sister gave the robe to Dean Tipton who in turn gave it to President Miller and back to the little sister who then robed her.

Following Sullivan, seniors were robed in pairs in alphabetical order by members of the sister class, the sophomores, but there were some exceptions. The attire consisted of black caps and gowns. The cap is

the oxford cap with a band, two buttons and four points.

The address was delivered by President Miller, who issued a challenge to the seniors and offered words of inspiration. Senior Terri Wade spoke the words of appreciation on behalf of the senior class. The sophomores gave a floral tribute to each senior.

Class officers were Tonni Sullivan, president; Alisia Coachman, vice-president; Lynn Phillips, secretary; Sabrina Sturgis, treasurer; and Audrey King, parliamentarian. The colors were lavender and purple. Following the program, a dinner was given in honor of the seniors.



Senior Day climaxes with the robing which symbolizes the sisterhood of the sophomore and senior classes.

(Photo by Parresse Wade)



In old Japan it was believed that eating ginseng root would help ensure long life.

Morehouse Glee Club performs its annual concert

Terri Ford

On Wednesday, March 18, 1981 the Morehouse College Glee Club performed their annual concert in the Chapel on Bennett College's campus at 8:00 p.m. The glee club has been under the direction of Dr. Wendell Whalum since 1953, and assistant director and accompanist Uzee Brown. Both are former Morehouse Glee Club members.

The glee club and Bennett's choir have an exchange program which is usually not included in the tour, but this year the performance happened to fall during

the glee club's tour. The Bennett College choir will perform at Morehouse on April 10, 1981.

The choir consists of 39 men, both under and upperclassmen of different academic disciplines, not just Music majors.

When asked how she felt about Morehouse's choir Dr. Alston, Bennett College's choir director, commented that, "Morehouse is one of the most outstanding male college glee clubs in the country." She also added, "I believe that one of the advantages of the glee club that many other college choirs do not have is practically almost uninterrupted leadership.

The glee club has a continuity of leadership that makes for a certain level of performance."

Traditionally the glee club would be housed on the college's campus but now commercial housing is available. Part of the tradition is still intact which allows the glee club to eat all their meals in Bennett's cafeteria, and vice versa when Bennett's choir performs at Morehouse College.

In many college choirs it's becoming very popular that individuals receive academic credit and in some cases financial assistance. But at Morehouse neither academic nor financial assistance is given to any member of the glee club, even though the question has been raised. The singers in this glee club are motivated to sing even though they do not receive academic credit or financial assistance.

The choir has a long-standing tradition of singing old and unusual music by black composers and arrangers, from the period representing Renaissance to the 19th century. Some of the selections that were performed were THE DIE ALLMACHT (THE ALMIGHTY)—Schubert; INVOCATION—Claude Debussy; and two compositions written by black composers—a chorus from TRIVIRATE—Ulysses Kay, and

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Trobian presents paper in Atlanta

Shelly J. Coston

Dr. Helen Trobian, head of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program at Bennett, presented a paper and slide show entitled "Feminism, Humor and Religion," at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Women's Studies Association.

The meeting was held March 4-7 at Georgia State University in Atlanta and was sponsored by the Women's Educational Equity Act Program of the U. S. Dept. of Education.

The paper Dr. Trobian presented was a revision of the paper she presented at the International Symposium on Women and Society

in 1979. The necessary research was supported by a grant from the Advanced Institutions Development Program.

The purpose of the SEWSA conference was to present knowledge of and about women. "The aesthetic, the cognitive and the social are woven together to bring all aspects of knowledge to bear on gender-balancing the liberal arts curriculum," says Dr. Trobian.

Some of the other panels at the SEWSA meeting were: The Future of Women's Studies, Black Women's Studies, Feminism and Political Action, Appalachian Women and Patriarchy in the South.

College choir completes tour

Shelly J. Coston

The Bennett College Choir completed the first part of their spring tour March 6-10. The second part will begin March 28 and will end April 6. During the first tour, the choir traveled through North and South Carolina and to Florida. The choir will perform in West Virginia, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee during the second tour.

This is the first year there have been two tours during the spring semester. "In recent years we have experienced difficulties with the weather, so we decided to postpone going west until later," says Dr. Alston. Another reason for two tours is that the students involved miss their spring break. "We figured it would be academically beneficial for students to have some time off to catch up on academic matters in addition to having time for relaxation," says Dr. Alston.

In addition to the 37 choir members, Ms. C. Wilson accompanied

the group as the admissions counselor to talk with prospective students. Ms. M. Tucker, who has traveled with the choir for many years served as the business manager. Also Mr. A. Carter, college organist, went as the piano accompanist. Mrs. E. Miller will join the choir during the Mid-Western tour and will talk during the intermissions about the role of Bennett in the education of women and the continuing need for Black college survival.

The program included compositions ranging from the Renaissance period to the 20th century. Some of the special features included interpretations of contemporary works dealing with various concepts of love in the Japanese culture, selections by the gospel choir and solos by Kim Witherspoon, Angel Bynum, Jill White, Freda Harris and Lauralyn Peoples. Two compositions required drums, which were played by Parresse Wade.



The college choir completed its spring tour and plans the second tour for March 28-April 6.