

## Humanities activities are funded

by Dee Evans

The Lyceum/Mellon Committee has received \$4,049 from the state-based Humanities Committee, and the sum will help fund a lecture and film series, "Great World Religious Significant Influences on American Society," which will be free and open to the public.

This support will underwrite the expenses of invited guests and of four films, including the Oscar-winning "Gandhi" starring Ben Kingsley.

A Lyceum series fund shortage motivated the search for outside money. "It seems appropriate to encourage citizens of North Carolina to examine the contribution of some of the most influential religions in a format that will promote understanding and foster enlightened communication," says Dr. Ruth Lucier, committee chairperson.

The committee's proposal said the "goal of this project will stimulate a deeper understanding of the religious views."

"Bennett College has a strong interest in encouraging a fuller understanding of the contributions of traditional African religions. As an institution with a religious affiliation, the college is

also committed to promoting the scholarly examination of diverse religious views with the objective of overcoming ethnocentrism and the the injustices this can produce," adds Lucier.

The calendar of events in the series include:

Oct. 28—Film: "African Art in Motion;" resource scholar: Dr. Charles H. Long;

Nov. 7—Hinduism's "Satyagraha" (Grasping the Truth): A Force for Social Change; lead speaker: Dr. Paul Courtwright; respondent: Dr. Sandra Robinson; Nov. 8—Film: "Gandhi"; resource scholars: Dr. Sandra Robinson; Dr. Alan B. Anderson;

Nov. 14—Pilgrimage to Mecca: The Moral Strengths of Islam; lead speaker: Dr. Herb Bodman; respondent: C. Eric Lincoln;

Nov. 15—Film: "The Gift of Islam;" resource scholar: Dr. Bruce Lawrence;

Nov. 21—Diversity in the Judaic-Christian Tradition: A Context for Religious Toleration; lead speaker: The Rev. Sandra A. Wilson; respondent: Dr. William Rogers;

Nov. 22—Film: "In Search of Tolerance;" resource scholar: The Rev. Sandra A. Wilson.



Orientation hijinks: Belles give and receive signs of approval and school spirit during the Freshman Revue which highlighted "getting acquainted" sessions before school.

# Newsmakers: local and national

**Speaking Event:** The Bennett College Debate Society and Interdisciplinary Studies students are co-sponsoring the annual Evening of Public Speaking Sept. 20 at 8:00 p.m. in Pfeiffer Science Assembly.

This will mark the ninth year the Evening of Public Speaking has been held. The evening has traditionally featured speakers drawn from the entire student body.

Dr. Ruth Lucier, program coordinator, says, "it is entertaining as well as informative and gives students the opportunity of hearing interesting ideas from their peers. And, I might add, we have a great deal of talent on the campus. I think the evening provides an opportunity for some outstanding talent in public speaking to be displayed."

The program will include three types of six-to-10 minute presentations — dramatic interpretation, interpretation of original poetry or prose and a speech to convince or persuade.

Dramatic Interpretation consists of a presentation of poetry or other literature from the work of a recognized author with an original introduction and transitional remarks by the speaker.

Interpretation of original poetry or prose involves a presentation of literary material composed by the speaker.

A speech to convince or persuade requires an original speech on any appropriate topic of general interest. (Vicelia Howard)

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**Jobs Outlook:** A Manpower, Inc. survey shows employers are predicting hiring increases in September.

Increased hiring levels are predicted by employers in all industrial sectors such as construction, manufacturing and service operations.

The only sector which appears weak is the education sector. Budget pressures produce situations where employers expect to reduce staff.

The education sector is the only employment area reporting negative net hiring for the third quarter of 1983.

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**Waning Marriages:** A U. S. Department of Commerce report indicates a rise in single-parent black families.

Although black population has increased by 17 percent during the last decade, the number of married-couple families declined from 67 percent in 1970 to 56 percent in 1980.

## Five-point program

# President seeks changes

An emphasis on improved education for women and the creation of several superb programs highlighted President Isaac H. Miller, Jr.'s keynote address to the Faculty/Staff Institute Aug. 16.

Concerned about competition with other colleges and the high attrition rate, Miller said, "it is incumbent that we in this institution think of how we will position ourselves in the marketplace."

Miller, announcing a five-point program to enhance the college's recognition, insisted "more intentional emphasis on poise, the art of communication, assertiveness and scholarship" is crucial.

He maintained "as president of the college I must be

the most profound and devoted feminist on campus."

The fields of science and international studies are potential areas of excellence, according to Miller. Citing the need for more black women with scientific careers, Miller wants to make Bennett "a premier institution for educating women in science."

Miller foresees a time when "people from all over the world could come here to study" in the archives at Holgate Library, and the reputation of the college would be advanced.

Miller also believes the coordination and fine-tuning of academic support and the Pilot programs could lower attrition and serve as a model

that could be transported to other schools.

Increased attention must also be given to top students, and Miller called for the development of an honors program.

Another initiative involves stronger ties between the college and the black community. Mentioning the increase in one-parent homes, Miller said, "no one is bothered about that," and urged the audience to address community needs.

He wants children from Morningside Homes and other projects brought to campus for special programs "to stimulate love and hunger for learning and to cause them not to become dropouts."

The number of female households with no husband was up 10 percentage points from 1970.

The average size for all families was 3.27 persons. The 26,495,025 blacks in the U. S. form 12 percent of the national population. The census showed 39 percent of the black population was married; another 15 percent was either separated or divorced and 37 percent was single.

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**Beauty Contest:** The 1984 Miss North Carolina USA pageant will be held Jan. 12-14 in Winston-Salem.

Single women between 18 and 24 qualify for the competition. The winner will represent the state in the national pageant which will be televised on CBS.

For entry information send a postcard with name, address, telephone number and birthdate to: Miss North Carolina USA National Headquarters, Tel-Air Interests, Inc., 1755 NE 149 St., Miami, Fla. 33181.

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**Home Economics Happenings:** "Self Employment—A Thrust for the 1980s" will be the theme of the fall departmental meeting for majors and other interested students Sept. 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Black Hall Assembly.

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Marcia Strong, senior clothing major, worked as a summer intern for the National Urban League in Washington, D. C. She monitored congressional hearings on teenage pregnancy and met Senators John Glenn (D-Ohio), Rubin Askew (D-Fla.) and Alan Cranston (D-Calif.).

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Judith Ezell, senior clothing major, has been certified as a notary public.

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Chairman Louise G. Streat participated in an international seminar held in Europe and sponsored by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the U. S. Naval Academy.

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Associate Professor Lovie Booker, a returning faculty member, has taken a doctorate in nutrition.

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