

The Bennett Banner

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In Memoriam: Dr. Lloyd Milton Harris (1936-1983), professor of biology at Bennett College for 17 years. (photo courtesy of information office)

Biologist lauded By leave-takers

Outside the chapel, the cold blue day was as penetrating as the mind of Dr. Lloyd Milton Harris, who was being remembered during the service inside.

Exactitude was the common refrain in the Jan. 12 eulogies for the biology professor who, at 47, died in his birthplace, Decatur, Ala. and was buried there Dec. 16.

Speakers recalled the high standards which Harris demanded of himself and his students during his 17 years here.

"In all these areas of responsibility (teaching, scholarship, and character), we must attribute excellence to Dr. Harris," said President Isaac H. Miller, Jr. "Excellence characterized his life."

Valedictorian of his elementary and high schools, Harris took degrees at Tuskegee Institute, the University of Illinois and Howard University.

The biologist had an "extensive love for and dedication to his profession..." recalled Monica Jones, president of the biology club. "He placed within us the pearl of knowledge."

SGA President Kay Boyd stressed that Harris "expected nothing less than the best."

His enthusiasms beyond the laboratory were also remembered. Boyd described the care the professor lavished on the plants in the halls of the science building. Miller noted the energy Harris devoted to the master plan for increasing flowers on campus.

The scientist was an excellent tennis player, who often had games with guests of the college. A foreshadowing of Harris' decline came last year when he accepted a match but could not play, according to the Rev. P. E. Adotey Addo.

Speakers emphasized the piety of Harris, a lifelong member of the First Missionary Baptist Church in Decatur.

"He was a scientist who believed in God strongly," said Dr. Sekhara Rao, chairman of the biology department.

Miller urged the crowd "to use the time in this narrow veil (between two eternities) to amplify and glorify God as we know our colleague did."

"We here this morning feel very confident that Dr. Harris lies down to pleasant dreams," Miller also said.

Students reflect on Harris

by Dee Evans

The eye-catching plants along the stairway and the laughter of students in the biology classrooms form a legacy from Dr. Lloyd Harris.

These symbols are among the many gifts left behind by the professor, who died in mid-December after a long struggle with cancer.

As the new semester began, Harris' image lingered in the minds of colleagues and students.

Dr. Sekhara Rao, who attended Harris' funeral in Alabama, praises him for his "excellent educational standards for the betterment of

the students."

Harris was a "perfectionist" but added "a flair of humor to his teaching methods," recalls Robin Rowe, a senior nursing major from Detroit.

Students were impressed with his mannerisms which are described by junior Renee Roberson, a pre-med major from Williamston, as "eccentric." "I cannot get used to being on the second floor of the science building without hearing the prominent sound of Dr. Harris' shoes as he walked down the hallway."

The one thing that senior Zsa Zsa Martin, a health science major from Madison,

best remembers about Harris was his sense of humor. "He was a flexible person—sometimes he was serious, sometimes joking. You knew when not to bother him if he was in a bad mood, but it was seldom," says Martin.

When Zsa Zsa sees the plants which add light to the science building, she wonders how a person can be so generous and put a lot of such effort into something which wasn't his personal possession.

"All the plants are from Dr. Harris' free-giving and unselfish nature," says Martin.

Most importantly, Martin

will never forget the time that Dr. Harris fixed the science building up for Christmas.

"He put forth more than what was expected of him," says Martin.

In addition, no student will ever forget Dr. Harris coming in on Saturdays to work and open the lab rooms for students as well as the extra research he did beyond the requirements of his courses.

Roberson will never forget his prompt arrival every morning at seven. According to Roberson, "Dr. Harris' contributions often went unnoticed because he was a man who did not relish for himself outside approval or glory."

Guard enjoys duties and students

by Melanie Hubbard

She can be seen all over campus, wearing her navy-blue uniform, walking from building to building. Although she is not a student, instructor or maintenance person, she's a very important part of the school.

Her name is Mrs. Rosa Henryhand, and she's a campus security guard. Checking the grounds for disturbances, taking students who are sick to the infirmary, and chatting with whomever she sees are some of the daily duties Henryhand attends to.

She has a large, stocky build and a strongly-defined face, but her gentle manner-

isms and soft voice make any apprehensions a person may have disappear.

Born in Bishopville, S. C., Henryhand was reared in Greensboro. She was a nurse's aid in a local hospital for three years and received a degree in law enforcement and criminal justice at Guilford Technical Institute.

She came to Bennett "because there were no women security guards, and I felt a student would feel more comfortable talking to a woman rather than a man."

Working what she calls "banking hours," Henryhand has a nine-to-five schedule

that involves "finding out the happenings from the night before, and going from there." She says when she first started working at Bennett she was assigned to work from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. and was scared.

"I was going to quit then and I've been quitting ever since," she says, laughing.

Henryhand hasn't encountered any serious cases. She says, "We try to prevent a problem before it happens." She says unwanted visitors are usually dealt with on campus or turned in to the police.

There are about 10 campus security guards, three being students. The students

have the same responsibilities and duties as the other guards, and are part of the work-study program. Henryhand is happy with this transition because "students are helping students with problems."

During her time here, she has seen a change in student behavior every year, but says, "No matter what they do, I enjoy it because if they weren't here I wouldn't be here."

All in all, Henryhand likes working at Bennett and can't really find any negative things to say about the job. Her favorite part of the job is that there are a lot of women to talk to.

Artist's show to be headliner

by Leslie Barr

Visual arts, poetry and chamber music are some of the attractions for this semester's Lyceum programs.

One of the main events will be an art exhibition by Dr. John Biggers, a nationally known painter, sculptor, graphic artist, educator and muralist who will be on campus Feb. 28-29.

This two-day event will include classroom visitations, slide presentations and a small show of some of

Biggers' printed works.

Biggers, a native of Gastonia and retired educator from Texas Southern University, makes much use of the mediums of paint, charcoal and pencil.

Dr. Alma Adams, chairperson of the department of visual arts and humane studies, says, "Biggers is probably one of the greatest artists to live." She also states that this judgment has nothing to do with the fact that he is an Afro-American. She adds, "I

have studied European artists for a long time and it makes me feel good to know that we (blacks) have the power to produce good art." The Biggers program will be open to the public.

Other tentative activities for February include a drama production, and a chamber music program given by the Chalumeau Quartet, which is a clarinet quartet and includes Dr. Chelsea Tipton, dean of the college.

Other activities for this

semester will include movies, and for National Library Week a poet will be featured.

Dr. Ruth Lucier, coordinator of the Mellon Grant and Lyceum Committee, states that "we are still open for suggestions for this semester and next semester." Lucier points out that in an effort to decrease overcrowded audiences a ticket admission may be used for some programs.

A complete and updated schedule of events will be published soon.

Representatives try impeachment

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY) and seven other members of Congress are sponsoring a resolution in the House to impeach President Ronald Reagan on the grounds he violated the U. S. Constitution when he ordered the invasion of Grenada.

Joining Weiss in calling for the President's impeachment are Representatives John Conyers Jr. (D-MI), Julian C. Dixon (D-CA), Mervyn M. Dymally (D-CA), Henry B. Gonzalez (D-TX),

George W. Crockett (D-MI), Gus Savage (D-IL), and Parren J. Mitchell (D-MD).

"The President's invasion of Grenada is illegal and unconstitutional, and, I am convinced, is an impeachable offense," Weiss said. "This resolution is being introduced only after serious research and deliberation, and after Congress has exhausted other remedies. It is now left to Congress to resort to the one option provided for in the Constitution which can truly rein in the ac-

tions of a President operating outside of constitutional bounds: Impeachment."

The resolution, introduced on Nov. 10, lists three constitutional violations as cause for impeachment—the right of Congress to declare war; the injunction against the use of force against a sovereign state; and the First Amendment rights of the American public and press.

"Nothing less than the constitutional framework of our nation has been placed in jeopardy by

the invasion of Grenada. If the Constitution can be violated with impunity, the very survival of our democracy comes under threat," Weiss said.

Weiss said he hopes the impeachment resolution will prompt broad debate on the constitutional questions raised by the President's actions. He intends to encourage educational institutions across the country, including elementary and secondary schools, universities and law schools, to participate in such a debate.