

# The Bennett Banner

Friday, April 29, 1988

BENNETT COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

Vol. XLIX, No. 5

## President's Ball enjoyed

by Shavaughn Neal

About 200 students attended the President's Ball, a festive and enjoyable evening at the Blandwood Carriage House on April 15.

The members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity at A&T State University played host at a make-believe casino in the basement of the Carriage House. The casino was complete with make-believe money and almost every form of gambling for those who wanted to try their luck.

At the end of the night the money the gamblers made was exchanged for IOU's, which were used as cash to buy different articles that were being auctioned off.

The student participation at the ball was excellent.

Dr. Dorothy Harris, vice president of student affairs, said, "I believe at least 70 percent of the student body participated and that says to me that the students were looking forward to an oc-

casional to show off their after-5 attire."

Dr. Harris added, "It was a very elegant event. The students were beautiful and their whole demeanor was that of elegance. The entertainment, decorations and casino were excellent. I think the faculty, staff and students enjoyed it."

Dr. Charlotte Alston, chairperson of the humanities division, said, "There was a real sense of community there even though it was a dance. The general demeanor of the students was excellent. I think it's important for students, faculty and staff to communicate on a level other than academic because it fosters a wholesome relationship."

Mrs. Elaine M. Harrigan, hostess of the President's Ball, said, "It is said that 'Joy comes in the morning.' I believe that joy comes whenever we open our eyes and we make an effort to focus on God's beauty. I saw so much beauty Friday at the Bennett

College President's Ball. Everyone seemed happy! Everyone looked elegant! Plus, everyone shared their wealth of joy!" Mrs. Harrigan adds, "Dr. Gloria Scott was her usual happy and professional self . . . Her husband likewise helped to set the tone of the evening. The atmosphere allowed everyone to feel free. The food and the music also added to the night out on the town with our new president.

Students were pleased by the ball.

Ronita Frieson, a freshman, said, "It was enjoyable. The music was nice and the singer was good. I thoroughly enjoyed myself."

Sophomore Kimberly Waller said, "I was surprised about how many students attended the ball. It really showed that Dr. Scott must have some kind of influence on us."

Junior Foushee Martin, a junior, said, "The President's Ball was an enchanting night of elegance, fun and games. It was

filled with non-stop music and action throughout the night."

Martin adds, "The event was a remarkable improvement from the other balls held since I've been here."

Ms. Wanda Williams, head teacher at the Children's House, said, "The President's Ball was quite remarkable, I thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and games. Overall, the evening was delightful."

Dr. Perry Mack said, "The affair was well attended by students and faculty members. Judging from the active involvement of all persons in attendance, it was apparent that the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was indeed a very colorful and gala affair."

Mrs. Naomi Dupree, director of the Children's House, summed up the night by saying, "The President's Ball was a very relaxing occasion after a hard day's work. It is so nice to be a part of such a lovely family."



Gala event: Freshman LaVie Totten operates a game of chance at the President's Ball. (photo by Waller)

## English professor reflects on her career

by Charlcie Pettway

Her long crusade on behalf of good writing is ending.

Dr. Virginia A. Tucker, chairperson of the communications department, is leaving after 19 years of instructing English classes partly because she is "burned out!" Her teaching load increased a great deal the last two semesters, and her chairperson's duties multiplied. Tucker noted that her temper has been getting short lately.

"I am not as patient with my students as I used to be. When this happens it's time to go," she explains.

As always, the welfare of her students is her top consideration.

She first arrived in Greensboro in 1959. She was the first person to receive a doctoral degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Employed at Bennett in 1964, she left four years later to gain her doctorate and returned in 1973.

The emotional professor flashes back to her early Bennett experiences. "When Dr. Willa B. Player was president here, you couldn't go into the administration building without heels and hose," states Tucker. She adds, "Curfews were a whole lot stricter than now. But times were changing." When Tucker returned, students were more active and outspoken.

"Every other day it seemed as if the students were either marching on the president's lawn or protesting about some rules," says Tucker.

Tucker spoke of the changes that have taken place in her department. "When I came to Bennett, we had a strong department. Then it declined. However, now English is one of the biggest majors offered," she says and smiles.

With tears in her eyes, she speaks about Bennett's purpose.

"Bennett services a real need. Women's colleges are necessary for women to find

themselves. They tend not to want to contend with males. With all women, there seems to be more competition."

Although Tucker will not teach full-time again, she will be far from bored. She plans to travel the first part of the summer and get her house in order.

"I have been working on several books. I'll get a chance to finish and help my husband with his antique business," states Tucker.

What, it would she like to leave with the Bennett family? Tucker softly states, "I would like to be remembered as a teacher that made a difference in somebody's life. Everything else is temporary. God forbid: Bennett could fall today or tomorrow, but lives and generations go on forever."

Tucker will be missed by students in all her classes.

"I am glad she waited until after I graduated to leave," says Robin Howell, senior from Washington, D.C.

Howell added, "Without her I don't think I would have made it."

"It's going to be a great loss," responds sophomore Glen Smith from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She continues, "She puts a lot of time in helping her students. She is the type of teacher that really helps. Not many teachers on campus do this."

Her colleagues also regret Tucker's departure.

Dr. Martha Gleaton, assistant professor of English, states, "In the three years that Dr. Tucker has chaired our department, we have asked her to be not only our able leader, but also our mother, magician, sage and friend. She has never once disappointed us. No wonder she's tired."

Mr. Michael Gaspeny, assistant professor of English, says, "I've taught at five different schools over a period of 15 years, and Dr. Tucker is the best teacher and the finest human being I've met."



Gladly did she teach: Dr. Virginia A. Tucker, chairperson of the communications department, is retiring after 19 years of energetic instruction. Former adviser to this paper, she has helped thousands of Belles. (photo by Waller)

## Marshall elected SGA president

by Crystal Sadler

A rising junior has won the position of SGA President for the second time in four years.

On April 7, Kathryn Lynne Marshall of Charltonne was elected over rising seniors Tracy Caldwell from Columbia, S.C. and Tracy Lett from Indianapolis, Ind. The last junior to be the SGA President was Karen Renee "Popcorn" Taylor who held office in 1985-86.

Emily Rogers of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia captured the SGA Vice President position over rising seniors Dejureia Walker of Charleston, S.C. and Vicki Wilkins of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Two Greensboro natives ran unopposed in the races for recording secretary and cor-

responding secretary. Shavaughn Neal, a rising junior is the next recording secretary, and Taundra Woodard, also a rising junior is the corresponding secretary for next year.

Also running unopposed for the position of Miss Bennett was Sonja Hendrix, a rising senior from Cincinnati, Ohio. Since there was no runner-up to Miss Bennett, a special election will be held to select a Miss Royal Blue and White, first attendant to Miss Bennett.

Kelly Holland, a rising senior from Columbus, Ohio, will hold the SGA treasurer's position after winning over Sabrina Williams, a rising junior from Orange, N.J.

The Student Union Board

(SUB) elections were also held and TuJuan Wood, a rising junior from Washington, D.C., was chosen president, beating two rising sophomores—Kimberly Grant of Summersville, N.J., and Cynthia Washington of Washington, D.C. Beverly James, a rising sophomore from Brooklyn, N.Y., won SUB vice president over Angela Samuel, a rising junior from Winston-Salem.

Tauye Simmons, a rising junior from Washington, D.C., ran unopposed for secretary of the SUB. Rising sophomore Melissa Rivers of Rochester, N.Y., won treasurer over Liane Bennett of New Haven, Conn.

Students selected rising junior Sonja Foster from Reidsville as president of the Inter-Residence Council. The

treasurer seat was the only other Inter-Residence council position with a candidate. Lynette Perry, a rising sophomore from Durham, ran unopposed.

The elections were not without controversy. Many students petitioned for a recount of votes or a new election. Some students felt that the ballots may have been tampered with during the counting. Others felt that people voted twice and that the candidates acted in an unsportsmanlike manner during the speeches. Many of the offices did not have candidates; others only had one.

Dr. Dorothy J. Harris, dean of student affairs, said that there would be another election.



A touch of class: (left to right) Freshmen Terry Vincent, Michelle Cheney and Terrilynne Jenkins brought elegance to the President's Ball, an occasion deemed a grand success. (photo by Waller)