

Katanisha Turner remembered

Stephanie McCorkle
Banner Editor

Katanisha Turner should not be remembered as just another plane crash statistic. She was someone's daughter, sister and friend.

In the Dec. 14 edition of the *News & Record* Katanisha's parents said that they knew within their hearts that she was God's child and not theirs.

The 20-year-old was a education major who dreamed of becoming a teacher. And for a while, she lived that dream as a student teacher at Washington Street Elementary School.

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Convocatum Est ceremony bittersweet

Yvette Burton
Banner Reporter

As always, students are inducted into the Bennett community during Convocatum Est. This semester's program took place Jan. 12 in the Chapel.

The program opened with the audience members singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing," followed by Dr. Charlotte Alston, vice president for Academic Affairs, who announced the names of the following new students: Shanquetta L. Blackmon; Lelisha N. Bernard; Media S. Bostic; Shimika U. Bowers; Brandi A. Crawley; Natasha M. Goldsmith; Anita C. Hood; Christina J. Kyser; Melissa L. Lawson; Annastasiah M. Mhaka; Kymberly L. Monk; Guinell L. Stanley; Rever P. Stanley; Shannon M. Stuckey and two New York University exchange students, Natalie H. Barrington and Nicole Tolliver.

During the ceremony, a special memorial service was held for Belle Katanisha L.



Katanisha Turner

Turner, a sophomore education major from Detroit who was killed in the American Eagle plane crash Dec. 13.

During her address, about social injustice and the importance of voting across the nation, Scott urged every member of society to vote, especially the African American community.

President Scott later read a letter from the family of Katanisha which thanked Bennett for honoring "Kate" and dedicating a scholarship in her name.

"I thought the memorial service was very moving," said Sally Alvarez, instructor in the Mass Communications, Speech & Theatre Department.

"It was very upsetting when Katanisha was killed. I thought it was important for us

to acknowledge how important of a loss that was," she added.

The Rev. Sherrie Cook, college chaplain, led the audience in reciting a poem called "Wide Walls."

Another highlight of the program was when LaShauna Patton, senior music major from Charlotte dedicated a musical solo "Til We Meet Again."

Students, faculty and staff shed tears during the touching service.

"The memorial service was touching," said Rhonda Jackson, junior elementary education major.

"I'm from Detroit also and that could have easily been me on that plane that day. I'm sorry that so many lives were lost," she added.

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Friendraising increases Bennett's visibility

Mariacorazon Hill
Banner Reporter

Have you ever wondered how colleges make themselves known to potential students as well as various corporations?

Well, Bennett College may have a unique method.

Bennett frequently holds what is known as "Renaissance Receptions," nationwide, and according to Guila Cooper, director of alumnae field services, during these gatherings Bennett uses a method called "friendraising" which helps to increase the college's visibility, establish and strengthen relationships

with the United Methodist Church, as well as with women's organizations.

"There's a lot of advanced work that's done prior to any Renaissance reception to insure the success of the events," said Phanalphie Rhue, director of Public Affairs and Marketing.

"These receptions are a vital and effective part of the marketing efforts for the college."

These free receptions have been held for the past three years in cities including Houston, Detroit, Indianapolis, White Plains, and San Diego.

"The reason why I'm excited about planning and having receptions is that it's a learning experience for the audience, and therefore for the community," Cooper said.

"It's up to each of us to tell the Bennett College story to as many people as we can. The results may not be immediate, but the long-term results benefit the college.

"This is what makes my job worthwhile," she added.

The next two receptions will be Feb. 17 in Phoenix and March 24 in Oakland.

Propped open doors jeopardize dorm safety

LaTasha Gordon
Banner Reporter

Maintaining a safe environment on a campus, involves cooperation between the campus safety department and the students. But, when student's refuse to comply with the rules and regulations, that safe environment may become jeopardized.

Case in point: dormitory fire exit doors have become a major problem for the new Bennett College Public Safety and Police Department.

"Freshwomen are not abiding by their curfews, so they place objects in the doors so that they don't have to check in," said Thretha Chance, a sophomore accounting major from Greensboro who serves as a dispatcher on Bennett's campus police.

A reported minimum of 30 freshwomen break curfew per week and anything from pencils to bricks are being used as props for the doors.

"Upperclassmen don't comply simply because they feel inconvenienced by the rules," Chance said.

"Instead, they risk letting others outside

of the campus see exactly how to break in the dorms without even using force."

According to Chief of Public Safety and Police Barbara Simmons, "Not only is the use of these doors a very unsafe practice, but it is also a violation of the Belle Honor Code."

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Barbara Simmons
Public Safety Chief

Odessa Oglesby, coordinator of residence life said that using fire exits is a level two violation in our college handbook.

Violators will appear before the inter-residence board and a punishment is determined after hearing the case," Oglesby said.

"Everyone on the campus has the authority to write violators up and are encouraged to do so."