

GOAL Student Works Hard At School, And Family, And Everything

by Pam Sharts

For Bonnie Reece, the old saying, 'Life begins at 40', is certainly true.

Bonnie is a GOAL student who works hard each day in order to fulfill her many roles. These roles must be balanced, and time management is important as it enables her to attend Gardner-Webb College at night. She sacrifices much of her time and energy reaching for her goal of attaining an Associate's Degree in Business.

Just listening to Bonnie describe a typical day would exhaust anyone. She begins her day at 5:30 each morning by studying, ironing, and preparing breakfast for her husband Don, and their daughter Deborah. Don works for the State Department of Transportation and Deborah is a sophomore at Crest Senior High School. At 7:30, Bonnie leaves home to take her daughter to school. Arriving at work at Royster Oil company at 8:00, Bonnie has changed from wife and mother to a businesswoman. During the day, her responsibilities include book-keeping, taking inventories, and waiting on customers.

Bonnie's lunch hour is often spent driving from Shelby to Gardner-Webb in order to take advantage of some of the college's services which are only available during the day. A big advantage of her job is that she does not have to work overtime, and this allows her to leave work promptly at 5:00 p.m.

Three nights a week she assumes the role of a student. On Mondays and Wednesdays, she only has enough time to

grab a quick bite to eat and look over her assignments before her class begins at 6:00. On Tuesdays, she changes from business woman to mother again, just in time to cook supper, wash clothes, and fulfill other household tasks before her studies begin.

After her classes are completed for the week, Bonnie is once again a wife and mother as well as finance officer, doctor and secretary for the family. Bonnie does admit that there is somewhat of a financial strain, but if it were not for the GOAL program, she would not be able to pursue her goals.

Many other roles occupy Bonnie's remaining 'free time'. She is president of Cleveland County Democratic Women. At New Hope Baptist Church in Earl, she is a finance director, choir member, and Sunday School teacher.

All of these many activities make life frustrating at times, and it is necessary for her to get away from it all. She relieves stress by reading, listening to music, and visiting with friends. She feels that it is very important to take time away from other activities and relax. Every two weeks, she and her family go to Elkin where they visit with both her and Don's elderly parents.

Her family has mixed feelings about her return to school. Deborah feels resentment sometimes, because her mother cannot attend many school functions. Don can foresee the increase in family income once Bonnie's studies are completed, and



this makes him even more supportive.

Friendships are very important to her and she uses weekends to help build and strengthen them. She has made many new friends, but still feels a responsibility to her old friends.

She feels the attempt at this degree is worthwhile.

"It gives you a sense of accomplishment, and helps one realize that they can do anything they set their mind to. I realize that I can do as well as the younger members of the class, and this is important for my own self worth. All of this makes life worth living."

cont. from p. 1 when police questioned him, his fear of reprisal was evident. A local resident witnessed a late-night assembly at the barn but said the meeting was peaceful, except for a few loud songs.

Local authorities are conducting house-to-house searches and there have been allegations of brutality.

A shepherd interviewed by WBET contends that all the stir is about a simple child, lying in a manger, said to be the Christ, a distant relative of David.

Marcus Antonni, consulate of Bethlehem, said "These people are forever involved in one silly cause or another. We'll have this one under control within the week."

Revenues from the annual tax collection efforts are expected to drop significantly as a result of the confusion.

Jimmy's Jam

by Jimmy Byrd

When Lionel Richie's long-awaited single release, Say You, Say Me, hit the charts last year, millions of Americans rushed out to their local record shops in search of Richie's new album. Their search was in vain. Much to the dismay of millions of would-be buyers, the album had been delayed for about six months.

But WOW, now it's here. Dancing On The Ceiling is in our stores, a musical fruit ripe for the picking. I'm quite excited, but not surprised.

This album, though it may impress, probably won't surprise you either. Like his previous releases, this album is filled with catchy pop tunes which somehow find their way into your mind and stay there.

Richie also renews his old tendency of including well-known celebrity colleagues in his recordings. Among the prominent guest artists who gave their services to this effort are Alabama, Eric Clapton, John Robinson, and Sheila E.

What else would we expect? We are speaking of the same individual who included Jimmy Connors as a backup singer on

his debut album. Lionel Connors voice was well hidden, nestled safely among several unnamed voices.

The presence of the guest performers on this release is nearly as inconspicuous with the exception of Alabama. This country group plays a prominent role in the success of "Deep River Woman," which could be the album's best cut since it covers several musical formats. The Alabama sound translates in a way as to make the song just similar enough to country to be dangerous.

Okay, so we have to admit that Lionel Richie makes carbon copies. But so what if this album reminds us of his previous works? After all he has established himself as the King of Pop with this type of stuff so it may still be acceptable for him to continue to plug it into our radios.

Richie's true fans will love this album and I'm pretty sure the rest of us will manage to tolerate it. As for Richie, some will call him "boring" while his fans will prefer to tab him as "consistent."



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