



Mrs. Virginia Newell
Using newspaper in class

Newspapers

New Technique In Math

By Lou Bonds
Staff Reporter

(the following article appeared in the Winston-Salem Journal.)

"I contend that this is the here and now," Mrs. Virginia Newell told her class. "Mathematics is totally abstract. You've got to make it concrete. You've got to be able to pass it on to your children, and I say a newspaper is the best way.

"We've got algebra, geometry and arithmetic in that newspaper. You want some calculus? I'll show you some calculus."

The response was overwhelmingly negative. The moans of "NO" drowned out the noise of crackling newspaper pages being used as text.

Mrs. Newell is using the "hands-on" approach to learning in Mathematics 1303 at Winston-Salem State University.

"It was something done in desperation," she said.

Before newspapers came to math class, she said, many students would stare blankly at math textbooks. Mathematics was theory, computation and numbers. Sometimes it was unclear how much material was

being recorded in students' minds.

"We hated math before we got into this," Mrs. Newell said. "I go to workshops, and I do know the humanistic approach is more interesting to me. Now we get more math from a personal involvement outside the class. The whole personality of the class is different."

The idea of using newspapers came from another class, she said, and she had heard of a program in Hawaii which uses newspapers as reading aids.

Although the mathematical problems contained in the pages are not as obvious as the words, they are as matter-of-fact as everyday living. They range from advertising ratios to geometric layout to finances, Mrs. Newell said.

A Mathematics 1303 problem: Assume that you have \$40,000 and plan to buy a house with furnishings. Try to be frugal.

The house-hunt begins in the want ads and can take a number of different directions. One student studied every possible home financing plan before deciding to assume a loan at lower interest rates. Another student, however, bought the

home furnishings before having a house to put them in.

Consider the other problems of buying a home - percentages, discount points on loans, dimensions, construction costs, closing costs.

Another problem: You are trying to gain support for a higher education bond issue. Figure the costs of advertising. The figures involve measurements, space, length of time the ad runs, the size of the type, the number of words and so on.

Before long, the ancient adages of business appear: "You get what you pay for, and the more you get, the less you pay for it."

The students in Mrs. Newell's class seem to like the new approach. One class began using newspapers in September. Another class has just started using them.

"A person that doesn't read newspapers doesn't have any business in a classroom," she said. "I think you need to know about the stock pages. Why do you think newspapers carry stock listings if they aren't important?"

"A girl in the other class asked me, 'What's a stock?' She didn't even know."

Arts Festival Begins Sunday

The WSSU Lyceum Series will present the University Fine Arts Festival, March 7 through March 16.

The festival will include programs presented by various University groups. It will also include an art exhibit by Professor William Anderson of Savannah State College; a performance by concert pianist Mamon Morrison; and the final event and highlight of the festival will be concert by the Duke Ellington Orchestra conducted by Mercer Ellington. The University's combined choral groups will participate in the presentation of Ellington's "Sacred Concert - The Majesty of God".

All events are free with the exception of the Morrison concert and the Ellington concert both of which require Lyceum Season Tickets or single admission tickets.

All performances will be held in Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium starting at 8:00 P.M. unless otherwise indicated.

No admission charged for the University Fine Arts Festival. Admission charged for Mamon Morrison Concert. Lyceum Season Tickets or Single Admission: Adult - \$2.50 Students - \$1.00.

Admission charged for the Duke Ellington Concert. Lyceum Season Ticket Holders admitted (multiple punch not valid). Single Admission: (Adults - Ellington Concert - \$5.00) Single Admission: (Students with I.D. - \$2.00)

Art Gallery opened daily to the public Monday through Friday- 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. No admission charged.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	March 7, 1976	University Chorus, Brass Ensemble Woodwind Quintet - 3:30 P.M.
Sunday	March 7, 1976	Art Exhibit, University Art Gallery Mr. William Anderson, Paintings and Drawings - March 7 through 26, 1976
Tuesday	March 9, 1976	Concert, Mamon Morrison - Pianist
Wednesday	March 10, 1976	University Concert Band
Thursday	March 11, 1976	University Madrigal Singers University Male Chorus
Sunday	March 14, 1976	Art Lecture - Reception Mr. William Anderson, Prof. of Art Savannah State College University Art Gallery - 3:00 P.M.
Sunday	March 14, 1976	University Dance Group
Tuesday	March 16, 1976	Duke Ellington Orchestra Directed by Mercer Ellington A Sacred Concert - The Majesty of God with Winston-Salem State University's combined Choral Groups

Theater Group

Performs Well

by Cheryl Brandon

Perhaps one of the highlights of the WSSU Lyceum programs was the appearance of The National Theatre Company here in the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium on February 3. The group, out of New York, is under the direction of Sue Lawless.

The company is made up of four members: Ben Powers of Providence, R.I., Mychelle Smily of St. Louis, Minn., Lillian Harris of New York, and Ron Taylor of Texas. Mychelle Smily, the spokesman and newest member of the group explained what they dislike most about the business. "The trouble with the business is just that". "She said, Too much business and not enough art." They agreed that overall they really enjoy their work, but it takes much determination to make it in the field."

The show, "Feeling Good" was written by Sean O'Malley with choreography by Bob Alpough. Music was directed by William Roy.

The members of the National Theatre Company have been working together since October 1975. They rehearsed for their present show a total of eight days before going on the road. On the spot rehearsals are made whenever it is convenient or necessary. The company makes from eight to ten performances a week.

The production "Feeling Good" uses musical sketches to combine serious, as well as comical information about the growth of black entertainment over the years. The show opens with a church scene in which Rev. Brown played by Ron

Taylor, emphasizes the fact that Black music had its beginnings in the church. The sketches move from the minstrel show, to the Vaudeville circuit, and on into jazz. Black jazz musicians portrayed included such greats as Fletcher Henderson, who started jazz in New York, Cab Calloway and Billy Holiday.

After a short intermission the production moved into a period that WSSU students could identify with-the 1960's and rock and roll. The audience was really turned on by Ms. Smily's medley of Diana Ross favorites. The medley included such tunes as, Stop in the Name of Love, My World is Empty Without You, and Baby Love all bring several episodes of spontaneous applause from the audience.

Another scene that brought favorable audience response was the one on The Apollo Theatre. The Apollo has hosted almost every Black entertainment great for about fifty years. Ron Taylor put on dark glasses and almost brought the house down with his imitation of Ray Charles. Next Ben Powers stepped up to the microphone to do his impression of Johnny Mathus singing "Chances Are." Then came the queen of soul, Aretha Franklin as portrayed by Lillian Harris. It is only fitting that after the queen of soul comes the king of soul, James Brown. Powers imitated the king singing "I feel Good," with all the splits and dance steps of James Brown. Here the audience really got into the show and started clapping with the music.

The production ended with a standing ovation and shouts for more.