



# CROSSROADS

## Belmont Abbey College

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# Graduation 1979

Belmont Abbey College graduated a class of 113 seniors in the college's 101st commencement exercises on Sunday, May 13.

In the 3 p.m. ceremony in the Wheeler Center on campus, 96 men and women received the Bachelor of Arts degree; 17 received the Bachelor of Science.

Father Neil W. Tobin, president of the college, and Dr. J. Patrick Lee, vice president for academic affairs, also awarded the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree (pictured on page 5) to Sister M. Michel Boulus, R.S.M., president of Sacred Heart College, Belmont; Charles H. Crutchfield, president of Media Communications, Inc., Charlotte, and former president of Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting Company, also of Charlotte; and Dr. A. Kenneth Pye, chancellor and professor of law at Duke University, Durham, N.C., who also was the honored commencement speaker.

Other special events included the presentation of the Presidential Medallion by Basil L. Whitener, Gastonia attorney and chairman of Board of Trustees of the college, to Father Tobin. The medallion, bearing the official seal of Belmont Abbey College, was a gift to the college from an anonymous donor. As a symbol of the office of the presidency, the medallion will be worn by the president of the college at all formal academic convocations. It will otherwise remain on display in the president's office.

Another highlight of the graduation exercises was the unveiling of a portrait of Father John P. Bradley, provost and past president of Belmont Abbey College. The portrait, the graduating class's gift to the college, was unveiled by the senior class president, James W. Crawford, III, of Charlotte. Given in recognition of Father Bradley's eight years of dedicated service to the college, the portrait will hang in the Administration Building.

For the first time in the history of the College, the Abbeyman/Woman of the Year award went to a female graduate. Ms. Debbie Prince received the award made annually by Belmont Abbey's

Alpha Rho chapter of Phi Kappa Theta fraternity to a junior or senior who characterizes the ideal of the Abbey gentleman or gentlewoman and who has contributed significantly to campus academic and extra-curricular life. Ms. Prince was president of the Student Government Association during her final year at the college and vice president in her junior year. She was listed in both the 1977-78 and the 1978-79 editions of Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges. She will return to the college in August as an admissions counselor.

In his commencement address (printed in full on pages 6-7), Dr. Pye called the graduates' attention to the need for increased state aid for America's private colleges and universities. As the tuition gap between public and private institutions continues to widen, Dr. Pye stressed that increased state aid is essential to the survival of private education. He urged B.A.C. graduates to keep their fellow citizens informed of the advantages of the nation's dual private-public system of higher education and to continue to ask their legislators for increased state aid for private education.

Commencement exercises were preceded by a Baccalaureate Mass in the Abbey Church. The Right Rev. Peter N. Stragand, O.S.B., abbot of Belmont Abbey and chancellor of the college, was the principal celebrant at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Homilist for the occasion was The Most Rev. F. Joseph Gossman, D.D., Bishop of Raleigh.

Bishop Gossman voiced confidence in the graduates. "I believe that if you, the class of '79, face the future that is yours with some sense of your own resources, you should at least be somewhat encouraged and realize that you have a contribution to make, and that you do not face the future empty-handed and empty-headed," said the Bishop with obvious enthusiasm and encouragement for their individual lives.

"I suggest that you face the future with four commodities," he continued. "The first is knowledge. The

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Basil L. Whitener, chairman of the college's Board of Trustees, addressed the 1979 graduates and their guests before introducing the distinguished speaker, Dr. A. Kenneth Pye, chancellor and professor of law, Duke University.

## '75 Alumna Named VP For Financial Affairs

Mrs. Kathy Haverty Drumm was named vice president for financial affairs at Belmont Abbey College, effective June 1, 1979.

Mrs. Drumm, a resident of Mt. Holly, has held the position of acting business manager of the college since March 1978. She has been employed in the Business Office of the college since 1969, first in accounts payable and receivable (1969-73) and then as assistant business manager and director of student aid (1973-78).

In her new position, Mrs. Drumm will be the administrative officer responsible for the business affairs of the college. She will direct control of the college's operating budget, including collection, custody, investment, disbursement, accounting and auditing of all college funds, maintaining financial records and preparing an annual financial report. She will formulate and administer policies and procedures for development and management of the physical plant and for the procurement of goods and non-personal ser-



Kathy H. Drumm

vices for the college.

A 1975 accounting graduate of Belmont Abbey College, she completed requirements earlier this year for the Master of Business Administration degree at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Mrs. Drumm, who received the Bachelor of Arts degree

cum laude, was selected for the 1975 edition of Outstanding Young Women in America. She is also a member of Pi Gamma Mu National Social Science Honor Society and Delta Epsilon Sigma National Academic Honor Society.

An active member of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd of Mt. Holly, she is a Sunday School instructor and has served on several committees including Stewardship, Evangelism and Finance. She is currently serving a three-year term on the Church Council.

The wife of James M. Drumm and the mother of thirteen-year-old Chris, she is the daughter of Mrs. Ray Potts and the late Joe Haverty. The Drumms live at 206 Walnut Avenue, Mt. Holly.

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