

April 14-15

Bennett's Social And Behavioral To Host Confab

The Social and Behavioral Sciences Department at Bennett College will host its first major conference on the status and direction of social classes and race for the 1980s on April 14-15.

The theme for the conference is "Class and Race: The Afro-American Quest for Freedom, Social Justice and Equality." It will begin at 3 p.m. each day in Henry Pfeiffer Science Building Assembly.

According to the conference coordinator, Dr. Ademola Adebola, the conference was planned "to shed light on the historical and contemporary status of socio-economic classes and race relations."

He said, "We are extending special invitations to churches, public school officials, law enforcement personnel, business, city officials, and other organizations that impact on class and race relations."

The first session, held after the opening of the conference on Thursday afternoon, features Dr. Richard Bardolph, historian and author. He will address the topic "The Historical Impact of Class and Race on the Afro-American's Struggle for Survival and the Implications for the 1980s."

The respondent to his address is Dr. Ruth Lucier, professor of philosophy at Bennett.

Dr. William Chafe, professor and author from Duke University, will keynote the second Thursday session. His topic is "The Historical and Contemporary Relationship Between Class and Race Within the Context of the Afro-American's Struggle for Distributive Justice in the U.S."

The respondent is Mr. Claude Barnes, faculty member at North Carolina A&T State University.

Dr. Shelby Lewis will begin the Friday activities by addressing the topic "The Relationship Between Class and Race and Sex-



(Photo by Harris)

Bennett College held its annual robing ceremony, Senior Day, recently in preparation for the coming May commencement. Among the 100 seniors participating in the college tradition was associate arts degree candidate Sandra Cunningham, a secretarial administration student from Maiden, N.C. She received her robe and cap from her sophomore class sister, Leslie Pickney, a resident of Fayetteville, N.C.

ism." Lewis is director of the Southeast Institute for Women in Atlanta. She is also a noted author and college professor. The respondent to her presentation is Dr. Robert Miller, assistant professor of history at Bennett.

The fourth session, beginning at 4:20 p.m., features Dr. Mack Jones, professor and author at Atlanta University. His topic is "Class and Race and the Bourgeois African American Underclass."

Respondent is Mr. Gordon Chamberlain, faculty member at Greensboro College.

Dr. Manning Marable, professor and director of the Race Relations Institute at Fisk University, will keynote the fifth session on the topic, "Assessment of

the Continuing Significance of Class and Race in Shaping the U.S. Policy and the Afro-American Position Within that Policy." The respondent is Dr. Allen Anderson, a faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The conference closes with a round table discussion and session summaries at 7 p.m. Moderator for this session is Dr. Alma Adams, chairperson of the Art Department at Bennett.

The conference is supported by the North Carolina Humanities Committee, a state-based organization of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is also supported by the Andrew Mellon Foundation.

BON Is Primarily Oriented For Mecklenburg County

By Andrew McCorkle
Post Staff Writer

A program designed to aid small minority and women-operated businesses has recently received legislative approval to go into effect, said a Greater Charlotte Chamber of Commerce official.

The Business Opportunity Network (BON) received enabling legislation from the General Assembly late last week to establish funding for the program from the city, county and private sector, said Jim Carpenter, vice-president of public affairs for the chamber of commerce.

The program was created to match minority and women-operated businesses with the large, established operations that may be able to use their goods or services. The program is primarily oriented for Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

"We hope BON will encourage and stimulate a greater level of business between women and minority-owned firms and large companies," Carpenter explained.

He said that minority and women business persons often have special problems in addition to the standard hazards of operating a new small business. "We recognize the

problem and we want to attempt to bring the small business into the mainstream," he added.

"We want to identify the business, the product or service they render, and match them with other large companies," Carpenter explained.

Carpenter said the program will work closely with black firms in the area to make sure that a significant number of black businesses are registered with the network.

The program will work with firms such as the Mecklenburg County Contractors Association, the Charlotte Business League, the Minority Supplier Council and the Charlotte-Gastonia Minority Business Center.

"We want to make sure that we identify those businesses in the county that we can assist," he explained. "We also plan to work with large companies in the community and recruit their interest and commitment to the program."

Cooperation from the private sector cannot be mandated, admitted Carpenter, however BON will offer the minority or woman entrepreneur better access to the mainstream of competitive business, he added, than set-a-sides or quotas. "This is a much health-

ier approach," Carpenter said. "In the long run, it will help them compete and sustain their business on a permanent basis."

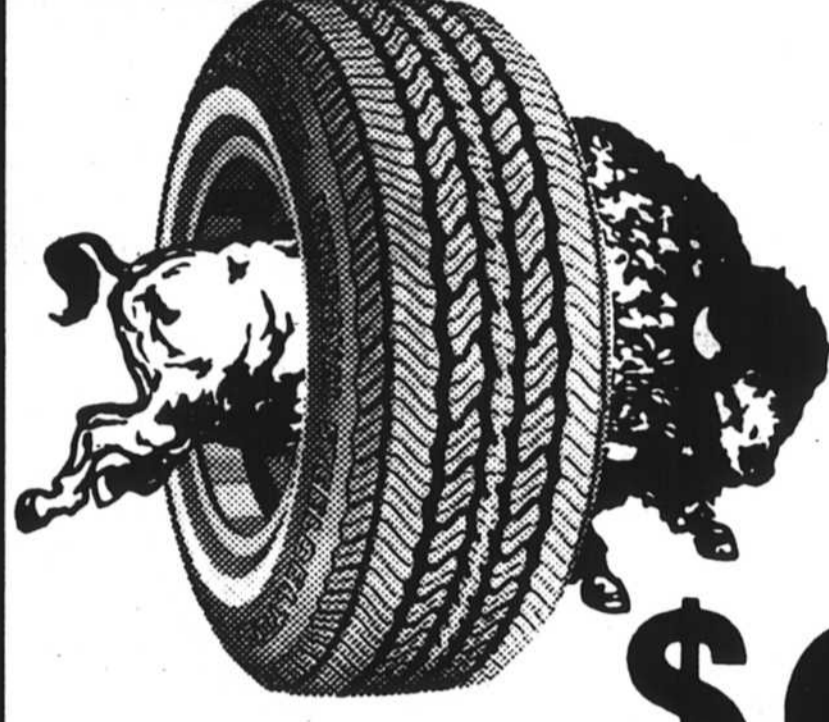
Carpenter said that the program is searching for a director and should have one in 30 days.

He said small businesses needing the services of BON should send a synopsis of the goods or services that they offer to: Jim Carpenter, Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 32785, Charlotte, N.C. 28232.

Volunteers

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee is proposing to sponsor a program to provide parties involved in interpersonal disputes an alternative to the courts for settling their disputes. If you are interested in volunteering to serve as a mediator, please let us know if you will attend a video presentation on the role of volunteer citizen-mediators on April 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor of the Covenant Presbyterian Church at 1000 East Morehead Street. After the video presentation, time will be set aside for questions and answers. For more information, call Al Petty at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations office, 374-2424.

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185/75R-14	45.74	2.04	225/75R-15	59.74	2.68	225/70R-15	58.74	2.88
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