

To Dr. Costen

# Barber-Scotia Awards Honorary Doctorate Degree

Dr. James H. Costen, keynote speaker for the 117th annual Founders Day Convocation at Barber-Scotia College, was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters at the recent ceremony.

Dr. James H. Costen, president of the International Theological Seminary in Atlanta and moderator of the final General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church before its merger with the Presbyterian Church U.S., said that he will always have a warm spot in his heart for Barber-Scotia College.

Introduced by Dr. Mable P. McLean, Barber-Scotia College president, Dr. Costen stressed the importance of the small, privately operated black colleges.

"Some of these colleges learned to depend upon the government, foundations and gifts, and have not been able to extricate themselves from this support," he said.



Dr. James Costen (center) is draped with hood by BSC academic dean while BSC president Mable McLean and BSC trustee Mr. E. E. Waddell observe.

"So often black people are cast as users, and not producers in our society.

"We need Barber-Scotia College to prove that we are somebody, and while

our race is part of the melting pot of the American population, we need to retain our roots and our rich heritage.

"Instead if a melting pot,

I like to think of the American people as a salad—you combine many different ingredients or vegetables to produce a salad, and the combination of these ingredients is good, but you can still taste the lettuce, the onion, and the other ingredients.

"We need Barber-Scotia because we must make up the difference, we must have leaders in schools like this to see that our students are disciplined.


"We must learn to think for ourselves, and to act accordingly. We are proud of our American citizenship, but we are also citizens of the world, and we have a responsibility in that citizenship also."

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## IRS Eases IRA Pension Rules

Greensboro - Those taxpayers who contribute to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) have been given more time by the Internal Revenue Service to deposit funds to the account, the IRS has announced.


Under the old law, a taxpayer could set aside up to \$2,000 a year in an IRA and make eligible contributions to the account before

filing the tax return and claim the tax break. Effective immediately, the taxpayer may file the tax return, claim the full \$2,000 deduction and use the refund to bring the IRA deposit up to the \$2,000 level. The amount claimed must be in the account by April 16, 1984, the IRS said.

Bill Lovelace, Chief of Taxpayer Service for the IRS in Greensboro, said,

"This new law carries some conditions that are very important. If the amount claimed is not in the account by April 16, the IRS will bill the taxpayer for the tax saved plus an additional 50 percent fraud penalty.

The IRA guidelines also provides for an annual contribution of up to \$250 for an unemployed spouse, Lovelace said.




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