

A Week in Her Life at Princess Anne College

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:11PM

Sunday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:15PM

Morning

Religious activities

Q: UMES Once Upon a Time now presents A Week in Her Life at Princess Anne College. What is our adventure now: A: We are in 1942, following a week in the life of Princess Anne College student Devenia Pinder, a sophomore from Cambridge, Maryland. From Sunday school, to her Home Economics classes, to her job on the student newspaper, to do laundry in the Dining Hall, to jitterbug with classmates in Kiah Gymnasium, to the bus home on Saturday. Her life is a window into the joys and pain of HBCU campus life. — ANONYMOUS

That would be great!!! — GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES

We don't have a 1941-42 catalog on file, but focusing on that year would be great! — GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES



Metropolitan United Methodist Church congregants laid a cornerstone within days of the Academy opening in 1886. During the early years when the school was an academy, bible instruction was part of the curriculum. Students were expected to attend chapel services well into the 20th century. The church being in walking distance of the campus attracted college employees as members and students during the semesters. . — SHARON BROOKS

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:16PM

Afternoon

Relaxation / entertainment

JDEKE APR 13, 2022 01:33AM

Religion
The College is pronouncedly Christian in its views and work. Chapel services are held at regular intervals during the week. Sunday school is held on the campus every Sunday Morning. Students attend churches of their respective choice in the town of Princess Anne. Vesper services are held twice a month in the college chapel. Some students engage actively in religious work both on and off the campus.

ANONYMOUS APR 19, 2022 01:34PM

ANONYMOUS APR 21, 2022 09:14PM



Devenia Victoria Pinder (Wallace) — Princess Anne College — Class of 1943

ANONYMOUS APR 22, 2022 03:25PM



Q: Who were the teachers of her classes? A: Most of the teachers were educated to the masters level. 3/4 of the faculty had masters degrees. There were no faculty members with Ph.Ds at this time. — ANONYMOUS

JDEKE APR 13, 2022 03:21AM

THE DINING HALL

The Dining Hall is a two-story, commodious building of red brick. The first floor comprises the kitchen, a pantry and storeroom. In the east wing of the first floor is the laundry, which is equipped with electric washing machines, a mangle, electric irons, stationary tubs, and other modern laundry appliances. On the second floor is the main dining room, and a pantry.

JDEKE APR 14, 2022 01:25AM

Students are expected to dress in a neat and becoming manner. Extravagance in dress, hats, and jewelry is discouraged. The school will not be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for loss of, or damage to personal property.

Every girl is urged to provide herself with umbrella, raincoat, and zippers.

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 17, 2022 02:15AM

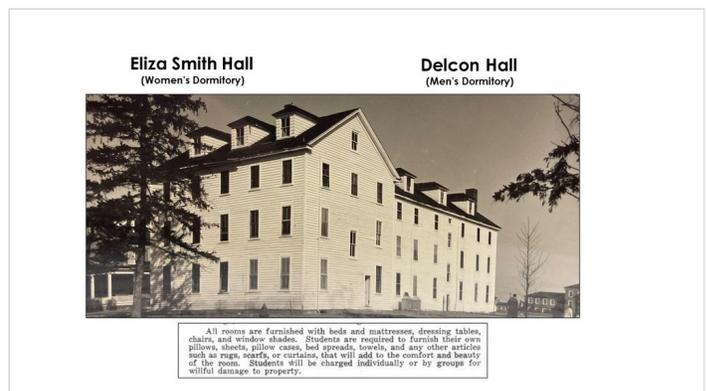
Afternoon

Personal chores: laundry, cleaning

Q: Where did Devenie Pinder live? A: She lived on campus. Her dormitory was Eliza Smith. The building of this dorm was funded by the parents of a girl named Eliza Smith of Massachusetts. This was the Smith family of Smith and Wesson. The dorm was built in the 1890s. It had rooms for 50 girls, a study room, a bath room, hot and cold water, reception room, and teacher's room. — ANONYMOUS

Q: Where did she do her laundry? A: interestingly only girls did their own laundry. Boys did not. The girls did their laundry in a wing of the first floor or the Dining Hall. The Dining Hall was on the second floor. The laundry room had washing machines and wrangles. It had irons and washtubs. Laundry was complicated by the fact that walkways on campus were not paved, and so the students got muddy and dusty when they walked around campus. Students were instructed to bring raincoats, umbrellas, and zippers, which were rain boots. — ANONYMOUS

JDEKE APR 15, 2022 12:38AM



Monday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:17PM

Morning

Her classes and major
 Context: Female friend's classes and major

Q: What kind of majors did she and her friends have to choose from? A: She could major in Home Economics or Home Economics Education. She also could choose to do the Junior College, a two year program in liberal arts, humanities, social sciences. Students in this program went on to Morgan or Howard or Claflin or another other university for a 4 year degree. — ANONYMOUS

Q: Why did they have so few majors to choose from? A: It's important to know that these young women lived in a world of a terrible job market for Black college graduates. Unemployment and racism are her constant companions in her journey. After all, the reason there is a Princess Anne College is because University of Maryland in College Park needed a Black college to send young Black Marylanders to, in order to ensure that Black male students did not enroll in UMCP, where the white girls were. Literally, this is what the president of UMCP said. — ANONYMOUS

DIVISION OF HOME ECONOMICS & HOME ECONOMICS EDUCATION

Place: Classrooms and the Foods, Clothing and Designing Laboratories were on the 2nd floor of Administration Building

Q: TEXT FOR PHOTO: What were some of Devenia's Home Economics classes as a sophomore? The catalogue stated she had several options: Foods; Principles of Design; or Clothing Selection & Construction. However, we learn some additional details through two articles in the student newspaper, The College Mirror. First, we find that each year the Home Economics Department sponsored a Fashion Show where students modeled clothes from manufacturers, as well as those they made in their classes. In 1941, these designs consisted of jenkins "made at the cost of 25 cents," two-piece suits (varying in cost due to style and materials), luncheon suits, and a "beautiful coat" that cost much less than "ready-made." Second, a short piece in the Sees All column provides a bit of humor regarding the Sewing Lab. A staff writer cautioned a fellow student: "Anna, I bet you don't know Zack slipped back up the Sewing Lab...to see your rival D.M. Watch out, Zack!" — JDEKE

Tuesday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:19PM

Morning

More discussion of her classes and major. Focus on one teacher.
Context: Male friend's classes and major

Great idea! — GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:22PM

Afternoon

An activity that involves walking the campus (such as going to the Practice House)
Discussion of buildings

KBG: perhaps this is where we see the faculty houses? — ANONYMOUS

JDEKE APR 15, 2022 02:12AM

DIVISION OF HOME ECONOMICS & HOME ECONOMICS EDUCATION

Place: Home Economics classrooms and Food Laboratory were located on the 2nd floor of the Administration Building.

JDEKE APR 15, 2022 05:41PM

The Practice House

Miller, A. (1937, Nov. 21). Hood College's youngest student has 13 "mothers." ProQuest Historical Newspapers, The Baltimore Sun, pg. 3.
Nine-month-old boy appointed instructor of College Park. (1938, Oct. 23). ProQuest Historical Newspapers, The Baltimore Sun, pg. 4.

Q: TEXT FOR PHOTO: What was the Home Economics Practice House? The building formerly known as the Principal's House was used in 1941 as a Practice House to give senior women the chance to apply all the concepts they learned in the classroom - from meal preparation to nutrition and home management skills. Although Devenia was only a sophomore, it seems probable that she would have known seniors in her major who lived there for the six week mandated period. This seems all the more likely given a fascinating fact found in The College Mirror: our Practice House had a practice baby! Yes, a real, live baby boy named Prince Leroy resided 24/7 in the Practice House, cared for by the female students (under the supervision of a HE instructor). As odd as this is to us today, practice babies were quite common from 1919-1969, with Cornell University leading the way (The Secret History of Home Economics). Even College Park and Hood College had practice babies (News sources cited at bottom of slide). The Mirror tells us that during Christmas break in 1941, senior Martha Martin remained in the Practice House to care for Prince Leroy, who was referred to as having "13 mothers" (probably equal to the number of female seniors in 1941-1942 student register). How strange that the catalogue's Home Economics course descriptions (including Child Study) do not mention a practice baby when he made the front page of The College Mirror? — JDEKE

Wednesday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:24PM

Morning

More discussion of classes and major
Focus on another teacher / another class / another educational experience
Context: career options

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:27PM

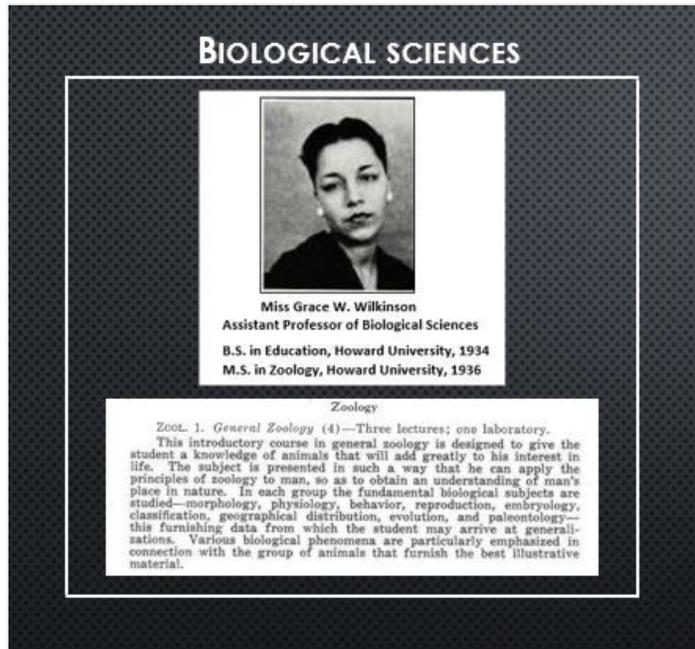
Afternoon

Another activity - meeting with the teacher discussed under the "Tuesday" heading?

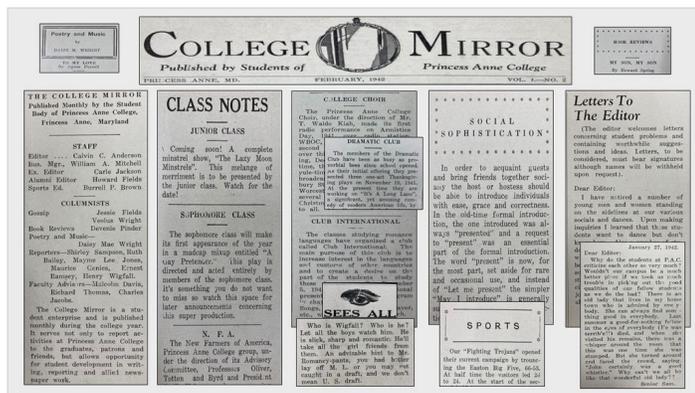
Kathryn: meet with teacher at teacher's on campus house? In response to hostility toward Black faculty living in PA, students and teachers in industrial arts built cottages for teachers on campus. There were four of these small cottages in 1935.

— ANONYMOUS

JDEKE APR 13, 2022 02:22AM



JDEKE APR 15, 2022 12:23AM



Q: what were her extracurricular activities? A: Devenia was involved in starting this new college newspaper. In fact, she served as the book reviewer on the College Mirror. The College Mirror was the new student newspaper in 1942, the second semester of her sophomore year. The newspaper gives us an intimate look into the lives of the students who lived here on this campus 80 years ago. We learn about romances and scandals. We learn about teachers and dances and fashion shows. We learn about the world heading into World War II. We learn about the practice baby in the practice house, and farmers and seeds and loans for farmers. We learn about the football team and the women's and men's basketball teams. We read about the college choir, and we read student poetry. We see advertisements for businesses and fun for students mostly in Salisbury. Only two Princess Anne establishments, the Varsity Grill and the Princess movie theatre, sought our students' business. — ANONYMOUS

Thursday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 19, 2022 02:09PM

Connection to administration

Robert Grigsby is the Acting Dean of Administration and Registrar. There are 10 officers of administration & 16 officers of instruction of which 4 are Home Economics instructors. Devinie Pinder is a Home Economics major. The Home Economics Department is located in the Administration Building on the 2nd floor. There are a Foods Laboratory, a Clothing Laboratory, a Designing Laboratory-all modernly equipped- & classrooms for lectures and faculty offices. — SHARON BROOKS

Friday

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:52PM

Morning

More discussion of her major - focus on a connection to an administrator.

GABRIELA VLAHOVICI-JONES APR 12, 2022 02:53PM

Afternoon

Another activity

KBG: Perhaps she visits the school nurse, a newly added position. — ANONYMOUS

Q: TEXT FOR PHOTO (Gym and link to Lindy-Hop) What are some social functions that took place on campus? The Mirror tells us of a dance held in the newly-built gymnasium where the students gyrated to the jitterbug. The Lindy Hop was a type of jitterbug dance. (Play 10 seconds of YouTube video starting at 00:24 and ending 00:34) — JDEKE

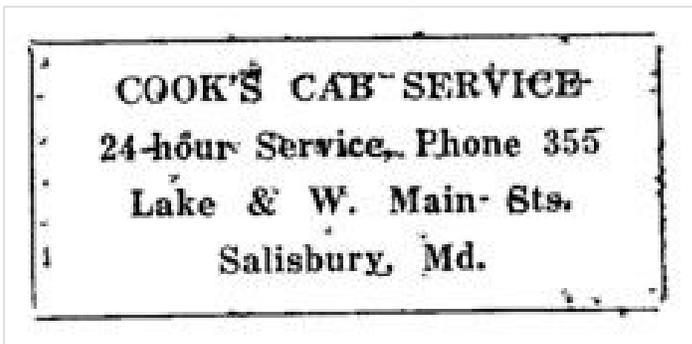
LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 12:59PM

TRANSPORTATION HEYDAY AND SEGREGATION

- In its heyday, 7 train northbound; 7 southbound departures each day
- In theory, students could take a morning train to Philadelphia, do some shopping and return on one of the seven southbound trains
- Segregation on both the ferry and the train and at the train stations, at least until ended in Virginia

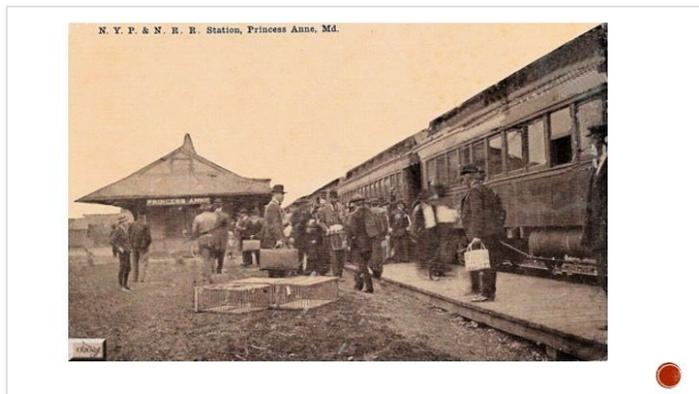


1940s Cape Charles train schedule



This add for R.E. Cook's Cab Service appeared in the College Mirror in 1942. — LINDA FORRISTAL

LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 12:59PM



LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 02:03PM



LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 01:41PM



LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 02:00PM

Started in the 1930's, R. E. Cook operated the C. C. Taxi Cab Service until at least 1957. By that year, he also listed himself as an electrical contractor. The ruler was a Christmas give-a-way in 1940 and shows a phone number of 355 and an address as Main and Lake Sts. By 1950, the phone number had changed to 4500 and gave his address as 503 W. Main St. The address is now 405 W. Main St., due to the street number changes enacted by the City in October, 1952. The token from the late 1940's is good for "One 25c Fare". Obviously, he had more than one minted, but this is the only one to have ever surfaced..

LINDA FORRISTAL APR 19, 2022 02:03PM



With the addition of the extended prefix by the phone company, his phone number had changed to PI9-4500 in the 1957 City Directory and his address had changed to 110 Small St.