



Planning to marry soon, Howard University 1985 graduates Duane A. Dilworth and Jacquelyn M. Brewer, respectively, in only six years. Brewer is the top-ranking graduate in the medical class.

Top med student to be June bride

by Henry Duvall

As the spring rite of graduation blossoms on college campuses nationwide, Howard University 1985 graduate Jacquelyn M. Brewer has reason to be excited — doubly excited.

The 24-year-old Richmond, VA, native is the top-ranking graduate in Howard's medical class and plans to become a June bride, marrying a "study buddy" who proposed to her during their freshman year.

But Brewer and her fiancé, Duane A. Dilworth, graduating from Howard's dental school, are unlike most medical and dental graduates, who spend eight years en route to MD and DDS degrees. They earned their bachelor's and professional degrees in only six years. They were among some 2,000 graduates at Howard's 117th, May 11th commencement.

Brewer and Dilworth managed to cut two years from the traditional eight years through an accelerated program for highly motivated, academically outstanding students.

While in high school, Brewer says she learned of Howard's accelerated BS/MD program from a visiting recruiter. The idea of earning a medical degree in just six years "seemed too good to be true," she stresses, noting that she had decided on a ca-

reer in medicine when she was in the 10th grade.

Dilworth, a 23-year-old St. Louis native, had planned to matriculate at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he was told he could earn baccalaureate and dental degrees in seven years. But a friend of the family convinced him that he should go to Howard in Washington, D.C.

Winning academic awards and active in extracurricular activities in high school, both were high-caliber students whom any university would have welcomed. Attending a predominantly Black university, however, had a special appeal.

Students entering Howard's six-year preprofessional programs must rank in the top 5 percent of their high school graduating class and have a combined Scholastic Aptitude Test score of at least 1200.

Along with high academic credentials, maturity is a chief personal characteristic required of candidates for the BS/MD and BS/DDS programs, which are based in the Center for Preprofessional Education in Howard's College of Liberal Arts.

In addition to the BS/MD and BS/DDS programs, Howard offers a similarly accelerated, combined degree program leading to the doctor of

podiatric medicine degree in conjunction with the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine.

Students enrolled in the two-year undergraduate phase of the three programs are offered no guarantees for admission to the university's health profession schools or to the Pennsylvania college.

Brewer is the first student in Howard's six-year BS/MD and BS/DDS programs, which began in 1972, to graduate at the top of a class, according to Dr. Clarence M. Lee, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

Both become the first physician and dentist, respectively, in their families.

They plan to marry on June 15 in her native Richmond, VA. Brewer is making her own wedding dress — "100-percent silk imported from China," she beams.

After a honeymoon cruise to the Bahamas, they intend to move to his hometown of St. Louis, where Brewer plans to intern in internal medicine at Barnes Hospital. She wants to specialize in dermatology.

Dilworth hopes to work at a public clinic and become an associate in a private dental practice. His goal is to open his own office someday.

Writing your resume:

The resume is a necessary tool for every job hunter and is particularly critical to the new graduate. There are two primary reasons for this:

1. The new graduate usually has little background and experience to sell a prospective employer.

2. The level of competition for entry-level jobs means that a prospective employer has a wide choice of applicants, and first impressions are important; the resume is frequently the first impression.

The most difficult part of preparing a resume is deciding how to make it stand out when so many people with similar backgrounds are also in competition with you. Putting several hundred words on one (or at the most two) pages in a manner that will convince someone whom you have never met that you should be interviewed is a challenge requiring your best creative and composition skills.

Before you begin preparing your resume, review what you know about the employment process. The problem the hiring organization has is that nonacceptable candidates must be sorted out so that there will be more time to concentrate on plausible applicants. Also, most of the subjective judgments in the selection process are made in the early stages. So do not give a potential employer any reason not to interview you by submitting a poor resume.

Your resume, then, must presell you. Personality is not yet a factor, as there is no interpersonal chemistry at this stage of the selection process. The potential employer reading your resume has no way of knowing whether you are bright or dull, eloquent or inarticulate, personable or introverted, because at this time you are just a collection of facts on a piece of paper. It is, therefore, critical that the proper information be conveyed on the resume so that a positive decision will be made to interview you.

Length is critical. Limit it to one page if you can, never more than two. The objective is not to write an autobiography. Only highlight your background, qualifications, and skills to this point in your life, noting the really pertinent information about yourself to make these facts as attractive as possible to a potential employer. This is essentially an inventory of your abilities and past accomplishments.

Be accurate, factual, and logical so that what is written forms a positive image in the mind of the reader. Do not volunteer information that might preclude a fact-to-fact meeting, such as a specific geographic preference, a percentage of acceptable travel, or absolute salary requirements.

Tailor the resume to your interests, hopes, and career ambitions by highlighting the accomplishment related to them. This may seem to be a difficult task if you have little specific work experience. If that's the case, emphasize interests and ambitions, as well as your energy and enthusiasm to apply them.

Be as specific as possible in stating a job objective, without precluding yourself from some situation by stating it too narrowly. Flexibility is an essential ingredient in finding the first job. You should have a number of options in mind. For example, you want a marketing job, but you might have to start in sales. Do not attempt to list separate options here; change the job preference for your resume as each option is explored unless it is closely related to your primary choice. This may mean more than one resume format, but, within reason, it could prove useful to you.

Your job descriptions should tell how results were produced, skills developed and used, and promotions attained. Every job has objectives, even the most menial, so

you should not sell any of your experience short. An assignment or two might make a difference in your favor. To make your job descriptions as meaningful as possible, use short phrases and the most positive semantics. For instance, rather than say, "In my summer job at XYZ Corporation I was made research assistant," say, "In my summer job at XYZ Corporation I was promoted to research assistant." Instead of "As assistant inventory control clerk, I handled liaison with other departments," say, "As assistant inventory control clerk, I was responsible for liaison with other departments."

Most large organizations tend to look for specialists, so try to convey your special skills as much as possible. Emphasize special interests and certifications achieved or anticipated; for example, "Will work toward MBA in Finance," "Certification as engineer," "Completed CAP examination" and the like. List any meaningful activities in or out of school that are related to your objectives.

Following are some of the major do's and don'ts of resume preparation:

1. Don't attach a photograph of yourself. What you think is a good picture may not impress anyone else.

2. Don't say, "I'm looking for any kind of work that will utilize my education." That may well be interpreted by the potential employer as lack of direction and immaturity. Be as specific as possible about a job objective without being too restrictive.

3. Don't indicate a specific required salary. That will be discussed at the appropriate time, when both parties have established some mutuality of interest. The right job should be the key now. If you are good at what you do and



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Ann Williams

Ann began her banking career six years ago, and has been with First Interstate Bank as a manager in the Real Estate and Loan Division since 1983. She has a B.A. in English from Mills College in Oakland, CA and a M.S. in Library Sciences from University of California at Berkeley. Ann chose her career in banking because it allows her to "build on my academic, professional and personal skills."



Kent Walton

Kent joined the bank in 1975 as a management trainee and is currently a transitional trainee in commercial lending. He was also assistant manager of the bank's Walnut Park branch for four years. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Kent has also been able to take advantage of continuing his education through American Institute of Banking courses.



Ann Payne

Ann is vice president and manager of the bank's Marketing Division. She has a B.A. from Notre Dame, and has been in bank marketing since 1980. She finds her work both challenging and rewarding. "As an industry in the midst of deregulation, banking offers exciting opportunities for marketing new products."



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