

THE BENNETT BANNER

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IT'S TIME NOW

(A commentary written for publication prior to last week's elections.)

It's Time Now! Yeah! The time has really arrived. We all are eagerly awaiting the outcome. This time of the year really attracts everyone's attention. Now all want to get on their favorite bandwagon. Signs are displayed in every nook and corner and the Union looks like a Convention Hall. Candidates are vigorously campaigning. Everything goes except kissing babies. It's time for the yearly elections. Or, had you already guessed it?

Election time is a great event on all campuses. And it is no different for Bennett. This year may prove to be an exciting one. But as usual, it's time for a look at what is really behind all the loud noises of the campaign shouts.

Of course, the first person that you are going to mark the ballot for is the one who promises a lot and these promises seem dreamlike. Of course, the first person to get your vote will be the one who preaches a change in tradition. But is this what you want? At a first glance, the immediate answer is "yes".

However, there is always something far more important. The person you elected must promise to do a good job. The ability to lead is much more important than the obvious campaign speeches made in the heat of "promising". The person you elect must have a way about her — she must know how to get things done in the right way and at the right time. Take a look at what is being said during this excited time. See what you are getting before you "voice your choice".

To the nominees, who may be our future leaders let's see what may be required of you if you are elected. All of these offices which you are campaigning for are very significant whether you are running for president or parliamentarian. Therefore, you will be in the limelight. Your role is to exemplify your position. You, too, must realize that a change cannot be made overnight — Do not get discouraged by the STUMBLING BLOCKS that will obviously be placed before you.

You may not realize it, but some change has been made merely because you were elected. So take it slow but "sure". Since the student body elected you, we must stay with you. Whatever endeavor that you may pursue, let all of us be mindful of the responsibilities that are involved.

Remember that these elections call for all of us to be respectful of each person's ideas. Whether you agree or not, listen! The next person is still entitled to her ideas. Mud-slinging may appear on other campuses but let's not have it here.

Yes, it's time now to vote; make sure you know your choice — it'll be for all next year. Open your eyes to the candidates and their views. If you don't, you may be blinded by results.

—Gail Hickerson

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS STUDENT RIGHTS?

Perilous fumes of gas, nightsticks of police were the instruments used to halt a march staged by Negroes in Selma, Alabama. The cause of such an uprising — a desire for God-given rights.

Why then were such techniques used to stop such a movement? — some senseless supposedly appointed chief of law and justice somehow rationalized the fact that rights for "all" meant that some were not included. But because of the belief of a few the pursuance of rights is carried on.

These people carry on their fight even though the threats they receive and the turmoil their physical persons receive keep telling them that they have no cause, that that which they fight for was not meant to be theirs, yet they keep on because they believe differently. And they will win. Slowly but surely they will win.

Today on many college campuses, such as our own, we subconsciously believe that there are some rights endowed to us, merely because we are students but which are not ours. We are made to feel that we do not deserve to demand such rights as are ours in a society.

These two situations can be compared. In both instances, there is a desire, to receive that freedom which is defined by our society but not enforced as the execution of the right passes to a closer level. There is an unrest in these two groups.

Yet, the two situations are different. In one there is an expres-

sion there is a move forward. Negroes in Alabama know that there is a right for them.

On the other hand, students such as we, have not begun yet, even to openly express their beliefs. They have not begun to move.

Perhaps this means that they are not convinced of their rights. Perhaps they don't believe that they have rights. Perhaps they are not willing to suffer some bad consequences, recognizing that good can come from them. Maybe they are waiting for a Martin Luther King of the college campus; God speed his arrival!

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

With tired feet, and a growling stomach, I waited in line outside the dining room from 5:15 to 5:35 p.m. with some other hundred students for my dinner.

After being admitted to the dining hall twenty minutes late, I became curious enough to ask what caused the delay. Surprise! The kitchen staff had to wait for the dietitian to open the kitchen. She had been delayed and she had the ONLY key.

Does this mean that we'll have to wait everytime the dietitian is late? Does it not seem sensible that someone else should be ready with another key? As drastic as it may seem, here's something else we should keep in mind — Suppose this person loses the key.

Sincerely "Hungry"

P. S. — I was delayed still longer when many of my Bennett sisters so graciously cut line.

Dear Editor,

There has been a saying on B. C. campus that it's not what you know, it is who you know. Is this really true on this Christian campus? Is this really true on this campus which is so enlightened on academic freedom and pursuits?

Worried

THE LAST OF THE SERIES OF ARTICLES

Catalyst On Campus

Between B. A. and Baby

Some of you are married now, some will be single for life but by and large, you will walk down the aisle two years after graduation and have your first child one year later.

This brief island of time separating the rigors of 17 years of education from the demands of ten years or more of child care is yours to do with as you will. By the time you close the door on the chapter of your life which will follow this, and your youngest child has left for school, you will be 35 years old.

You will be a much more heterogeneous group at 35 than you are now, for each of you will establish for yourself the stage and climate of the intervening years. If your college experience were the sole determinant of what you will do when your children leave home, we could predict this with relative certainty, but it is not. The three years between B. A. and baby are critical. Why?

If you utilize these years to work in a carefully selected job in the area of your interest, you will learn the basic methods which separate the individual with a professional approach from the amateur. You will gain confidence in your ability to function effectively and a fuller realization of the

significance of your college education.

Further, you will be exposed to your own educational gaps which you can fill during the "family years" more validly than a person without experience who can view such training only theoretically.

The experience and knowledge you have gained through full-time work will increase your employer's willingness to keep you on as a part-timer (if that is what you wish) after the birth of your first child. If he has already spent time in your training, even a limited work schedule serves to further amortize this investment (this has validity even if you are forced to shift jobs within a given area). This will prove a valuable opportunity for you to keep your skills alive while your children are small.

You will also derive a less obvious benefit: a basis for intellectual satisfaction during the years when your vocation is largely put aside for the very different satisfactions of raising your children.

Your decision to work in a carefully selected area during the brief available years following graduation can pay dividends far into the future in terms of experience, confidence, a positive attitude towards a return to work in the future, and a firm foundation for a successful realization of that future.

CHEATING — THE FAULT OF WHOM?

Cheating has become quite a controversial issue on our campus as well as many campuses across the nation. The general consensus about cheating on the Bennett campus, in reference to rules and regulations, as well as academic achievements, is due to a misconstrued sense of values.

Life itself is a learning process, in which one learns by errors and is rewarded by self satisfaction. Institutionalized education is not something to be chewed and spit out for a grade, but should be chewed, swallowed, and digested, thus adding to growth.

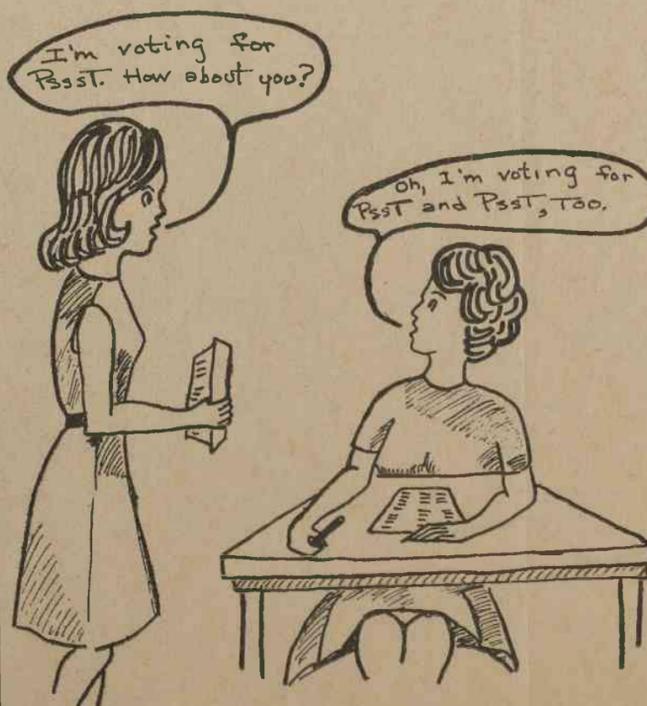
Growth is not bragging to friends about the excellent symbols lined upon a cheap piece of cardboard or ascending the steps of the chapel in white, to snake the president's hand, on some irrelevant day of the year. Nor is growth, throwing around that "ugly" word "perfection", which haunts the campus like a ghost.

Growth is however, the gaining of knowledge and enlightenment, for one's personal use, and for the betterment of society.

Who is really at fault for students withdrawing from an institution because of cheating? Society must bear the burden. Society places such high values on that "ugly" word "perfection", that students are only doing what they were taught to do; that is, to conform to the norms of their society. Is this growth? Does this warrant a symbolic reward, or a hand shake in a white dress?

Growth or Grades? That is the question. And no, the answer will not be found within the confines of this protective institution, but within the confines of one's own self, student and faculty alike.

VOTE



Secret Ballot ?