

## Editorials

### Poor Exercise In Democracy: Elections A Farce

By SANDRA WILSON AND BEVERLY COOK

The election of student officers for a new year should be one of the most important endeavors that a student body undertakes. This year, however, Bennett elections were hurriedly handled before many of the students realized what was going on. Therefore, there was a deluge of complaints about the election and results when it was all over. This could have been alleviated if each student had taken an interest in the events that led up to this situation. For instance, how many students know the procedure by which the candidates on the final ballot were chosen? This seems like a useless question since there was a nominating committee; yet, names appeared on the final ballot which could not be properly explained. However, another election was scheduled, but did not take place. Because of the unfortunate death of Dr. Martin L. King, many plans were dropped-included was that election.

And speaking of the Nominating Committee, how many students were aware that this committee was comprised of seniors who will not be enrolled in college next fall? Are the best judges of

who should govern, those who will not be affected?

Some provision for lowerclassmen to take part in the process was provided at the Student Senate nominating meetings, but if the recent showing was any example of this idea in practice, there is a discrepancy somewhere.

This is clearly a case when students should speak out in their own behalf. The power to determine who governs should be in the hands of the students.

Why the elections were not carried out as they have been in the past is a matter of speculation, but one thing is sure, the elections were a complete farce and a disgrace to any institution or individual familiar with the democratic process. As fate has it now, it is too late to hold another election--not with the coming final examinations and goodness knows, how many of us have to write term papers and such. But if we allow ourselves to repeat the same course of action next year as was taken this year, then, fellow Bennett Belles, consider yourselves powerless and useless in any type of student affairs.

### Vesper Sermon Leaves Coeds Embarrassed And Angry

By SIURONIA BOWE

His eyes flashing fire as he stood in the pulpit yelling at the top of his voice. If we did not know that Bennett is a Methodist school and that the college chaplain is a Methodist minister, one would think he had stumbled into the 17th century and was being addressed by the Puritan terrorist in religious life, Cotton Mather.

The speaker talked about the ills of protest when we as a group know that protest, whether racial or non-violent is an effective weapon toward a meaningful end. It leaves us inclined to ask: What is the Negro heritage? Is it the native African or the modernized "white man's" African?

We are always being told to be discreet and orderly about things, but our elders actions speak quite differently. What we were forced to endure at that Sunday Vesper

service was by no means educational or constructive. Why should we be forced to waste our valuable time listening to someone stand and talk at the top of his voice delivering so vehemently his own private opinions. The purpose of the ceremony was to christen the children of two families. Not only was the sermon itself in bad taste, but it was also very much out of place.

Did our speaker defeat his own purpose? It is indeed a sad day when an instructor tells his students that unless they have an "A" average, don't bother to come to see him about his lecture. This is not only a disgrace to the principles of democracy, but a blow to the ideals of education as well.

Not only were the co-eds embarrassed by so rash an action, but the families of the babies as well.

### Interdorm Council

#### We Applaud You — Take A Bow

By DIMPLES ARMSTRONG

Have you ever watched fireworks at night? Unnoticed before, they ascend to immeasurable heights and attract everyone's attention with a sudden tremendous burst of energy; then quietly dies away and is never seen or heard from again.

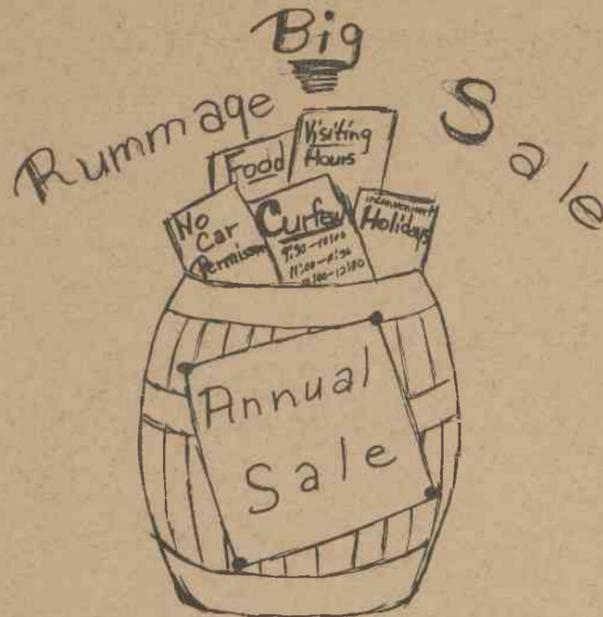
Well, that sudden "burst of energy" type of vitality struck the Interdormitory Council during the week of April 22-26. Never before this school year has the Council displayed such matchless entertainability as it did during its sponsored C.A.P. week. Having C.A.P. (character, appearance and personality) as its guidelines, the Council put its resources to work as it sponsored some very interesting activities.

Here's a summary of them:

When was the last time you attended a "Hen Party?" Yes, the Council sponsored one of those Tuesday night, Wednesday's Assembly turned out to be an Interdormitory Spring Fashion Show. There was no water splashing or table tennis Thursday at the weekly Fun Night--the Council had a better idea: A Co-ed Dance. Friday night, while some of our belles enjoyed the company of A&T's ROTC units, the others took part in and watched a talent show--another Council Project.

Interdorm Council, we applaud you--take a bow. It is our hope that you, unlike the typical fireworks, will not drop out of sight and action. Keep the ideas rolling I.C.!!!

## Spring Fever



Save up to 30%

Once a year sale offers you exciting bargains at low prices

Curfew	— was \$2 now \$1.40	Food	was \$2 now \$1.40
Permissions	— was \$4 now \$3.80		
Visiting Hours	— was \$3 now \$2.10		
Holidays	— was \$5 now \$4.50		

### Roving Reporter

RESOLVED: Should Chapel Attendance Be Compulsory?

I don't see why the non-resident students should be compelled to go. After all we have our own individual churches which we attend.  
--Billie James

May we can tolerate the Vespers every other Sunday, but I don't see where we benefit from chapel programs during the week.  
--E. White

I don't like it, and force never accomplished anything but hostility.  
--C. Gooden

I don't mind going on Sunday but week day chapel is totally unnecessary.  
--S.K. and G.H.

It's pure hogwash, and Georgia style at that!  
--B.J.

Frankly I think the students would attend more often and with more interest if it were voluntary instead of a compulsory thing.  
--Carolyn W.

Personally I like it, it does allow me to get a couple of hours of restful, uninterrupted, peaceful sleep! It's unbeatable so don't knock it!  
--Time Saver

I think it's unfair plus the time is inconvenient, Sunday Vespers should be in the morning instead of the afternoon.  
--Johnetta C.

It's fine if it's worthwhile, but so often the topics discussed and the speakers used are a waste of precious time.  
--E.C.

It's a fine sedative and not habit-forming either.  
--Wise

Definitely not, since I've been going to chapel I've only enjoyed three programs.  
--Disgusted

I think it's necessary sometimes like on Sunday, but it's a waste of time during the week.  
--Marinetta

All I have to say is one word--NO-- that's why I use up all my cuts every semester.  
--Chapel - cutter

If you ever attended any of those dull, draggy, uninteresting chapel programs that they call educational, then you wouldn't have to ask my opinion about it.  
--Anonymous

I don't mind going once a week but to have to go as often as four times a week is pure foolishness.  
--P. Banks

### The Bennett Ideal Of Today

By DARWIN PRIOLEAU

The Bennett ideal is the traditional idea on what the Bennett Belle should be, how she should act, and what she should do. It is important that each Bennett girl strive to meet the standards of the Bennett "belle", a perfect young lady. However, this ideal should also include a young lady who can think for herself.

The college woman of the past usually married during or directly after college. The college woman of today is more ambitious and has to be more aware of the life around her. She must be able to understand the people and the problems in the world, and know how to cope with them.

Bennett prepares the "Belle" intellectually; but is she prepared to exist otherwise in this complicated world? Is she able to make decisions and think for herself?

A sorespot with many belles is the early curfew hour. Once this year a one-thirty curfew was granted. Was this curfew a test? If it was, we feel that the students reacted as mature young women. At that time each student had a chance to make the decision on how late she should stay out. Some girls came in at 10:00, some at 12:30, some at 1:30 and some of the girls didn't go out at all. Many girls went out only because they knew that a chance to stay out until 1:30 was rarely granted. However the important thing was that the students were able to make up their own minds and use their own judgement.

Although we respect the Bennett ideal of yesterday, we feel that added to the old ideal should be the ideal of today, a young woman who can think for herself and use good judgement.

## Dorm Talk

By WINONA GRIFFIN

Some time ago, in the middle of the night, a student in our dormitory became suddenly ill. It was not until the following evening that she received any medical attention. This prompted a series of frustrating and angry conversations concerning the lack of adequate medical attention at Bennett College. There have been any number of cases in which girls have been terribly ill, often, in the early mornings or late at night. But, who plans to get sick? At any rate, they failed to get prompt attention, if any at all.

It is a bad state of affairs when the students of any school cannot rely on its medical staff for adequate medical attention. There exists in some dorms total distrust for the school medical staff. Many girls have expressed the desire to by-pass the school nurse and doctor even in cases of severe illness. Instead, they would much rather go directly to one of the local hospitals.

The problem of inadequate medical care is not one that can be blamed entirely on the medical staff. One person on duty twenty-four hours a day is not enough assurance for a school even as small as Bennett College. Nor can one lone person be expected to meet the needs of over six hundred girls.

The complaint concerning medical attention is a very serious one. Its solution, however, is a very simple one. Either our present medical staff must be increased sufficiently to meet the needs of the students, or an entirely new medical staff must be hired. In any case, the welfare of the students should be the major concern of any college. Bennett then, must show its concern for the students by answering the students' pleas for adequate medical attention.

### Students Honored For Achievement At Annual Spring Convocation

Bennett College has a student body that consists of "scholarly scholars." But there comes a time to stand aside and applaud the advancing columns of those who stand out in achievements.

Well, that's just about what happened in the fifth annual Spring Honors Convocation. This event honored those students achieving an overall 3.0 average for the fall semester of the 1967-68 school term.

After the procession of scholars, the student body was enlightened by Dr. Richard Bardolph, professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, whose speech was centered around today's American.

Dean Chauncey Winston presented the Honor Students to President Isaac Miller, who in turn presented the certificates of merit to each. Miss Aretha Butler received a gold key that was symbolic of her participation on every Honors Convocation since she became a student at Bennett. Also receiving gold keys were the first semester graduates Edrice Glass, Cherie Jones and Eleanor Mitchell.

Later, the Honors Committee, headed by Mr. Edward Lowe, feted the Honorees with a luncheon in the school dining hall.