

## EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Dear Editor!

The Recreation Council has done a very good job of getting the Coffee House redecorated. I look forward to each Thursday Fun Night. Why isn't it opened more often? It seems such a waste not to have it open to the students on nights other than Thursday.

C. Prince

really, putting the chain up will not restore the traditional Bennett Belle image. So please, let us take our chances with the heavy traffic. We really don't mind.

Carolyn Everett

Dear Editor,

As a new sophomore, I had looked forward to a better year than my first. However, on the first day of my arrival I found out that more confusion existed now, than the whole previous year. I am quite perturbed at the room accommodations for students when there are enough rooms for everyone's comfort. It's bad enough that there must be three to rooms meant for two, but to make conditions worse some girls have to leave their nice clothes folded in their suitcases because of the lack of closet and drawer space.

The constant reply has been to "Wait," but how long? Freshmen, about 150, are living in 3 dorms, of which 2 are the largest on campus; while over 200 sophomores are crowded in two dorms. Where is the logic behind this? There are freshmen one per room and empty rooms in at least 3 dorms. Such conditions make studying almost impossible, I think we upperclassmen should demand better and more reasonable treatment.

Myra Davis

Dear Editor,

Gee! The Exterior of the chapel is really lookin' good! The paint did the trick. . . . Sure wish we could get the same process done in the Interior of the Student Union (upstairs and downstairs), Cone Hall, Reynolds, and Merner!

Signed,  
Betty Jones

need painting and new furniture. What happened to the plans for redecorating the palors and basements in the older dorms? Why must we be subjected to such bad living conditions?

C. PRINCE

DEAR EDITOR

We have a lovely olympic-size

swimming pool in a completely modern equipped gymnasium, and still the most important component is missing-----CO-ED SWIMMING ON THURSDAY NIGHTS!!! Is the Recreational Council working on this? Are they supposed to be? Who is? How about some results, soon?!

Betty Jones

Dear Editor:

Every afternoon around five o'clock, the campus suddenly develops a deserted air. Only the chatter of the girls and maybe that of a few boys can be heard. There isn't a GTO or Mach II or even an old dilapidated Chevy in sight. To be exact, every day around five o'clock the chains are placed across the main entrance to the campus.

At a recent "fireside chat" at Jones Hall, the President stated that the chains are put up to stop the heavy flow of traffic through the "residential area." He stated that the parking area behind the chapel should be used. Perhaps, his idea to protect us against the traffic is valid, but he must realize that: (1) the traffic is a pleasant sight for the girls; (2) the presence of so many cars on campus each carrying some wonderful guy is rewarding to even the most meek of girls; and (3)

Dear Editor,

The concern for social life has been washed out to sea and the Coffee House has gone with it; for it comes in on a weekly tide. For the remainder of the week, the Coffee House tide lies dormant. The original purpose of providing a place we could entertain ourselves playing cards and listening to music seems nonexistent! What happened to those "Let-your-hair-down" sessions for the sake of freedom of expression.

The Coffee House tide should come ashore more often and bring with it more self-entertainment, relaxation, and discussion sessions.

Coffee House Fan  
Pat Grimsley

Dear Editor,

Why are some of the dormitories overcrowded and others just barely filled? The housing conditions on campus are terrible. Nearly all of the rooms

## THE ROVING REPORTER

By DIANNE DAWSON

The new Bennett freshmen were accosted with the question, "What is your opinion of Bennett College since you've been here?" This included an evaluation of procedures and any other aspects of campus life.

These are some reactions:

"I was disappointed with location of campus. . . but since I've been here it has grown on me." Betty Peguese

"Bennett is all right, but the chains are put up entirely too early. Environment is like a family." Sandie Neeley

"It's alright. . . I like the friendly atmosphere." Mary Webb

"Needs some changes, but basically a good school." Bonita Burke

"I've never heard of not wearing pants downtown. . . curfew hours are ridiculous." A.S.

"My first home in America, I left my mother but girls have a sisterly attitude." Omodie Labor

"I expected more than this. . . I'm from Texas. . . I expected to be getting all kinds of good treatment for nearly \$2,000 dollars a year." Linda Owens

"It's all right. . . I wish they would have more activities on the weekend." Janie Brown

"I like the place... campus is pretty. . . I like the attitude of the people." Vivian Drumwright

"People are congenial. . . so many kids miss that in larger schools. Teachers seem to be interested. . . majority of upperclassmen seem to like freshmen." Consy Booth

"It's more than I expected. . . I like it." Linda Strange

"After the first week, it's nice. . ." Janice Ford

"Faculty could be blacker. . . campus ok. . . food could be better. . . curfew could be later." Joanne Clantom

"I've been impressed, I don't think the impressions some of the students gave were true. . . I like it, but facilities aren't what I expected." Violette McCullen

"I like the school, very good atmosphere, but there's room for improvement." Faye Jackson

"Tired of the same food. . . Need a better variety." J.S.

"Just like an oversized high school. . . It's all right for a chaser but ain't nothing to get drunk off of." Al Taylor

"It's better than I thought. . . I thought it would be real strict since it's all girls. . . I'm enjoying myself."

"Teachers and students are friendly. . . teachers seem to want to help." Shirley Davis

"That milk line. . . They need to do something about it." M.L.N.

"Bennett is impressive and 'I haven't formed an opinion yet." W.D.L.

## Is This Policy, Or Don't You Care?

It all began as a normal thing in the life of Bennett College. A guest speaker was invited to be speaker at a bi-weekly General Assembly program. A press conference was planned to follow. Following that, there was to be a luncheon in the private dining hall in the guest speaker's honor. The guest speaker; the honorable Howard Lee, mayor of Chapel Hill, North Carolina--its first Black mayor.

One begins to wonder what could go wrong in a routine situation as this. Well, to begin complications, it was discovered five days in advance that the President of the Student Senate and the editor of the Bennett Banner were not included among the ten students invited to the luncheon. To invite a cross-section of the student body is a fine idea, but, as far as information goes, this is the first time the elected President of the Student Senate has not been included on the invitation list for such an affair. Among the many questions on the minds of concerned students was: Why weren't our Student government President and our newspaper editor invited, especially since it was obvious that city government officials and larger news media had received invitations.

In an attempt to receive answers to this and similar questions, one concerned student proceeded to ask, point-blank, the chairman of the General Assembly Committee for answers and information since this was thought to be an unintentional oversight. No admission or apology was made in reference to an oversight, but the two people were sent invitations in the afternoon mail. They were asked to reply by Friday, but it was Fri-

day, and the last mail was gone for the day, the post office was closed, and office employees were gone.

By Monday, four of the originally invited students had been "uninvited." This was considered quite a "slap-in-the-face." To add to this, by Monday the rumor that the mayor of Greensboro, had been invited had caught like wild fire in a sage bush. To say the least, the students were definitely against the mayor's appearance anywhere on campus--in the chapel, at the press conference, or at the luncheon. Why? Since last May's race disturbance in the city, the Mayor has been labeled a "racist."

No student was able to obtain a copy of the proposed assembly program or a copy of the luncheon guest list. Forced to work on mere assumptions, the students planned their counter-attack to the attack about to be presented by those responsible for the program planning and invitation distribution. The students were, also, angered by the actions of someone who removed all protest signs and posters displayed on campus. They felt it an infringement upon their individual right of freedom of personal expression.

The General Assembly program went off without incident; the press conference was successful. Some of the "uninvited" students were personally "re-invited" by Mayor Lee. At the end of the press conference, Mayor Lee was whisked away by a school official and not seen again. The students invited to the luncheon walked unknowingly into the private dining hall and were told that there were no arrangements made for

a luncheon and that there would be none. One of the invited students found a note in her mailbox at 11:50 informing her of the luncheon cancellation ten minutes before it was scheduled. Emotions ran high among concerned students; they had received the greatest display of deception and malicious intent against students that they had ever experienced.

It was, also, learned that the faculty member who introduced the guest speaker and who arranged for Bennett students to help in the election in Chapel Hill last spring had not received a luncheon invitation. Also not included was a faculty member who is the wife of a public official. Her husband was invited; she was not. It seems just as easy to address an invitation to "Mr. & Mrs." as to "Mr." alone.

The sum total of the whole situation is described as "frustrating." It has been said that "there is a right way to do even the wrong thing," but it appears that this was a case of doing the wrong thing the wrong way!

## Greetings From The Editor

Fall is the beginning of something new for the newest members of a college community. On behalf of the Bennett community I take this opportunity to welcome the freshmen and new students. It is hoped that your "new-at-college" jitters are or will soon be over and that you can settle back and feel right at home here. It is well known that registra-

tion and adjustments have always been tiring and horrifying experiences for the college freshmen. But I say, worry not for when its over you'll see what normal college life is really like. The only things that can be said to you is: don't panic, no matter what the situation; and if you don't quite understand or are not quite sure, ask.

It is natural for all freshmen to have waited long the chance to see how life is once they are away from home. Well sister, here is your golden opportunity College! It is up to you to live up to the responsibilities thereof in order to make the experience a success. LUCK!!!

...Dimples Armstrong

## Unwelcomed Guest

Unrest was in the air once again when it was discovered that Mayor Elam of Greensboro had been invited to a luncheon here in honor of Mayor Howard Lee of Chapel Hill. Mayor Elam is one of the men who allowed police and national guardsmen to invade the campuses of Dudley High School and A & T State University--two Black campuses. Upperclassmen who are familiar with procedures here at Bennett were just as stunned as the freshmen by Bennett's ac-

tions. How can any Black student sit at the same table with a known racist? Obviously, our administration can tolerate anything--and anyone for that matter. But, if Elam had shown for the luncheon, Bennett girls were prepared to give the mayor a "warm and hearty" welcome.

The administration will do well to take note--and in the future, make it known that men such as Mayor Elam are not welcomed on Bennett's campus.