

Sisterhood can banish animosities

Opinion

by Joycelynn Hodges

If a stranger came to Bennett College and asked a Belle, "What is Bennett like?" What do you suppose her response would be?

Would it be positive like, "Oh, Bennett's great?" Would it be negative like, "Ugh, Bennett stinks?" Her response would probably be negative. The main question here is why do we feel like this?

A thought came to me yesterday as I watched the Belles walking to and from classes. The sun shined brightly down in the quad as the squirrels ran back and forth to the trees with acorns. I then realized how beautiful Bennett College really is.

Now, when you go into hysterics, let me explain myself. Sure, Bennett needs a lot of work, but look at what we have and what we share.

We have a woman president who has told us constantly how she will improve Bennett and create us into black women ready

for the 90s, "phenomenal women."

We have a faculty and staff who are daily challenging us to reach the highest educational goals possible.

How many other schools do you know have dorms in which if someone is taking a shower, you have to yell, "Flushing" so that you don't burn the person in the shower?

Think about the long lines in the cafeteria, how we push to get into what we always address as "that horrible place." Isn't it fun to jump in front of everyone?

It's true that we have problems at Bennett, but how can they be solved? Certainly not through complaining.

Day in and day out, constantly, all we hear on campus are complaints. Complaints are floating around about the cafeteria, the dorms, the library, even the students. Complaining is a passive act and now is the time for us to stand up and do something about the things we are unhappy with.

For example, if someone has complaints, legitimate complaints,

then perhaps a petition could be drawn up.

What about fundraisers? In high school, bake sales, car washes and parties usually brought in the most money. They are probably just as effective now.

O.K., I already know what you're thinking. You're saying, "Well, who's gonna support us? The Belles?" And why not the Belles? If we have a goal that has to be met, then why can't everyone do her part? The real issue here is the existence of school pride and sisterhood. Do they exist?

As far as I know, they barely exist. Have you ever tried to use someone's typewriter on this campus? It's impossible.

Or how about the looks we give each other and we really don't even know each other.

If you receive a phone call in the dorm, how many messages do you get or do your neighbors even bother to come and get you for the phone?

Sure there's a sense of pride and a sense of sisterhood if you

belong to the same organization or club, but what we must realize is that we are all a part of an organization, Bennett. We are all, supposedly, here for the same purpose: to get a degree. And, we all, no matter what dorm we stay in, no matter what our g.p.a. is, no matter who we are or what we are, we all have to yell "Flushing" in the bathroom.

The hostility level on this campus is growing everyday while the respect level shrinks. This could make or break this school. We all need to stop and look at what's going on before it's too late.

Maybe I'm being too hard and judgmental, neither of which I mean to be. Yet I know that our behavior is evident not only to me but others as well. Everyone is not acting like this, but in time, things might get worse.

Perhaps we should look to our school song on how we, as Belles, are supposed to behave.

"Bennett, now our voices raise
Harmonies of grateful praise;
We, thy daughters find thee

fair,
Loyalty thy colors bear,
Truth and honor in thy halls,
Faith and love within thy walls;
Ever dear to us thou art,
Firm within each loyal heart!"

The song is telling us that we need to praise our school, not just our neighboring schools. We need to show off our school by wearing items with its name on them. We need to have love, not only for our school, but for our sisters here. We need to care for our school and have pride in it.

Since Bennett stresses sisterhood, let's try to show it.

**Celebrate
Black History
Month All Year**

Scott is honored

Bennett College's president, Dr. Gloria Scott, was recently honored by being chosen as one of 75 women featured in Pulitzer Prize winner, Brian Lanker's "I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America."

The honorees represented three generations of black women who had brought changes through their respective professions, volunteer/community services or both.

Dr. Scott says of the honor, "It was a fantastic experience and I enjoyed having the opportunity to dialogue with some of the fellow honorees about the current generation and the commonalities of obstacles all generations possessed."

Two copies of "I Dream A World" are featured in the Thomas Holgate Library.

Lorraine Patton

Protection tips

(from page 1)

if such a situation should occur.

On the college campus, students should behave cautiously, especially after dark. Walk to destinations with a friend, and if you must be alone call ahead so that someone is expecting you.

Remember that crimes and dangerous incidents occur when you least expect them so everyone needs to take precautions and be prepared mentally and if possible physically.

DC killing spree

(from page 2)


in drug trafficking and ended slaying innocent children and adults. Drugs are like a steering wheel, which controls your every move. The mayor of our capital city had accusations brought upon him that he too was involved in using drugs.

As for the drug dealers (hustlers), they're waiting to employ pre-teens so they can have the opportunity to make fast money. Parents have to compete financially with the dealers because they set the trend for the latest fashions.

Some of my past associates have been captured by this vicious drug circus. This is one circus I hope does not stay in town.

We as a nation need to get our priorities in order. If our capital city is in chaos, what holds for our nation?

Betsy M. Peoples



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If you're a sophomore or junior at Bennett College, the U.S. Coast Guard has a program that will pay your college tuition and pay you nearly \$1100 per month until you graduate! In addition you will have the opportunity to compete for a commission in the Coast Guard following graduation.

HOW OUR PROGRAM WORKS:

Apply during your sophomore or junior year. If you are selected you will enlist in the U.S. Coast Guard, attend basic training for 8 weeks during your summer break and return to school in the fall. You will draw full pay and allowances from the time you enlist. In addition to your full military pay, the Coast Guard picks up the cost of your tuition when you return to college in the fall. Although enlisted in the regular Coast Guard, you will be assigned to duty at your college.

Your duties are to complete your degree requirements and to work at a nearby Coast Guard unit 3 hours a week during the school year. Again, you will receive full military pay, full military benefits (medical care, exchange privileges, etc.) and your entire tuition will be paid for as long as you remain in the program.

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HOW TO APPLY:

If you're a sophomore or junior and wish to see if you qualify, call (collect) or write your local Coast Guard representative below. Ask about the "M.O.R.E." program. M.O.R.E. is the Coast Guard's Minority Officer Recruiting Effort at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Again, if you would like to know more, call:

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324 W. Market St.,
Federal Bldg.
P.O. Box 179
Greensboro, NC 27402-0179
(919) 275-4951



Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. **The Essential Calvin and Hobbes**, by Bill Waterson. (Andrews & McMeel, \$12.95.) More Calvin & Hobbes cartoons.
2. **The Bonfire of the Vanities**, by Tom Wolfe (Bantam, \$4.95.) Lust, greed and the American way of life in the 80s.
3. **The Tommyknockers**, by Stephen King. (Signet NAL, \$5.95.) The latest by the "King" of horrors.
4. **The Far Side Gallery 3**, by Gary Larson. (Andrews & McMeel, \$10.95.) Selected cartoons from three previous collections.
5. **Beloved**, by Toni Morrison. (Plume NAL, \$8.95.) Profoundly affecting chronicle of slavery and its aftermath.
6. **The Cat who came for Christmas**, by Cleveland Amory. (Penguin \$6.95.) Amory's life with a stray.
7. **Separated at Birth?**, by Spy Magazine. Eds. (Doubleday, \$6.95.) Unlikely lookalikes.
8. **Tales too Ticklish to Tell**, by Berke Breathed. (Little, Brown, \$7.95.) More of Bloom County.
9. **The Power of Myth**, by Joseph Campbell and Bill Moyers. (Doubleday, \$19.95.) How mythology illuminates stages of life.
10. **The Dark Tower: The Gunslinger**, by Stephen King. (Plume NAL, \$10.95.) Young man's pursuit of an evil force.

New & Recommended

- The Trial of Socrates**, by I.F. Stone (Anchor, \$9.95.) Intellectual thriller, bringing the characters and the community of ancient Athens to life.
- The Holocaust in History**, by Michael R. Marrus. (Meridian NAL, \$8.95.) Comprehensive assessment of the vast historical literature on the Holocaust.
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