

The opinions expressed in this column are the author's and do not necessarily represent the staff of the Banner.

Editorial

Confederate flag; Take it down

Recently in the news or maybe in your local newspapers you may have heard the debate that is going on in Atlanta, concerning whether the Georgia state flag, which includes the Confederate emblem, should be displayed when the Olympic games of 1996 arrive.

White Southerners view the flag as a cherished emblem of the old Civil War days. For some, this is an old tradition that reminds them of their great-grandfathers who fought and gave their life for the war.

But for African Americans, the feeling is not mutual. Most view the flag with contempt because it continues to be a steady reminder of where we were as a race and the price we had to pay for it.

On Feb. 22, the Greensboro News & Record conducted an unscientific telephone poll, and posed this question, "Should the Georgia state flag, which includes the Confederate battle emblem, be changed before the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta?"

The results were startling.

Seven percent of the callers voted "yes" and 93 percent of the callers voted "no." I remember reading this question prior to the day when the results would be shown. Automatically, I presumed the response would be an emphatic yes. Boy, was I wrong, dead wrong. I still don't believe the ignorance of some people. Again, like always, we're back to square one.

One would like to think that this country was based on principles of humanity, justice and equality. But since it is not, we as African Americans continuously have to fight for a position to be heard. Government leaders in Atlanta wouldn't dare flaunt Holocaust flags around their city. The Jewish community would be an uproar. I don't understand why this is an issue at all because it shouldn't be. The flag bothers us, so take it down. Plain and simple.

BENNETT BANNER PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

March 24
April 21
May 12

Stories and Ad deadlines are five business days prior to publication.

Letters to the Editor

The Bennett Banner welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be typed double-spaced, not longer than 500 words, and must include the author's name, address and daytime telephone number. We reserve the right to edit letters. Letters may be hand-delivered to the Banner Office in Shell Hall Room 2 or mailed to: Letter to the Editor, The Bennett Banner, Shell Hall Room 2 Bennett College, Greensboro, NC 27401.

Reader says: "Cease inactivity"

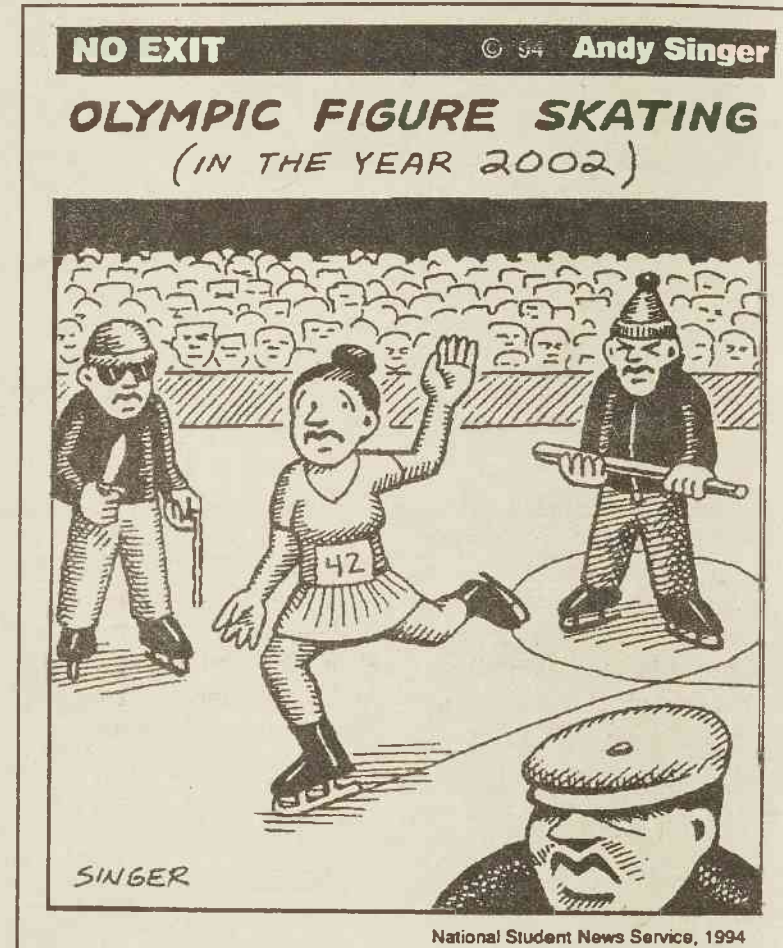
Dear Editor,

She-say, he-say and hearsay that constantly plagues our campus at Bennett College among our African American sisters is not always positive. Injuring a person's good name or reputation by stating false and malicious statements about the person to cause suspicion brings into question the reliability, responsibility and respect of the class officers.

In December it was stated by a member of the senior class that if we had to do elections all over again, some of the officers would not be reelected. This statement truly perturbed me because it is one of many comments made since May 1993 by students who are uninformed as to the duties required of its officers.

Such negative talk is being made by students who are not active within the senior class and other respective organizations, therefore, having the least bit of authority to undermine its operation.

Last year during Student Government elections, I do not recall any student seeking to hold a position within the senior class, nor do I recall more than three students in attendance at the speeches held for LaTonya Davis (myself) and Amma Brown. (The only two students seeking offices.) Other positions remained null and void until they were written by few of their peers. This lack of importance for leadership had been displayed by the laxity



National Student News Service, 1994

and same unconcerned attitude held since 1990. Yet, when graduation time rolls around our services will be greatly appreciated.

Being the president and having a political personality, I always encourage the idea that individuals be willing to make a just stand regarding issues of concern. Do not be a hypocrite. State what the problem is to the party involved and not disbecause such remarks are either personal, trivial, or petty issues that are not related to the job and work we do as officers.

Senior class officers for the 1993 semester did a

tremendous job of initiating and executing activities that are in accordance with the goals established in August. We are about the business of trying to progress as an organization without the benefit of negative criticism. How can you speak if you are not doing anything to help out the organization?

I have one request, that inactive students on this campus cease the daily complaining and begin to take a role as an active participant in respective classes and organizations.

LaTonya Davis,
Senior Class President

The Bennett Banner

Staff

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Kim Hall - Editor
Jocelyn Biggs - Business and Advertising Manager
Cinzia Atkinson - Sports Editor
Kaetina Davis - Copy Editor
Nicole Isaac - Advertising Rep

REPORTERS

Stephanie McCorkle -- Campus Facilities
Tracey E. Fox -- Student Concerns
Stephanie Herron -- Alumnae Affairs
Chilee' Hailes -- Administrative Affairs
Tammi McCall -- Student Union
Christine Lewis -- Humanities Division
Brooke Walker -- Social Science Division
Crystal Simenton -- Education Division
Yvette Burton -- General Assignment
Andrea Brooks -- Student Concerns

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lona D. Cobb

Production Supervisor: Mr. Lut Williams

The Bennett Banner is a monthly newspaper written by and for the students at Bennett College. The Banner office, located in Shell Hall Room C-2, is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-3 pm, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4 pm.