

Banner Briefings

On and Off Campus Events • Activities • Announcements

Ebony Vibes Trivia #1

What record label does gospel-recording artist Yolanda Adams belong to? First response wins a prize! please submit your answer to Shell B. to Cynthia Adams.

"Know Thyself" Discussions

The association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations presents "Know Thyself," a study group and discussion on The Miseducation of the Negro. Meetings are every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor of Merner Residence Hall parlor.

Bennett Players to Perform

The Bennett Players will introduce their second production "Flyin' West" a story of African Americans after the civil war. Show times are Feb. 23-26 at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee Feb. 25 at 3:30 p.m. Ticket prices General admission is \$10; students, \$7; and Belles, \$4. For reservations call 517-2320.

African Values Seminar

There will be a discussion series entitled Homecoming: Returning to our African Values every Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. Dr. Hammond-Martin and Dr. Adefila will be hosting the discussions. The first discussion in the series will be in the Barge Hall parlor. Further discussion announcements will be posted. If there are any questions please call 517-2170.

Workshop for Student Development

The office of Student Development will host a Student and Staff Interest workshop from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 24. This workshop will be in the Student Union. For more information please sign up by Feb. 16 in the Residence Life office with Ms. Isaac.

Black HERstory

On this day in February

- **9, 1944 Alice Walker** is born in Eatonton Ga. Walker was best known for her work "The Color Purple" which earned her an American Book Award and a Pulitzer Prize.
- **10, 1927 Leontyne Price** who will be acclaimed as one of the world's greatest operatic talents was born in Laurel Miss. She will be the first African-American to sing opera on network TV and the first to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- **16, 1923 Bessie Smith** makes her first recording for Columbia Records "Down Hearted Blues." The album sold 800,000 copies; it was Columbia's first popular hit.
- **20, 1937 Nancy Wilson** is born in Chillicothe, Ohio. She will become a well-known jazz and pop singer with George Cannonball Adderly, and George Shearing. Wilson has recorded over 50 albums.
- **25, 1991 Adrienne Mitchell** becomes the first African American woman to die in combat in the Persian Gulf War. She was killed in her military barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Erykah Badu returns with loaded *Mama's Gun*

Critic's Corner
reviews &
previews

BY MONYA TOMLINSON
Editor in Chief

Erica Wright is packin' heat. The chanteuse known as Erykah Badu has released a new album, *Mama's Gun*, to start the new millennium started with a bang.

The collection of fourteen tracks, most of which were written and produced by Badu, has an earthier feel than her last two albums. Maybe the grainier texture of *Mama's Gun* comes from current events in her personal life.

Badu has become a mother to a son, Seven; ended a relationship with recording artist, Andr from the rap group, Outkast; and been romantically linked with another rap artist, Common. Some members of the music industry press believe the new sound has to do with her switching to the legendary recording label, Motown, from Kedar/Arista, the label she started out with.

Whatever the cause of Badu's deeper tone, *Mama's Gun* is over an hour of musical soul-searching.

Most of the songs are reflective in nature, yet Badu manages to inject her usual matter-of-fact humor into her lyrics. On the track, "Cleava," Badu spits, "Got a little pot in my belly/ so nowadays my figure ain't so fly/ my dress ain't cost nothin' but seven dollars/ but I made it fly/ I'll tell why/ cause I'm cleva."

Badu also shoots from the hip with a song-poem entitled "Orange Moon." When she marvels, "How good it is/how good God is," the inclination to hit repeat on the CD player is too powerful to ignore.

Mama's Gun features guest appearances by Steven Marley (In Love With You), jazz great Roy Hargrove (Green Eyes), Miss "No Pain, No Gain" herself, Betty Wright (Kiss Me on My Neck), and Ahmir Thompson, the drummer from rap supergroup, The Roots (most tracks).

This album is the perfect Sunday afternoon lounge music — no frills, no stress, and perfect harmony.

There are only two things missing from *Mama's Gun*. The massively popular "Bag Lady (Dr. Dre mix)" is absent, replaced with a more mellow version, to keep the consistency of the album's vibe going. More notably, Badu opted not to put "Southern Girl," an ode to all ladies who were born and bred under the Mason-Dixon line on the CD. (Shout-out to all the Georgia Peaches!)

Other than these two forgivable oversights (both songs can be purchased as singles,) *Mama's Gun* is a clear shot to the heart.

Lock and load, ladies. Erykah Badu has done it again. ****

MUSIC RATING SYSTEM

Buy it at regular price ****

Wait for sale ***

Black market purchase **

Dub it off the radio *

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

Bennett College students may place meeting announcements, services, items for sale, etc. — 25 words or less — in the Banner Classifieds for FREE. The cost for non-Bennett students is \$2.50 for 25 words or less and 5 cents for each additional word. For information stop by Shell Hall C2.

ANNOUNCEMENTT

Happy Birthday, Shayla and Avian! From the Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

The Bennett Banner
publication schedule
for the 2000-01
school year

Publication Dates

February 16
March 2
March 16
March 30
April 12
April 26

Dates subject to change

SERVICES

Liscenced Cosmetologist
Need someone to do your
"do"? Come by and give me a
try! See Felicia Ferrel Barge
Hall 205

Have no time to type a paper?
Need a paper typed for a rea-
sonable price?
Come see CeCe Smith,
Pfeiffer 205
(prices to be discussed)

Got issues? Need to vent?
Want answers? Write it down
and submit it to the Bennett
Banner. All letters must be
signed and may not be
returned.

If you need a proofreader for
your essays, term papers, and
compositions, call Monya at
#1865. \$0.25 per sheet.

Need to hook up your
eyebrows? It can be
arranged for \$3 (no
money, no arching).
See Jewanna Murphy,
Pfeiffer 215.

If you're looking for an artist;
someone who can draw, create,
and design posterboards,
cards, etc. Come see Tocarra
Davenport,
Pfeiffer 213