

## Do we really need an intercollegiate program?



La Shainna K. Campbell

The main issue I guess is how effective is competitive sports here at Bennett College?

Trying to be open minded from a media practitioners point of view competitive sports are a good thing.

When people see our name on the NCAA list it's exposure for the college. Due to our damning track record in basketball ( you saw us on ESPN) and

other sports, we really aren't sure whether or not that is the kind of PR we want or need.

My biggest concern for competitive sports on campus would be money.

Why is so much money put out for our sports department when no money is brought back (lodging, traveling, meal costs, stipends)? Colleges and universities use their sporting teams as businesses. Let's take Indiana's basketball team for example, (now I know a state school with more resources and money, but the concept is the same input versus output).

Don't get me wrong, I believe to make money you have to spend it. Here at Bennett we do not treat our athletes as Indiana treats their premier athletes.

There are considerations for things like: special diets, discipline in their workout habits, and other important entities that help athletes with their performance.

When Bennett spends more money to help our athletes compete effectively, then we should, but until then sports at Bennett serve a better purpose as recreation.

*The opinion expressed in this column is that of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Bennett Banner staff.*

### THE BENNETT BANNER

The newspaper produced by and for the phenomenal women of Bennett College

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### STUDENT OPINION POLL:

# Bellespeak

## How do you feel about intercollegiate sports at Bennett?

Photos by Takesha Briggins, Banner

Photographer and Reporter



TAWANDA JONES

Junior  
Social Work  
Hampton, Va.

*It's [intercollegiate sports] necessary. It allows us to support and show love for our great school.*



CARMEN WILLIAMS

Senior  
Elementary Education  
Alexandria, Va.

*Our program is not the best. We are getting better...it's well worth it to....offer students diversity in activities.*



SHARLENE ROYSTER

Junior  
Biology  
Baltimore, Md.

*The students should compete because it builds character regardless whether the team wins or loses.*



INGRID MCDONALD

First-year student  
Biology  
Washington D.C

*Bennett is not ready to compete in intercollegiate activities. They [athletes] need more practice and dedication.*



SARA COLLINS

Junior  
Biology  
Newport News, Va.

*We should get more Belles involved in sports, so we can represent Bennett to the fullest as athletes.*



DARRA SPEASE

First-year student  
Sociology  
Syracuse, N.Y.

*We are capable to compete against other schools. It's [intercollegiate sports] a good way to let people know about us.*



LATONYA SMITH

Junior  
Special Education  
Columbus, Ga.

*We need to support what we have before we can expand. We do compete, but how can we compete if we don't have enough players for a team.*



SHATARA JOHNSON

Junior  
Mass Communications  
Miami, Fla.

*We need to have things such as sports to continue to uplift our school spirit and promote sisterhood. Go Bennett Belles!*



ALISHA JOHNSON

First-year student  
Psychology  
Uniontown, Pa.

*The school needs to give more attention and invest more into school sports.*