

Solving Problems

by Diane Stevens

Every once in a while everybody has a gripe, something that is just bugging them to no end, a situation that is totally unbearable.

For example maybe your car was in the gate and it was locked, the temperature was about 20 degrees, the night was black, and there were no security guards to be found and you had to go to the library on another campus to do some homework for tomorrow, but you could not get your car out of the gate!

Or perhaps, one day you were so hungry that your stomach was gnawing at your throat and you sat in line and watched a hundred people cut line and once it was your turn to be served there weren't any plates, forks, glasses, or maybe there wasn't any more food prepared.

You may have decided to wash clothes one fine Saturday, only to find one dryer working or one washing machine working on the entire campus and to top it off there were about 30 other sisters with the same idea.

Or maybe you went to the doctor, had him write you an excuse for your absence, turned it in to the appropriate office and were advised to use your cuts first (even though you are allowed one cut for every semester hour to use at your discretion).

On another occasion you may have decided to go to the library to do some research only to find to your dismay that they stopped taking that magazine or it's one of the ones that is missing.

There are probably many other things but they are not the true issue here. The issue is what did you do when confronted with these hassels. Did you curse to yourself? Did you complain to your friends? Did you get mad, then say oh bump it, it won't change things if I get upset?

The truth here is that we at Bennett are quite fond of complaining or just letting things go. We find no situation worth taking a stand over and seeing that a change is made. (Except Labor Day, but they took both Reading Days so the score is over even.)

Everybody here knows the Bennett cliché "Remember so and so. She tried to organize the students and make some changes and she didn't graduate. I'm not going to get involved cause I plan on leaving this place." Maybe all that is true. There are right ways and wrong ways to do everything. Then quite often in the fury of demands administrators are prone to counter-attack when backed into corners.

However, I think students are entitled to rights and some degree of respect and, yes, maybe even a particular caliber of student services even though we only pay one-third of our tuition. Granted, colleges are run by rules and regulations and more often than not policies are formed based on what is the expedient thing to do. At the same time, I think students need to be assertive enough to see that their rights and needs are met and considered when rules, regulations and policies are drawn up.

When problems arise, I believe students should stand up and try to find solutions to them. Everybody has got to learn to fight his battles sooner or later. Why not begin in college? (It is supposed to be a learning situation.) We all go to school here. Our problems and concerns are mutual. It would more than pay to get together and try to work toward a reasonable means of solving them. The student government association would be the logical way to do this, but ours isn't quite functional because we are far from functional. Think about it.

(Yeah, I know, I know. All we do as students is belly-ache and complain; but bear in mind, it is easy to overlook a gripe and call it just that—a gripe—when the problem is not yours!)

What's Happening?

Here are a few items that may be of benefit to you if you were not aware of them already.

The American College and University Service Bureau is willing to help students obtain financial aid. The service is supplying names of foundations and guidance as to how to go about obtaining funds from them. For more details on this service, interested students may write: American College and University Service Bureau, Dept. S., 1728-5050 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 28157.

As of January 29, 1977, Greensboro Public Libraries will be operating on this schedule because of the energy shortage: Branch Schedule: Sunday and Monday closed; Tuesday through Thursday open 9:00-9:00, Friday and Saturday open 9:00-6:00. Central Library: Open Monday through Wednesday 9:00-9:00, Saturday 9:00-6:00 and Sunday 2:00-6:00, it is closed Thursday and Friday.

(Continued on Page 6)



Traditions Have Their Place, Too!

By Myra Davis

Tradition is defined by Webster as "cultural continuity in social attitudes and institutions."

The legacy of Bennett College is steeped in traditions. Granted, outmoded traditions might become obstacles to progress. However, in time of disorder, all traditions are attacked and generally become the first victims. Rarely is much thought given to their reasons for being or how they might be modified.

During the decade of the Fifties an article on Bennett stated:

"Bennett has a good stock of traditions and customs that help give the school a personality."

Benjamin Fine, one-time journalist with the *New York Times*, stated, "Bennett College can well become a model for other institutions. The emphasis on campus beauty can be carried over to all colleges and universities . . . If you instill your students with pride of ownership, with the love of beauty, with the joy of good living, they will help you keep the campus lovely and beautiful."

Our traditions were instituted for the very reasons expressed in Fine's comments. The formal affairs, teas and dinners gave Bennett Women opportunities to practice the "Bennett B's," the college's unique social code. They included:

- Be a good conversationalist
- Be courteous
- Be neat
- Be friendly
- Be socially appropriate

This code formed the foundation of campus life. It was tied into all aspects of campus life. It gave Bennett its reputation.

Bennett's traditions also united the campus. They helped students, faculty, and staff to feel a part of the college community. The INSTITUTION became larger than the person.

The fervor for planning and implementing college programs needs to be revived. We must not lose such beautiful traditions as "The Living Madonnas," "Senior Day," or our strong lyceum tradition because of the person. The needs of the INSTITUTION must prevail. Lack of interest and time

are the most prominent killers of tradition.

Yes, it does take time and more energy to plan effective programs. The members of the dance group demonstrated that last semester. And they did not get paid for the extra hours spent rehearsing. Nor will the basketball team. Their compensation is much deeper than that.

Most students are willing to get involved. Some need encouragement or a hard push. But just think: A student with enough class work and extra-curricular involvement will not have time to intimidate her neighbors or make noise in the residence halls. Ironically, the young women who seem to be the happiest are those who participate in campus activities and also perform well academically.

The Office of Student Affairs and student leaders must come up with a viable program of involvement geared to the varied interests of the students. At this point the utility of existing traditions must be studied for modification or replacement. Traditions are those forces which give meaning and continuity to the Bennett Experience. We must prove that Bennett College is more than an occasional disco or pledge round. Our legacy is so much more than frivolity.

UNC-G Marks Black History With Activities

by Debbie Hodges

The Neo-Black Society of UNC-G is celebrating Black History Week with eight days of speakers, exhibits, and presentations.

A different event was scheduled for each night from Feb. 13 to Feb. 20 to take place on UNC-G's campus. Each event will highlight a different aspect of the black experience. The public is invited to attend the remaining events. Admission is free.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

My name is Isaac Durham, I am presently incarcerated in Marion Correctional Facility, in Marion, Ohio. I am a musician, and my profession is entertaining and I would graciously like to correspond with the students there at Bennett College.

Even though I'm incarcerated I still share partial freedom by bettering my musical education. I am seriously thinking of relocating; therefore I would deeply appreciate any help that you may be able to give concerning this letter.

Please print this in your campus paper:

Inmate at Marion Correctional in Marion, Ohio requests correspondence from all the student body at Bennett College. I am studying news music and I am seriously thinking of relocation. I am lonely in these walls of imprisonment. Please write to:

Isaac Durham #146 028
P. O. Box 56
Marion, Ohio 43302

BANNER STAFF MEETING

Wed., Feb. 23, 1977
6:30 p.m.

STUDENT RECITALS—1976-77

February 20
Miss Sandra Johnson, Voice
February 27
Miss Lisa Anderson, Piano
April 3
Miss Donna Brown, Piano
April 17
Miss Sherrie Hill, Voice

All Recitals Will Be Held In
The Annie Merner Pfeiffer
Chapel At 7:00 P.M.

BENNETT BANNER

Editor-in-Chief	Diane Stevens
Associate Editor	Joyce Bass
Adviser	Dr. Virginia Tucker
Layout Editor	Deborah Tillman
Circulation Manager	Cleo Branch
Feature Editor	Robyn Denise Berryhill
Business Managers	Deborah Luttery and Terry Lewis
Advertising Managers	Sandy Monroe and Kelly Gardner
Cartoonist	Bobbi Durdin
Photographers	Joyce Bass, Gena Haskett

Reporters

"Kool-Aid" Bartley
Cleo Branch
Kelly Gardner
Gena Haskett
Lenner Hill
Debra Hodges

Faye Howard
Blanca Hurley
Marcelle Miranda
Sandra Monroe
Rochelle Moody
Cathy Young