

True Essence Found on Inside

For black women "Essence" magazine has been a remarkable image maker. Since the advent of the magazine, black women have sought to be the "Essence Woman." They look to "Essence" for the latest in the areas of clothing, make-up, hair styles and even sex. "Essence is the prescription that enables one to become the ideal black woman. Superficially, we as black women have it together now.

However, being a woman or a person (period) goes further than the outside; and I really don't think one can approach life with the idea of displaying some perfect ideal on the outside with no substance on the inside.

It seems that we are so hung up on "acceptable appearances and styles" that we forget the real person lies on the inside and that individually we are all evaluated on what we do and the personalities we possess.

The seniors, who will be leaving in a little over a week, know that there, staring them in the face is a world that asks nothing about appearance but instead asks what are your qualifications? What is your GPA? What kind of scores did you make on the GRE, NCAT, LSAT, etc.? What type of person are you, reliable, stable, etc.? How do you relate to others? Are you creative? Can you deal with pressures and disappointments?

For many of the seniors, leaving the "ivy walls of knowledge" will be an exercise in proving what they are actually made of. No longer will being the "in group" and looking "in" be important. It will be consequence time and the truth will come out.

To those students remaining at Bennett, I think it is time to stop and evaluate things that go on at Bennett and seem to be acceptable forms of behavior, because they have gone on so long, and change them. Bennett students owe it to themselves to portray types of behavior that are indicative of college women. This kind of behavior should be evident in the dorm, the classroom, the campus and elsewhere. It is more important to be beautiful and together on the inside than it ever was to be on the outside; and that's where the essence of an individual really exists.

As this is my last column and last issue as editor, I would like to say that the pleasure has been all mine. I hope the Bennett Banner continues to be a vital student publication and wish next year's staff the best of luck in its endeavors.

Now I am
Going To Teach
You a New Game
Called
"Find the SGA"



Letters to the Editor: Changes Needed; Cafeteria Complaints Are Aired

Dear Editor,

As another year at Bennett College comes to an end I see the need to reiterate some changes that need to take place. These changes are talked about daily, weekly, yearly to various faculty members, students and concerned listeners. It is my hope that maybe this time, this article will lead to some improvements on the Bennett campus.

A.C.E.S.

1. Try not to have so many in one week. Limit ACES to 1 or 2 a week not 3 or 4.
2. Eliminate ACES during class hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. This time can be used for actual classes which are really needed.
3. Have more plays, modern dances and visiting choirs.
4. Have more black leaders coming to speak on various aspects of life from politics to music to drama.

Library

1. More up-to-date, as well as more informative books.
2. Extended library hours during exam time.
3. Transportation provided to UNC-G library in the evenings.

Infirmary Service

1. A qualified R.N. on duty at all times.
2. A doctor available during posted hours.
3. A better, more personal doctor.

Dormitory Living

1. Students should have the option of painting their rooms.
2. There should be more washers and dryers in each dorm. They should be kept in good working

condition.

3. There should be better lighting in the rooms.
4. Fixtures (basins, intercom systems, door knobs, and locks) should be kept up to par.
5. Heat regulation should be installed in the rooms.
6. Students should have the option of having a phone installed in their rooms.

Academics

1. Teacher evaluation should be taken at least once a semester. The results should be taken SERIOUSLY by the administration!
2. More qualified instructors should be hired to teach in their major fields.
3. A Used-Book-Bureau should be started. Its purpose would be to tell students where they could purchase used books for their classes.
4. The book store should order enough books for the classes, perhaps based on pre-registration cards.

Campus Activities

1. Open House once-a-month on Sundays.
2. Campus dances with bands both semesters.
3. More movies.
4. Coffee house open in the evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. Mondays thru Wednesday.

Cafeteria

1. Student input in planning menus would add some variety to the meals. Perhaps home-ec majors or student volunteers could help in the planning of meals.
2. Extended hours for breakfast and lunch or start on time for

both meals!

3. Get rid of the plastic utensils.
4. No limit in the food helpings. (Quantity of servings, second servings.)
5. Not so much grease in the food.
6. One card with a series of numbers on it, the number is punched out as the person eats the meal. Or use I.D. cards only.
7. Two lines.

Miscellaneous

1. The gates should be closed at 12 midnight.
2. There should be a bus on campus for student use, for example, to take students to UNC-G library in the evenings.
3. Music in the cafeteria.

Some of the suggestions are based on the results of a student survey taken in 1974 here on campus. Others were received from the Bennett family. Considering that some of the suggestions are three years old (at least 45% of them are) I ask you... aren't the improvements long overdue.

Sincerely Yours,

A Concerned Student

Dear Editor:

This is a true account; the names have been omitted to protect the innocent and not so innocent. On Tuesday evening April 19, three students were sitting in the dining hall eating dinner and conversing. All of a sudden one of the students gagged and let all the food she had in her mouth drop to her plate. This was not a very pretty sight to see. Even worse, there in the food she had expelled from her mouth was an insect. It had been cooked right along with her collard greens. The student took the insect to one of the cafeteria staff, who promptly took the plate with the insect from the student. The staff member told the student that they were not responsible for insects cooked in the collard greens.

Earlier this semester a student found a fly on a piece of lettuce that had been served along with some tuna fish. A few weeks ago a student found a worm in some green peas. In this instance a member of the cafeteria staff said they were not responsible for worms in canned vegetables.

These incidents all occurred in the Bennett dining hall, which at the present time has an A rating. It is confusing and difficult to comprehend a dining facility having this type of rating and not being responsible for pest-infested food.

It is possible that these are isolated incidents and just rare oc-

currences, but this is an account given by only one student. One panics at what a survey of the total student body would reveal.

The type of food the cafeteria prepares is controlled by budget. However, the caliber of the food is controlled purely by the staff.

Signed,

Dejected student

SGA Needs Student Support, Leaders

by Marcelle Miranda

What has happened to our SGA? Where is its strength? These questions concerning our student government association should be important to the Bennett student body. Each year Bennett students gripe about the dining hall situation, the gates, the rules, our lack of freedom and funds to do most of the things that would make life here at Bennett a little more pleasant. But does the fault lie only with the SGA?

SGA president, Sheree Johnson felt that the primary reason that many SGA projects did not come about was because of the lack of student support. Sheree stressed that students should start caring about what goes on with the student government. Sheree said, "Though publicity was given to such major SGA projects as SCOLB, the Student Committee on Landless Blacks, to NOBUCS, the National Organization of Black Universities and College Schools, no one stepped forward to offer their services."

Sheree said, "Without the support of the student body it is impossible to accomplish much." She added, "Many of the national projects fell through because there was much disorganization and disagreement between the SGA leaders of other schools."

Plans for on-campus activity has met with sev-

eral setbacks says Sheree. She explained, "The activity fee that is taken out of each student's tuition is shared among several campus organizations and the allotment for the SGA does not cover many of our planned activities."

Bennett needs charismatic leaders, says Cassandra Jones, treasurer for the SGA. Cassandra felt that student apathy was the major contributor to the non-functioning atmosphere of the SGA. "We need a purpose for being here at Bennett. Besides going to class what are we doing?" asked Cassandra. "It's no longer unique to go to Bennett, and it should be. After all we are a black college, and we are a women's college. We should be doing something," she added.

Cassandra also felt that apathy is forgotten when students are united for a cause. She said, "Bennett has many reasons to unite but who are the people willing to lead the struggle, and if they do is the student body going to support them?"

TO OUR OUT-GOING EDITOR, DIANE

From the members of Bennett Banner Staff, we give our warmest congratulations on your academic achievements and wish you the very best. We couldn't have made it without you this year! Good luck Diane...

BENNETT BANNER

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