

Housing situation creates problems

What a joy it is to return to school and find out that you do not have a room on campus. The residence situation is in sheer chaos. No one seems to have found a place for the many students who are still without rooms. The Residence Life office has, alternately, no answers and no comments, and the Dean of Student Affairs has taken the matter into his own hands and has taken steps for solving the problem. Why wasn't this problem solved during the summer when the planning should logically have been under way?

The competence of the person or persons responsible is definitely in question. Why has this happened in the past, and why is it happening now? How will this problem be alleviated? Will the guilty party or parties shoulder the blame?

This matter has first to be faced squarely. It then has to be seen to so that, at whatever cost, it does not happen again. The administration is supposed to set an example for the students. This is certainly a very poor one.

Bennett has been a residential college almost since its inception. This is a small college. Living on campus is almost like breathing—you do not really think about it, you just do it. There is a place for everyone that presently wants to live here. It is only a matter of placing them in the traditional manner (which we seem to keep returning to) and ceasing to make changes that serve only to create 1) animosity, 2) problems, problems, problems, and 3) more work.

We would delight, for once, to see the assignment of housing go smoothly, and would appreciate the liberation of our dean from that which is not directly his job, so that he might be about the resolution of more pertinent student affairs.

Make this a successful year. Work!

Welcome to your first year or returning year to Bennett College. We believe that higher education, academic excellence and common sense lead to a successful life in the future. This past summer, the Supreme Court announced its decision in the case of the *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* on June 28. Directly and indirectly this decision affects the lives of minority students and women throughout the United States. It also challenges us, as members of both groups, to strive hard to achieve our goals.

With this decision, the quota system is challenged

strongly as minority groups and women try to gain admission to professional schools. While the Bakke decision directly affects mostly higher-demand institutions and more advanced programs, other colleges and universities are greatly affected also because they have a larger pool of qualified applicants from which to select a student body.

With these factors in mind, we encourage all Bennett students to place their best foot forward to strive for academic excellence. This is a highly competitive world that needs the minds of competent workers. **WE ARE THE FUTURE AMERICA.** Work hard and have a successful year.

Greensboro offers wide variety of activities to students

by Deborah Tillman

As many freshmen and transfer students enter Bennett this semester, it may seem that Bennett College, North Carolina A and T State University and Burger King are all there is to Greensboro. As time passes, they will soon realize that Greensboro is a large and progressive city.

Located in the north central portion of North Carolina, Greensboro is known to many as the "Gate City" because it was usually a transfer point to any spot in the state. To college students, Greensboro is known as the "University City" because of the five colleges and universities located in the city. The city is serviced by Southern Railroad; Trailways and Greyhound Buses; and Delta, Eastern, Piedmont and United Airlines.

The five colleges and universities are A and T, Bennett, Greensboro College, Guilford College and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. All are available to Bennett students.

Also, there are malls and shopping centers, bowling alleys, ice

and roller skating rinks, water slides, movie theaters, nightclubs and discos, parks and picnic areas, and other facilities for entertainment and recreation.

In addition, Greensboro is the hometown of many personalities such as Bob McAdoo, New York Knicks basketball player; Vince Evans, Chicago Bears football player; and "Curly" Neal, famed Harlem Globetrotter.

Besides these persons, Greensboro's colleges have produced prized possessions like A and T graduates Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of Operation PUSH, and Al Attles, former NBA basketball coach; Bennett graduate Dr. Carolyn Payton, director of the Peace Corps; and Greensboro College graduate Eileen Fulton, Lisa Shea Coleman of "As the World Turns."

Greensboro is a very progressive city. Many blacks rank high in the professional fields of education, management, banking, law, medicine and politics.

For religious purposes, this city contains all denominations of

churches. Many offer free bus service to college students and many are within walking distance of the campus. Among favorite churches of Bennett students are: St. James Baptist Church, St. James Presbyterian Church, Institutional Baptist Church, Bethel A.M.E. Church, Trinity A.M.E. Church, Providence Baptist Church, and St. Matthews United Methodist Church.

Although these are just a few facts about Greensboro, we hope they will be helpful in making you feel comfortable in your new temporary home. Who knows, maybe one day you will be a resident of this growing city.

From the SGA president's desk

Perkins: Expand self at Bennett

by Debra Perkins, President SGA

"Don't Graduate Half Done, Go Out Well-Baked!"

This quote may sound humorous when you first read it, but examine it again. Be knowledgeable about its implications. Be a "well-baked" individual. Be well-rounded.

As a new year begins, I challenge you to expand yourself during your tenure at Bennett College. Let your experiences here be a stepping stone into the real world, the world of poverty, affluence, discrimination, and politics.

Be productive academically, socially, and spiritually. Your idea of becoming productive socially should not limit you to discos, parties or sorority involvements. Through your involvements in school government and other organizations, gain further insight into campus, community, state and national affairs. Study all you can while time allows. Study music, philosophy, and literature to extend your education. Become responsible for what you learn by taking an active part in the learning process.

As I have challenged you to do your best, challenge the faculty to do its best in providing motivation so their students do learn, which is the purpose of education.

Keep the channels of communication open by realizing that faculty are people too.

I welcome all returning students, faculty and staff and newcomers to Bennett College. This is the place to be if you are willing to be assertive. I wish everyone a most productive year.



Letters to the editor: Housing, campus loiterers hit

Dear Editor,

We, as concerned students, think that it's a shame when some members of the faculty and staff cannot settle their differences so that they can work together as one cohesive unit for the benefit of the student body. It seems to us that personal grudges should be resolved or left outside of the office.

When these members of the faculty and staff allow enmities toward other members to interfere with their jobs, we as students are the ones who have to suffer.

Departments are usually headed by one specified person. This person heads a supposedly loyal staff that he can depend on in a time of crisis. In our opinion staff members who are unwilling to fulfill their responsibilities to the head of their department should be fired.

The student body knows that Dean Bragg's orders to change the mixed-up housing assignments were disobeyed and students were forced to suffer the consequences.

We shudder to think what might happen in future years with an increasing enrollment and the limited room spaces on campus. Most students thought that limited room spaces were the biggest problem with the housing controversy, but actually space was no problem; the mixed-up room assignments were the only problems. Now students who have comfortably settled into what they thought were their new homes are being unrooted from one dorm to another and the blame falls on one pair of shoulders. So we hope you are lis-

tening, Mrs. Scarborough, because we want you to know just how we feel.

Several very concerned students

Dear Editor,

It is much more than a terrible shame that students who do not drive and are forced to patronize the local stores, have to put up with the unsavory, insulting characters that loiter in and around the "grocceteria" and the grill on Gorrell St. Bennett students suffer verbal harassment as well as countless other indignities, including open solicitation from the derelicts that constantly crowd the sidewalks in front of both places.

It occurs to me that since these establishments are scant yards from the home of the president of the college and adjacent to college property, and since city police have in the past demonstrated minimal or no concern for the safety of our students, that someone in the administration of the college, or faculty members who drive by these places and see them daily, would either recommend or take some type of action to see that Bennett students do not have to endure the trash that is dished out to them daily by these nuisances—who headquarter themselves, by the way, directly across from, and sometimes on, the wall of our Children's House.

Until some concerned party or parties take some action to alleviate this readily visible and very old problem, not another word should be spoken about STUDENT apathy.

Signed,
Donna Meacham

Note: The editors welcome responsible expressions of opinion. However, unsigned letters cannot be accepted for publication. If the writer of a letter wishes to request that his or her name not be used, that wish will be respected; but the signature of the letter writer must be on the letter when it is received in the "Banner" office. The editors reserve the right to edit all letters to meet the demands of space.

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