

Campus changes only skin deep

When my parents and I drove to the front of the campus, I wasn't at all sure that I had brought them to the right place. I had expected to be greeted by friendly faces instead of piles of dirt.

We drove to the other side and I was equally as confused. Wasn't Union Drive supposed to be one way? And who were all these new people? There couldn't be that many freshmen. Where did all the flowers come from? Nothing was the same as I remembered and I had so many questions. This wasn't how I had imagined it would be to come back to Bennett as a sophomore. I thought upperclassmen were supposed to know it all!

As the days passed, things didn't get much better. There were more faces that I didn't know and fewer that I did. I wondered whether there was a rule that said I had to be nice to every person who told me "Welcome Back." And after a few weeks of classes, how was I supposed to remember what I did over the summer? It didn't feel as if there had been a summer, just a few days off.

And so I established a routine of going to class and smiling at the people I passed. One day, as I was going to class and smiling at people, a girl stopped me and asked whether I was an upperclassman. Yes, I thought, it shows. I smiled a real smile and gave her directions to the office she was looking for.

That was when I realized that being back at Bennett was really special. After the first year, there are certain "secrets" that each Belle knows, like where every building on campus is, the shortcuts to downtown and what meals will be served on which days.

Although a lot of surface changes are visible on campus, the important things haven't really changed. The students are still as warm and kind as they have always been, and Bennett is the same beautiful campus it was when I left. I must admit, it's good to be back.



Words of inspiration

by Katherine Winston
 Father,
 Thank You for this day and how You have loved and protected us in every situation. Thank You for being that special friend and giving us the encouragement we need, not just from time to time, but at all times.
 God help us to seek Your face and the knowledge of Your grace more than we ever have before. Help us to draw nigh unto You, for You said in Your word that if we would draw nigh unto You, then You would draw nigh unto us.
 Thank You for continuing to bless and prosper us. Help us all to remember that we can prosper in our own ways for a short time, but that it is necessary for us to continual-

ly seek Your will for our lives so that we can prosper physically, mentally, materially, and above all—spiritually.
 God touch those souls that hunger and thirst after Your righteousness and let them know You can and will fill them with Your word.
 Lord, help us to accept Your truth and abide in Your ways. Help us to realize that the key to having a prosperous life is knowing how to pray. Help us to have a forgiving spirit so that bitterness, malice and backbiting can be ruled out of our hearts.
 God teach us that as we rejoice in You, we can gain strength to live in this world and not be ashamed to let people know that we love You.
 Now, Father, I pray for

those persons who refuse to accept You in totality. Bless those people who have hardened their hearts against Your word, and those who have refused to let You give guidance and direction to their lives. Touch them in a special way. Let them know that You still save souls and extend Your love toward them, and let them know that You are the answer above all other answers.
 Father, I thank You that we can come boldly before You to the throne of grace and confess our sins that we might be forgiven. Thank You for hearing and answering this prayer. Thank You for how You're going to change lives through Your word and Your spirit of love. Amen.

**The Banner Staff
 will meet Sept. 16
 at 6:30 p.m. in the
 staff room in Pfeiffer Hall**

Letters express pros and cons

To the Editor:
 I just wanted to take the time to say that, unlike several freshmen I've encountered, I really like Bennett College.
 With my arrival as a freshman of Bennett Colelge, I have finally made the transition from high school teenager to college student. And with Bennett's help the transition was relatively easy.
 Unlike larger universities, Bennett is small and offers more personal attention to its students. The classrooms are small, enabling me to participate, concentrate and prepare for my classes.
 The Counseling Center appeals to me also because it's always nice to know that when a problem

arises you will have someone to talk to about it.
 The food may seem "lousy," but since the dining hall must cook for several hundred students, I can understand the food losing its taste.
 To me Bennett is the best place for a prospective young black female to obtain a well-rounded education. The college concentrates mainly on developing minds that can think clearly and constructively and also on developing young ladies who take pride in themselves, including their appearance and personality. I think the ultimate goal of this college is to produce a graceful, intelligent "Bennett Belle."
 Leslie Monique Barr

To the Editor:
 I am writing this letter to you not as a complaint, but as a mode of letting you and the readers know that I, as well as other members of the 1984 class, am aware of the inadequacies in our residence halls.
 Bennett is an upstanding women's college, yet the residence halls are not reflections of this. The halls are archaic which means that no one expects them to be resort condominiums or home sweet home, but the problems need to be dealt with.
 The most common problem appears to be the efficiency of the plumbing. Another is that some students show no respect for others. The residence halls are not playgrounds or places for non-stop parties. This is a problem which neither administrators nor directors can change because the answer must come from the individuals themselves.
 Overall the halls stand well considering their age and accommodate well considering their size, yet the conditions can be improved. Maybe this could be a residence project or school project.
 Andrea Burch

To the Editor:
 I am writing this letter to you in hopes that you will publish it in your newspaper and that one or some of your readers may care enough to become a pen pal to me. At this time, I am incarcerated and have been for the past four years. Shut off from the outside world, I have lost touch with people, which makes me a very lonely Black man.
 My name is Wayne Johnson and I'm 25 years old. I am constantly trying to better myself, which becomes a very hard task in my situation.
 I want to ask your readers if they will share a little of their time and themselves to become a friend to me. Please publish this letter in your paper, because I am in desperate need of a friend. Anyone who wishes to answer this letter may reach me by writing to:
 Wayne Johnson 151-166
 P. O. Box 511
 Columbus, Ohio 43216

consortium program. What is the purpose of having such a program if when we attempt to register the classes are already closed? Registration this semester caused many headaches because of this problem.
 Many girls here were attracted to Bennett, in part, because of the consortium program. Some contemplated leaving because they may not meet their requirements by commencement.
 Shelly J. Coston

To the Editor:
 I'd like to say I have really enjoyed coming to Bennett College. I thought college would be hard, and people wouldn't know you existed, but everyone seems to know each other.
 I stay in Jones Hall where everyone is friendly, warm, caring, and considerate of each other. Jones Hall residents seem to stand by each other no matter what. We feel close and also feel at home with each other.
 I think Bennett Belles will be around for a long time, to help young girls become young women, in whatever field they choose to accomplish. Thanks to Bennett College.
 Lei Lana Miller

BENNETT BANNER
 1980-81

Co-Editor	Myra George
Co-Editor	Lisa Harris
Advisor	Martha Brown
Circulation Manager	Karen Heck
Business Manager	Wanda Dick
Cartoonists	Venus McDowell
	Norman Barbee
Photographers	Myra Davis
	Parrese Wade
	Lisa Harris

Reporters

Karen Heck	Josie Hudley
Katherine Winston	Andrea Burch
Yolanda DuRant	Jeannette Hatch
Denise Wilder	Wanda Edwards
Felicia Gatson	Yvette Barbour

Shelly Coston