

Helms needs medical attention

While we are happy that Congress has finally authorized a national holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, we are appalled by Senator Jesse Helms' attempts to smear a national hero.

Helms (R-N.C.) took it upon himself to destroy the chance for King to be recognized for his contribution and efforts in bringing equality to our land.

Helms' actions can be viewed as a vengeful and racist campaign to destroy the acknowledgement that many Americans of all races feel King deserves.

The senator claimed King was an "action-oriented Marxist," but did Helms justify these accusations? Although King accepted insignificant funds from various Communist organizations in order to cover expenses, his actions and beliefs cannot be considered anything other than courageous, American and Christian.

Helms' charge did not apply to King because the head of SCLC fought to bring changes for blacks and other minorities who were being deprived of their

civil rights; therefore, how can he be branded Marxist?

Helms' persistence in this matter caused senators and representatives to denounce his remarks and speak on the behalf of King.

Helms even petitioned courts to make the FBI open the files on King in order to scan his wrong-doings with a microscopic eye and he may have dug up some dirt on King such as his extra-marital affairs. But King cannot be condemned for his activities because he was human as are other men in high positions who have indulged in such acts, including John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Helms' disgusting inquisition tells us a great deal about the senator and nothing about King.

What we observed (and not for the first time) is that Jesse Helms is a sad and sick man still stoking the fires of racial antagonism.

(Deborah Lewis)

How to spell relief - "Fall Break"

The students are in need of a great many things. One of these things is a fall break. Our fellow institutions, A&T and UNC-G, both have fall breaks. Why do we not have one?

Our students experience what some call "burn-out" because of overwork just as students at A&T and UNC-G do. Some of the women here also have very heavy class loads. The fact that we are a small institution does not alleviate the pressures that students experience in college life.

A fall break would also be beneficial to the faculty. They are entitled to a break from the routine work. A break could also help them catch up on any overdue grading.

With a fall break which would also be a time of relaxation, grades would probably undergo a vast improvement. This short two-day break would give students the opportunity to get ahead in their work or either to catch up on their work.

Even if grades do not improve drastically or if a phenomenal amount of work is not accomplished, a fall break would still be instrumental to the students' mental as well as physical well-being. Many tensions would be relieved and, as a result, many short tempers would be improved.

A fall break should be seriously considered so that students can have some sort of escape from their day-to-day aggravations even if it is only a brief escape.

(Yolanda DuRant)

Who oppresses whom?

opinion
by Joan Davis

Whenever I discover that the youth motivators will be attending classes, I am filled with mixed emotions.

On one hand, I look forward to hearing about what it's like in the "real" world and, on the other hand, I almost dread it when they come because they often cause me to feel a sense of hopelessness.

Believe me, I don't live in a fantasy world. I realize that it's tough out there and that life will be even more difficult for me because I'm in two minorities. Yet, I can't help feeling that perhaps the motivators paint too gloomy a picture.

Must I always assume that "white" America is always going to be against me because of my race and sex? Why can't I look at it from a more positive view and as-

sume that by hiring me, employers will be "killing two birds with one stone" by hiring a black and a woman at the same time? At least that will give me the confidence to try to get the job.

Must I always assume that "white" America is always out to get me? Is it really always the "white" society that keeps a black woman from getting jobs?

A lot of the motivators seemed to think that this is the main reason for our lack of high-paying jobs. Perhaps if they could come upstairs in the dorms and see how many of our "struggling" Black women are asleep at two in the afternoon instead of attending classes, they might be a little reluctant to blame others.

Perhaps if they could see how many of our "struggling" Black women are playing

cards and blasting the stereo until three in the morning, they might change their minds about who our real oppressor is.

Perhaps if they could see how many of our "struggling" Black women really care about receiving a decent education, they might not be so quick to blame the "oppressive white society."

I really wonder if any of the youth motivators ever stop to think for one second that they might be wrong about who really is at fault.

Is it really all of the "white" society's fault for our unemployment troubles? Or could it be that we're hiding behind that excuse to keep from seeing the truth?

Think about it the next time you're trying to study and the "struggling" Black woman next door is blasting her stereo the night before a big exam.

Jackson appeal

Mayor Richard G. Hatcher of Gary, Ind., chairman of the Jackson Presidential Advisory Committee, has begun a drive to raise funds for a possible 1984 Democratic Presidential bid by the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, head of Operation PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity).

The initial exploratory fund raising effort is a campaign centered around the theme: "Give A Jackson For Jackson" (\$20). President Andrew Jackson's picture is on a \$20 bill.

However, Mayor Hatcher made it clear that contributions from \$1 to \$1,000 are welcome. Checks or money orders should be made payable and sent to: Jackson Presidential Advisory Committee, Gainer National Bank, 504 Broadway, Gary, Ind. 46402.

Mayor Hatcher explained, "Jesse Jackson is exploring the possibility of seeking the Democratic nomination for President in the 1984 primaries."

He has said that three things are necessary before he will say 'Yes, I am a Democratic presidential candidate'—masses (national and Black opinion polls show strong support for Jackson); machinery (a national group of supporters that reflects the rainbow coalition and will organize and sponsor his candidacy); and money (one

cannot run a credible campaign without money).

"The polls and the crowds are saying 'Run, Jesse, Run,' but unless the people put their money where their mouth is 'Run, Jesse, Run' could turn into 'See Jesse Run.'

"In order to keep that from happening, people all across America need to support Jesse Jackson's exploratory efforts now to demonstrate to him that if he decides to run it is clear that the people will financially support his candidacy," Hatcher said.

Mayor Hatcher said that should Jesse Jackson become a candidate all monies raised in the name of exploring would automatically be applied to a "Jackson For President Committee." In addition, all funds contributed to the exploratory committee would count toward federal matching funds. To qualify for federal matching funds, a candidate is required to raise \$5,000 in 20 states in contributions no larger than \$250.

Chairman Hatcher made it clear that if Jesse Jackson does not become a candidate, monies left over from the exploratory process will be returned proportionately to the contributors. Inquiries can be made by writing: Jackson Presidential Advisory Committee, 465 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46402, or by calling 219/882-3388 or 882-3280.

Letters to the editor:

Confessor is brave

To Dear Claire, in care of the editor:

I want to congratulate "Desperate" for being courageous enough to openly confess that she has been stealing.

It takes a woman of conviction and leadership to admit her fault. She needs as much support and

courage as she tries to let go of her anti-social behavior.

We need more women who are honest about their faults. I pray that many more readers will rise up, help her and change their lives, too. May honesty continue to be our standard! I'm proud of her!

Ms. M. Chabaku

To the Editor:

Reading the first issue of our college paper was challenging as well as interesting. Perhaps you, too, have thought that Nedra McGee, our Miss Bennett for the 1983-84 school year, did not receive the honor she deserved. No doubt you felt it appropriate that she be recognized on page three.

Since Bennett, a college for women, acknowledges and emphasizes our importance and achievements in society, many of us feel that our Miss Bennett should have front-page coverage. Why should our paper feature two men on the cover when we are a women's college?

Miss McGee, we feel, represents what Bennett stands for. She is a True Belle. She reflects and represents our college in events throughout the community and whenever her presence is sought. In previous issues of the BANNER, since the first crowning of the first Miss Bennett in 1978, her picture, with a feature article, has always been on the front cover.

Isn't it best to feature Miss Bennett, our image, on the cover?

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Williams
Class of 1985

The Bennett Banner

Editor-in-Chief Deborah Lewis

Associate Editors Leslie Monique Barr

Yolanda DuRant

Dee Evans

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Adviser Michael Gaspeny

Send letters to the Banner to Box 2, campus post office. All letters must bear handwritten signatures.

Be sure to hear the
Hampton Institute
Concert Choir
Wednesday, Nov. 9
at 7:30 p.m.
in Pfeiffer Chapel