

The Bennett Banner

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BENNETT COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

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Spring Fashion: (left to right) Adrienne Burch, Nadine Dennis, Carol Smith and Jovanna Brown appeared in the Home Economics sartorial extravaganza held in Science Assembly. (photo by Theresa Roy)

"Processional for Progress"

Demonstrators march

by Amy Galloway
and Tricia Hairston

More than 200 students participated in a demonstration to improve campus life on April 13.

The students met in the chapel at 7:30 a.m. to begin the march which was dubbed "The Processional for Progress."

SGA President Kay Boyd led the demonstration which started with a boycott of pre-registration. She expressed the concerns of the student body which are improvements in health, nutrition, academic affairs, residence life and other areas.

Belles marched to the gymnasium, refusing to pre-register. Then they lined up on both sides of the Gorrell Street, joined hands and began singing the alma mater. They also sang the Negro National Anthem and "Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand." The procession was organized and orderly.

Comments among the students basically dealt with bringing about a change at Bennett.

"We have a good positive start and more than half of the student body has come

out so therefore we realize something is wrong," said freshman Wanda Dilworth.

Angela Wright said, "Registration has slowed down and I think the faculty is amazed that the boycott is organized. All demands may not be met, but we will be listened to."

Dr. Helen Trobian observed, "I'm sorry this happened for pre-registration, but I'm happy to see the students working together in an organized fashion."

The cafeteria was also boycotted. Senior Lynn Powell said, "I feel that the cafeteria could be more of a variety of things. The attitudes of the employees could also be improved."

"Another protest should not be necessary; we have full advantage of the board of trustees and we will use them fully," said Yvette Nelson.

Many participants were concerned that their grievances were being ignored. "I sincerely hope that the issues are not placed on the back burner. If changes are not brought about, enrollment will decrease," stated junior Rhonda Jackson.

Charlese Klutz, a freshman, said "I care about Bennett, and it's about time for the administration to stop living in the past and come around to the present. It's been long overdue."

Freshman Roy Cowan said, "I feel we are not getting a fair shake for the money we pay to attend here. We are black intelligent women and should not be subject to put up with the unnecessary bad causes at Bennett. If we didn't care about Bennett, we would transfer."

The demonstration not only gained the attention of the administration but the local media as well. A Channel 2 News cameraman came out to film the event.

The students were advised to give no comments to the reporters and to turn their backs to the camera.

As the camera circled to include the faces of everyone involved, the students covered their faces and ran into the gymnasium.

Rosetta Jordan summed the whole event up with a quote by Jesse Jackson: "My mind can perceive it, my heart can conceive it, and we can achieve it, if only we believe it."

Seniors give future ambitions

by Karen Taylor

They came and now it is almost time for them to leave to pursue their dreams of big bucks and much success.

Seniors' plans after graduation include jobs and graduate school. It is their hope that success will be theirs to cherish forever.

"My ultimate goal is to get my doctorate in social work. I want this before I leave [academic life]," says Melanie Alford, a social work major from Clio, S. C. She will attend Ohio State University next fall to work on her master's in social work with a

concentration in clinical social work.

Alford credits Mrs. Ouida J. Scarborough, director of residence life, with helping her to make the Ohio State connection.

Cheryl Williams, a biology major from Brunswick, Ga., has received a \$1,000 scholarship from Dr. Gerald Truesdale, a reconstruction and plastic surgeon. She plans to attend Morehouse College or the Medical College of Georgia where she will pursue a degree in medicine.

"My goal is to become a doctor. I would like to work with underprivileged preg-

nant women and set up a home for those that have been put out," says Williams.

Joan Davis, an English major from Tuscaloosa, Ala., wants to attend law school at Wake Forest University.

"I plan to become a corporate lawyer and make \$100,000 minimum a year. I would like to do some volunteer work for abused and battered wives," says Davis.

SGA President Kay Boyd has ambitious plans, too.

"I plan to pursue a master's degree at N. C. A&T State University in Afro-American Literature. I would like to open my own school

kindergarten through 12th grade. I plan to pursue also a doctorate in English, an M.B.A.-J.D. and to pursue studies of several foreign languages," states Boyd.

"Basically, I'm just feeling to go into another," says Susan Smith, an ISP major with a concentration in grief therapy from Philadelphia. "I'm going to go home. I have two definite interviews and one I am waiting to hear the results of." Smith plans to go into grief therapy, counseling and cancer patients. "I hope one day to open my own hospice for in and out cancer

patients," says Smith.

"I would like to give a substantial amount of money to refurbish Kent Hall," says Leslie Barr, an ISP major with a concentration in English. "After receiving my B.A., I plan to go back to South Carolina to work for the next year. From there I plan to attend graduate school and get married." She would like to get an M.A. in educational administration.

"My ultimate goal is to eventually become an administrator at a top level college and become a successful owner of a publishing company," added Barr.

Viet-vet describes horrors of war

by Tricia Hairston

The '60s brought America acid rock, Women's Lib, sexual freedom and the Vietnam War. Of all the events during that decade, the war is the most memorable. Some say it is the war that America lost.

Clarence A. (Cee) Richardson of Richmond, Va. was 18 when he volunteered for the draft. He was a high school dropout, and he was rather naive about the war.

"I was not politically aware of the war. I knew I had a duty to fight for the U. S. and I just did it," he says.

A Marine in general warfare, he became a member of Echo Company and an expert in handling the M-14 rifle. In Vietnam, he was one of the survivors of the hellish battle for Hill 881.

The men in Cee's company were united. He says, "There was no racism among the soldiers. We considered each as one, no black or white. We lived, fought, slept and ate together, even died together."

The horror on Hill 881 began after the Marines had taken the hill.

"We had set in with two to three men in a hole," Cee remembers. "At one or two in the morning, the Viet Cong came through a tunnel to the inside of our camp. The shooting started, and grenades were coming in at all angles. I heard shots, people crying and calling on God to help them. I lost my best buddy on that Hill. . . ." Cee pauses; his face grimaces, and he becomes misty-eyed.

"It was so dark that you couldn't see your hand. . . We tried to shout from hole to hole, but the Viet Cong were shooting at sounds. They had us from the inside and outside. When the sun came up, and the reinforcements came to secure the hill, I have never seen so many dead bodies in my life.

"The survival count was 13 Americans able to fight. Most of the weapons company got killed. We took out about 40 or 50 people excluding dead bodies."

In retaliation, the Marines blew up the bunkers that concealed the Viet Cong and then pulled the enemy out of the tunnels.

"The American officials knew where the Cong were, but the only information we

received was to secure the area regardless of cost," Cee says.

Cee feels America rejected the Viet-vets: "We were ignored, looked down upon because we were Vietnam veterans. According to the U. S. foreign policy, America fights for any country opposed to the communist government. We had to go if eligible."

Richardson's experience has made him skeptical about U. S. foreign policy: "The policy should change because of the things that I did in the service. Sometimes the U. S. puts its nose where it should not be." He adds that "If the U. S. was threatened, yes [I would fight again], but we do not have enough men to fight in all the countries opposed to communism."

After the war, Cee went back to school to obtain his G.E.D. He graduated from a community college. He is now a successful chef living in Winston-Salem.

He says, "Determination and faith got me out of the war and that is how I have achieved my status now."

Cee thinks about his dead buddy and the monument commemorating the soldiers who died in Vietnam. "I might visit the monument to look for my buddy's name. If it's not there, I'll raise holy hell," he says.

He feels that "America should have stayed and finished what they started because we lost too many lives over there. The decision to pull out was unjust to the veterans alive and dead."