

Opinions

Editorial

The opinions expressed in this column are the author's and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Bennett Banner staff

Republican majority may jeopardize financial aid

Many things have been said about the new Republican majority on Capital Hill.

Republicans are more conservative in the laws they pass, and they only tend to pass cuts with the exception that they have to have enough money for their own projects.

This latest cut by the Republicans will really hit most of us where it hurts: The Wallet.

Many students depend on aid from the government as a supplement to their tuition payments.

According to *USA Today* (Feb. 7) the higher education community is up in the arms over the proposed cuts in provisions for financial aid.

Recent surveys showed that 89 percent of Americans ranked college aid behind Social Security, and those who thought that it was important to hold funding levels ranked at 92 percent out of a sample poll of 1,000 people.

These findings only prove that there has been a shift in the order of importance that U.S. citizens feel should be appropriated as funding for certain programs.

Financial aid was placed before health care and military defense, according to Thomas Kean, former New Jersey governor, and current president of Drew University.

A conglomerate of 30 advanced education institutions formed the Alliance to Save Student Aid.

Their purpose is to persuade the Republicans to terminate what they have nicknamed as the "in-school interest subsidy" on Stafford loans. The policy on Stafford is that the government does not change the interest rate on the loan until after the student graduates.

But if this policy changes, it may give students difficulty in paying their loans, and if this proposal comes through, it may go into effect as early as next year.

If you care about financial aid, write your senators and express the need for them to lobby against cutting student aid.

Stephanie McCorkle
Editor

Letter to Editor

Belle excuses Rutgers president for his ignorance

Citing historical facts about Africa, beginning with the inception of mankind, would end in a lengthy lesson explaining why Francis Lawrence, the president of Rutgers University, is to be forgiven for his ignorance.

I don't have a problem with the fallacious nature of Lawrence's statement about the inferiority of minority student's "genetic hereditary background" and their inability to perform well on standardized tests. In fact, he admitted that he made a mistake; therefore I am refusing to question his sincerity.

The fear I have is that we will use genetics as an excuse to stop trying to understand one another in light of who we are culturally. Genetically people are different. There are also numbers that make

certain tested groups appear to fall short of averages and standards. It seem then that we could compare groups with statistics and draw conclusions. But when we stop here, we fail to analyze and value the behavior that causes these measurable differences.

Lawrence was correct in using genetic heredity in argument. He failed in his inability to consider the dynamics society has played in stifling intellectual growth and development by not recognizing heredity when determining methods for standardization.

So, I would urge all people to take what was said by Francis Lawrence and learn from it.

We should be challenged to go beyond agreeing or disagreeing with him. Instead we should move to understanding and, subse-

quently, disproving his statement.

Fanya Stansbury,
senior
Trenton, NJ
Business Administration

Letter Policy

The Bennett Banner welcomes all letters that are typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 500 words. All letters to the editor must be signed, and they include the author's name address and daytime telephone number. No letters will be printed in the Banner without the author's name. Once submitted the letters become the sole property of the of Bennett Banner.

The Banner reserves the right to edit. Letters may be hand delivered to the Banner office in Shell Hall C or mailed to Letter to the Editor, The Bennett Banner, Shell Hall C Room 2, Bennett College Greensboro, NC 27401.

Campus Opinion Poll: Can We Talk?

Do you think there's too much media coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial?

During the last nine months the O.J. Simpson trial has been the center of media attention.

The Bennett Banner wanted to know what some of the students thought about the enormous amount of coverage.

Photos by Valerie Weathers



I haven't been watching the O.J. saga. The last thing I saw was the chase, so I don't know what's going on now.
Joy Price, freshman, Political Science



Tax payers need to spend their money on something else besides the O.J. Simpson trial. Put something worthwhile on TV.
Michelle Leslie, freshman Political Science



If it had been anyone else, the media wouldn't have been as involved. Just because O.J. is he's black, rich, and an athlete, the media want to bring him down.
Robin Woodyard, Junior, Business Administration



The media have blown this O.J. situation way out of proportion. They made him guilty before the actual trial.
Trina Byrn, freshman Political Science



The media are wrong. O.J. is getting more coverage than Jeffrey Dahmer. Dahmer's act of violence was much worse. It's not fair because the media is making him guilty.
Nakia Grant, freshman, Biology/Pre-Med



If he were a member of another race, he wouldn't be getting this much publicity.
Asha Pinkney, sophomore, Business Administration

The Bennett Banner

The Newspaper produced by the Phenomenal Women of Bennett College

EDITORIAL STAFF

Stephanie McCorkle - EDITOR
Crystal Simenton - MANAGING EDITOR
Christine Lewis - CHIEF COPY EDITOR
Cinzia "Buffy" Atkinson - SPORTS EDITOR
Eva Brooks - GREEKS
Yvette Burton - ACES
Latasha Gordon - CAMPUS SECURITY
Mariacorazon Hill - HUMANITIES
Jokima Joynes - HEALTH, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
Tamu Johnson - MOVIE REVIEWS
Stephanie Martin - FISCAL AFFAIRS
Tahja McVay - BELLE SPORTS
Nicole M. Southern - ADMINISTRATION
La Keisha Walker - DORMITORIES
Valerie Weathers - PHOTOGRAPHER
Bianca Williams - BELLE SPORTS
Kelita Vanterpool - BELLE SPORTS

BUSINESS STAFF

Nanaaba Eshun - ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Elizabeth Battiste - BUSINESS MANAGER
Tellece Hughes - CLASSIFIED SALES REP
Constance Leach - DISPLAY SALES REP
Kim Wright - DISPLAY SALES REP
Dr. Lona D. Cobb - FACULTY ADVISOR

