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Former professors' comments unfair

In a letter published in the *Carolina Peacemaker* in November, two former Bennett professors, Drs. Millicent Brown and Shirley Washington, asked "Where were the students?"

They were referring to the low student turnout during a program in the Pfeiffer Chapel commemorating of the 1979 Klan-Nazi shootings in Greensboro. The program included the panel discussion and a banquet in the Jones Student Union.

During that shooting, Sandy Smith, a Bennett alumna and former SGA president was killed in the shootings along with other members of the Greensboro

Monya Tomlinson
Editor

community in the "Morningside Massacre."

In the letter, Brown and Washington said the absence of Belles at the events showed we [Belles] have "little commitment to true scholarship."

Brown and Washington, if you are worried about our scholarship, why aren't you here to ensure we make the "commitment?" Why write a diatribe in a public forum, when you have access to us through your ties with the College?

While I do agree my sister Belles and I do not always take the opportunities given to us, I don't think a personal attack was an effective means for inspiring students to do what they think is right.

Instead, those two should have contacted us through the SGA or come to one of our numerous events including ACES, programs in the dormitories, or club meetings. By using an indirect channel like the *Peacemaker*, Brown and Washington have proved that they don't care about Bennett or its students.

The opinion expressed in this column is that of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire Bennett Banner staff.

THE BENNETT BANNER

The newspaper produced by and for the Phenomenal Women of Bennett College

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The Bennett Banner is a laboratory newspaper published twice a month during the academic year, except during months with College recognized holidays or College vacations. The newspaper is produced by and for students at Bennett College. The newspaper office is located in Shell Hall C-2.



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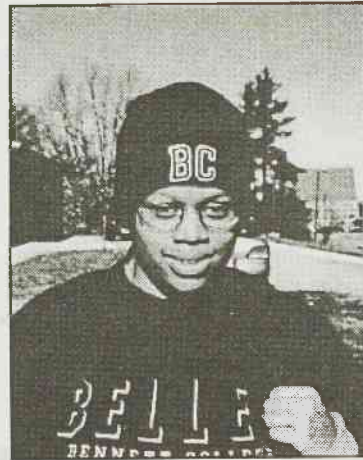
Bellespeak

What is your response to the accusations made by the former Bennett professors that were published in the *Carolina Peacemaker*?

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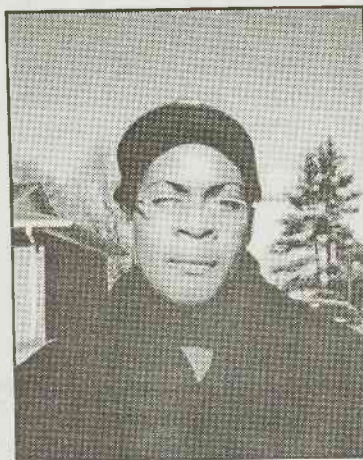


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I don't think that the professors that made these accusations should blame the student body. Most of us are not from Greensboro; therefore, I don't think we know the details of the Greensboro Massacre. We shouldn't be looked down upon for not participating.

Many of us did not know about the panel discussion until that day. Most ACES are planned ahead of time. If we had something else to do, the notification would have come too late. It wasn't a lack of scholarship on our part. It was a lack of planning ahead.

Dr. Brown and Dr. Washington should check their facts before bashing the students at Bennett College. Most Bennett students were not aware of the commemorative events taking place that day. We cannot attend anything if we do not know it is happening.



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I didn't read the article, but if they [the two former professors] did have these opinions about the students, they should address us directly and not "aired our dirty laundry." The only thing they are going to achieve is resentment from the students because it seems as if they are trying to embarrass us instead of correct us.

I did not know about the luncheon or the panel discussion. No one was informed about these events. I also think that the former employees just wanted attention.

If Bennett students are expected to attend programs like the Greensboro Massacre, the announcement has to be followed up by notices and plenty of publicity that encourages us to actually attend.