

## Where's your school spirit?

What's thin as gravy in the cafe on mystery meat day and as scarce as extra weave glue at a hair show? You know the answer! That's right -- school spirit.

It seems that everywhere I turn on campus, I see signs of diminished morale ranging from students wearing pajamas to class or empty meeting rooms and events.

Sometimes I don't feel my sister Belles truly feel any pride in their institution. I thought its time someone investigated.

**Monya Tomlinson**  
Editor

I posed some questions to my lunch buddies one day: "Where's the school spirit? Why isn't anyone running for office in student government? Why aren't you

representing Bennett?"

One of my genius friends had a good answer: "My spirit is at the bank, along with the money my parents pay to keep me here!" "I'm not allowed to have school spirit because I didn't fill out the proper form and get it stamped 60 times first," shot back another philosopher. But the most poignant response came from another one of my meal partners. "We feel like 'Why bother?'"

I can't say that my cohorts don't make good points. Sometimes life at Bennett can get frustrating. I worry about our morale when a whole week's worth lunch table discussions can be centered around what's wrong with Bennett.

The lack of school spirit is disheartening because it shows that so many have little pride in one of few places in the world made just for them. School spirit does exist on Bennett's campus, but it needs to be rejuvenated. We need to have more events like Nubian Nuance. We need a bookstore that has new Bennett apparel and paraphernalia. Maybe we should start a pep club.

To answer my friends' comments: You should bother to have school spirit because, over 100 years ago, those people bothered to meet in the basement of that church so you could get an education. You should bother to go to events because somebody is paying for you to be here. You should bother to represent Bennett proudly because you are Bennett. Now about that gravy in the cafeteria—that's something we shouldn't have spirit about.

*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

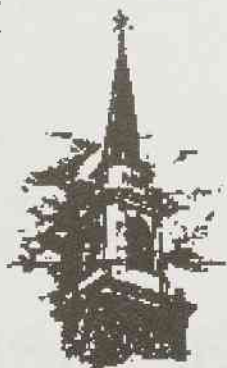
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## STUDENT OPINION POLL:

# Bellespeak

## What happened to the school spirit?

Photos By La'Shainna Campbell, Associate Editor



**STEFANIE BELL**  
CLASS: FRESHWOMAN  
MAJOR: MASS COMM  
HOMESTATE: NC

*"Administration, school officials and old fashioned rules killed any spirit students and faculty had."*



**TIQUITTA HALL**  
CLASS: JUNIOR  
MAJOR: FASHION MERCH.  
HOMESTATE: WASH. D.C.

*"School spirit has deteriorated because of lack of student interest in activities. If you keep treating us like children we will show a lack of school spirit."*



**CHIFFON CURTIS**  
CLASS: SOPHOMORE  
MAJOR: FASHION MERCH.  
HOMESTATE: WASH. D.C.

*"School spirit went away with the admission of people who should not be here. Everyone thinks that they are too good to show spirit."*



**AMBER LOVE**  
CLASS: SOPHOMORE  
MAJOR: MASS COMM.  
HOMESTATE: CALIFORNIA

*"Lack of motivation and having pride for the school destroyed the school spirit."*



**TIFFANY SAMPLE**  
CLASS: JUNIOR  
MAJOR: ACCOUNTING  
HOMESTATE: WASH. D.C.

*"People are just tired of being here...."*



**INGRID BRAXTON**  
CLASS: JUNIOR  
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HOMESTATE: NEW YORK

*"How can we have school spirit when we don't do anything as a school?"*