President Stan Gibson, along with the College as a Charter Day financial and in-kind services to institution. The donation to this 133-year-old ence, said that they were delighted the gift at a recent press confer-

The event featured an array of items from numerous vendors and artists, of the largest college sponsored African-American festivals in the nation. The event featured an array of items from numerous vendors and artists, who shared various facets of African American culture such as dance, mu-

One of the primary events of Black History Month was the 14th an-

The bank has given other fi-

Senior Vice President of Consumer Banking Mzee Wilkins, made the announcement. Gibson said, “The Taylor Street branch is very clear to me because it has been at that location for over 40 years.”

Bank of America, a corpo-

By Mellanese McCall , Staff Writer

Bank of America donates local branch/property to Benedict

To inform, to inspire, and to offer a variety of programs were the College’s goals in February as it celebrated Black History Month. Benedict celebrated the month with a verisimilitude of cultural, po-

Many of the events, such as the 16th annual Black History Month Teleconference with its illustrious list of speakers, drew national and re-

Benedict College received a major gift from one of the nation’s top banks in January. Bank of America donated one of its area branches and the property on which it sits to the College. The gift is valued at $320,000. Bank of America, a corpo-

By Trystin Francis

Bank of America Regional President Stan Gibson, along with

April 2001 • Benedict College, Columbia, S.C. • Vol 78, No. 1

Civil Rights pioneer Jessie Jackson visits BC

In life there are certain obstacles that can come your way, but what do you do when the obstacles affect your entire life? Do you take a stand or take the road less traveled?

This was the message of civil rights leader Rev. Jesse Jackson, who visited Benedict this month during a statewide tour. At a rally here he urged students to stand up for their civil rights.

About 2500 spectators heard Jackson deliver a powerful speech and con-

Jackson said officials spend $17,000 per year to lock up a person in jail, but less than $6000 per year to educate him. Jackson made the audience aware of a new economy growing around so-called “Pookie,” a slang name for a ghetto convict, or “Pookie for Profit,” as Jackson humorously called him.

“When you see Pookie, you have to spend money on travel, when you see Pookie you may stay in a hotel by the jail where Pookie lives, eat at a restaurant near Pookie’s jail, or go shopping in the area. There is a new economy growing around Pookie,” Jackson said.

Jackson stated that 40 years ago, African Americans’ forefa-

Benedict's Black History Month Coordinator Dr. George Delvin stated that Benedict’s black history events are growing in scale and diversity. The school’s general purpose in hosting the various events, he said, are primarily to inform persons inside and outside of the community about the history and culture of African Americans. “We also want to inspire those people to be encouraged through black history,” he said.

Jackson then prompted non-

Jesse Jackson, who visited Benedict this month during a statewide tour. At a rally here he urged students to stand up for their civil rights.

The event featured an array of items from numerous vendors and artists, who shared various facets of African American culture such as dance, mu-

President Swinton. She said Bank of America has also supported the African American owned South Carolina Community Bank, which Benedict has invested in and whose board members include President Swinton. She said Bank of America alone has also gener-

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Students & faculty express mixed emotions on possible war with Iraq

By Terrell Bryant
Staff Writer

Like many persons in the international community, students and faculty here at Benedict also have mixed views on the situation with Iraq. America and other nations are split over how America is dealing with Iraq.

President Bush is pushing hard for the the United Nations and other nations to support a war with Iraq, citing Iraq’s buildup of weapons of mass destruction as significant reason for the need to go to war.

The Tiger spoke with several students, faculty members, campus military officers, and cadets for their views on the situation.

Political science major Cicely Holmes believes oil is evidently the underlying reason edging Bush to go to war, along with his father’s history with Sadaam Hussein, the Iraqi leader. Former President George Bush, Sr. dealt Hussein, the Iraqi leader. Former President George Bush, Sr. dealt

Black said in his estimation, Powell, whom he called a “dove among hawks,” has presented strong evidence that Sadaam is hiding weapons of mass destruction.

If Powell is for war, Black said, then the U.S. probably has sufficient evidence to attack Iraq, since Powell is a more anti-war and “talk it out” type of person. Black is not alone in his feelings. Recent figures show that the majority of the American public agrees more with Powell’s slow and careful approach, rather than Bush’s war-at-any-cost attitude.

Dr. Andrei Maximenko, a political science professor at Benedict, said to him going to war would be a “regrettable” decision and that the world would face an “uncertain future” if war broke out.

Several ROTC students interviewed said they realize they would be among the first to go if war breaks out, but they feel they have to keep their commitment to the military.

Cadet Sgt. Jayron Gresham said that while he is against war, he is ready to go if he has to. “I know that I would be fighting for a purpose,” he said. “We shouldn’t stop until the job has been completed.”

Cadet Sgt. Glenn Stanton also said he is also ready to “take on the responsibility” that he made a commitment to.

When asked what they would do if called to war, all of the ROTC students said they would uphold their duties to this country and fight. As one cadet put it, “We do this so that the rest of the country will have a chance to achieve things in life. Such responsibilities are necessary to continue the freedom on which America was founded.”

SGA members meet with Gourmet Services to discuss ‘Caf’ service and food

SGA also hold forums with other administration officials

Tia Ferguson
Staff Writer

Student Government Association officers recently met with representatives of Gourmet Services to discuss a variety of concerns by students over the cleanliness of utensils in the cafeteria and the quality of the food served.

SGA President Aisha Scott said the SGA requested a meeting with representatives from Gourmet Services, which manages the ‘Caf,’ because they had received several complaints from students about unclean silverware, poor service, and a lack of variety of the food. After hearing complaints from students she said they felt it was necessary to discuss with Gourmet Services personnel what can be done to improve the quality of the service and food.

Gourmet Services Manager Derrick Fogg has a different viewpoint, however, concerning the quality of the food and service. In an interview with the Tiger, Fogg said that they have to comply with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) regulations and make sure there are inspections before each meal. He said the inspections take place before breakfast, lunch, and dinner and that DHEC does a site inspection every four months. They can get up to a 100 percent rating.

“We strive to make a grade of A,” he said, “and so far we have been very successful. We received a 95 percent rating.” Fogg said they received the 95 percent rating and not 100 percent because of some maintenance problems they have such as cracked tiles and leaking pipes, not because of any poor service or quality of the food.

Meanwhile the SGA said they were satisfied with their meeting with Gourmet Services and that they will continue to listen to report on any student concerns.

The SGA also met recently with other Benedict officials on various other issues such as housing, security, computer labs, and student activities.

They met with Dr. David Whaley, vice president of Student Affairs; Dr. Richard Miller, senior vice president of Academic Affairs; and Gary Knight, interim director of Institutional Effectiveness. SGA members say they are working with the administration to establish workshops on financial aid, registration, and community service projects.

Pre-Alumni Council members attend national convention

By Stephanie Prophet
Assistant Editor

Six members of the Benedict College Pre-Alumni Council recently attended the 57th National Alumni Council and the 45th National Pre-Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) held Jan. 31st- Feb. 2nd in Columbus, Ohio.

The conference, whose theme was “Enhancing the Future Today,” brought together over 800 alumni and students from around the country to further the goal of increasing the visibility and awareness of the 39 UNCF member institutions.

The featured speakers of the conference were Ohio Congresswoman Stephanie T. Jones, cable television executive and attorney Willie E. Gray, and three-time Grammy award winner Lou Rawls. The conference consisted of business sessions, luncheons, and an Alumni Recognition Awards banquet.

Jones energetically discussed many of her accomplishments, including being the first African American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio. Jones spoke on the importance of education and how the UNCF has a great funding program for students in college or those aspiring to attend college.”
Main Campus

Student Affairs research project shows crime decreasing on campus

By Tryssin Francis
Cultural & Entertainment Editor

Students at Benedict should feel a little bit safer on campus these days. The Office of Student Affairs has been implementing several new strategies to beef up security and safety.

The Department has also been engaged in a major research project studying the level of crime on campus and its various segments. Generally, the study, thus far, has found that crime has been decreasing on campus over the past three years.

Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. David Whaley attributed the decrease to a variety of factors, including the hiring of more officers, the purchase of state-of-the-art security system in an effort to ensure a high level of safety, and the joint efforts between Public Safety and Community Life.

In addition to gathering information and statistics on campus crime, the Student Affairs Office is looking at ways of preventing the number of student offenders who have committed minor offenses from becoming involved in the judiciary system. Whaley said his staff has seen the need for a more efficiently run judiciary process, which can help solve many of the minor incidents.

The department, for example, has developed a mediation system for students who have violated the student Code of Conduct. A situation that might have resulted in an expulsion or even jail for a student may be resolved through mediation instead.

Benedict is an institution which prides itself on learning to be the best in the 21st century, noted Whaley. Student Affairs is trying its best to uphold that goal, and one way is by mediating situations that pertain to students. “It will teach students to disengage themselves in troublesome situations and to continue to be the best at everything that they do,” he said.

According to Whaley, several persons in his area and other areas have helped them conduct research on various aspects of conduct violations at Benedict. They have researched crime statistics over the past three years for both Fall and Spring semesters.

Pre-Alumni Council, whose purpose is to make it easier for students to meet with their alma mater once they’ve graduated and to encourage students to give back to their alma mater, sponsored a career fair.

The fair was very successful and to their alma mater for the award. The National Alumni Council of each school nominates one person for the award.

Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs and the Pre-Alumni Council advisor Pamela Lawson accepted the award in Moore’s absence. Miss Pre-Alumni Council Christina Tindle gracefully represented Benedict College in the Miss UNCF pageant that was a part of the conference, which also consisted of a career fair and a college fair.

Phyllis Thompson, Benedict’s Director of Admissions and Telemarketing, recruited students from the Ohio area to Benedict.

Twenty students are members of the Benedict College Pre-Alumni Council, whose purpose is to help raise funds for Benedict and to encourage students to give to their alma mater once they’ve graduated.

Calvin Haygood is president of the Council. Anyone interested in joining can contact Lawson at 255-1772.

The Department of Criminal Justice has been implementing a new mediation system for identical violations.

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Pre-Alumni Council members and their advisor represented Benedict well at the national convention.

Cont. from pg. 2

Alphas and Criminal Justice Department help campus celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By Queshonda Moore
Features Editor

During the recent annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, a sense of the 60’s filled the air as guest speakers reminded the audience by saying, “We must educate ourselves so that we may enlighten ourselves.” The audience warmly applauded.

The keynote speaker, Rev. Scipio, said that Hill was a tough guy who when facing a threat, “circle the wagons.”

The Department of Criminal Justice and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and held in Antisdel Chapel, Hill arrived with a powerful monologue called “And Then We Came To Memphis,” an original piece that he wrote.

As he spoke his voice was amplified throughout the chapel. Hill didn’t need a microphone. The essence of his speech was loud and clear. “Don’t let the dream die. Make rage your passion,” he said.

Even though some of the things Hill said were humorous, he made his message very obvious to the audience by saying, “We must educate ourselves so that we may enlighten ourselves.” The audience warmly applauded.

Following Hill’s performance, the keynote speaker, Rev. Scipio, said that Hill was a tough act to follow. But his speech was just as powerful and informative.

Scipio gave a very thorough description of the criminal justice system in the United States during the 1960s. He called it a system of “criminal injustice” and said these injustices are still taking place today.

“We don’t need another Dr. Martin Luther King,” he told the audience. “We need thousands of little kings in every corner, in this nation, doing what God called them to do. We can change the legacy of this world.”

Rev. Scipio speaking at MLK Day program

In the biographical information about Scipio on the program, it was explained that his organization, “The Elephant Men”, works like a surrogate family for endangered youth. The organization’s name was chosen because of the practice of elephants in the wild, who when facing a threat, circle their young to protect them. Scipio’s motto, according to the biography, is to direct and protect....
Progress continues on startup of Benedict radio and tv station

By Stephanie D. Prophet & Staff Reports

Through an effort called Project BETA, Benedict College may soon have a radio and television station.

The English, Foreign Languages, and Mass Communication Department has been engaging in the Project BETA (Broadcasting Experiences for Technology Application) effort for at least two years now, working on the steps necessary to create the station. Several steps and initiatives must be completed to make such a station a reality. They include having the proper funding, acquiring an FCC license, and following other broadcast regulations, gaining the technology needed, getting a physical facility, and other tools necessary to run a campus radio and television station, as well as having the necessary staff.

The vision of this project is not only to run a radio and television station but also to serve as an audio/video classroom and laboratory for department majors.

This project would give mass communication, English and other majors the opportunity to gain more experience in the broadcast field and heighten their readiness and attractiveness when looking for jobs in the industry.

“The station will be a place where they may deepen their knowledge and strengthen their skills in the discipline of radio, tv and other emerging media,” English, Foreign Languages, and Mass Communication Department Chair Dr. Malqueen Richardson said.

Several courses in the mass communication program of study require practical experience in broadcasting. The radio and television station will be linked to the curriculum; mass communication and other majors will have broadcast training opportunities at the station, which will be conducted through classes.

It is expected that a location for the facility will soon be finalized. Once that is done, work will begin on the facility to turn it into a broadcast studio and audio/visual classrooms. The station’s signal would go out to the college community and immediate areas around the campus. It could also have many other uses, such as airing of weekly addresses from college officials and programs geared around students, faculty and staff.

Not all of the technical aspects of the facility have been completed, but much efforts have been underway. The station would probably be heard on the FM dial. Meanwhile, efforts so far have produced approval of some internal Title III funding for necessary equipment and other purchases. Meanwhile, additional efforts are continuing for funding from other sources. College administration officials have been working the department to help them seek funding.

“Through Project BETA students will be exposed to various radio equipment and technology in their field,” Richardson said.

Project BETA Control Room Assistant David Dornik has been working closely with the department and has done research into the technology and equipment required. He said he is looking forward to the start-up of the station.

Minorities are not in the field of mass communication as much as they could be, he noted. “Building the station will help to make students more marketable. It is our desire for students to have greater application skills.”

Mass communication and other majors who have heard about the project are anxiously awaiting the start-up of the station. There has been talk of a broadcast station for a while now. Many of the majors say it is time for the station to become a reality.

Meanwhile, current students and many graduates in the major have found work in the industry and obtained experience at stations and other media outlets in the area and region.

English, Foreign Languages, and Mass Communication Department Chair Dr. Malqueen Richardson (right), Assistant Chair Dr. Carolyn Drakeford (left), Project BETA Control Room Assistant David Dornik (background) and department staff member Donald Holmes (2nd left) discuss aspects of Project BETA at a recent ‘momentum session’ on the project.

Other department faculty members have been actively involved in the project are Mass Communication faculty members Susan Dugan, Pam Bryant, and Gladys Shabazz. They were working nearby researching some of the technology applications for the project.

Spring semester brings new transfers while enrollment remains steady

By La Tonya M. Jones Staff Writer

Classes were delayed for three days at the start of the Spring semester in order to give the majority of students the opportunity to complete registration and be admitted to class. That was less of a delay than at the start of the Fall semester when only 1,498 students were admitted to class. That was less of a delay than at the start of the Fall semester.

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Students in a video production class and the instructor squeeze into a small audio-video room on campus for some practice work with some video and audio equipment. Students and faculty members are looking forward to working in an actual station for more hands on training with equipment and other technology.

As of Feb. 5, Benedict Registration officials have been discussing aspects of Project BETA at a recent ‘momentum session’ on the project.

Other department faculty members have been actively involved in the project are Mass Communication faculty members Susan Dugan, Pam Bryant, and Gladys Shabazz. They were working nearby researching some of the technology applications for the project.

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As stated in the FAFSA forms, “You should submit your application (for federal financial aid) as early as possible, but no earlier than Jan. 1.”

FAFSA requires applications to be sent no later than June 30. Colleges must have students’ corrected and complete information by the last day of their enrollment in the 2003-2004 school year.

Knight gave as an example of a student who lives in South Carolina who was eligible for the South Carolina tuition grant but because she applied for financial aid after the deadline, she missed out on award money valued at over $2000.

Currently, Knight and his staff are working with Student Government Association members to find ways to promote and encourage students to register accurately and on time.

In the near future he plans to work with seminar classes to set up various workshops to teach students how to renew and apply for financial aid and how to get it in before the deadline.
Should BC come ‘out of the closet’, so to speak, on the homosexuality issue?

This question is not meant to bring the BC family to bedlam but to ponder because as Benedict continues to grow, increase in population, and become more diverse, this is one the college may have to face, if it is not already facing.

By Ali Omar, Editor

*NOTE: The names of the students interviewed for this article remain anonymous because of the sensitivity of this issue.

Let’s face it. To be homosexual or bisexual -- ‘gay’ as it is commonly called -- was strictly taboo just a few years ago. But now, it is nothing to see openly gay men and women on television, in streets and homes across America. The question is, how big has this former sexual taboo gotten on college campuses? At Benedict College, believe it or not, this abnormal, normal or different sexual orientation -- whatever you want to call it -- is practiced between some students.

Let me be the first to say that I am not gay. However, I don’t believe that we should make a big deal about whether a student is homosexual, bisexual or straight. I don’t think it should be such a big deal here. We seldom hear of hate crimes against gays on this campus. Everyone may not like gays, but no one is picketing in the fall of the campus to protest gay life.

Tolerance for those whose sexual preference may be different seems to have been accepted among the general student population here. Some may not even know that a subculture of homosexuality exists. But in informal interviews with several students, many said they knew of someone who is gay. A few said they were gay themselves.

Obviously, there are some disagreements about whether homosexual or bisexual life should be allowed on this campus. Just how far will college officials go or are willing to go to police sexual behavior? The college Student Code of Conduct does not specifically address issues of which sexual preference is allowed.

But like the police and even the high courts have found, it is nearly impossible to dictate sexual behavior of any sort. If the parties involved want to engage in their own sexual preference and they are in the privacy of their homes, there is little anyone can do about it. Still, the question remains how real of an issue is homosexual life here?

In the course of my writing this editorial, many of my interview subjects and the persons I spoke to about this editorial idea, including my newspaper teacher, were apprehensive about even discussing the topic or including it in the paper. It seems that talking publicly about homosexuality on Benedict’s campus is like the old saying about the pink elephant in the middle of the room. “Nobody would know it is there if no one said anything about it.”

My belief is that it is time to tackle this issue, as controversial as it might be.

Although I am not a homosexual male, I have learned to accept and tolerate people’s differences. I learned through my interviews, most students are tolerant of sexual behaviors because they may have gay friends or gay family members. However, most students are against the idea of having an openly gay student as a roommate. These students think that such a student would “try something” with them. As we all know, gay people are overly sexual individuals. Not!

Furthermore, some students become offended when others assume that they are gay. Most of Benedict’s heterosexual (straight) males particularly take grave offense if they are accused of being gay. Heterosexual (straight) women don’t seem to mind as much. If one is secure with his or her own sexual preference, but someone accuses him or her of being gay, he or she should not take offense, although most people would be upset or concerned.

People sometimes accuse other people of being gay because of the person’s physical mannerisms or life-style. If a person assumes that a student is gay, most times the image they have of gay men and women comes from the media’s depiction of gays and society’s distortion of homosexuals. Obviously a man kissing a man would be an obvious sign of gayness, but what about the people that we call “questionable”?

Most students say they consider a person gay by the way he or she talks, or dresses, or by the number of people of the opposite sex he or she hangs with. If we live by this standard, society would dictate the way we dress or speak and control the number of friends we seek. It is composite of our apparel, body odor, and gender. I forget, society does this already, yet some of us continue to be mindless sheep.

So then, let’s address how someone can be defined by his/her sexual preference. According to an Internet article from the Cleveland Clinic, which is associated with the site Web MD Health, there are three different forms of sexual orientation: a homosexual is one who is attracted to individuals of the opposite sex; a bisexual person is one who is attracted to members of either sex; and a homosexual is one who is attracted to individuals of one’s own sex.

My gay friends say that if you sleep with a member of the same sex, bottom line, that means you are gay.

According to the Cleveland Clinic article, “homosexuality and bisexuality are not caused by the way a child is reared by his/her parents, or by someone having a sexual experience with someone of the same sex when the person was young. Also, being homosexual or bisexual does not mean the person is mentally ill or abnormal in some way, although there may be social problems that result from prejudicial attitudes or misinformation.” (Cleveland Clinic Web MD).

But why would a college student choose to be homosexual or bisexual in an environment where such behavior is least accepted? Many scientists agree that one’s sexual orientation results from a combination of environmental, emotional, hormonal, and biological factors. In other words, there are many factors that contribute to a person’s sexual orientation.

The factors vary among different people.


Duke University, located in Durham, N.C., is listed as the most homophobic. Topping the 20 most homophobic schools were the University of Connecticut (U Conn) in Storrs and the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass.

Benedict is not known for being particularly gay friendly or homophobic (gay bashing). Students do not have to be afraid to be gay. It is a point of conversation in dorm rooms and on the yard. And, there are students here who don’t try to hide the fact that they are homosexual. The college doesn’t openly say it has gay students nor do they deny homosexual students are here. The promotion of one sexual preference over the other is not part of the college’s mission.

Still, it is an issue that is worth discussing. I asked several students to share their opinions on the issue of homosexuality here.

One student said he has been approached by a member of the same sex. She said she dismissed the person very abruptly and the person didn’t try again. Other students said they have gone through a similar experience and handled it pretty much the same way. Some said they thought the homosexual population here was growing and that there are some unofficial, small gay groups.

At this Baptist-based institution, with its Christian values, campus religious leaders point to the Bible’s castigation of homosexuality. The Muslim holy book, the Quran, strictly forbids homosexuality as well (chapter (surah) 7, verses (ayats) 80-83 and chapter (surah) 11, verses (ayats) 77-79.

A multitude of ethical questions on homosexuality can be conjured: Should openly gay students be permitted to enter/remain on campus? If inclusion is the goal, then the treatment of homosexual misconduct be equal to that of heterosexuals when it involves violation? Can a gay student organization be formed on campus and permitted to operate under the same rules and regulations as straight organizations? Will there or should there be a “gay” dorm now or later?

The questions are not to bring the BC family to bedlam but to ponder. As Benedict continues to grow, increase in population, and become more diverse, this issue will be one the college will have to face, if it is not already facing.

In a nutshell: will the college itself ‘come out of the closet’, so to speak, on this issue, which students are already talking about. Or, will certain segments continue to find ways to express their alternative lifestyle with or without anyone’s approval? Stay tuned.
Greek Life or Geek Life?

By Marco Brooks
Staff Writer

Historically black colleges have had many traditions throughout the years. One of the grandest traditions of these is Greek life. This particular tradition, however, seems to be lessening on Benedict campus. One might ask if Benedict students are still interested in Greek life or if they have decided that Greek life is “geek” life.

Several Greek fraternities and sororities have existed on this campus for years and years. Some students, however, say do not know which Greek organizations are which and what they are about.

We have all heard the saying “one must weed out the old weeds to make room for the blossomed spring.” Can this saying apply to Greek life on Benedict’s campus? Is the representation of Greek life on this campus really what Greek life is all about or on a black campus, is it a parody of geek life?

In order for any organization to be successful on a college campus, participation and membership is a must. Taking a look at whether the campus Greek organizations are active or inactive, this reporter found that some were and some were not.

Benedict’s Assistant Director of Student Activities and Greek Life Marion Wright said a fraternity or sorority may not be active because of national organization misrepresentation, lack of interest and participation by the organization on campus, hazing, illegal intake procedures, or poor advisories.

These are just a few reasons why a fraternity or sorority may not be active, he said.

On Benedict’s campus four sororities are represented. These include Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta, Inc., and Delta Sigma Theta Inc.

As to which of these organizations are active and which are inactive, I found that all of the campus sororities were active in some way; some are more active than others.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., for example, has scored or taken part in several community service projects this school year.

“We are active. Our concern and commitment to the college and community is always a priority,” said Stephanie Prophet, a Zeta member.

“We recently took part in an exhibition held at USC. We participated in selling ‘Blue Passion’ Valentine grams on campus. We are promoting what we do best...love,” she said.

Correspondingly, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. member Chiunn Pickeyn said her sorority is definitely active. We are just not as active as we have been on the campus because we are preparing for some future activities and events,” she added.

Asked how active her sorority is and whether they were in good standing with the college, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. President Anita Foster said, “Yes, most definitely. We are actually serving Benedict College and our community by standing on the shoulders of our founders. This sorority is committed to public service. We are very busy on and off campus.”

She continued, “We have held several activities this year, including serving in the cafeteria, a blood drive, a health awareness forum, an International Day of Service to the community, a Palmetto Book Reading Club and various other service projects.”

At a recent ‘Meet and Greet’ with the Greeks held in the student center, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. member and past president Tierra Bryant was asked whether or not her organization was active or inactive.

She stated, “Activities are always being planned and are held adequately each month, on and off campus, in order to ensure the best representation. We recently conducted some mentoring at a local elementary school where we were one on one with the students. So yes, most definitely we are active.”

There are also four fraternities on campus which include Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., Omega Psi Phi, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma, Inc., and Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.

When asked the question pertaining to their standing with the college and whether or not they were active on campus, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Vice Polemarch Jermaine Simmons said, “Sure we are active. We recently worked with Counseling and Testing and the Freshmen class, by co-sponsoring a forum on ‘Maintaining Healthy Relationships’.”

He said, “For the most part we are getting to know the students here on campus. We are trying to actively work with the student body where it will benefit, as well as prepare for the future.”

Phi Alpha Phi Fraternity, Inc. member and past president Todd Wallace said, “Definitely we are active. We have conducted mentoring and tutoring sessions with several local schools.

“We have participated in voter registration drives, in ‘Project Alpha,’ an AIDS Awareness rally. We have had several other ways of service to the college and community,’”

Asked if his fraternity was active or inactive, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. President Troy Cato said, “Definitely we are active. Service to the campus is not always in a program or fund-raiser, but it sometimes involves helping or being behind the scenes. “We have not conducted anything on campus this semester, but we are making plans to actively assist the student body in the future,” he said.

Asked if Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was active or inactive, Advisor Dr. Leon Johnson said, “As of now we are inactive. However preparations for future campus and community participation and activities are being established.”

Many of the fraternities and sororities have been on this campus for years now, but has Greek life changed?

According to Wright, Greek life has changed because there are more limitations on fraternities and sororities now. “It is not like the ‘old school days’, whereas things were more intense. There are limitations simply because the undergraduate Greek organizations can be placed on a moratorium.”

“Fraternities and sororities are not allowed to initiate hazing. They are not allowed to do anything that would affect the academics of individuals, not their health,” he continued.

Some Greeks on campuses now are having a hard time accepting the concept of having a simple membership intake process,” he continued. “A simple process would be simply educating the individuals and not the process of humiliation.”

Some would say that Greek life now is not like the ‘fire and brimstone’ days of old when the brothers and sisters really had to ‘cross the burning sands’. They are still active but in different ways.

Whether you agree or disagree with how or whether Greek life has changed, Greek life will probably always remain a big part of college life, especially black college life.

Visit the special exhibit of faculty & staff books in the library

By Terrell Bryant
Staff Writer

If you are looking for some entertaining, educational and inspiring books, you need not look any further than the Benedict College library.

The library is home to more than a dozen books, pamphlets and other works by members of Benedict’s own faculty and staff. In fact, Benedict faculty and staff -- and occasionally a student or two -- have been writing and illustrating books, probably for as long as the institution has existed.

Even though all of the works of these faculty and staff authors are not nationally known, they are important contributions to the Benedict collection and to other schools, researchers and interested readers.

These faculty and staff authors have an array of mind stimulating books, created through their skills, knowledge, creativity, personal experiences, and wit. Students, in light of this fact, you may begin to look at your professor in a new light because several are published authors.

As part of their Black History Month exhibits, the Benedict library staff, primarily Acquisitions Librarian Barbara Sumner, along with Assistant Professor Dr. Linda Lane, came up with the idea to put up a special display entitled “Salute to Benedict’s Authors and Illustrators.” The exhibit highlights some very special works by Benedict’s own faculty and staff. SEE EXHIBIT, page 10

The display case of faculty and staff books in the library.

Photo by Terrell Bryant
If you hate getting up every morning for 8 a.m. classes, you’re not alone. Here are a few pointers from students for... 

Waking For Success 

By Ali Omar 
Editor

Beep! Beep! Uppy daisy, sleepy head! Time to get ready for class!

For most college students, if they’ve had a weekend of nonstop partying or high impact studying when Monday rolls around, getting up and going to an early class is one of the hardest things to do. It may be time to start the school week all over again, but what if your week begins with an advanced physics class at 8 a.m. in the morning?

Trying to cope with early morning classes is not a joyful task for most students.

To the contrary, however, freshman Christopher Pearson is one Benedict student who enjoys waking up early. Pearson dubbed himself a morning person because he is able wake up in time for his 8 a.m. world civilization class. “You need to be a morning person so you have the mind set to go to class,” Pearson said, adding that people who are not used to morning classes probably will always struggle to get those juices flowing.

Pearson is not the only one who loves mornings. Junior Kimberly Campbell is a morning person, too. During her three years at Benedict, Campbell has had an 8 a.m. class every semester, and surprisingly, she has been on time to each one. “I am an on time person,” she commented.

Campbell said she is able to keep this impressive record by going to bed every night by 11 p.m. She wakes up when her alarm sounds off at 6:15 a.m.

Strangely enough, April Brown, a senior and political science major, needs three different alarm times to rise to the occasion. “I set my cell phone alarm for 7, 7:15, and 7:30 in the morning,” Brown explained. Though she said she loves her 8 a.m. class, she is forced to be a morning person because she works, and she has to get her classes done early to go to her job.

Sophomore and biology major Roberta Graham is definitely not a fan of 8 a.m. classes. She knows there’s no way around them. Graham has sacrificed not going to class on some mornings due to fatigue. She offers this warning to students about early classes. “They will wear you down if you don’t get to bed on time.”

Dorm directors Margaret Greene and Torri Toland blame some students’ lack of responsibility for their sluggish attitude toward waking up early. “They stay up and out too late, and they are not prepared for the morning,” Greene commented.

Toland agreed, saying he thinks students stay up late playing games and partying.

However, Toland believes students should make their own decisions about their schedule while attending college. “People are different. That is the purpose for going to college,” he added.

Ironically, there is at least one student at Benedict who can only dream about what is being discussed.

Junior Xzavir Withfield said in his three years at Benedict he has miraculously never had an 8 a.m. class! “I am special or something,” Withfield teased.

Nevertheless, similar to Brown, Withfield has to use two alarm clocks to wake up for his 9 a.m. class. There is one clock on his desk and one on top of his closet, which Withfield said is there to give him trouble if he tries to get back in bed.

One could assume that college freshmen should have the least trouble getting up for an early morning class. Attendance homeroom at many high schools, is mandatory and it often starts around 7:30 in the morning.

Students interviewed for this article on average said they had to be up by 6:30 a.m. when they attended high school. Now, they are in college. What happened?

Freshman Laura Lattaker said she had to wake as early as 5 a.m. to catch the bus on time for high school. Now Lattaker can stay in bed until 7:30 a.m. to attend her 8 a.m. vocabulary development class.

When asked what motivates her to get to class on time, Lattaker responded by saying, “I pick a cute boy in class. It is not like I want to talk to him. I just want to look at him.”

Other students interviewed agreed that their primary motivation to attend their eight o’clock classes was graduation. “Just think of the cap and gown,” Lattaker said.

Whatever works...Just get up and go!

Housing: The Pros and Cons of On Campus and Off Campus Living

By Sherika Prince and Reginald Jeffcoat, Staff Writers

Students and Community Life Coordinators at the Haskell dormitory.

The end of the day just rolled around. You have just completed your final class of the day, Physical Science. You’re tired from being on your feet all day; you check your watch to see what time it is. As you glance upon your watch, you realize that it is already 8:30 p.m.

Though you are tired you realize that you have three choices: you can either go to the Benedict home game which starts at 9 p.m., go to your apartment and get dressed for a party later that evening, or go home and stretch out on your bed, which you realize you haven’t seen since 7:30 a.m. As you get closer to your pad a yawning escapes from your lips, followed by a long sigh, which further indicates where you will most likely be spending your evening.

As you climb three flights of stairs, you start to feel your plans for going to the game and the after hour party coming to an end. By the time you put your key into the door, you realize that you have finally escaped your busy day by returning to your mansion of solitude.

Have you ever had a similar experience? For many off-campus students, scenes like the one described above are common. You finally have your own place off-campus. Less hassle. Less bother. Or is it?

For some, off-campus housing can be fun. For others, they are glad they are on campus.

Living in a residence hall can provide students a wide variety of opportunities. It can contribute to their college experience and help them learn to get along with all types of people.

Many Benedict students appreciate campus housing because it allows them a periodic escape from the stress of an ordinary school day.

“On campus housing is a great way for students to take a little time out and slow things down, and even get their mind together, before the class, test, or whatever the case may be,” Bentley Court resident Jabouri Garret said.

Students will always like to see improvements in dormitory housing. Sherman Joseph, a senior and criminal justice major from Tampa, Fla., offered his opinion of dormitory living: “I don’t think it is the dorms that are the big issue. It’s the people who are put into these places. Once people arrive in the dorms, things are not that bad, they are not the best, but they are livable.”

Some students chose to live off campus for the convenience of not having to share washer and dryers with 300 people or for the privacy of a quiet room instead of a loud dormitory.

But English Meadow resident Thomas Holly says, “Students on campus just don’t know how well they have it.”

Off campus students may have more freedom, but they also have to contend with getting to the shuttle buses on time; or if they are in their own private apartment, having to meet that rent come rain or shine. If they happen to be sharing the rent and a roommate drops out, they may have to pay the rent all alone.

For some students who live at their real home, that can mean still living under mom’s or dad’s rules.

The farther you are away from campus, the greater the distance the transportation ride, which means paying gas bills or catching a ride.

Some students who live on campus have their complaints, too. Cleanliness issues or dorm rules, or not being allowed visitation are always up for debate. In fact, that is one of the biggest talks on the yard -- whether there will be visitation housing.

“At my school, we had visitation, but here this just makes me feel young. I’m old enough to sign Gap loan papers, but I’m not old enough to have a visitor,” complained student Jamacia Lang, a sophomore and biology major from Miami, Fla.

Though most students feel campus housing is an important part of college life, a few students say on campus as well as off campus housing need to be improved.

They have such concerns as visitation, having adequate washers and dryers, and the shuttle bus schedule.

A spokesperson for Community Life said proper steps are being taken to correct any unfortunate situations that students may encounter in campus or off campus housing. “With 11 housing sites accessible to students, changes will take a little time, the housing official said.

Meanwhile, we can battle all we want over which is best - on or off campus housing -- the point is where are we at this point in our lives? For some, we had to make the best of it.
Benedict Tiger News becomes an award winning paper

By Ali Omar
Editor

The Benedict Tiger Newspaper was honored this past Friday by the South Carolina Press Association for its outstanding work. The Tiger News won second place for Best Overall Newspaper in Division Two (schools between 2,000 to 5,000 students).

The SCPA is an organization for professional newspapers in South Carolina. Any and every collegiate and professional newspapers in the state are eligible to enter the annual contest. This year’s contest was the biggest in the organization’s history with over 3,400 entries for such categories as ‘best news story’, ‘best feature story’, ‘best column’, and ‘best sports story’, etc.

SCPA Director and longtime newspaper executive Bill Rogers said the purpose of the contest is to promote good journalism. Asked to give comments about her staff’s recent accolade, the excited Shabazz had this to offer, “This award speaks to the quality and professionalism of the staff. This is what I have been trying to teach the students. Do your best to maintain the journalistic integrity of service, responsibility, fairness, and balance.”

One can assume that Shabazz and her staff will try to keep up their newly earned status and improve on their weaknesses. Shabazz said, “I will continue to challenge and push the students even harder, to excel even more in the future.” USC and Clemson better look out.

As editor of the Tiger and on behalf of the Benedict family, I offer my congratulations to the staff and say keep up the great work.

In recent years and even now, larger schools like USC and Clemson have dominated the contest. “It’s an extra honor when a smaller college wins,” Rogers said in a recent interview.

After a three year hiatus from the Tiger being a member of the SCPA, Tiger News advisor and Benedict faculty member Gladys Shabazz decided to renew the paper’s membership in the SCPA for the 2002-2003 school year.

Shabazz said she was a little discouraged that many of the smaller schools like Benedict never seemed to be recognized for their work. She was elated that the Benedict Tiger held its own in this year’s contest and took the second place spot for best newspaper in its division.

Win A Trip To MTV Spring Break 2003!

The Benedict Tiger Newspaper also won an extra honor for Best Overall Newspaper in Division Two for Best Overall Newspaper in Division Two (schools between 2,000 to 5,000 students).

Artist Of the Issue:
“Benzino”

BENZINO
By Sterling McGlown
Contributing Writer

Benzino, a former member of Boston’s Almighty RSO, dropped his second solo album called “Redemption,” released by Elektra Records, last month. The album features one of the hottest club anthems “Rock the Party,” which is blowing up the airwaves across the globe and getting heavy rotation in the clubs, along with the “Rock the Party” remix.

The album has collaborations with Mario Winans, Lil’ Kim, Peete Pablo, Wyclef, Scarface, Daz Dillinger, Jewel, Cadillac Tah and Black Child from Murder Inc.

Some other bangin’ cuts off the album are “Call My Name,” featuring Jadakiss, “Would You,” featuring Lisa Raye and Mario Winans, “Make You Wanna Holla,” and “Pull Your Skirt Up.”

Most of the production was done by Mario Winans, Hang and Men 3. A few other well-known underground producers like L.E.S and Tone Capone also assisted with the project.

Releasing the song “Rock the Party” was a wise decision for Benzino to promote himself once again.

Redemption is worth buying because of the originality and flavor. It has a lot of diversity and representation for the ladies and the thugs.

The majority of the tracks are rockin’ from the beginning of the album to the end. Several unknown artists appear on this CD with potential rhyming over tight beats and hooks.

Send us your comments, questions, story ideas, critiques on the latest albums, books, songs, or movies to:
bcnewspaper@hotmail.com
COMMUNITY

Service Learning collaborates ‘Community Empowerment Day’

To celebrate Black History Month, Benedict College, in conjunction with C.A. Johnson Preparatory Association and the Read Street Association, recently held a “Community Empowerment Day” to embrace the spirit of unity by sharing with the community nearest to the college.

Children from local elementary, middle and high schools attended several workshops and participated in various activities such as black history trivia, computer literacy, basketball, and face painting.

Some of the participants in the program were children from local schools. Members from the C.A. Johnson band, choir, dance troupe and the Trinity Baptist Church Mimes performed. The event also included workshops and presentations on financial investments, reparations and health issues.

President Swinton was the key note speaker for the program. Other notables were also present including church and civic leaders.

Service Learning Director Gwenda Whaley said, “I feel that this program was a success because it is endeavoring to see the commitment to African American empowerment between Benedict College, and the Oak/Read Street community.”

Crime Statistics From A Judiciary Committee Summary Report

Note that the bar graph above only represents an inexact rendering of a portion of the crime statistics provided by the Office of Student Affairs.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>1999 Fall</th>
<th>2000 Fall</th>
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<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theft Petty Larceny</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Simple Possession of Marijuana</td>
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</tr>
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<td>12</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

They hope that students realize that “they’re the reason for change” as one official put it. They must remember that “if you commit an offense on the Benedict College campus, depending on the severity of the offense, you will be held accountable.”

Whaley said persons working with the judicial system will be fair and balanced and do everything they can to help those students who need it, whether it be through mediation or counseling, or another way of the offense is more severe. At the same time, he said, they will work to make sure the safety and security of all students is not compromised or put into jeopardy.

The Student Affairs office has implemented several ways to handle situations as they occur, depending on the extent of the offense. One of these is a method called ‘progressive punishment,’ in which a student can be placed on probation, assigned educational activities, and suspended from housing or the college.

“Our system is designed to educate students. This is not a punitive environment. We have to protect the integrity of the institution,” Davis said.

This is one reason why the college has a judiciary committee, primarily comprised of five students, four faculty members and four staff members. Davis coordinates the college judiciary system.

Whaley said Student Affairs and Campus Safety and other campus departments will continue to work hand in hand with students to ensure their safety on a daily basis.

As Benedict continues to grow— it is the fastest growing historically black institution in the nation—it is becoming increasingly apparent that the Office of Student Affairs is working to assure that this growth takes place within a safe and sound environment.

Spring semesters. They have made comparisons between the crime situation here and the level of crime at other colleges of the same size and location.

Besides Whaley, the research team includes Associate Vice President of Student Affairs James Davis, who reviews operational aspects of the mediation and judiciary process; Public Safety Chief Heyward Bazemore, who researches the specific campus area crimes committed; and Dr. Michael Boatwright, a research analyst for Benedict, who takes a broad look at crime rates at other colleges and universities across the nation over the past three years and compares them to Benedict’s crime level. He specifically looks at similar size institutions as Benedict.

“The research is necessary first and foremost so that positive changes can be made,” said Whaley. He said that one of the research team will reveal whether or not the college’s new security system is working to its fullest potential.

The security system includes high-tech equipment that is broken down into two parts: surveillance and card swipes.

The surveillance system consists of cameras strategically placed around campus outside all dormitories and at the off campus apartment complexes. The surveillance camera takes photographs of persons exiting emergency doors and sends the images over to the campus safety office. If needed the photograph could be used later for evidence if a forced entry has occurred, for example. Students should be aware that these photographs will be used in judiciary proceedings because they are considered evidence.

A subcomponent of the surveillance system is the use of compression locks, which are on all of the doors in each dormitory. The compression locks prevent students from entering emergency exit doors and also delays a student from exiting the emergency doors. The compression locks also have a silent alarm feature which enables campus safety to respond to the alarm promptly.

The card swipe system will allow students to enter dormitories 24 hours a day. Students must have their Benedict identification card to enter a dormitory. Each card contains their personal information. Computers will be placed in each dormitory for card swipe purposes. When the student swipes his or her card the computer will be able to recognize the student by the photograph and his or her personal information. The computer will then allow the student to enter the dormitory.

The card swipe will also serve as a tracking system. Computers will keep an account of how many times the student has entered the building within a 24-hour time span.

Whaley said he is very proud of the new security system. He said he wants to assure all students that the security system will work. “All of the security measures we are taking are designed to make students feel safe and secure,” he added.

Whaley went on to say that having the alarm system and Community Life Coordinators in place have really helped Campus Safety as they monitor the dorms and work toward ensuring a safe environment.

Many students wondered when they were going to see the system in effect. The surveillance system is currently up and running in every dormitory and off campus apartment complex. Due to some needed maintenance, the card swipe process has been delayed, however, until some main-
Advice to first time freshmen

It’s New Year and a new start for a lot of people, so dedicate this column to the freshman. I know for some of you this is a new type of environment; for others, things never change, no matter where you are. Just keep it real.

I applaud each and every one of you for taking footsteps into your lives. Just don’t get discouraged.

Depression is a big issue facing young black males and females. It can come from numerous things such as being away from home, a lack of or mishandling of money, having to leave a child behind, relationships, grades, and way of life (sometime).

Just know that there are certain treatments for depression, yet I realize through experience that talking about a situation is one of the best keys to finding a solution.

So let me give you this advice and hope that it will give you a peace of mind and love.

If you need to talk, there are always someone willing to listen. Just look for the trustworthy qualifications in that person.

If not, you can always write or “Ask April” at MSC-209 Benedict College. You can also email me at: www.tanqurey@collegeclub.com, or be newspaper@hotmail.com. You can also drop off a letter to "Dear April" c/o the Tiger News, located in the basement of Stuart Hall.

Until next time PEACE OUT!!

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Dear April

By April Amos, Staff Writer

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Graduation time is almost here. Seniors, are you ready?

By Jaquilla Robertson

Business Editor

Wake up seniors! Believe it or not, it is almost graduation time. Yes, seniors, it is time for you to get out there in the real world and find a job in what you’ve been working so hard on for the last four years. You better start looking now because the economy is not the best.

Seniors, if you need help getting a job, the Career Planning and Placement Office at Benedict can be a valuable resource to assist you in the process. Karen Rutherford, director of Career Services, can help you in this process.

"Here at the Career Services Office we are here to help students get internships to help them with their career," Rutherford said. "We have also taken students to different grad schools to help them decide where they would like to go.”

The Career Planning and Placement Office also has senior resume packets available with information on how to write an effective resume. The packets include a resume format, a sample of a professional resume, a cover letter format, a sample cover letter, a thank you letter format, a sample of thank you letter, and other important information for seniors.

Seniors, remember this: a college graduate should not just look for a job—be or she should plan a career. If you have already chosen your career field, good for you.

Seniors, here is more information you may need to know when you visit the Campus Career Center. During your meeting with a counselor, you will want to find out what career related services and resources are available to you. You will want to know if there will be any upcoming career or job fairs offered through the center.

Actually, there are several career and job fairs coming up: the Annual Career Day on Feb. 21 in the Swinton Center; Child and Family Day on April 23; and Job Festival on Feb. 26 at the Carolina Coliseum from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Seniors, I know some of you are dreading getting out there and trying to find a job, but some of you, like Tracy Allen, a senior and criminal justice major, are probably very excited.

“I do not have a job yet,” Allen said, “but I would love to work at a police station.”

Seniors, you should also set a goal around what you love to do. Remember that you have just spent years studying what you love the most.

When you walk across that stage and they hand you that diploma, say to yourself, “thank you, God. I will not let this degree go to waste.”

Plan your graduation and career date...

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Faculty staff books, from pg. 6

Here are some interesting tidbits about the books and their authors:

Dr. Malqueen Richardson, chair of the English, Foreign Languages and Mass Communication Department, compiled a book of poems called Creations: Haiku Poems and Other Creative Writings, which was published in 1998. The series of poems were written by various students from Benedict as part of a dual English, Foreign Languages and Mass Communication Department/Service Learning project.

The Story of Rudy Ray Moore - The World’s Greatest X-Rated Comedian, one of five books written by Julian Shanaz, instructor in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department, is also on display. His other books are: United States vs. Hip Hop, Genius of Huey P. Newton (a reprint), Black Stars of Professional Wrestling and How to Be a Player.

The book, Educating Black Males-Critical Lessons in Schooling, Community and Power, written by Dr. Ronnie Finch, dean for the School of Honors, reveals strategies and programs designed to give parents, teachers, and educators effective ways to combat social and cultural ills affecting black males in today’s world. Dr. Hopkins is currently working on another book which will offer ways in which teachers can apply hip hop to the classroom.

Loren L. Qualls, an instructor in the English, Foreign Languages and Mass Communication Department, has penned the book Numbers in Ink, which exposes government experimentation on African American children. Qualls is also working on another book dealing with a mute convict who has to make a choice between his female companion or whether to follow God. It will be called Immmulation.

Art Gallery Director Tyrone Geter, an associate professor in the Fine Arts Department, is the illustrator of the book White Socks Only, which is the story about a young African American girl during the era of desegregation. The girl sees a sign which says ‘white socks only’; so she takes off her shoes, at a white only water fountain. This creates an interesting situation between the blacks and whites in the community in which she lives.

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. George A. Devlin’s book called Black Migration and South Carolina: Bound for the Promised Land examines the reasons and consequences of migration on this state and the nation. It postulates that political, social, and economic forces converged to produce a mass exodus that transformed South Carolina’s African American population from a majority to a minority status. “Further, the book concludes that extensive black migration from the South to the North was one of the factors that made the modern Civil Rights Movement successful,” Devlin explained.

Dr. Harry Singleton III, an assistant professor in the Social Sciences and Criminal Justice Department, has written the book called Black Theology and Ideology. The book exposes the views of those white Christians who try to justify the enslavement of African Americans before the Eman- cipation Proclamation. Singleton has also written two more books which he hopes will come out soon.

Dr. Linda R. Lane, an assistant professor in the Social Sciences and Criminal Justice Department, has published several works, including one composed on a CD. Her book on display this month includes: Booker T. Washington Circle of Support, A Documentary of Mrs. Booker T. Washington, and The ABC’s of African American Women.

Dr. Marianna Davis, who is Special Assistant to the President for Special Projects and editor to the Division of Community Development, has an array of published titles including The Enduring Dream – History of Benedict College 1870-1995. A wonderful book displaying the truth, the good and the bad times of the college, which at times has been faced with scandal, financial, and accreditation issues. Dr. Davis spent years of research to create a marvel of a history book for the college.

Dr. Nicholas Cooper Lewter, professor in the Social Work Department, has two books on display: The Heart of American Black Culture - Soul Theology, identifies the American Black culture in relationship to God, self and others. Black Grief and Soul Therapy deals with “unarticulated distress” in the African American experience and offers an answer to them.

Dr. Jacqueline Brice-Finch, who is Associate Dean for the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, has also authored a book entitled Get It Together: Issues in African American Culture, She edited the editor of MacMore (which means sister-friend or confident), a journal of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars. The journal is geared towards scholarly studies and works by and about Caribbean women.

There are other books, including textbooks, that have been written and/or edited by Benedict faculty and staff.

Benedict is fortunate that the library staff and Dr. Lane have taken the time to put these books on display for Black History Month. They are well worth your time. So, check them out year round.

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KEY DATES FOR SENIORS TO REMEMBER

February 28 – March 3 Pick up regalia for Founder’s Day Convention from campus bookstore.

March 3 Founder’s Day rehearsal in HRC arena.

March 4 Founder’s Day Convocation, Senior assembly, on the Athletic Field (All Seniors must attend).

May 3 Senior rehearsal– 10:30 am - Antisdel Chapel Senior Class Picnic 12 pm - President’s house
**SPORTS**

**John Hendrick**

**Benedict’s new coach promises a new era for Tiger football**

By Calleb Obumba

Staff Writer

I felt it in my spirit, when I arrived on this campus that this was the place for me.” Those were the words from the optimistic John Hendrick, Benedict’s new football coach.

Hendrick, the former assistant and defensive line coach from Mississippi State University, built his reputation by developing one of the top-ranked defensive lines in the nation over several years.

“I love it here at Benedict,” commented Hendrick. “The faculty, student body and community are very excited and hungry to see this football team become successful. I will push myself hard to make the community proud.”

I will also input some discipline and a hard work ethic to lift this program beyond imagination,” an excited Hendrick said. One factor in becoming elite football players emphasize increasing their strength and endurance activities on their training that allows them to increase their fitness levels.

My personal goals are to get a correct mind set of the young guys and help them to focus and be leaders not just on the field, but in the classroom and around the community as well,” he commented.

Hendrick said he will bring a different type of leadership and organization to the Tiger football program. Hendrick will take command of a team that was 2-9 in their last campaign; six of those games were lost by a margin of eight points or less.

However, Hendrick has a plan to change the dreadful defeats into victories. “At the end of each game we must work harder than our opponents and stick together. Also, we have to stay positive and have confidence in ourselves,” Hendrick said.

He said he believes that his players cannot go into a game uncertain or unsure that they can win. He thinks that if the players can increase their football IQ, then they will have better awareness on the field.

Currently the Tigers are preparing for next season, which will consist of a very competitive schedule. Hendrick plans for the football team to work hard during the off season to better their results for next season. Hendrick has seven goals to remedy past blunders: Come together as one; be consistent and discipline; be more physical and out work the opponents, run the football; stop the run; win the kicking game; and play hard for 60 minutes.

“This will be a team and we will do everything as a team, Hendrick noted. Next season, it seems the Tiger fans can expect the unexpected from the Benedict Tiger football team.

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**How Our Athletes Prepare**

**By Esteban Lugo**

Sports Editor

Warming up, stretching, running, exercising. All of these are part of the daily routine of student athletes which make their life anything but easy. Depending on the sport they engage in, athletes who want to be good at their sport always have a complete set of exercise routines that involve every aspect of their life – their fitness, nutrition, time, even their sleeping time.

Not all athletes in every sport focus on the same type of preparation and have the same amount of training. While football players emphasize increasing their strength and have different areas of training depending on their position, soccer players, for example, have standard procedures for most of their physical training, with the exception of the goalkeepers.

The ultimate goal of training, besides tactical and technical consistency, is physical fitness. Physical fitness is the ability to function with vigor and alertness, without undue fatigue, with ample energy to engage into sports activities and perform them without getting stressed.

Muscular strength and endurance, cardiorespiratory integrity, and general alertness are the overt signs of physical fitness. Without reaching such a stage, basketball players would not be able to run, jump and dunk; the quarterback of the football team could not send a pass for his runner to receive; the soccer players could not score goals.

To increase fitness, athletes have to engage in different types of activities. Some sports such as soccer and track and field competitions provide permanent physical activity to the body, and therefore are fitness-enhancing agents by themselves. But other sports with longer periods of rest in between such as football or baseball require their athletes to have complementary activities on their training that allows them to increase their fitness levels.

Some generally recommended activities to increase fitness are jogging, running, swimming, vigorous dancing, cycling and brisk walking.

At Benedict, most of the team coaches require their players to engage in a decent amount of running. The men’s basketball team members, for example, run approximately three miles every morning starting at 5 a.m. Unlike the basketball team, the soccer players prefer night time running prior to their practice sessions.

In volleyball, the girls must practice their jumping, receiving and power spiking for a considerable amount of time. They practice on average about two hours a day. Obviously, the three defenders on the first line emphasize their jumping while the back line practices the power shots. But the whole team must be proficient in both areas because the positions are permanently rotating.

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**Soccer involves several levels of training. One is physical; another is tactics training, which focuses on how the players are going to position themselves in the field and how they will attempt to penetrate the rival’s defense, while preventing their defense from being penetrated.

The technical or skills training emphasizes the individual ability of the players and their ability to carry, pass, dribble, kick and head the ball to allow it to reach its final destination: the opposite goal. As it exists in football, specific training for each position in soccer involves goalkeeper training, defense training, and reduced-space training, among others.

Basketball teams have to intensively practice their jumping, dribbling and passing. They design several coordinated plays so the team can use them at their games. The tallest player in the court is usually the center and he or she must always be keen on getting rebounds in both defense and offense. Good jumping and quick reaction are essential abilities for that task.

The forwards should be fast and have good dribbling to penetrate the defense; the guards should be fast to assist them; they must be strong to block their opponents’ offense. As we can see, there are a lot of factors involved in an athlete’s preparation. So the next time a student athlete tells you that he or she is too tired to do this or that, believe them.”
BC’s Asmond and Hayes named to SIAC’s top Performers of the Week list

QuickTime™ and a Photo - JPEG decompressor are needed to see this picture.

By Esteban Lugo
Sports Editor

Point guards Pete Asmond Jr. and Tina Hayes shone for the Benedict Tigers men’s and women’s basketball teams respectively and earned a spot on the list of top performers of the week recently released on the SIAC website.

The top honors, however, corresponded to David Boyd of Tuskegee University on the men and Kecheille Edwards of Kentucky State University and Martina McCloud of Tuskegee University.

For Asmond, this nomination represents the confirmation of a positive turn of events that this team has had since the arrival of Coach Freddrell Watson.

He has averaged 10.3 points, 3 rebounds, 1.5 assists and .3 steals, thus contributing to the Tigers’ victories at Allen University (a non-conference game) which ended 80-72 and with Clark Atlanta which ended 73-59.

Nevertheless they remain second in the conference with a record of 9-9 (6-6 on conference games) and are poised for the conference finals.

Speaking of a turn of events, the Lady Tigers have had a rather disappointing season, with a fifth ranking in the conference standings and a record of 12-7 (5-5 on conference)

Tina Hayes, the star point guard of the season had only averaged 13.6 points as of mid February, but she has had an outstanding contribution of 6.3 rebounds per game, 2 assists and 5 steals.

Apparently there was an effective scoring partner on the offense so that the Lady Tigers can materialize their contributions into better results.

She and her teammates remain confident on going back to the form that led them to be EIAC Conference Champions last season and repeating the title now in a new conference.

Both teams will be traveling to Birmingham, Ala. in March for the Conference Tournament.

Meanwhile, the Lady Tigerettes basketball teams will be looking for a better outcome down the stretch as they approach the upcoming Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) tournament, which takes place Feb. 26 through March 1.

The Tigers were 2-2 after wins against Clark-Atlanta (73-59) and Allen University (80-72). Both wins were capped by outstanding performances from Taiwan Byrd, who scored 30 points against Allen University and Quentin McComb, who made 26 points against Clark-Atlanta.

However, they struggled against Lemoyme-Owen College and conference powerhouse Morehouse College. In the beginning of the Lemoyme-Owen game, the team seemed as if they were in the driver’s seat by vastly outscoring Lemoyme in the first half.

Apparently there was a momentum change because the Tigers went on a shooting slump in the second half. The Tigers lost 77-64.

The Maroon Tigers of Morehouse opened their week with a 2-0 record with back-to-back victories over Lemoyme-Owen College (59-46) and a blowout against Allen University 66-38.

The Tigerettes continued their success throughout the next contest against the S.I.A.C.’s top ranked Clark-Atlanta Panthers. The Tigerettes maintained a 20 point lead against the Lady Panthers with about 15 minutes left to play. However, the depth and experience of the Panthers prove to be an important factor as the young Tigerettes suffered a heartbreaking 75-65 defeat.

The Tigerettes have seven games remaining and four of the seven are against very tough opponents. In a situation where every game counts, the Tigerettes hope to turn the intensity up a notch before tournament time

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SPORTS

Tiger Basketball
Men’s and women’s teams having roller coaster performances

By Calleb Obumba
Sports Writer

The Benedict Tigers and Tigerettes basketball teams will be looking for a better outcome down the stretch as they approach the upcoming Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) tournament, which takes place Feb. 26 through March 1.

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