Frazier elected SGA President 2011-12

By ANGEL WILLIAMS
Tiger News

Bianca Frazier was elected SGA President for the 2011-12 term. Frazier, a junior Political Science major, said it’s an honor to be selected as Benedict’s SGA president.

“My goal for next year is to have more open communication between the SGA and the student body to get the students’ ideas, concerns and problems addressed,” she said. “I will do this by conducting surveys and forums before and after events to get the students’ opinions and new ways of improvement.”

Students had mixed reactions as the winners were announced in the David H. Swinton Campus Center.

While some students were happy with the results, tears of joy and anger were displayed by some candidates and other students. One student even stormed out of the room, mumbling words of objection.

And some students felt that the results were rigged in terms of the Miss Benedict election.

“I think everything was legit except for Miss Benedict, and I only say that because of the crowd’s reaction,” said Shequita Grey, a sophomore Criminal Justice major. “It was very chaotic. Many of the candidates didn’t give specific reasons on why they should be Miss Benedict.”

Some students, such as Grey, also feel as if the Miss Benedict election is a popularity contest, and “it could be in some cases,” said Marion Wright, assistant director of student activities.

But the path to being named Miss Benedict College is actually a four-step process that each candidate must go through. The winner is determined by how many points she receives based on the process.

Academics are the first step. Points are determined in this category based on the grades and GPA of the candidate.

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The College Bookstore will be moving to make room for a larger Dining Hall kitchen.

THE BOTTOM LINE
- The renovations will take place during the summer and is expected to be complete by the start of the fall semester.
- The College Bookstore will be moving to the corner of Haskell and Oak streets to make room for a larger Dining Hall kitchen.
- A new beauty and barber shop will be added on the second floor.
- A new food court will be added on the first floor.

Walker said a new food court will be located in the lower level and a new Beauty and Barber Shop will be constructed on the second floor.

College officials said the game room will be remodeled, as well.

“I think it’s something we need,” Walker said. “I think it will serve the student population well.”

To make room for the expansion, the College Bookstore will be moving to the corner of Haskell and Oak streets.

THE Tiger News is produced by the Production Print I Coordinator, Mass Communication Program.

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Tiger News
By TAMARVA BUTLER

College Bookstore to make way for larger Dining Hall kitchen

By TAMARVA BUTLER

Tiger News

When students return to Benedict College in August, they can expect to see a new and improved David H. Swinton Campus Center.

Workers will also add the kitchen, using the space where the College Bookstore is currently and modernize equipment. To make room for the expansion, the College Bookstore will be moving to the corner of Haskell and Oak streets.

Brenda Walker, Benedict’s vice president of business and finance, said the expanded cafeteria will seat 600 people. The Tiger Cafe of business and finance, said the expanded cafeteria will seat 600 people.

The David H. Swinton Campus Center will be renovated to make room for a larger dining hall, a new snack area and a beauty and barber shop.

To make room for the expansion, the College Bookstore will be moving to the corner of Haskell and Oak streets.

DAVID H. SWINTON CAMPUS CENTER

Swinton Center to be renovated during summer

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By TAMARVA BUTLER

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Students from Benedict College joined a national campaign April 5 aimed at drawing attention to children who grow up without shoes. As part of the campaign, which is called “One Day Without Shoes,” the students walked to Five Points wearing either socks or no shoes at all.

SNAPSHOT | “One Day Without Shoes”

Students from Benedict College joined a national campaign April 5 aimed at drawing attention to children who grow up without shoes. As part of the campaign, which is called “One Day Without Shoes,” the students walked to Five Points wearing either socks or no shoes at all. “As part of the campaign, children who grow up without shoes, which is called “One Day Without Shoes. As part of the campaign, children who grow up without shoes, which is called “One Day Without Shoes.”

ELECTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other students, such as Rosalinda Dixon, a sophomore Biology major, are satisfied with Jeter’s election.

“From what I have observed, Devlin is laid back, well-rounded and let’s not forget gorgeous,” Dixon said. “She participates in things that you wouldn’t expect your average Benedict candidate to participate in.”

Dixon said she was also happy that Frazier and Jenkins were elected to their positions, adding they will be a perfect pair.

“Women in power, you can’t go wrong with that,” Dixon said. “Women in power, you can’t go wrong with that.”

IMPORTANT DATES

May 7 — Last day for non-graduates in residence halls (you must leave by 6 p.m.)
May 8 — Last day for graduates in residence halls (you must leave by noon)
May 23 — Residence halls and Welcome Center open for Summer Session 1
May 24 — Summer Session 1 classes begin
May 30 — Memorial Day (College will be closed)

HBCU RUNDOWN | N.C. CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

NCCU’s new GPA policy seeks to curb expulsions

14 percent of N.C. Central’s student body are at risk for dismissal

By APRIL SIMON
Black College Wire

Students at North Carolina Central University may feel the effects of the new grade point average policy as early as this month. The new policy states that students may face dismissal from the University if they do not achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 1.9 before the 2011-2012 school year. Fourteen percent of the student body is at risk for dismissal.

In accordance with Chancellor Charlie Nelms’s proposal, this number is set to increase to 2.0 before fall 2012.

An announcement from the provost sent via e-mail last semester stated that poorly performing students must raise their grade point averages by the end of spring semester or be barred from re-enrolling in the fall.

“This policy replaces the old standard, which was based on a sliding scale equation depending on the number of credit hours attempted versus GPA earned. We’re doing away with the range and having across the board GPA requirements for all students,” said University Registrar Jerome Goodwin.

Academic advisors are gearing up to deal with the 519 students who may be facing expulsion this semester, as well as potentially an additional 288 by next year.

Students and advisors have been instructed to work together to create individualized strategies and plans to ensure that student grades comply with the new standard.

Deans and department chairs are expected to help advisors develop procedures for counseling students.

Some of the strategies that students may be instructed to employ may include increasing hours spent in study, meeting regularly with academic advisors, seeking outside tutoring, reducing work hours if employed and seeking help for family issues or child care that may be affecting their performance.

If students still face dismissal, there is recourse. Students may appeal a suspension.

The appeal would entail appearing before the administration with a concrete plan that would acknowledge the student’s short-comings and specifically outline ways the student will improve his or her performance.

With the dean’s permission the student may be allowed to continue at NCCU, under close supervision.

Students who do not provide adequate evidence that they will be able to improve their GPAs, and are facing expulsion, may be counseled to leave the university.

This may take a variety of shapes, but one option for students may be to transfer to a community college for a year or two. After reaching the required transfer GPA, then students would be allowed to reapply and potentially re-enroll.

“Goodwin stressed that the institutional policy will have a positive effect on NCCU.

“By increasing our academic standards, it’s a good thing for the student, for the institution,” Goodwin said. “It sends a very positive message to the community at large and to employers. When they (employers) see that we are very serious about increasing our standards, they are now more motivated to go after our students.”

“Enhancing student academic success entails more than raising expectations and making structural changes,” Nelms stated in his 2008 Inaugural Address. “We must improve the quality of student life. NCCU students deserve a more comprehensive array of cultural, intellectual, social and leadership opportunities.”

Many students don’t see raising GPA requirements as an insurmountable feat.

“It might be hard if someone had something major come up,” says Rosalinda Ramirez, a Spanish education junior. “But it shouldn’t be that difficult if they just do their work.”

The university maintains that raising standards for students will push them to attain their goals — not just now, but throughout their lives.

“We don’t want to get rid of anybody — this is good, tough love,” said Goodwin, smiling broadly as he swept his arms as though embracing the campus. “I know our students can do better.”

TIGER NEWS FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011 3
For many students at Benedict College, TigerFest was the time to relax and enjoy the various events around campus, from Greek Paraphernalia Day to the Football Spring Game.

Some students, such as sophomore Music major Travis Lawton, enjoyed the events. “This experience brings the Benedict College family together in a positive manner,” he said.

But others, such as senior Mass Communication major Kristen Wingate, felt differently. “For some reason, TigerFest didn’t seem that well organized. It seemed rather rushed,” Wingate said. “I feel like TigerFest was better in previous years.”

Marion Wright, assistant director of student activities at Benedict, said TigerFest is a culmination of year-end activities for students. “I’d like for them to participate more in activities, which will bring students together and more morale on campus,” Wright said.

He said attendance was higher for the social TigerFest events, but added he would’ve liked “for more students to come out to the educational events.”

“BC Underground and the BET Awards are the most well-attended events,” Wright said.

-Angel Williams, Tiger News
ABOVE: Members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. pose during Greek Paraphernalia Day. VERONICA BROWN/TIGER NEWS

LEFT: Senior Pharod Brown talks to the crowd during the Wild-Out Wednesday event. VERONICA BROWN/TIGER NEWS

BELOW: Benedict College football players stand on the sideline during the Spring Football Game. VERONICA BROWN/TIGER NEWS

FAR BELOW: The Tigers set up for a play during the Spring Football Game. VERONICA BROWN/TIGER NEWS

“This experience brings the Benedict College family together in a positive manner.”

- Travis Lawton
Sophomore Music major
By SAMANTHA NORMAN and REGINALD PRYOR
Tiger News

The Benedict College football team hosted an annual Pro Day event that gives upperclassmen the opportunity to be reviewed by NFL scouts. During this event, the senior prospects are evaluated and take a series of physical tests, while junior prospects take a pre-draft written assessment called the Wonderlic Test. This 12-minute, 50-question test is used to assess players’ problem solving skills in a range of positions and situations.

Pro Day is a special opportunity given to Benedict College players because this event isn’t something that’s offered at all colleges. With strong networks and associations in the NFL, prospects such as Dunlap prepare for this event much as possible. “I prepared in Atlanta where I was able to go to a training center,” said Dunlap, adding that he was able to work out with former Dallas Cowboys player Quincy Carter and other NFL athletes.

All of the prospects for Pro Day did well, but a few players stood out with great performances. In the 40-yard drill, senior Ricardo Wallen finished in 4.3 seconds, Dunlap finished in 4.4 seconds and Marquis Gibson finished in 4.5 seconds. Seniors performed well in other Pro Day drills, including Patrick Riley, with a broad jump of 10 feet, 2 inches; Marquet Gibson, with a vertical jump of 36 inches; and Kenyon Little, with a vertical jump of 35 inches.

**STANDINGS**

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**TIGER NEWS**

By SAMANTHA NORMAN
Tiger News

Senior third baseman/catcher Brandon Gipson is not only a great athlete, but he has also performed well in the classroom. He’ll graduate Saturday with a 3.4 grade point average. Gipson excels on, off baseball field

By SAMANTHA NORMAN
Tiger News

What a season for Brandon Gipson. The third baseman/catcher earned the SIAC Conference Player of the Week award five times, with two home runs, a triple and three doubles in the last five games. Gipson also has an impressive on-base percentage of .628, with nine stolen bases on 10 attempts.

Defensively, Gipson is ending the season with a .966 fielding percentage. He also earned NCAA Division II South Region Player of the Week honors and was named Black College Baseball Player of the Week earlier this season.

“I feel lucky and it is an honor to be recognized for my achievements,” Gipson said. “I feel like my hard work is paying off.”

“Tigers destroy Golden Rams in doubleheader

By SAMANTHA NORMAN
Tiger News

Not even a strong thunderstorm could stop Benedict from punishing Albany State, topping them with an 11-4 victory April 17 at Capitol City Stadium. The Tigers had a good start with a 3-0 lead over the Golden Rams. With the score 4-4 in the sixth inning, junior pitcher Lamar Lewis came in the game with bases loaded and gave up no runs to the opposing team.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, senior utility player Jason Read hit a go-ahead single that kept the Tigers ahead of the Rams.

“Read gave us the drive we needed so that we didn’t have to look back,” Gipson said.

**TIGER NEWS**

By SAMANTHA NORMAN
Tiger News

Friday, May 6, 2011

Benedict College hosts Pro Day for seniors, juniors

Third baseman/catcher Brandon Gipson ends the regular season with an impressive array of awards and honors. LAMAR LEWIS/SPECIAL TO THE TIGER NEWS
Opinions

EDITORIAL

Freshman Institute a good idea for Benedict College

The first year of college can be thrilling for some freshmen and a bit frightening for others. Some of these students will be away from home for the first time in their lives. Others will also be the first in their family to attend college. But regardless of your background, it’s important for all freshmen to begin their college careers in good standing.

In order to fulfill this goal, Benedict College will begin a new program called the Freshman Institute. Slated to begin in the fall, the program will give freshmen academic support from faculty, staff, administration, students and alumni. According to a letter written by Freshman Institute Dean Dr. Ronine Hopkins in a special edition of the Tiger News, the goal of the Institute is “Transforming the First Year Experience to Create an Effective Learning Community.” He later said in his letter that the Institute seeks to improve the overall student performance, graduation and retention rates for students.

In a creative effort to motivate students to improve their academic performance throughout the year, the College’s school and departmental awards will compete against another in a “sports league” called the Benedict College Association of Academics. The schools will serve as conferences, while the departmental awards within these schools will serve as teams of 40 students each. The schools and departments will participate in weekly games and will compete through academic and non-academic behavioral effort games. Feedback will be given regularly in order for teams to improve their performance academically. Ultimately, the teams and departments will progress to a playoff system to compete for a championship.

According to a letter written by Benedict College’s Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Janene Witty, the Freshman Institute is “Transforming the First Year Experience to Create an Effective Learning Community.” She later said in her letter that the Institute is “Fostering the intellectual, spiritual, social, emotional and academic development of first-time freshmen.”

But Freshman Institute officials also want students to have fun as they learn. For without these important life lessons, it can succeed academically. If it is our responsibility to spend less time teaching our children the importance of family, dedication, diligence and education. It is the responsibility of every human being to contribute to the progress of those who will come after us, from the babies that are now crying for a diaper change and the children bringing home finger paintings from school to the ones sitting in detention.

We should take an intimate look within ourselves to measure our priorities, and as we do so, we should effectively design a plan for the future in which our children are instilled with enough knowledge and wisdom at younger ages. And in an attempt to secure the same kind of social foundation for following generations, we also need to ensure that our children have the ability to resist the temptation of good.

As soon as the children are mature enough to comprehend various concepts, it is our responsibility to spend less time singing “Mary Had A Little Lamb” to our children and begin teaching them more about the world as we know it to be. The world is not sugar sweet, so why bring our children up to believe that it is, to only have them brutally assaulted by reality when they have their first real-world experience. Teaching children about family, for instance, is a personal choice, rather than a moral obligation.

I not only believe that people will accept the moral responsibility of keeping the ball rolling from generation to generation (instead of dropping it as past generations have), but I would also think that most people would come to enjoy educating the babies that are now crying for a diaper change and the children bringing home finger paintings from school, to the ones sitting in detention. People would come to enjoy educating them, but because we take pride that we as individuals, as well as a global community, are contributing to the cause of saving the future of humanity – our children - from social and cultural peril.

And in an attempt to secure the same kind of social foundation for following generations, we also need to ensure that our children have the ability to resist the temptation of good.

Student Sound-off

What kinds of stories and columns would you like to see in the Tiger News next year?

E-mail us at BCTigerNews@gmail.com with your ideas.

The future of humanity

PREME MOBLEY

Guest Columnist

will be tough for them. Teaching our youth about all of these things that we as parents have, the basis of knowledge and support hasn’t been secured within the home, a child is less likely to see the need to pass on a legacy of cultural, social and educational wisdom to his or her children when they grow older, especially during the stage when children openly crave information. It will appear to these individuals that teaching children about family, for instance, is a personal choice, rather than a moral obligation.

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Mobley is a senior English major.
The Graduating Class of 2011 poses with Benedict College President and CEO Dr. David Swinton and the College’s First Lady, Patricia Swinton. PHOTO COURTESY OF FLOYD INGRAM and BENNIE BROWN/SPECIAL TO THE TIGER NEWS

We thought it would be appropriate to give the final word of our last issue of the semester to the graduating seniors on the Tiger News staff.

This semester, we’re proud to recognize our five graduating seniors. We congratulate and thank them for their hard work and service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2011

MARQUETTE BANKS | LAYOUT EDITOR

It seems like yesterday when I first came to Benedict College as a freshman, not knowing what to expect being 13 hours away from home and on my own. Until now, I’ve never realized how my experience at Benedict has prepared me to not only face my challenges in life, but overcome them.

And looking back, I also take pride in what I’ve accomplished here, such as chartering the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity Inc. chapter in 2010, receiving the Reserve Officer Training Corps Scholarship and being commissioned as a U.S. Army officer.

There’s too little space to say everything I want to say, but my experience at Benedict has been a success, even through there were things we didn’t like as students.

I leave my fellow students with this quote from motivational speaker Eric Thomas: "If you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe, then you will be successful."

VERONICA BROWN | PHOTO EDITOR

When I first came to Benedict College, I was amazed at how small the school was. I felt like I was back in high school, but the only thing that was different was the dorms.

I knew from my freshman year that attending college was going to have a major impact on my life. When I got here, I knew that it was going to take hard work and dedication to succeed. I was told, "Don’t wait until everything is just right. It will never be perfect. There will always be challenges, obstacles and less than perfect conditions. With each step you take, you will grow stronger, be more confident and achieve greater success."

Over all the challenges and hard work, I made it to my senior year. It was a fight and a struggle, but I made it.

MICHEAL LOCKE-BERRY | ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

As I complete this long journey at Benedict College, it has been a remarkable learning experience for me. It was also different for me in many aspects, especially the fact that I attended a historically black college.

With every semester, changes came slow, as new computer software was purchased and new instructors in my field of study arrived. I will always remember the ups and downs of graduating from Benedict, but my biggest goal is passing the torch down to motivated and inspired students who will take this program’s future beyond anyone’s expectations.

SAMANTHA NORMAN | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I never imagined that graduation day would sneak up on me like this. My freshman year seems like it was just yesterday.

When I arrived at Benedict College as a freshman, I had butterflies in my stomach because I was terrified of the unknown. As time passed by, though, I was able to overcome these butterflies, as well as the many trials and tribulations that I’ve faced along the way.

They say that in college, you meet your lifelong friends. But I truly believe that I have met a family of friends, faculty and staff that will be with me for a lifetime. While at Benedict, I was a member of two organizations that will forever be a part of me: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and Phi Beta Lambda.

It was an honor to serve as editor-in-chief of the Tiger News and I wish the paper great success in the future. I have a dream that one year, the newspaper will be consistent with having an issue regularly for the student body.

There were a number of professors that made my experience memorable, and I thank them. I would mention names, but the list would never end.

It may be time for me to leave Benedict, but I will always return and help those behind me in any way possible.

Thank you, Benedict College, for allowing me to ignite my fire, because this was the beginning of my explosion into the world.

ANGEL WILLIAMS | NEWS EDITOR

As my journey here at Benedict College winds down, I can honestly say that I’m not the same person I was when I entered as a freshman back in 2007. Since then, I have grown mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

Over my four years here, I’ve been through my share of ups and downs. I have faced many challenges head-on, even though I didn’t believe in myself at first. But I’m a stronger person because of the things I’ve gone through.

As I leave Benedict, I will always remember these three principals: service, education and program.

It’s almost time to close this chapter in my life and start a new one. With that being said, I offer this piece of advice to students: There is never an untouchable moment. So, whatever you go through, it’s for a reason. Make sure you learn from it and apply it.

Also, remember that when it comes to the things we want in life, we don’t always get it when and how we want it. God has a plan for us all. Patience is a virtue.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2011