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### News Clipping - Clock tower construction

Jeff Melton

*The Shelby Star*

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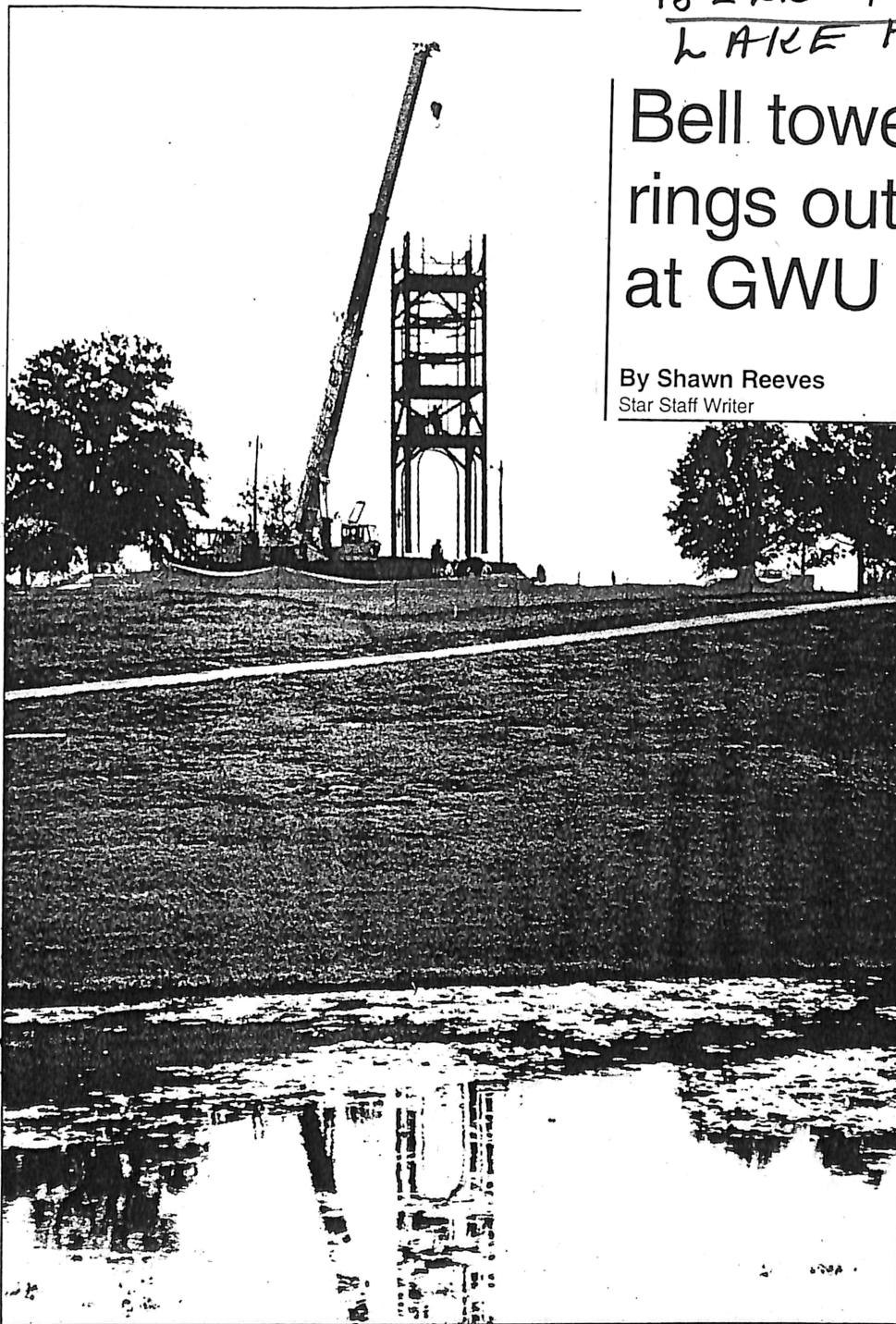
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## Clock tower construction

# BELL TOWER LAKE HOLLIFIELD

## Bell tower rings out at GWU

By Shawn Reeves  
Star Staff Writer



Jeff Melton/The Shelby Star

Workers with Verdin Company lower into place one part of the new clock tower at Lake Hollifield on the Gardner-Webb University campus in Boiling Springs.

"Bells will be ringing," the seasonal song lyrics proclaim, but it has never been more true than right now on the campus of Gardner-Webb University.

School officials, representatives from the Verdin company responsible for the tower's construction and other friends of the GWU community were on hand Wednesday to hear and see the first ringing of the bells.

Wyndolyn Hollifield, whose generous gift to the school, with her late husband, Hughy, has made the tower and the surrounding lake complex possible, came from Winston-Salem to attend the celebration.

The new carillon is unique to the world, harboring many features which distinguish it from most other carillons overlooking both Europe and the United States.

The base of the tower is surrounded by glass, allowing observers on the outside to watch the keyboardist inside the climate controlled room.

The bells may be played from the tower itself, from a remote location or may even be programmed to play a certain piece at a particular time.

The bells, 48 in all, have three tones a piece, and this "touch sensitive" feature enables the player to strike the bells in a soft, medium or hard procession.

Frank DellaPenna, master carillonneur and special consultant to the Verdin Co., said the GWU carillon is the only one of its kind in the world.

"There are fewer than half a dozen in the world where one on the outside can watch another play (the bells) from the inside," DellaPenna said.

He said it's the most advanced carillon in the world and the nicest he has ever seen.

Although the bell tower is complete, weather has interrupted completion of the brick plaza to surround its base. Designed by Shelby architect, Fred Blackley, the plaza will house several distinct light posts as well as benches for resting.

THE SHELBY STAR Wednesday, October 9, 1996