

Spring 2009

Gardner-Webb, The Magazine 2009, Summer (Volume 43 No. 1)

Noel T. Manning II

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Gardner Webb

THE MAGAZINE

SPRING 2009 • VOLUME 43, NUMBER 1

INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE...



THE ANNUAL REPORT
HOW YOU GAVE
2007-2008

GWU PRESIDENT ADDRESSES
CAMPUS GROWTH
THE ECONOMY
BAPTIST LIFE

FAITH • SERVICE • LEADERSHIP
GWU FAMILY SERVES GOD AND HUMANITY

ABOUT THE COVER

The mace, originally a defensive weapon, has in modern times become a symbol of authority, dignity and privilege. English universities have used maces in academic processions for many centuries. Gardner-Webb University's mace was used for the first time at the installation of A. Frank Bonner as the University's 12th president and continues to be used in all academic processions.

This mace features rich aspects of Gardner-Webb's history and mission through architectural carvings, Christian symbols, the official seal and the declaration of the Gardner-Webb motto, "Pro Deo et Humanitate" (For God and Humanity).

The mace features a series of polished silver bands highlighting pivotal points in Gardner-Webb's history and a listing of the institution's principals and presidents. The mace is carved from dark mahogany wood and stands 42" tall.

The mace was designed and produced by Image Marketing Group of Shelby, NC.

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2008 - 2012

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Gardner-Webb

THE MAGAZINE

Gardner-Webb - The Magazine Credits Volume 43 Number 1

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Dr. A. Frank Bonner

Sr. Vice President for University Relations and Marketing

Ralph "Scoot" Dixon

The Gardner-Webb Magazine is the official magazine for alumni and friends of Gardner-Webb University. The Office of University and Media Relations and the Division of University Relations and Marketing publish this magazine.

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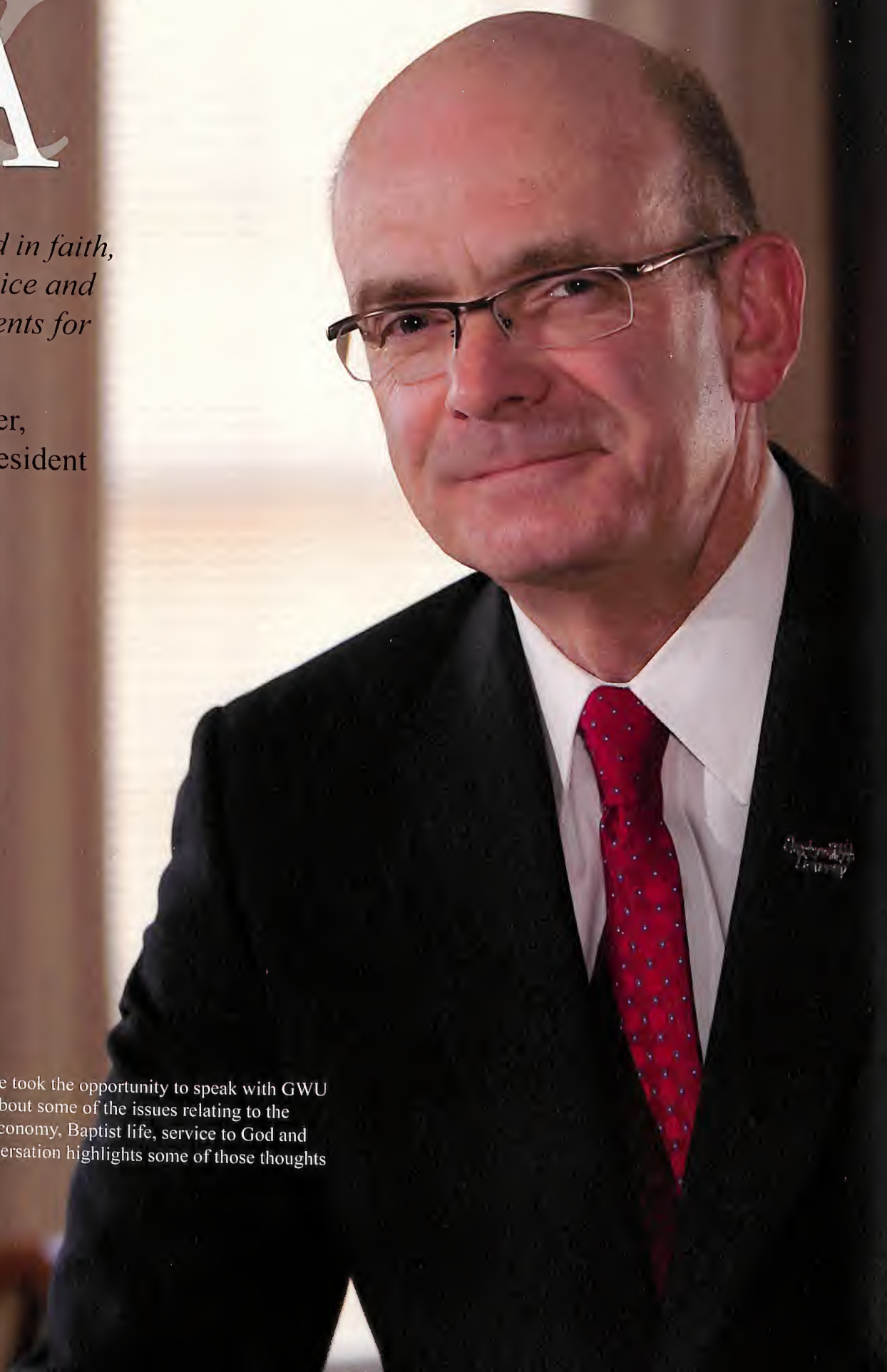


QA

*"We are grounded in faith,
committed to service and
to preparing students for
leadership."*

– Dr. Frank Bonner,
Gardner-Webb President

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine took the opportunity to speak with GWU President, Dr. Frank Bonner about some of the issues relating to the University ranging from the economy, Baptist life, service to God and humanity. The following conversation highlights some of those thoughts from the President.



Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “Dr. Bonner, there are many misconceptions about Gardner-Webb’s relationship with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. What is the current relationship and how has it changed?”

President Frank Bonner: “The substance of the relationship with the Convention has not changed. We remain affiliated with the Convention and are continuing our activities with them. In our new affiliation, our trustees will elect their successors, and we will phase out direct funding from the Convention. The issues of control and funding have changed, yes; but the most meaningful and important aspects of our relationship will remain, and I think actually be strengthened.

The new relationship with the Convention is very positive and is, I believe, a win-win for the Convention and the ‘affiliated educational institutions.’ We continue to stress that this is not a severance or ‘divorce.’ With issues of control and trustee election now out of the way and our relationship now based on a voluntary affiliation, that relationship will be better.

I think that an important thing to note is that the Convention is continuing to provide scholarship grants to North Carolina Baptist students.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “Some have asked, how does Gardner-Webb maintain a Baptist and Christian identity if the relationship with the Convention is different?”

President Frank Bonner: “The Christian nature of the institution was supported and enhanced by the relationship, but it never completely depended on it. Baptists founded this school, as a Christian institution before it was ever associated with the Convention. So it is not that the Convention brought about the Christian foundation; it was already there and has been ever since.



The Convention relationship again supports and enhances it, but that is not what it is based on. The aspects of our relationship with the Convention that relate to our Christian and Baptist foundation have not changed. The Christian faith, its principles and values, have been integral to the very nature and identity of Gardner-Webb from its beginning. They are imbedded within our very culture. Without its Christian foundation, Gardner-Webb would not be Gardner-Webb. The trustees and I are dedicated to Gardner-Webb’s Christian foundation and heritage. I am convinced that the trustees will ensure that their successors and future presidents are equally dedicated to that. And while it is not as integral and important as our Christian foundation, the same can be said about our Baptist heritage. I am committed to service to Baptists in North Carolina –and beyond – and so are our trustees.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “What are the greatest challenges facing Gardner-Webb currently?”

President Frank Bonner: “The immediate challenges facing Gardner-Webb (and many other universities) is to navigate successfully through the current economic environment. We are of course very concerned about the impact of the economy on our students and the University, but because of good enrollments and strong financial performance over recent years, we believe we are positioned to respond effectively while recognizing the challenges ahead.

We are choosing to take a positive approach, and in the long run we believe we will benefit by having examined strategic issues and by becoming more efficient and cost-effective.

Our long-term challenges include securing the resources to transform Gardner-Webb from ‘good to great.’ We also need to promote Gardner-Webb and communicate to our constituencies, prospective students, and the general public just how great this University is and is becoming.

The potential at Gardner-Webb is tremendous. I really think this school is on the threshold of a tremendous transformation and it will happen because supporters of the University will get actively involved in our University life and through financial patronage.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “In recent years, Gardner-Webb has seen steady growth in the student population. What do you see as the optimal growth for GWU?”

President Frank Bonner: “Enough students to operate the kind of programs that we want, but not so large that we lose that sense of community that we all know is very important to our University. I don’t know what the magic number is, but for undergraduate day students (residents and commuters) it is somewhere in the range of 1,800 to 2,000. I don’t think that we will put any kind of limit on the growth in GOAL and Graduate areas. Graduate programs and the GOAL program are different. Graduate students are not as involved in campus life and the campus community in the sense

that undergraduates are.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: As the University population grows, so does the need for adequate space. What are some of additional facilities you envision for the future?

President Frank Bonner “We are currently building a new residence hall (suite style with common living area) near the University Commons apartments. It will house 88 students and it is scheduled to be in operation when students begin classes next fall.

A big project for us in the future will be a student development center. I hope within the next 18 months that we can break ground on that. We are also working towards a new science building and fine arts center.

I am also confident that we will see a new baseball stadium in the near future and we will also need to enhance the softball facilities in addition to that. When that is complete, most of our athletic facilities will be up to par across the board.

Along the way we will also have to look at additional classroom space and offices. And down the road a bit we would like to have a Divinity School building. In the next decade to 15 years we could have all these things in place.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “Service to God and Humanity is the motto of Gardner-Webb University. Do you feel that ‘service’ is more than just a buzz word at Gardner-Webb and that it is still relevant for education today?”

President Frank Bonner: “Absolutely. If we are really ingrained in preparing, motivating and producing graduates with some form of service understanding, then commitment to service must go beyond surface knowledge.

I often say that Gardner-Webb is about more than education. Education, as important as it is, is not the end but a means to an end. That end is for Gardner-Webb to produce graduates who are not only highly competent in their life’s work but also committed to some form of service. That service can take many forms. These are graduates who in some way make the world a better place and

the lives of others better. Whether it be the mayor of a town, a PTA president or a corporate CEO - we want them to be dedicated to running their organization in a socially responsible way according to real principles and values as opposed to just profit for the shareholders.

Gardner-Webb’s focus is on faith, service and leadership; people who are grounded in Christian faith, committed to service, and prepared with the leadership skills that enable them to succeed in that service as well as every aspect of their lives. In short, these are people who live genuinely meaningful and fulfilled lives.

We have to do more than just award degrees and graduate students. If that is all we do we are no better than the many other educational institutions out there.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “How do you connect that service learning approach within the classroom?”

President Frank Bonner: “As an example, you look at academic programs that enable students to look at social needs in a society and the academic study helps them to understand what that need is. If students volunteer in a homeless shelter then a course could focus on what causes homelessness (economics, sociology or political science). So it is not just, ‘I’m going to go volunteer and feel good about helping homeless people’ - but rather, ‘I begin to understand why homelessness happens and my part in a solution.’

Maybe political science students can ask the question, ‘what is government doing about this problem?’ Maybe I’m a counseling student and looking at the human element on what causes someone to be homeless.

When we begin to look at service from those viewpoints, we have a deeper appreciation and understanding of what service to humanity actually is.

I’d like to see a heavy percentage of our students involved in service learning and for the right reasons.”

Gardner-Webb – The Magazine: “What do you consider the greatest strengths of Gardner-Webb University?”

President Frank Bonner: “First, the Christian foundation and the way it is woven into the very fabric of the University. Second, the people: in some way that I do not fully understand, Gardner-Webb attracts people (students, faculty, staff, and friends) who love this University and are deeply dedicated to it. Third: In the context of higher education, Gardner-Webb is in rare company – a University with a combination of qualities and elements that is uncommon in higher education: genuine Christian commitment; intellectual freedom; academic excellence; and comprehensive educational experience that is student-centered.”



THE SEEDS OF CHANGE

Dear Friends of Gardner-Webb University,

I would like to welcome you to Gardner-Webb -The Magazine. This publication is a celebration of you and your connection to the Gardner-Webb family. In recent months, we have been working on enhancing content and implementing design changes to this new magazine. Although, this publication is still a work in progress, we feel excited about its future and are confident that it will continue to reflect "you" in many more ways each issue.

In 1954, The Gardner-Webb Quarterly was introduced to alumni and friends of the College as the "Voice of Ye Ole Alma Mater." That variation of the publication lasted until 1965. In 1967, The Web was introduced as an 8-page newsletter and continued in various forms and formats (including tabloid size and newsprint) until 2005. At that time, the name was changed to The Webb. Today, in essence, we are going back to our roots by placing the name Gardner-Webb in the title of our magazine.



Noel T. Manning, II

While the design and name of the publication may have changed throughout the years, one thing has remained constant—connecting the school to its alumni and friends. You will still find university news, class notes, features on alumni, and profiles on faculty, staff and students, but you will also find unique opportunities in each issue to experience the stories of Gardner-Webb University.

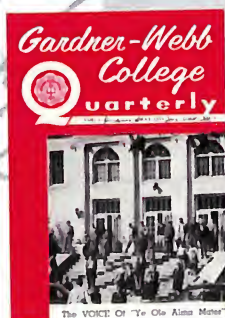
In the first issue of The Web in October 1967, the editor U.A. McManus shared these words, "It yet remains to be seen just how large our web will grow, but this much we know, once you're woven in, we never let you go. This is the spirit of Gardner-Webb." That thought remains true today, once you are a part of Gardner-Webb—you are forever linked to this University.

Please continue to let us know your thoughts, ideas and life updates so we may share those with others. You may submit your class notes online at supportgwu.com or email your story ideas and suggestions to ntmanning@gardner-webb.edu (subject line—"Gardner-Webb - The Magazine").

Thank you for your continued support of the University. We hope that you will enjoy and appreciate this publication. Remember, this is your magazine... *your University.*

God Speed,

Noel T. Manning, II '94
Managing Editor
Gardner-Webb - The Magazine



1954
Gardner-Webb
Quarterly



1971
The Web



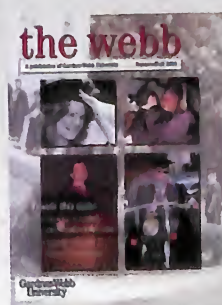
1984
The Web



1997
The Web



2000
The Web



2005
The Webb

GWU NAMES DR. DAVID CARSCADDON TO DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING



Dr. David Carscaddon

Dr. David Carscaddon, professor of Psychology at Gardner-Webb University, has been appointed as Dean of the School of Psychology and Counseling.

Carscaddon has worked at Gardner-Webb University since 1990. In 2000, he was the recipient of the most outstanding faculty award. He also has numerous professional publications and presentations.

Carscaddon received his bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Psychology from UNC-Asheville. He then earned his master's degree in Clinical Psychology from Morehead State University and continued his education at The University of South Carolina, where he received his doctorate in Counselor Education.

"The honor in serving as Dean of the School of Psychology and Counseling comes from working along side so many talented and wise colleagues. I am blessed to know these folks who work so hard and sacrifice so much for the students they teach and serve. Without my colleagues and the students the deanship means nothing," said Carscaddon.

Gayle Price, the associate provost for schools said, "I know very few faculty members who garner as much respect from their colleagues, both inside and outside their own school or department, as Dr. Carscaddon. His wisdom, integrity and ability to work with people – tempered by authentic humility – are widely acknowledged and admired and are all splendid qualities in a dean. I look forward to participating in the good things I know his leadership will bring to the School of Psychology and Counseling."

"I hope to advance both the graduate and undergraduate programs in a direction that is consistent with the motto of the University," said Carscaddon. "One immediate goal is to continue the accreditation process for our two master's programs in counseling and explore ways to develop the undergraduate program by expanding research activities."

GWU ANNOUNCES NAMING OF BASEBALL FIELD

Celebration Held to Honor Mr. and Mrs. William H. Masters

Gardner-Webb University hosted a celebration to name the baseball field in honor of William H. Masters in September. Masters and his wife have given a generous gift to enhance the growing baseball program.

"We are extremely grateful for Mr. and Mrs. Masters and their continued support of Gardner-Webb University," said Greg Poe, major gift officer/director of Planned Giving. "It is an honor to partner with Mr. and Mrs. Masters in advancing the goals, values, and ideals of Gardner-Webb."

Masters was raised in Easley, S.C. where he attended Easley public schools. He graduated from Easley High School in 1945. After graduation, he was drafted into the U.S. Military and served 18 months. Masters graduated from Clemson University in 1952 with a B.S. in Textile Manufacturing. He spent 38 years in the textile industry, retiring in 1990 as Division Vice President with the Cone Mills Corporation in Greensboro, N.C.

Masters has a longtime love of baseball and loved to play as a child. He also played baseball at Easley High School and was a walk on at Clemson University where he played as a center fielder. He also played semi-professional baseball.

For information about this gift, contact Greg Poe, major gift officer/director of Planned Giving at 704-406-2157.



Mr. and Mrs. Masters

LIFE, DEATH AND ISSUES OF GRIEF

Thomas Lynch, Consultants for HBO Series "Six Feet Under," Speaks at GWU

The Center for Continuing Professional Education (CCPE) at GWU presented a two-day event with Thomas Lynch this fall. Lynch is an essayist, poet and funeral director of Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, a three-generation family business located in the small town of Milford, Mich.

Lynch has received critical acclaim and awards for his books, "The Undertaking: Life Studies From the Dismal Trade" and "Bodies in Motion." Lynch is regularly featured in The New York Times, The Boston Globe and The Times of London, England. He has also appeared on CSPAN, NBC's "The Today Show," MSNBC and the PBS series "On Our Own Terms."

Alan Ball, creator of the HBO series, "Six Feet Under" (2001-05), gives Lynch's books credit for helping him set the tone he wanted for the award-winning series.

The PBS series "Frontline" featured Lynch in the documentary, "The Undertaking." The documentary enters into Lynch's world and shares intimate stories of families coming to terms with grief, mortality, and a funeral's rituals. The program illuminates the heartbreak and beauty in the journey taken between the living and the dead when a loved one dies.

At Gardner-Webb, Lynch presented a public reading, a book signing, a continuing education workshop and a writing workshop.

Lynch took time with students at GWU during his visit as well. "Lynch offered encouragement, answered questions about the writing and publishing process," said Dr. June Hobbs, chair of the English Department, "and most of all, he encouraged us to write daily. Lynch was funny, witty, charming and inspiring."

For more information on future CCPE events visit www.ccpe.gardner-webb.edu, email ccpe@gardner-webb.edu or call 704-406-3270.

ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT PROVIDES FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

Over 15,000 Pounds of Food Raised During 11-year Span

For 11 years Gardner-Webb University has teamed up with singer/songwriter Carl Cartee for a benefit concert for the Salvation Army. Attendees are asked to bring in non-perishable food and toys to assist those in need during the Christmas season. During the 2008 concert 1098 ½ pounds of food and 153 toys and a bicycle was donated to the effort. "This event is more than just a Christmas concert; it's a time to give to others," said Cartee. "The Salvation Army has a storied history of doing wonderful things and it's an honor to be a part of such a tradition of service to the Kingdom of Christ. This concert has come to mean a great deal to me because it's one way I can still make a contribution to a community I love so much."

Cartee was a sacred music major at Gardner-Webb University and released his self-titled debut album in 1995. He recently released his newest album Here I Go. He has been in worship ministry for over 13 years. He serves as an Artist in Residence at Fellowship Bible Church in Brentwood, Tenn., and travels extensively leading worship for conferences and ministry events all over the world. Writing songs, leading the church in worship and equipping other leaders are the foundational components of his passionate call to build the kingdom.

Cartee and his wife Heather are the hosts of the Inspire Worship Conference, an event that trains and equips emerging worship leaders from around the nation. Cartee also works as a staff writer for Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing and greatworshipsongs.com.

Over the past ten years, the benefit concerts for the Salvation Army have raised over 15,125 pounds of food and 1,567 toys for children.

GARDNER-WEBB REPRESENTED AT OBAMA'S INAUGURATION

A group of students at Gardner-Webb University were among some 240,000 individuals fortunate enough to be issued a ticket to the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama.



GWU Students selected to participate in the Inauguration Events

The nine delegates from Gardner-Webb were chosen from over 3,000 universities across the nation. The GWU students had to go through a nomination, application and selection process for the week-long array of activities surrounding the inauguration in Washington, D.C. The Gardner-Webb Communication Studies and Political Sciences departments sponsored the trip. This event was made possible in part by the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars.

The students participated in ten days of non-stop daily activities leading up to the inauguration. Some of the highlights of their daily schedule included attending formal classes and discussion groups, a tour of the city and meeting government leaders and media officials (such as Ted Koppel – former host of ABC's Nightline, Bob Schieffer – Chief Washington correspondent, for CBS and Brian Lamb, President and CEO of C-SPAN).

Dr. Michael Kuchinsky, professor of Social Sciences at Gardner-Webb helped organize the trip. When not teaching at GWU, Kuchinsky makes his home in Washington, D.C. His knowledge of the area and his background in political science studies makes this trip more meaningful and educational to the GWU student delegates.

**Look for the extended feature on this story in the summer issue of Gardner-Webb – The Magazine.*



Jordan Tubbs with Bob Schieffer

STUDENTS FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION

Every year many students from GWU give up their fall breaks, spring breaks and summer breaks for service-mission work around the world. During the fall, a group went to Red Springs, N.C. The team ministered to the community by painting a local church, building a handicapped accessible ramp for Red Springs Mission Camp, leading a worship service at a local church, visiting a children's home and leading a time of devotions and prayer with a local college youth group.

Brittany Bounds, a student on the trip said, "The lesson I came back with from the Red Springs mission trip was flexibility. I never knew how much more room we give God to work when we're willing to be flexible and follow His lead. Not only did He move in the lives of the people we had the opportunity to serve and minister, but God moved in our own group, drawing all 16 of us into a unified body with the sole purpose of serving Him!"

The various trips scheduled for 2009 year are:

Spring Break (March 6-14)

• San Ignacio, Honduras

The team worked with local believers and engaged in practical opportunities such as soccer clinics, feeding centers, VBS activities and construction projects.

• Chimaltenango, Guatemala

The team lived at the Agua Viva Children's Home. They had the opportunity to work, live and play with the children. They completed construction/improvement projects to the campus itself. In the evenings, the team led children's church services.

• San Diego, California

The team worked with a local church called The Fellowship of San Diego to assist in ministering in a variety of ways. Projects included homeless ministry, construction, children's ministry, leading in worship, evangelism, block parties and more.

Summer Break

• Hawaii (May 12-23)

The team will be working with several local churches to assist with a variety of outreach ministries such as prayer walking, neighborhood canvassing, conducting a youth retreat, leading VBS/day camps and minor construction repairs.

THE COMEDY OF LIFE

Heather Lauren Bartlett, '08, author of *The Five Step Plan* watched her original comedy hit the stage at Gardner-Webb in the fall. Bartlett states that she was excited and honored to "give something back" to the University. The play is a comical performance about a group of individuals with different phobias. Bartlett laughs,



Students perform the play *The Five Step Plan*

"The play is a comedy built around my life – around friends, past relationships and myself."

Bartlett began writing the play as an assignment in a playwriting class her final semester at GWU. After graduation, Dr. Scot Lahaie, assistant professor of GWU Theatre asked Bartlett for permission to perform the comedy on campus. She was flattered and astounded. She never saw

herself as a playwright; rather her talent was on the stage acting.

"I was very impressed and very humbled to see what they had done with my work," Bartlett states, "I was thankful for what Scot (Lahaie) and Chris (Keene) had put together. They took something that I struggled with, and really gave me confidence in pursuing more opportunities like this... they really believed in me. It was

humbling and exciting at the same time."

Bartlett graduated with a major in theatre and a minor in religion in May 2008 and is hoping to pursue a career in New York City. She feels called to be a Christian influence in the acting field. She states, "Gardner-Webb gave me the opportunity to grow my talent. I really feel called to be an actress – a light – in a dark world and Gardner-Webb prepared me to do that."

DECEMBER GRADUATION RECOGNIZES 281 STUDENTS

Dr. Bruce Boyles, Cleveland County Schools Superintendent Offers Commencement Address

In December, several thousand friends, family and loved ones were on hand to honor the 2008 fall graduating class of Gardner-Webb University. A total of 281 degrees were conferred in the first fall graduation ceremony since 1974. This was only the third fall commencement in Gardner-Webb's 103-year history.

Dr. Bruce Boyles, superintendent of Cleveland County Schools was the commencement speaker and offered several challenges to the graduating students, "In today's age when we have so many corporate, government and personal scandals wracking our country, having honesty, integrity and compassion is all but a lost art. Doing the right thing for the right reasons is always the best response."

GWU President Frank Bonner and C. Neal Alexander, chair of the GWU Board of Trustees, provided additional remarks. Student Government Association President, Timothy Lanning offered a time of reflection and remembrance for this graduating class. "Know that wherever life takes you that you are still a GWU Bulldog. This carries with it some responsibilities. You are now ambassadors for the University and for your fellow graduates. The world can be a dark place. It takes good people to change it, to make it better. You have been given a great responsibility along with this diploma, to uphold the standards of Gardner-Webb with your head held high. Serve your community, serve your country, and most of all serve those that you love."

During the commencement exercises the Senior Scholastic Achievement Award was presented to Meredith White, English major, of Statesville, N.C. for her comprehensive collegiate academic success.

"As you leave Gardner-Webb with the blessings of this faculty, administration and these trustees, you do so beginning a new chapter in your life. You truly will never be the same. You are better prepared and more poised for success than you were before this experience," concluded Boyles.


*The following is a list of the degree programs with the largest number of graduates:

Degree	Total Degrees	Popular Majors
Bachelor of Science	152	Business Administration (39) Social Sciences (39)
Master of Arts	32	School Administration (24)
Bachelor of Arts	20	Religious Studies (5) English (4) Communication Studies (3)
Master of Business Administration	26	

RIDING AND WRITING ACROSS AMERICA

GWU Professor Writes About a 28-Day Motorcycle Trip With His Father

by Samba Fall and Meredith White



Traveling 7,237.4 miles across America on a motorcycle trip with his father is an experience that will be forever ingrained into the mind of Dr. Chris Davis. An English professor at Gardner-Webb University, Davis used his writing and photography skills to capture each moment along the way. He shared his experiences via blog (an online journal) that he updated with writing and photos each night.

Davis and his father, Vance Davis, traveled from High Point, N.C. to Los Angeles, Calif. in the span of 28 days last summer.

The idea to travel across America has been in the back of Davis' mind since college.

"Our trip was motivated by an untaken trip I had planned upon my college graduation in 1992," Davis said. "I had a cross-country trip (by car) plotted out with a friend of mine, but he ended up getting a job just before we were going to leave. He couldn't go, so I didn't go either."

It was not until the spring of 2007 that Davis and his father, sitting around with their families, decided that they should take the trip.

"At first, we certainly had mixed feelings about leaving," Davis said. "We had never been apart from our families for such an

extended period of time. We were nevertheless excited about the journey."

During the ride, Davis and his father saw and photographed many beautiful places like the Grand Canyon, the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), Yellowstone, Hollywood and the Zion National Park.

"The United States is an amazingly beautiful and varied place," Davis said.

"Yellowstone National Park is probably the place that stood out the most. It was so large, and it had so many different kinds of things to see, from wildlife to land features. We also enjoyed crossing the Rocky Mountains and riding up the Pacific Coast Highway."



While Davis and his father were amazed at the beauty of nature, they were also in wonder of its power. They rode through weather of all kinds including snow and thunderstorms. The duo experienced extreme temperatures in the span of four days. Riding through the Nevada desert, the temperature reached 110 and then a few days later in the Sierra Nevadas, the temperature dropped to 37.

Throughout his blog, Davis kept family and friends updated about the trip. In return, people commented on his writing entries and photos.



"You know, I look at it in terms of encouraging others, including students, to just get out there and see things," Davis said. "Don't sit on the sidelines. This was the first extended road trip I'd ever taken, and I wish I'd done more of this sort of thing in the past. Once you get a taste of travel, you want to go even more."

More importantly, this father and son road trip allowed them to deepen their relationship. The story of the Yellow Man (Davis' father) recounted on the blog exemplifies their relationship. Wearing a fluorescent yellow jacket and leading the ride most of the time, the Yellow Man "was very hard to miss," Davis joked.

"I have always seemed to have a close relationship with my father," Davis said. "He used to be a college professor and administrator. We just have the uncommon ability to be able to be around each other and not get on each other's nerves. If we'd had a different relationship, we never would have tried the trip. It meant a lot to



be able to share this trip with him. He's done a lot for me over the years, and it is something that we can share."

Davis' father, Vance, did not read the blog until he returned home from the trip. He sat down and read it all the way through. He commented on the last entry, thanking his son for the journey.

"Chris, thanks for sharing an incredible journey across America," Vance wrote. "You had the eyes to see and the words

to describe what we saw. You understood the importance of pictures and written observations. Thanks for being you, a sensitive individual attuned to nature, its creatures and the people who inhabit this beautiful earth. Thanks for carrying my bags when I was too tired to carry them myself. Thanks for it all. I doubt that I will be able to go this way again, but it was a great ride."

In addition to forming a stronger relationship they met all types of people including fellow travelers, hotel employees, gas station attendants, bikers and other motorcyclists.

"We heard a thousand stories," Davis said. "We came back with a renewed faith in Americans. Most people really are just like you."

To read more of those stories and see more photos, visit Davis' blog at www.cvdavis.blogspot.com.

A GOLDEN EXPERIENCE

Ashley White Represents GWU at the Paralympics

by Paul Foster

Every four years the Summer Olympic games get plenty of worldwide attention. Americans might remember the August 2008 games in China most for historical gold medal winners like swimmer Michael Phelps or women's volleyball players Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh. The men's basketball team featuring Kobe Bryant and LeBron James also brought home the gold and once again established basketball dominance for the USA. But once those games concluded another group of Olympic athletes arrived ready for competition in China, this time without all the media hype. Mostly unknown names and faces took the stage to put their talents on display in the Paralympic Games. These games are select sporting events for athletes from different disability groups (and different countries) designed to accentuate the participants' athletic accomplishments, not their disability. The USOC (United States Olympic Committee) Paralympic division supports 19 summer sports.

Gardner-Webb's Ashley White was on hand for the Paralympics to represent GWU and her country for this golden experience. Ashley, a native of High Point, N.C. has been with Gardner-Webb University since 2002 and serves as the athletic training education director in the Physical Education, Wellness and Sports Studies Department. In China, she served as an athletic trainer for the United States

Women's Wheelchair Paralympics Basketball Team. White's experience was even more notable because the basketball team went on to earn a gold medal going undefeated in the process. White's road to China and the Paralympics involved several years of preparation. She first applied to the USOC as a volunteer at the training center in Colorado Springs, Colo. helping with summer camps in 2001. Her first assignment as a trainer was serving both the Olympic and Paralympics cycling squads ('04). After being evaluated by the USOC, White was sent on two international game trips (the World University Games in Turkey in 2005, serving the swim team and in 2007 to the Pan American Paralympic Games in Brazil, where she worked with the vision impaired Judo team). Those experiences ultimately led to the invitation to serve in the 2008 Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing, China.

"The people were awesome. Some of the volunteers for the games stay in touch and correspond with me by email," noted White. "Our opening ceremonies were just as exciting as what everyone saw on television (summer Olympic games), and the U.S. Olympic Committee provided us with the same clothing as the summer games representatives." White was also delighted that many of the same venues that were used during the summer games were also used for the Paralympic events and featured packed arenas and stadiums.

When time permitted, White also took the opportunity to tour the rich culture that is China. That included stops at



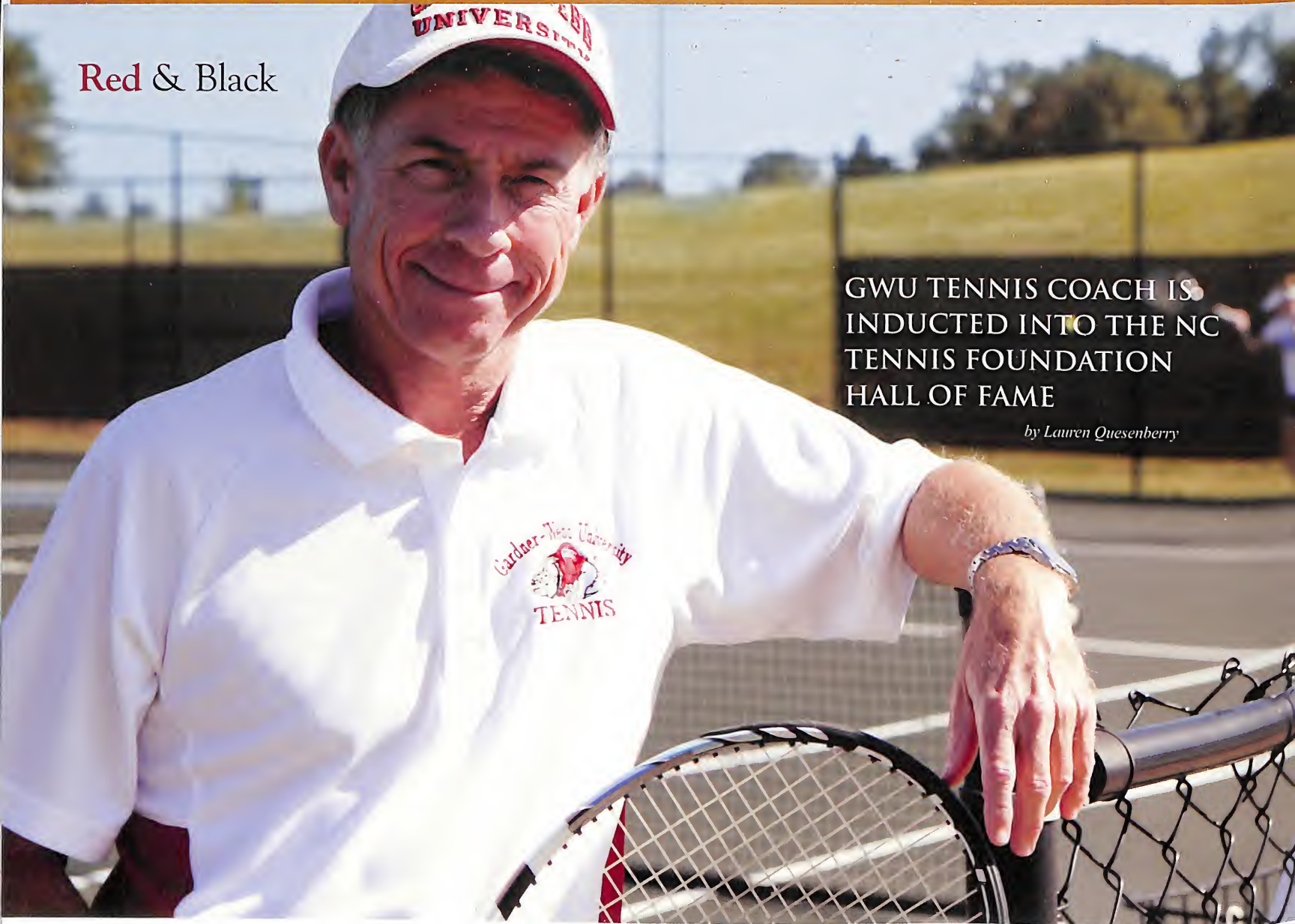
2008 USA Women's Wheelchair Paralympics Team

Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China. "The Great Wall truly goes as far as you can see and it's steep. The Chinese are proud of their history and seeing things that were so ancient and unique made me understand why," said White. She also said that anytime members of the women's basketball team were out in the city, Chinese citizens rushed up to get pictures with them.

When the women won the gold medal against Germany, it was an experience that White says she will never forget. "The emotion is just as special as what you see from winners of the summer (Olympic) games who won medals. There was celebration and tears. It gave me chills," said White. With this Gold Medal win, the women's wheelchair basketball team secured the top honor for their second consecutive Paralympic Games.

In telling her story, White made it clear, "I want to bring attention to the Paralympics, not me. I wouldn't have had the opportunities I've had without the support of Gardner-Webb."

Red & Black



GWU TENNIS COACH IS INDUCTED INTO THE NC TENNIS FOUNDATION HALL OF FAME

by Lauren Quesenberry

Coming from a family of athletes, GWU Tennis coach Jim Corn was encouraged to play sports at an early age. He enjoyed playing football, basketball, and tennis, but felt a special kinship to the racquet. He took that love onto the courts of Shelby High School and competed on their team throughout high school.

During Corn's time at Shelby High, the team won the Western North Carolina High School Athletic Association Championship three consecutive years. Corn gained quite a reputation as a competitive athlete. "I was fortunate. I had a lot of [scholarship] offers from big schools," remembers Corn.

Corn decided to attend UNC Chapel Hill. He became the first tennis player in the history of the UNC program to receive a full athletic tennis scholarship. At UNC, Corn played from 1969-1972 earning all-ACC honors four times, setting a school record in the process. He also won two ACC doubles championship titles and four individual singles championships. Corn was the team-captain his junior year, and co-captain his senior year.

Corn graduated in 1972 with a major in history, and immediately following this, spent some time traveling playing competitive tennis. Throughout the next three decades student/athletic life (and tennis) remained a major part of Corn's life.

In 2001, he came to GWU to serve as the Director of the Bulldog Club. In August 2006 he became the head coach of GWU women's tennis and the student athlete director of enrichment. Corn states, "I have seen [Gardner-Webb] grow and blossom into a regional university. It's an exciting time in our history."

Tennis has always been one of Corn's greatest passions. He states, "There are a lot of lessons of life you can learn from tennis."

Corn was selected for induction into the prestigious N.C. Tennis Foundation Hall of Fame. The Hall has existed since 1975 with the purpose to honor those who have brought great recognition to N.C. Tennis and to themselves. Corn states that he is "humbled and flattered to say the least." The induction took place on January 31, 2009 in Pinehurst, N.C.



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GARDNER-WEBB NAMES NEW CLASS TO ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

The Gardner-Webb Athletics Hall of Fame was created to honor leaders, athletes, coaches and pioneers of the GWU athletic program. It is also intended to preserve the historical and outstanding contributions made to the program by participants. GWU has been honoring Hall of Fame inductees annually since 1991.

Each inductee is presented with a commemorative plaque outlining his or her accomplishments and a Hall of Fame ring. The permanent record of each member is also available for viewing in the concourse of the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center.

The annual banquet, held during Homecoming, saw Kat Ayotte (Soccer/Softball, 1991-1994), Hardin Davis (Football, 1968-1972) and Ernie Fleming (Basketball, 1967-1969) inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame. Former tennis student-athlete and longtime booster and supporter Tom Bell (Suffolk, Va.) was presented with the Hall's Meritorious Service Award.

Kat Ayotte finished her career as one of the top female two-sport performers in Gardner-Webb's senior college history, starring on the soccer pitch and the softball diamond. Ayotte was named All-South Atlantic Conference in both sports, earning All-SAC honors in soccer twice (1991-1992) and first-team All-SAC honors in softball (1994). Ayotte's performance remains a prominent feature in the GWU soccer record book, ranking fourth in career scoring (98 points), fourth in career goals scored (37) and second in career assists (24). Her 43 points scored in 1992 ranks third in school history for a single season, and her 15 goals that season rank fourth on the Gardner-Webb charts. Ayotte had 13 assists in 1992, which rank second at GWU. She remains first in Gardner-Webb single-game history for most goals (5 vs. Limestone, 1991) and total points (10 vs. Wesleyan, 1992). In softball, Ayotte remains one of the program's all-time leaders in batting average, and ranks as one of the best catchers in school history.

Hardin Davis was one of the pillars of Gardner-Webb's defense during the program's transition from the junior college to senior college level. A standout on the defensive line, Davis was a workhorse from 1968-1971 under Coach George Litton. During his time with the Bulldogs, Davis was a part of defenses that held teams to less than seven points 12 times in four seasons and recorded five shutouts. Four of those shutouts came in 1968, as

Gardner-Webb forged an impressive 6-2-2 junior college ledger with wins over freshman teams from Western Carolina, Furman, Appalachian State and East Tennessee State. Gardner-Webb shutout fellow junior college squad Chowan, 21-0, that season, and tied both Lees-McRae and Newport News.

Ernie Fleming proved to be one of the stars during the late years of Gardner-Webb's junior college basketball era, providing crowds in Bost Gym with plenty of notable performances. Playing for legendary coach Eddie Holbrook, Fleming averaged 10.5 points as a freshman in 1967-68 – one season after earning high school All-America honors at famed Durfee High in Fall River, Mass. Fleming's scoring in 1967-68 helped Gardner-Webb forge an impressive 30-3 record and a Region X title. The standout improved his numbers significantly as a sophomore, earning junior college All-America honors after averaging 22.1 points per game for the Runnin' Bulldogs. For his career, Fleming also averaged 8.1 rebounds and shot an impressive 55.2 percent from the floor and 70.2 percent from the free throw line. Following his two-year career at Gardner-Webb, Fleming went on to stardom at

Jacksonville (Fla.) University, where he scored more than 1,100 career points, earned Helms Foundation All-America honors in 1972, and still holds the single-game scoring record of 59 points. Fleming was drafted in 1971 by the NBA's Atlanta Hawks and in 1972 by the NBA's Detroit Pistons.

Tom Bell has been a loyal supporter of Gardner-Webb athletics, from his playing days under Coach Jim Taylor in the 1960s as a standout tennis player, to his tremendous relationship and

leadership within the school's Bulldog Club, Board of Trustees and with the blossoming School of Business. A longtime resident of Marietta, Ga., Bell was an integral part of Gardner-Webb's first varsity tennis team, and was one of the program's early stars. The Suffolk, Va., native was also a part of Gardner-Webb's first senior college graduating class in 1971, and has been honored numerous times by the University for his success in the business world upon graduation. Bell is a 1964 graduate of Suffolk (Va.) High and a member of that school's 1964 state championship tennis team coached by Bill Peachy. Bell is currently a member of the Howard D. Mast Memorial Scholarship Committee in his hometown.



THE CLEAN SWEEP

Honors Students Join Efforts to Keep the New River Clean

By Meredith White

Twenty-eight Gardner-Webb students from the Honors Student Association (HSA) carried on the tradition of participating with Big Sweep's effort to clean up the New River (N.C.). For the last 20 plus years, Dr. Thomas Jones, Biology professor, has led groups including the Outdoors Explorers Club and HSA to help with the Big Sweep.

The Big Sweep is an award winning 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to achieve a litter-free environment. According to a Big Sweep brochure, "Since 1987, Big Sweep volunteers have retrieved almost nine million pounds of debris from our environment, that's equal to about 21.5 football fields five feet deep of trash!"

HSA participates in numerous service projects throughout the year, one of those being the Big Sweep.

"I'm a field biologist, so this is service to me," Jones said. "We have seen that we have made a difference, slowly but surely. Year after year we have done the same stretch of the river, and when we go back, we can tell we have made a difference."

HSA student Taylor Doolittle also noticed a difference. "It was really cool to see how much cleaner the river was this year compared to last year," Doolittle said. "We could definitely see an improvement, and it was a great feeling to know that we played a part in that."

Students participating in the trip know they are making a difference. "I went on the trip because I think taking care of the earth is part of my responsibility as a Christian," said HSA senior Jennifer Cheek. "God called for humans to be stewards of the earth and its resources, and we should respect the gifts we have been given. Also, I just wanted a chance to hang out with the other Honors kids and hear Dr. Jones' stories! I am thankful



that the Gardner-Webb Honors program has the resources to help us go on trips like Big Sweep, which allow us to help the greater community while creating friendship and unity among our group."

The idea of building unity echoed in many comments about the trip. "Everyone worked together to get certain items out of the river," said HSA student Megan Looper. "If someone found an inordinately heavy tire or a large piece of guttering, other canoes would stop and help remove it and put it in a canoe."



Other groups have noticed Gardner-Webb's work. After the weekend, Jones received a letter from Jed Farrington, owner of Zalos Canoes, a company that donates canoes for use in the clean up. "We appreciate the hard work and determination your team put into this effort," Farrington wrote. "The river would be in sad shape without the effort of caring people like your group. Your group gave generously of their time and hard work. The world is a better place when people live generous lives."

HSA made the project into a weekend trip. They left on Friday and camped out Friday night. On Saturday, they canoed down the river picking up tires, scrap metal, bottles, golf balls, gutters, and various debris.

"Our group pulled about 35 tires out of the river," said HSA Special Events Co-Chair, Caroline Ritchey. "There were other items that we retrieved as well such as gutter systems, rafts, an uncountable number of beer/soda cans, Styrofoam pieces and such. It was amazing to know that we had done so much good, even though it is hard to imagine that there is a lot more garbage in the river, and it keeps being added to."

The group camped out again Saturday night. Sunday, they visited the Churches of the Fresco in West Jefferson and ate lunch at the Daniel Boone Inn. "This is a new experience for a lot of people," Jones said. "Many students who go have never even been in a canoe before. It's funny to see them change...at first they reach out gently for a bottle, but in the end, they're using the canoe as a trashcan and they're knee-deep in the water."

HSA provides opportunities for student centered learning and research. It also encourages cultural enrichment, student community involvement, and extra-curricular learning activities.

GIVING PEACE A CHANCE

Recent GWU Graduate Serving HIV/AIDS Outreach in Rwanda

By Lauren Quesenberry and Noel T. Manning, II



Brittany Carey

Upon graduation from Gardner-Webb in December, Brittany Carey (health and wellness major) began serving in the Peace Corps with HIV/AIDS relief in Rwanda, Africa. Carey has carried a passion for HIV/AIDS victims since high school and says she is excited about this opportunity to live in another part of the world, fulfill her dream, and minister to those in need. "Gardner-Webb has really provided me with a great education and support system," Carey states, "It has taught me how to be passionate about

things I love and to go out and live those dreams."

In 1994, the Peace Corps officially closed its program in Rwanda due to political instability in the country. But in February 2008, former U.S. President George W. Bush announced at a press briefing with Rwandan President Paul Kagame that the Peace Corps would return to the African country.

The Peace Corps established an office in Rwanda last summer, and by the end of January, 35 Peace Corps Volunteer-trainees arrived in the country. All the volunteers received training in the Kinyarwanda and French languages and had 10 weeks of intensive orientation and preparation. Fifteen of those Peace Corps Volunteers are working in the education sector (teaching English, math, science or information technology), while also addressing health and HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness. Twenty of those Peace Corps Volunteers are funded by the President's Plan for Emergency Relief (PEPFAR). They are focusing on HIV/AIDS and community outreach while collaborating directly with the Rwandan Ministry of Health.

Carey is involved in conducting community-based training and other outreach efforts focused on HIV/AIDS prevention based on abstinence and faithfulness. The education volunteers incorporate HIV/AIDS prevention activities into their classrooms, train fellow teachers, and organize after school programs.

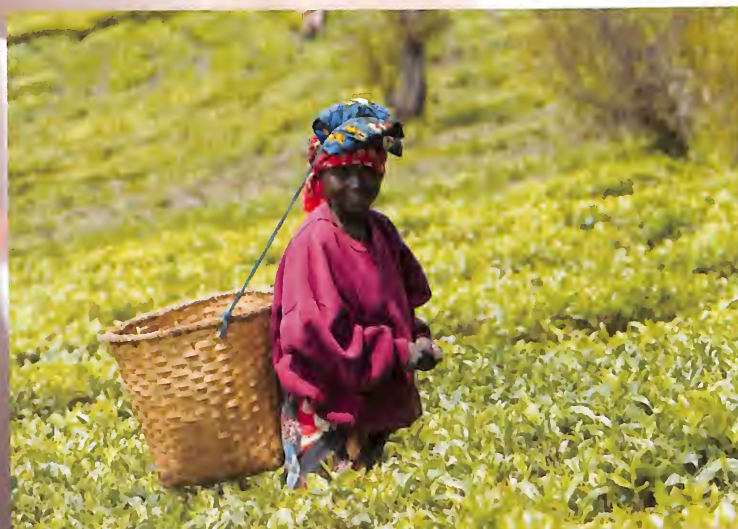
While Carey feels that this call to service is an answer to prayer, she understands the hardships ahead of her. "I know that I will experience the death of co-workers and people I live around because of the type of work I will be doing (deaths related to HIV/AIDS or other diseases). That is the difficult part." She continued, "This is my passion, and I know that this is where I'm supposed to be right now." Carey will live and work for 27 months at the community level, and collaborate with her counterparts to build sustainable support for HIV prevention efforts.

Living close to the people, Carey will experience unique customs, face devastating diseases and live where electricity and running water are considered luxuries. "This will be a life changing experience. When I return (to the U.S.), a part of me will be Rwandan. I am living and working as they live and work every day," noted Carey. "It is neat to see how they (the Rwandans) live. The people are so content to live so humbly and simply."

"I asked God to send me to Africa if it was his will. Now, he has answered that prayer."

"I have seen Brittany develop a passion for improving the quality of life for others," says Dr. Franki Burch, associate professor of physical education, wellness, and sport studies. "A few years ago she came to me to explore her options in the Health and Wellness major. Since that time she has been motivated to acquire the knowledge, skills, compassion, and vision necessary to impact the world through health promotion. We will be praying that God builds a hedge of protection and support around Brittany as she serves selflessly in Africa over the next two years. We are honored to have been a part of Brittany's education and are excited to share her journey."

Carey will have access to the Internet. She also plans to post journal entries and photos through her blog at brittanyinrwanda.blogspot.com. To contact Carey by email, send correspondence to brittanyinafrica@gmail.com.



Young female teapicker in Rwanda.



***Peace Corps Fast Facts** - The Peace Corps traces its roots and mission to 1960, when then Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries. From that inspiration grew an agency of the federal government devoted to world peace and friendship. Since that time, nearly 200,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 139 host countries to work on issues ranging from AIDS education to information technology and environmental preservation. Today's Peace Corps is more vital than ever, working in emerging and essential areas such as information technology and business development, and committing more than 1,000 new Volunteers as a part of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Peace Corps Volunteers continue to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities.

DOING FOR OTHERS BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

GWU Student Lauren Bilyeu Recognized as Volunteer of the Year

By Lauren Quesenberry

"I have gained a lot of experience in service work here at Gardner-Webb," says Lauren Bilyeu. "It has been great having so many opportunities available to me. I have developed a passion to help others in need. Through life lessons and wise friends I have been able to narrow my focus in life as to what is truly important. I know what I need to do."

The North Carolina Campus Compact presents the Community Impact Student Award annually. It honors students who have proven to be outstanding contributing members of their school and local communities. Only 27 university students throughout North Carolina were recognized with this honor last fall.

Among those awarded was GWU senior Lauren Bilyeu. Bilyeu has volunteered as a "lunch study buddy" for three years

at Boiling Springs Elementary School in Boiling Springs, N.C. She has been a student admissions associate, a peer leader, and a small group leader in her years at Gardner-Webb. She is very active in a Student YMCA volunteer program called Emerging Leaders. Bilyeu also founded the Sister Ministry at Gardner-Webb, which is a ministry designed to unite the women on campus.

"It was very much an honor to receive the award," Bilyeu states. "It is also hard to accept because the core belief I have in doing these deeds to impact the community goes against any kind of recognition."

Sandy Hammet, coordinator of volunteerism and wellness programming at Gardner-Webb, states, "Lauren Bilyeu is a compassionate young lady who has made a very positive impact on our campus. She has immersed herself in the campus and community by utilizing her talents to make

things better for others."

Bilyeu plans on doing service work with the AmeriCorps in Chattanooga, Tenn. after she graduates in the spring. She eventually wants to pursue a master's degree in Art Therapy.

THE SISTERHOOD

GWU Women Students Offer Global Mission Awareness

*By Paul Foster with contributions
by Lauren Quesenberry*

Sisters Ministry is under the umbrella of Gardner-Webb's campus ministries and is an all female, student led, effort that promotes service, fellowship, and the awareness of critical women's needs around the globe. The group is composed of nearly a dozen women who meet weekly in an intimate setting to discuss and share life's struggles and life's lessons with each another.

**"Until the great mass of the people shall
be filled with the sense of responsibility
for each other's welfare, social justice
can never be attained."**

- Helen Keller

Senior, Lauren Bilyeu of Statesville, N.C. (art and psychology major) is the driving force behind the idea of Sisters Ministry. Bilyeu started the ministry her sophomore year as a way to create a deeper community among women throughout campus. She couldn't think of a better way for females to come together as sisters in Christ. It began as a way for women to open up with one another and bring down barriers. "I love everything about the relationships, love, honesty, and the emotional bonds we can share with one another. Women are empowering and we are stronger when we love and help each other. I've received so much strength from my sisters," said Bilyeu.

Another member of the group is Heather Shirey, a senior sociology major from Lynchburg, Va. Shirey says one of the

reasons she belongs to the group is because she feels it is a ministry different from any other on campus. "Well after all, it ministers to sisters. Our (female) relationships are unique and having a ministry that focuses on that uniqueness is both valuable and needed."

What began, as a campus-community-based ministry for women at GWU has become a global outreach focusing on hard-hitting issues that you don't hear about every day in the United States.

During the 2008 fall semester, Sisters Ministry held two unique events, a Sex Trafficking Awareness Week and a Global Women's Baby Shower. These were opportunities to educate others on serious issues impacting girls and women worldwide.

Bilyeu believes that everyone has a heart for the helpless, regardless of his or her beliefs. "I believe as a human race we care



to help those who do not have a voice. That is how the sex trafficking event and global women's baby shower came to be," said Bilyeu. In order to bring awareness to this tragic industry, Sisters Ministry presented a painful image of this devastating trade that destroys females around the world. During Sex Trafficking Awareness Week they set up abolitionist artwork on campus that presented sex trafficking statistics. In another area of campus, there was a cage set up with female volunteers taking turns posing as girls involved in sex trade. Sisters Ministry also collected donations for Love 146, a group based in New Haven, Conn. that works towards rescuing girls from the

slave trade. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), there are over 1.2 million children who are sold into the industry each year with 27 million women and children currently enslaved around the world. Love 146 reports that some of the highest numbers for sex trafficking in the world are found in Asia.

The week following the sex trafficking awareness event, Sisters Ministry hosted a "Global Baby Shower" that was attended by over 100 students. For this program, Sisters partnered with the Birthing Hope Center of Birmingham, Ala. to create birthing kits for expecting mothers in Haiti. Students brought donations of soap, gauze, trash bags, and rubber gloves for each kit. Each kit will provide a skilled attendant with enough supplies to assist in birthing ten babies. The shower was led by Senior journalism major, Amy Elliott, of Clinton, Tenn. "I realized how much I had, and I realized how I could help. This was such an easy thing to do for women who don't have access to a medical facility. The women who receive these kits will be blessed," said Elliott.

Sisters Ministry is currently creating new ideas with the mindset to continue reaching out to girls and women around the world. Bilyeu sums it up well. "We (women at GWU) are so lucky to live here, receive an education, and love freely. We should take advantage of our time here and help others."

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

GWU Freshman Publishes Book About the Lives of Service Dogs

By Meredith White

When Chelsea Usher mentions service dogs, particularly a German shepherd named Cherokee, her eyes light up. Usher, a freshman at Gardner-Webb University and native of Hendersonville, N.C., wrote and published a book about service dogs, titled "Cherokee's Puppy Tales."

The book began as part of Usher's senior exit project, now required by many North Carolina high schools. Usher completed the first part of the project, a paper on military war dogs, during her junior year. "I have always been an animal fanatic," Usher said. "I searched for information for my paper

and found a lot of books about military war dogs."

During her senior year, Usher's assignment was to develop a product as a companion piece to the paper. She came up with the idea of writing a children's book about service dogs. "I really had a lot of fun with the project," Usher said. "I gave a presentation to the community at the end. I had a lot of freedom with it and actually had the dogs come in front of the panel with me."



Chelsea Usher with a service dog.

Through her mother, who is an optician, Usher found out about another optician, Dr. Roy Ferguson in Tennessee. Ferguson and his wife Suzie raise puppies to attend a Leader Dog School in Rochester, Michigan. "Leader dog" is another way to say "dog guide." Usher says the dogs are named after the school they graduate from.

The Fergusons take the puppies with them everywhere they go to get them accustomed to different environments like the slick grocery store floor or rambunctious children. The Leader Dog School then puts the dogs through an intensive training process before placing them with a visually impaired person.

The book tells the story, and includes photos, of three of the Ferguson's dogs: Cherokee, Emerson, and Logan. Cherokee narrates the first part of the story and tells about his training with the Fergusons. When Cherokee went back for more training at

school, the veterinarian x-rayed his joints and saw that his elbow was not formed properly. Since Cherokee would be unable to work for long as a dog guide, the school retired him from training.

Cherokee's story did not end there, though. He went on to be a Search and Rescue dog. Among his duties were to search for human remains and participate in water searches. Cherokee also visited schools and nursing homes as a certified HABIT dog. The Human-Animal Bond in Tennessee group volunteers to work to promote the valuable relationship between people and animals. Sadly, Cherokee died in October 2008 due to cancer.

Another dog the Fergusons raised, a black Labrador Retriever named Emerson, graduated from the school as an official Leader Dog for the Blind, and was placed as dog guide for Dr. Mickey Puddicomb in Canada. The end of the story tells about another puppy the Fergusons are raising for Leader Dog School. Logan, a German Shepherd, is still in training to become a service dog.

Usher published the book herself through MyPublisher, and sells books at cost. Copies are available in the Gardner-Webb Campus Shop. Usher says the book and project have changed her life in many ways. "I have met so many incredible people through this project, from my mentors, the Fergusons, to Dr. Puddicomb, who uses a Leader Dog. Dr. Puddicomb especially has been quite the inspiration. If anyone knows what it means to overcome obstacles and be independent, she does."

Usher hopes to remain involved with animals in whatever major or career she pursues. "For as long as I can remember, I've just been drawn to animals," Usher said. "I was the kid who lived on the Discovery Channel instead of Nickelodeon or Disney. For example, when I was five I named my puppy Dingo because I had seen a show on TV about the wild Dingos of Australia. I just can't help myself!"

She has completed an internship with a veterinary hospital in Hendersonville, N.C. and continues to work there when she is home on breaks from school. Usher says she has thoroughly enjoyed her time at Gardner-Webb so far and looks forward to where the future leads.

THE Height OF SUCCESS

By Samba Fall



One of Gardner-Webb University's greatest basketball players, if not the greatest, Eddie Lee Wilkins '84 has managed to live an extraordinary journey from college, to professional basketball and now to a status of symbolic icon to many children. Wilkins, a native of Cartersville, Ga., played

for Gardner-Webb in the early 1980's and achieved a career filled with honors and accolades. Today, he is fully dedicated to giving back to his community.

"My first impressions while at Gardner-Webb University were that I was given a great chance to play basketball and to become somebody academically," Wilkins said. "I was surrounded by good mentors and I remember Dr. (Glenn) Bottoms was very influential towards my academics. He gave me the confidence and made me realize that I could do it in the classroom too."

During his Gardner-Webb experience, Wilkins' impact on the court couldn't be missed. He had numerous standout games during his career including a game against nationally ranked Catawba in which he had nine dunks. "I remember, we blew them out and I had 32 points and about 15 rebounds that day."

In his final two years at Gardner-Webb, Wilkins earned NAIA All-America First Team status and averaged, 22 points and 9.8 rebounds per game and shot 60.3% from the floor. "I knew that I could be somebody on the court; but only if I worked harder than everybody else," he said. The hard work and dedication to his sport that Wilkins cultivated would push him through the doors of the NBA in the 6th round of the 1984 draft. Leaving Boiling Springs, N.C., Wilkins signed with the New York Knicks and headed to the "Big Apple."

"I was able to play on opening night of the NBA season 1984-85 against the Detroit Pistons," Wilkins said. "I had never played in front of that many people before. Coming from small cities 'Cartersville, Ga. and Boiling Springs, N.C.', playing at Madison Square Garden was very gratifying. Midway through the game, whenever I touched the ball, the whole crowd chanted my name: Eddie! Eddie! Eddie! It was so inspiring that I went on to have a great game with 24 points and 10 rebounds. On that night though, I felt I was back at Gardner-Webb."

A couple of weeks after that first great game of his NBA career, Wilkins contracted a severe knee injury. He went on to rehabilitations for a whole year. Wilkins said that he learned a great life lesson from that injury; "I knew that my career could end at any time. I learned that I had to want it and work hard all the time, and harder than anybody," Wilkins said. He went on to play for 7 years in the NBA with 5 seasons for the New York Knicks, and 2 years

with the Philadelphia 76ers.

Today, Wilkins is using life lessons learned from Gardner-Webb and from his NBA experience to educate youth, and give back to his community. He has founded his own youth association with the help of a friend, David Archer. Through reading and writing sessions combined with basketball teachings, the foundation helps the kids of his community remain in school, get diplomas and grow up to be responsible in life. Education is a cornerstone of Wilkins' foundation. "GWU reinforced my Christian values and taught me to be an advocate for youth," said Wilkins.

"When I started the Eddie Lee Wilkins Youth Association I wanted to give back to my community, which has been good to me," said Wilkins. "One of our main goals was to let them know and realize they were not all going to be professional athletes. Instead, they would be parents, husbands and wives. Somehow, we wanted to make them accountable for themselves."

Wilkins says that he tries to teach them how to become a good leader and not a follower. He wants youth to choose the right path whenever they get to those twisting and challenging moments of their lives. "I tell them to speak to their parents," Wilkins said. "And if they can't, they should speak to their teachers or pastors."

According to Wilkins, it is very critical and important for young people to be in a healthy environment at this very stage of their life. "We realized that being

He wants youth to choose the right path whenever they get to those twisting and challenging moments of their lives.



educated helps them stay out of trouble," Wilkins said. "With education they would be more productive and could come back and help the community."

"When you are young, you are very vulnerable," said Wilkins. "That is the reason why there must be somebody out there looking after them. I'm glad that when I reached those twisting turns in my life while in New York, I did not turn to doing drugs or anything of that kind. It would have turned me away from being the person I am today."

"But the experiences that I lived molded me into the person that I am today. My advice for the young people is to do well what they have fun doing, and to do it with passion all the time. Do not let anybody tell you that you can't do it. Anything is possible; I've seen it."



WILKINS FAST FACTS

Wilkins is member of the Retired NBA Player's Association. For his work with terminally ill children, Eddie received the Jason F. Gruen Man of the Year Award. He was also recognized as Citizen of the Year for Cartersville, Georgia in 1994 and 1998. Eddie volunteers with Big Brothers, a mentoring program for boys.



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Dr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Williams (10)
Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Witherspoon (2)
Mr. Patrick O. Woody (4)
Mr. and Mrs. Hylton Wright (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Yelton (14)
Mr. and Mrs. Fredric E. Zedler (1)

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Acklie Charitable Foundation (1)
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Allen (4)
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin K. Allen (4)
AMC Management Corporation (2)
Balance Yoga Center (2)
Mr. William S. Barkley, Sr. (15)
Mr. David C. Beam (6)
BellSouth Matching Gifts Program (11)
Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Black (3)
Dr. and Mrs. Gilmer W. Blackburn (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Blalock (1)
Ms. Lydia L. Blanton (13)
Boiling Springs Carpet and Tile (4)
Branch Banking and Trust (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Brett K. Bridges (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bridges (4)
Rev. and Mrs. John F. Bridges (6)
Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Bryant, Jr. (1)
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Bugg (2)
Mr. Harold T. Butts, Jr. (7)
Dr. and Mrs. Frank R. Campbell (6)
Center for Scholarship

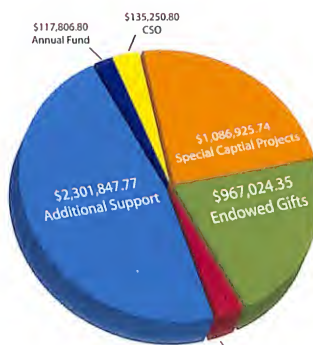
Administration (11)
Champion Communications (5)
Cleveland Regional Medical Center (9)
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Cole (1)
Mr. Thomas L. Cole, III (4)
Collegiate & Sports
Hospitality Group (1)
Mrs. Marilou R. Collin (11)
Mrs. Pauline C. Cook (5)
Rev. Clarence A. Correll, Jr. (1)
Council on the Aging (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Covington (12)
Dr. and Mrs. Lorin Cranford (1)
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Crawley (14)
Dr. Alice R. Cullinan (15+)
Mr. Stephen Demilio, Sr. (1)
Anonymous Donor (15+)
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Emmanuel Baptist
Church-Charlotte (15+)
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Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy L. Fern (5)
First Baptist Church-Maiden (10)
First Baptist Church-Sylva (10)
First Baptist Church-Wadesboro (12)
First Citizens (1)
Mr. and Mrs. E. Randall Fish (6)
Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Fish (8)
Mr. Q. Terry Florence (3)
FMC Matching Gifts Program (15)
Mr. Donald R. Francis (3)
Freedom Shelby Star Inc (9)
Dr. and Mrs. Bobby D. Gantt (8)
General Electric Matching Gifts Program (8)
Glenn Lumber Company Inc (3)
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip W. Glover (1)
Dr. and Mrs. R. Scott Good (9)
Greater Providence Baptist Church (9)
Ms. Larissa L. Herda (1)
Mrs. Emma Jean Herman (15)
Mr. and Mrs. Broadus M. Hocutt (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hoffman, Jr. (3)
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Hoffman (1)
Mr. Dale Hollifield (3)
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Honeycutt, Jr. (5)
Hope Valley Baptist Church (5)
Dr. and Mrs. Michael H. Jamison (8)
Mrs. Sharon D. Jennings (10)
Jerry Caldwell Automotive (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnson (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert K. Joiner (1)
Jostens Foundation (1)
Keefer Ford-Lincoln-Mercury (8)
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Keim (9)
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Keown (12)
Mr. and Mrs. Doug King (1)
Ms. Beth M. Kirkland (6)
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. Langley (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Ledford (4)
Mr. Jack A. Ledford (1)
Dr. Ken Lentz, Jr. (15+)
Dr. and Mrs. George Litton (12)
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Mabry, III (7)
Mrs. Elene C. Martin (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Maxwell (9)
Mr. and Mrs. Ozzie McFarland (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. McIntyre (1)
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Meaders, Jr. (5)
Mr. Mickey Metcalf (4)
Mr. and Mrs. Joel A. Mikell (1)
Mr. Mack C. Morgan, IV (14)
Dr. and Mrs. M. B. Morrow, Jr. (1)
Mr. La Norris Nixon (1)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald Norris (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Keith M. Norris (15+)
Ms. Anicla Orza (2)
Mr. and Mrs. R. Stephen Pace (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. S. Ryan Palmer (3)
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Passes (3)
Mrs. Darlene F. Patton (4)
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Peeler (15)
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Piquette (7)
Mrs. Dorothy M. Pittman (12)
Dr. and Mrs. Harold E. Plaster, Jr. (8)
Mr. David A. Pless, Sr. (7)
Mrs. Bonnie R. Price (9)
Dr. Gayle B. Price (6)
Race Path Baptist Church (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Ray (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan M. Rhodes (2)
Roper Heating and Air (2)
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Rudisill, Jr. (2)

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Sain (15)
Ms. Jo Sarazen (8)
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Scott (1)
Scottish Food Systems Inc (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry S. Sellers (2)
Mr. Richard N. Spencer (1)
State Farm Matching Gifts Program (15+)
Mr. Bruce and Dr. Barbara Steadman (1)
Mr. and Mrs. William S. Stokes (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Stovall, Jr. (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas E. Teague (6)
Temple Baptist Church-Wilmington (1)
The Medtronic Foundation (1)
Ms. Paige S. Thomas (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Trusler (1)
Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Tubbs (9)
Mr. Elliott Turner (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge Turner (2)
Tyger River Family Dentistry (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Walters (9)
Mr. Robert D. Warlick (15+)
Mr. David B. Washburn (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Washburn, Sr. (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. John F. Watkins (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Scott White (10)
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Whitlow (12)
Dr. and Mrs. James S. Wilson (2)
Dr. and Mrs. J. David Wilson (6)

\$250 - \$499.99

Mr. Robert C. Abernethy (9)
Mr. and Mrs. Norman J. Adams (12)
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Alexander (8)
Antibodies (2)
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Arndt (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Battista (1)
Beacon Food Services Inc (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael N. Beam (15)
Mr. Marion B. Beason (1)
Beaver Dam Baptist Church (14)
Mrs. Virginia Biggerstaff (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Ted P. Bleymaier (3)
Mr. David Bormann (8)
Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland County (1)
Branch Banking and Trust Co (5)
Broad River Greenway (3)
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Bryant (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Sydney O. Bryson, Jr. (4)
Buford Street Drug and Ace Hardware (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher D. Burkett (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby R. Bush (15+)
Mr. Charles B. and Dr. Sue C. Camp (13)
Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Canoy (10)
Mr. Kevin T. Cantwell (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin W. Cantwell (3)
Carolina Foothills Artisan Center (3)
Mr. and Mrs. Jack D. Carpenter (15)
Mr. William J. Carter, III (3)
Mr. Harold W. Cauby (15+)
Chadbourne Baptist Church (13)
Chick-fil-A (1)
Ms. Margie Christopher (1)
City of Gaffney (1)
Cleveland County Arts Council (3)
Cleveland County Chamber Inc (4)
Coca-Cola Bottling Company United Inc (2)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Aaron Cozart (2)
Mr. Glenn R. Craig, II (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Gary M. Denuc (2)
Dickerson Realty Inc (1)
Mr. & Mrs. Jason B. Diffenderfer (1)
Rev. and Mrs. Keith Dixon (15+)
Edgerton Chiropractic Inc (3)
Edward Jones (1)
Edward Jones Investments (5)
Mr. and Mrs. Steven C. Elerding (1)
Enterprise Leasing Company Southeast (1)
Erwin-Penland Inc (4)
Express Lube and Muffler, Inc. (1)
Feathered Friendz Inc (1)
First Baptist Church-Whiteville (7)
Flat Rock Music Festival (3)
Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Fly (1)
Forest City Honda (1)
Georgio's - Appella Inc (1)
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Greene (8)

HOW YOU GAVE FISCAL YEAR 2007-08



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Griffith (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Timothy B. Hagler (2)
 Hale Bryson Sunday School Class (3)
 Hampton Inn-Shelby (3)
 Mr. Alan Hamrick (1)
 Mrs. Dorothy S. Hamrick (7)
 Ms. Rebecca C. Hamrick (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Burel Harris (15)
 Hartzogs Inc (1)
 Mrs. Edith B. Hoffman (13)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim D. Holland (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Nolan P. Howington (3)
 Hub-Bub.Com (2)
 Mr. Robert K. Hughes (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Hughey (2)
 Mrs. Kay Husky (6)
 Ingles of Duncan, SC (1)
 Isothermal Community College (5)
 Mrs. Kimberly H. Jenkins (4)
 Jersey Baptist Church (11)
 Johnson Controls Foundation (1)
 Jolu Inc (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Allen Jones (15+)
 Dr. and Mrs. John M. Karriker (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Keeter, Jr. (1)
 Mrs. Janet Jones Kendall (1)
 Mrs. Gail Kenefick (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jones L. Kersey (1)
 L. Incredible Edibles Inc (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary D. Lail (6)
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Lamb (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. David Lambert
 Mr. and Mrs. Rowell Lane (15+)
 Lawndale Baptist Church, Inc. (15+)
 Lucille Wall Music Club (15+)
 Lyman Drug, Inc. (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Noel T. Manning, II (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian T. McCulloch (3)
 Dr. Cindy McKinney (7)
 Mr. S. Carl McKinney, Jr. (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. William W. McKinney (15+)
 Mr. Quintin McMurray (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey H. Moore (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. Zeb V. Moss (9)
 Mountain 1st Bank and Trust (1)
 Mr. and E. Heathen Munn (1)
 Oakies Tire & Recapping Inc (2)
 Palmetto Wellness (1)
 Parkton Baptist Church (3)
 Dr. and Mrs. Jack G. Partain (15+)
 Mr. Burlie S. Peeler, Jr. (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Barry Pegram (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Peeler (5)
 Mrs. Margaret H. Perkins (15+)
 Pet Dairy Inc (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Bobby M. Pettyjohn (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Wade Philbeck (7)
 Mr. William E. Plowden, Jr. (5)
 PPG Industries Inc (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey S. Price (5)
 Professional Pharmacy Inc (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Quinn (15+)
 Rapid Pace Oil Change Inc (10)
 Mr. and Mrs. John P. Reale (3)
 Ms. Krystal L. Reeves (3)
 Mrs. Martha W. Rhodes (14)
 Miss Geraldine A. Roberson (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Robertson (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerry C. Ruppe (13)
 Mr. Ken Sanford (9)
 Dr. Michael G. Shumacher (4)
 Mr. Philip R. Skelton (2)
 Mrs. E. Denise Smith (2)
 Mr. Ronald N. Spangler (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. John K. Strickland (4)
 Mrs. Katharine H. Taylor (15+)
 Terri J Blessings Inc (1)
 The Dow Chemical Foundation Inc (3)
 The Scholarship Foundation (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Thomas, Jr. (14)
 Mr. and Mrs. David C. Toney (15)
 Town of Columbus (2)
 Mr. James D. Tribble (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Zachary Trogdon (3)
 Tropical Paradise Tanning Salon (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Richard Unangst (15+)
 Verizon Matching Gifts Program (11)
 Mr. George M. Waters (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Webster (10)
 Mrs. Fanny S. West (1)
 Dr. Victoria P. Whitelock (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ralph R. Wright (15)
 Mrs. Emily M. Yelton (14)
 Zebulon Baptist Church (10)

\$100 - \$249.99

A Wing & A Prayer Inc (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Abernethy, III (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerry L. Adams (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Lane Alexander (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Eugene F. Allen (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. Garland H. Allen (15+)
 Mr. Haddon N. Allen (3)
 Mrs. Sarah B. Allen (13)
 Mr. and Mrs. William R. Allen (5)
 Mrs. Pamela P. Annas (14)
 Mrs. Dawn M. Anthony (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Archer (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Arcy, Sr. (11)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Armour, Jr. (13)
 Mr. Clay T. Arrington (1)
 Rev. and Mrs. Michael T. Aycock (4)
 B. T. America Inc (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. Babb (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Baldrice (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Noble L. Ball (4)
 Dr. Doris V. Banner (15+)
 Rev. and Mrs. J. Dean Baughn (11)
 Mr. and Mrs. Randy C. Baxter (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Warren Beeler (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Bell (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Benson (15+)
 Ms. Alicia K. Bentley (15)
 Mrs. Linda E. Bentley (15+)
 Dr. Martha J. Bergen (4)
 Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Berry (8)
 Mr. and Mrs. Herman O. Best (15+)
 Ms. Sandra J. Billicek (1)
 BiLo (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Thomas Black (2)
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert R. Blackburn (4)
 Mrs. Jean S. Blankenship (9)
 Mr. & Mrs. Harriell L. Blanton, Jr. (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Tony C. Blanton (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. James A. Bledsoe (14)
 Capt. LeRoy E. Blessing, II (3)
 Mrs. Margaret R. Boggs (8)
 Boiling Springs Florist Inc (10)
 Mr. and Mrs. George W. Bolick (2)
 Rev. and Mrs. Cline W. Borders (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. Byard T. Bost (9)
 Mrs. Virginia F. Bost (11)
 Mr. and Mrs. James T. Bowen, III (14)
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Bower (9)
 Mr. Robert D. Bowlin, II (14)
 Mrs. Brenda M. Boyd (15)
 Rev. and Mrs. Hazel P. Boyd (8)
 Mrs. Linda D. Boyette (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Boyles (5)
 BP Foundation Inc (1)
 Rev. and Mrs. Jim C. Brackett (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Tim L. Brackett, Sr. (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Braun (3)
 Mrs. Marilyn E. Branson (9)
 Mrs. Nell G. Bray (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. John D. Bridgeman (7)
 Dr. and Mrs. Donald N. Bridges (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Bridges (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Briggs, Jr. (4)
 Mrs. Sandra Y. Bright (11)
 Mrs. Mary Dean Bromir (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe N. Brookins (1)
 Ms. Regina M. Brooks (15+)
 Dr. and Mrs. William L. Brown, Sr. (14)
 Mrs. Marsha Y. Brown (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Brown, Jr. (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. C. Douglas Bryan (6)
 Mrs. Donna H. Bryan (12)
 Mrs. Suzette P. Buchan (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Basil Bullard, Jr. (1)
 Ms. Susan L. Burnette (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Allen Burris (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Bynum (14)
 Mr. Robert F. Cabanis (5)
 Mr. Harold S. Caldwell, Jr. (3)
 Mrs. Rebecca Luffman Calloway (13)
 Dr. and Mrs. Joe H. Camp (11)
 Rev. and Mrs. Phillip C. Campbell (13)
 Mrs. Linda S. Camper (13)
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Carey (7)
 Carolina Golf Manufacturing Inc (1)
 Carolina Trophies (6)
 Mrs. Judy D. Carraway (13)
 Dr. David M. Carscaddon (6)
 Ms. Dorothy P. Cash (2)
 Mrs. Billie B. Caulder (4)

Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Chilton (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry E. Clark (3)
 Cleveland County YMCA (5)
 Dr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Coates (14)
 Mr. and Mrs. Dean Coffey (1)
 Mr. P. Mitchell Coggins (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Collins (2)
 Rev. and Mrs. Paul H. Comer (13)
 Corning Matching Gifts Program (2)
 Mrs. J. Lynne Cornwell (9)
 Mr. Mamadi K. Corra (1)
 Mrs. Sally P. Crabtree (8)
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott T. Crawford (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Carthel A. Crout, Jr. (11)
 Mr. Todd Crowder (9)
 Mr. and Mrs. John R. Crown, III (9)
 Mrs. Vivian H. Dalmis (12)
 Mrs. Blanche Davis (1)
 Mrs. Martha C. Davis (8)
 Mr. Theodore A. Davis (11)
 Mr. Harold S. Dawkins (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe B. Dawson (6)
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam B. Dawson (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Dellinger (4)
 Dr. and Mrs. Charles W. Dellinger (12)
 Destination Cleveland County (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Diaz (6)
 Mrs. Carolyn Diemer (1)
 DKAT Enterprises LLC (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. David P. Dobbins (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel L. Dobbins (11)
 Mr. and Mrs. William Duckworth (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald D. Duncan (10)
 Ms. Katherine S. Earl (1)
 Mr. Peter R. Eisenbrown (1)
 Mrs. Elizabeth W. Elder (14)
 Eli Lilly Matching Gifts Program (14)
 Mrs. Jennifer J. Elliott (1)
 Mrs. Pamela A. Ellis (11)
 Mr. Joseph S. Erby (1)
 Mrs. Geraldine Evans (3)
 Ms. Sandra Y. Everhart (3)
 Mr. Eugene D. Falls, Jr. (15)
 Mrs. Mary P. Farina (1)
 Ms. Elizabeth A. Faulwetter (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. Terry L. Fern (14)
 First Baptist Church-Charlotte (5)
 First Baptist Church-Clarksville (1)
 First Travel of Shelby (1)
 Mrs. Louise G. Fisher (15)
 Mr. Gilbert Fleming (1)
 Foothills Merry-Go-Round Festival (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. N. Trevor Forbes (1)
 Rev. and Mrs. Charles W. Freeman (10)
 Ms. C. Denise Gainer (1)
 Mrs. Betty R. Gamble (1)
 Mr. Richard A. Gardner (9)
 Mr. and Mrs. William M. Garmon (1)
 Dr. Mark E. Gaskins (2)
 Mr. William D. Gibson (1)
 Mrs. Allison C. Gillespie (8)
 Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Gillespie (10)
 Dr. and Mrs. E. Bryan Gillespie (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Gillis (6)
 Mr. Christopher A. Glaves (2)
 Glaxo Smith Kline Matching Gifts Program (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Glenn (1)
 Dr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Glennon (8)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe A. Goforth (10)

Ms. Martha L. Goforth (11)
 Mr. and Mrs. Warren G. Goforth (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Goodman (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Rodney L. Gordon (2)
 Gracious Goodness
 Natural Foods Inc (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Van Graham (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ted E. Grayson (1)
 Ms. Mary S. Greene (9)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ricky M. Greene (1)
 Mrs. Sara Greene (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. William H. Griffin (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Grissom (3)
 Mrs. Suzanne H. Gulley (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hall (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric F. Hallquist (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Max Hamilton, Jr. (12)
 C. Rush Hamrick, Jr. (10)
 Ms. Eileen C. Hamrick (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Herman O. Hamrick (12)
 Mrs. Maria M. Hamrick (3)
 Mrs. A. Vason Hamrick, Jr. (10)
 Mr. and Mrs. William L. Hamrick (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Handley (1)
 Mr. Timothy R. Hannah (9)
 Mr. and Mrs. Billy V. Hardin (2)
 Mrs. Patricia B. Harrelson (12)
 Mr. Bernard S. Harvey (1)
 Mrs. Debora D. Hauser (2)
 Rev. and Mrs. David P. Hawes (2)
 Mr. Roy B. Hayes (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Henry (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Morris J. Hensley (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. E. Darrell Herndon (15)
 Mrs. Lynn Hicks (1)
 Mr. Reginald M. High (3)
 Mrs. Nancy S. Hildebrand (15)
 Dr. T. Perry Hildreth, III (2)
 Rev. and Mrs. Brint A. Hilliard (3)
 Ms. Judy L. Hoff (2)
 Mr. Samuel A. Holbrooks (2)
 Holly's Flowers (7)
 Hollywood Animal Park (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry G. Honeycutt (12)
 Rev. and Mrs. Billy Honeycutt (15+)
 Mrs. Kellie J. Hoover (3)
 Mr. Ted J. Hope (2)
 Mrs. George T. Hopkins (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle Y. Hostetter (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Hough (8)
 Ms. Sybil W. Houser (2)
 Mr. Bailey E. Howard, Jr. (7)
 Dr. G. K. Howard, Jr. (4)
 Mrs. Katherine H. Hoyle (6)
 Dr. and Mrs. Edward V. Hudson (15)
 Mrs. Jeannette E. Hudson (2)
 Mr. R. Chris Hudson (5)
 Ms. Polly A. Hull (15+)
 Mr. J. Wesley Humphries (6)
 Ms. Anya E. Huneycutt (2)
 Dr. Drew C. Hunsinger (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Hunt (12)
 Mrs. Peggy J. Hurt (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. James F. Hutchens (10)
 Illinois Tool Works Foundation (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Travis M. Israel (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Leon J. Jackson (14)
 Mr. R. Bryant Jackson (2)
 Mrs. Taylor J. Simpson (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold K. James (7)

Dr. and Mrs. Tracy C. Jessup (13)
 Rev. and Mrs. Daniel C. Johnson (8)
 Mrs. Elizabeth S. Johnson (10)
 Mrs. Patsy D. Johnson (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Homer C. Joiner (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard L. Joiner (1)
 Mr. Billy D. Jolley (7)
 Dr. and Mrs. M. Lansford Jolley (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Jones, Jr. (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Jones (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald D. Jones (12)
 Ms. Karen L. Jones (13)
 Mrs. Patsy Farmer Jones (4)
 Ms. K. Taylor Joseph (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. William A. Kelley, Jr. (6)
 Mrs. Cynthia J. Kelly (15)
 Mrs. Betty B. Kendrick (10)
 Mr. and Mrs. Archie T. Kennedy (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Barry Ketterer (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kibler (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Dean Kimbrell, Jr. (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Bobby King (3)
 Ms. Joan E. King (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Kinsey, Jr. (2)
 Mr. Fred M. Kirby, Jr. (15+)
 Mrs. Frances A. Kiser (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Duane P. Kline (15+)
 Knight Communications Inc (1)
 Dr. Betty Emmett Knox (15+)
 Rev. Liberty V. Koonz (13)
 Mr. and Mrs. Keith Krueger (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. William C. Naylor (5)
 Lake Eden Arts Festival (2)
 Lake James
 Whippoorwill Music LLC (1)
 Ms. Elizabeth Ann Lancaster (15+)
 Mr. R. Karl Langenbach, III (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Dobbin Lattimore (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry W. Lawhorne (10)
 Mr. and Mrs. Frederick D. Learned (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve J. Leatherwood (4)
 Mr. Garland M. Ledford (15+)
 Mr. Jerry L. Ledford (1)
 Mrs. Teresa A. Lee (15)
 Mrs. Betsy R. Leonard (10)
 Mrs. Pearl A. LeVar (12)
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Blake Leverett, Jr. (1)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ernest S. Lipscomb, Jr. (12)
 Mr. Stephen B. Little (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Long (15+)
 Long Branch Road Baptist Church (12)
 Loray Baptist Church (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Love, Jr. (5)
 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lowe (14)
 Mr. and Mrs. Zeb A. Lowery (11)
 Mrs. Karen Lukridge (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Lutz (4)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lutz (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Melvin R. Lutz, Jr. (15)
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Mack, Jr. (14)
 Mrs. Sherry L. Macy (1)
 Ms. Cara T. Madoni (1)
 Mrs. Roxann K. Maercklein (3)
 Mrs. Mary Ann Manis (3)
 Mrs. Aileen Trout Martin (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. George F. Martin (3)
 Ms. Pamela A. Martin (15+)
 Mr. S. F. Martin (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. Duane L. Martinsen (1)
 Mr. Charles R. Mashburn (1)

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C. Mathis (1)
 Mr. James C. Maxwell (3)
 Mr. James C. Maxwell, III (2)
 Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin L. Mayfield (1)
 Mr. Randy Mayfield (15+)
 Mr. and Mrs. James E. Maynor (3)
 Mr. and Mrs. Keith S. Snyder (15+)
 Mrs. Sandra L. Snyder (14)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Southards (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Donald Spangler (7)
 Mr. and Mrs. Joshua D. Spangler (1)
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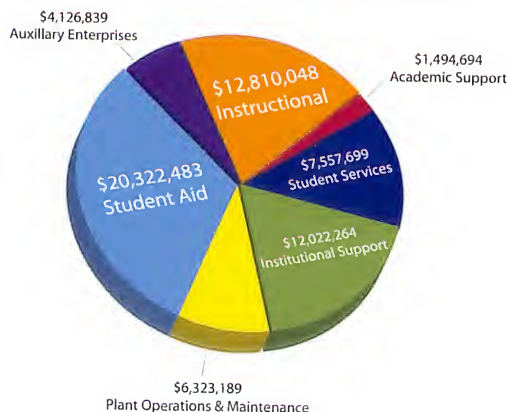
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Mrs. Janice H. Baynard (1)	Rev. Bobby G. Deviney (11)	Mrs. Shirley N. George (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Marvin D. Harris (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Bob McPherson (2)	Mrs. Janice S. Oliver (2)
Mr. Alan C. Beam (1)	Mr. and Mrs. William C. Deviney (6)	Mr. and Mrs. John W. German (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Steven M. Harris (1)	Ms. Alice B. McQueen (2)	Mrs. Wanda L. Orders (10)
Ms. G. Selene Beatty (5)	Mr. and Mrs. Ned P. Digh (9)	Mrs. Suzanne Gibson (9)	Ms. Kimberly D. Hartsock (2)	Ms. Marie W. McTigue (7)	Mrs. June E. Owens (4)
Mrs. Amy G. Beheler (2)	Mrs. Dorothy Dixon (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Brad M. Gilbert (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Gary M. Harvell (15+)	Mrs. Brenda T. Oxford (12)	Ms. Carol Pack (1)
Ms. Elena A. Bends (1)	Mr. Gary L. Dixon (1)	Ms. Julia Gilbert (1)	Mrs. Lori B. Hastings (5)	Ms. Elizabeth M. Pack (5)	Mr. and Mrs. Barry C. Padgett (1)
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Bennett (1)	Mr. Jacob Z. Dixon (9)	Mr. and Mrs. Trey Gilliam (11)	Ms. Candace A. Hayes (3)	Mr. and Mrs. Barry C. Padgett (2)	Mr. and Mrs. Randy N. Page (3)
Ms. Sarah E. Bentley (1)	Mrs. Mildred P. Dixon (9)	Mrs. Lauren M. Givens (1)	Mr. R. Christopher Hayes (4)	Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Pearson (2)	Mr. and Mrs. John T. Painter (8)
Mr. and Mrs. Chad E. Benton (2)	Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Dizbon (7)	Mr. Anthony D. Glime (1)	Mrs. Susan M. Haynes (1)	Ms. Bernadette A. Parduski (2)	Rev. and Mrs. James F. Parham (12)
Ms. Connie B. Berry (2)	Ms. Debra A. Doggett (1)	Mr. Dale Godfrey (11)	Mrs. Doris M. Haywood (4)	Ms. Amy M. Parker (10)	Mr. and Mrs. James B. Parker, III (1)
Mrs. Dana M. Biehler (11)	Mrs. Anne F. Donahoo (14)	Mr. Miles Barry Gold (5)	Ms. Beth R. Head (1)	Mrs. Billie M. Parkhurst (1)	Mrs. Mattie Parks (2)
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Biggers (15)	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey T. Douglas (9)	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory R. Edwards (5)	Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Hearn (9)	Mr. and Mrs. Jesse R. Parnell (4)	Ms. Ann Patterson (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Lee R. Biggerstaff (15+)	Ms. Marty J. Driver (2)	Dr. and Mrs. Henry B. Edwards, Jr. (11)	Mr. and Mrs. Darrell J. Heath (2)	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Patton (4)	Ms. Sletson K. Patton (1)
Ms. Recca Bingham (6)	Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Dufresne (15)	Mr. and Mrs. Terry W. Eddinger (13)	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Henderson, Jr. (6)	Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Perdue (1)	Mrs. Gwendolyn Pearson (1)
Ms. Susan Bir (7)	Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne C. Duncan (6)	Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Dozier (15)		Ms. Julie A. Perkins (3)	Mrs. Lynn P. Pearson (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Jay M. Bishop (5)	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Duncan (5)	Ms. Mary S. Gold (9)		Mrs. Elizabeth A. Peterson (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pearson (2)
Ms. Bessie L. Black (1)	Mr. Al Dunkleman (1)	Ms. Ruth Elmore (3)		Ms. Deirdre M. Pettis (3)	Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pell (1)
Mrs. Carolyn U. Black (5)	Mrs. Sandra R. Dunn (6)	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Elmore (7)		Mr. and Mrs. Regis J. Miller, Jr. (1)	Mrs. Katherine D. Pemble (2)
Mrs. Pamela B. Black (15+)	Mrs. Renee W. Dusenbury (7)	Ms. Amanda M. Ensley (1)		Mr. Walter M. Miller, Jr. (4)	Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Perdue (1)
Ms. Mildred E. Blackburn (3)	Ms. Debra L. Dysart (13)	Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Epps (2)		Mr. and Mrs. Gary T. Mitchem (6)	Ms. Bernadette A. Parduski (2)
Mrs. Louise A. Blackwelder (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Scott L. Early (1)	Ms. Rebecca A. Ervin (10)			Mr. and Mrs. James F. Parham (12)
Ms. Alyce G. Blackwell (4)	Mr. and Mrs. Terry W. Eddinger (13)	Mr. and Mrs. D. Wayne Everett (7)			Ms. Amy M. Parker (10)
Mr. and Mrs. Grady R. Blackwell (8)	Mr. and Mrs. Hoyle H. Edgerton (9)	Mrs. Jerilyn Faini (10)			Mr. and Mrs. James B. Parker, III (1)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Bland (11)	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Edmonds (5)	Mrs. Sandra L. Gordon (13)			Mrs. Billie M. Parkhurst (1)
Mrs. Dianne J. Blanton (14)	Mr. and Mrs. Ben L. Edwards, II (1)				Mr. and Mrs. Jesse R. Parnell (4)
Mrs. Glenda Blanton (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory R. Edwards (5)				Mr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Patton (4)
Mrs. Merlyn S. Blanton (14)	Dr. and Mrs. Henry B. Edwards, Jr. (11)				Ms. Sletson K. Patton (1)
Mr. Robert E. Blanton (13)	Mr. and Mrs. Neal E. Eller (6)				Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Perdue (1)
Mr. Ronald K. Blanton (1)	Mr. and Mrs. William K. Elliott (10)				Mrs. Julie A. Perkins (3)
Mrs. Sally S. Blanton (3)	Elliott Supply Inc (2)				Mrs. Elizabeth A. Peterson (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Troy W. Blanton (15+)	Mr. and Mrs. C. Joe Ellis (14)				Ms. Deirdre M. Pettis (3)
Mrs. Julie S. Blocker (1)	Mrs. Sue E. Ellis (1)				Mr. and Mrs. Gary E. Phillips (8)
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Bodwell (1)	Mr. Erick V. Elmore (2)				Ms. Miriam Phillips (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Boggs (9)	Mrs. Paula M. Elmore (8)				Mrs. Pamela J. Phillips (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Bolin (3)	Mrs. Ruth Elmore (3)				Mr. C. O. Pickard, Jr. (1)
Ms. Pamela M. Bollinger (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Elmore (7)				Mrs. Judith M. Pierce (15+)
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Boone (1)	Ms. Amanda M. Ensley (1)				Mr. Bruce D. Piercy (4)
Mr. D. Scott Booth (10)	Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Epps (2)				Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Polk, Sr. (2)
Ms. Alice F. Borders (4)	Ms. Rebecca A. Ervin (10)				Mr. and Mrs. Marcus R. Polk (4)
Mr. and Mrs. Shannon S. Borneman (6)	Mr. and Mrs. D. Wayne Everett (7)				Ms. Phyllis A. H. Ponn (9)
Mr. and Mrs. Harlan S. Bost (10)	Mrs. Jerilyn Faini (10)				Ms. Kate T. Poole (1)
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd C. Bost, Jr. (11)	Mrs. Pamela Farr (1)				Ms. Susan W. Poole (5)
Mrs. Lillian S. Botts (2)					Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Poore (2)
Mrs. Brenda H. Bourne (3)					Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey M. Porter (4)
Mr. Clyde Bowen (2)					Mr. and Mrs. Phillip W. Poston (7)
Mrs. Paula D. Bowser (1)					Mrs. Melanie R. Potter (7)
Ms. Shaumon R. Boyd (1)					

UNIVERSITY EXPENSES



THE RIVER VOICE

GWU Alumnus Works to Save Nature on a Daily Basis

By Lauren Quesenberry

David Merryman, 24, is living his dream. He is the river keeper of the most threatened river in America, the Catawba River just west of Charlotte, N.C. Every day presents him with new insight, whether it is from his daily kayak trips, conversations with local river users, or gathering data on the water's quality.

Merryman grew up in the Millington suburbs, just north of Memphis, Tenn. As a boy, he enjoyed being in the outdoors and dreamed of one day being a Marine Biologist. As he grew older, his interest in the outdoors increased, and he became more specifically interested in the limited availability of clean water. He realized that God created the environment for humanity not only to enjoy, but also to protect.

Merryman came to Gardner-Webb University with that in mind. While at GWU, he had opportunities to get involved in numerous aspects of university life and even co-founded the College Democrats at Gardner-Webb.

The summer after his junior year in college, Merryman had an internship with the Student Conservation Association in cultural resources at Yellowstone National Park. The internship allowed him to study the quality of fresh water. "This is where I found my niche. I knew then that water would be my focus," said Merryman.

Back on campus, Merryman spent many hours in the Withrow Science building, studying and researching water quality. He realized that the "creek" he played in as a child was in fact an urban runoff, consisting of oil, rainwater, dirt, debris, paint, etc. Merryman remarked, "No kid should have to play in that."

Merryman remembers the profound impact that Dr. Tom Jones and Dr. David Judge had on him and says they propelled him into community action.

"One of the things that makes David so outstanding is that he jumped at every opportunity to expand his horizons," remembers Jones.

Merryman graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Biology and minor in Chemistry from Gardner-Webb University in May 2005. "Not only was I provided an exceptional educational experience, but the student population dynamics at GWU also prepared me for a job in environmental advocacy," said Merryman.

Eventually, a job opportunity in Merryman's field of study opened up, and he decided to take the position as the River Keeper Assistant Director for the Catawba River. He did this for almost one year before he was offered a scholarship for graduate studies at Frostburg State University in Frederick, Md.

In April 2008, the Catawba River Keeper Director position became available and without hesitation, Merryman and his wife, Jennifer, moved back to North Carolina.

Today, Merryman serves as the primary voice for the Catawba River, 'which can't speak out for itself,' he stated. The position incorporates advocacy, education, and protection. Merryman, his team, and others are taking action in N.C. and S.C. legislation. Proposed legislation will protect the river from being contaminated by corporations and individuals.

The second aspect of Merryman's job includes education. He enjoys traveling to speak at different schools, non-profits, and church groups, where he encourages individuals to be aware of the effects of polluted water. Merryman also coordinates citizen programs, on which the public can be trained to look for things that can harm the river.

The third aspect of Merryman's job includes protection. This is when he actually gets out on the river, in a kayak, to patrol. He enjoys talking to river users about their experiences and encouraging them to take action against pollution.

David and Jennifer Merryman live in Huntersville, N.C. His wife Jennifer, a native to Baltimore, Md., works as an Art Counselor with a local non-profit organization.



HONORING THE CALL OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Gardner-Webb GOAL Alumnus Receives Silver Star for Service in Vietnam

By Meredith White

On the morning of Nov. 14, 1970, while serving in Vietnam, U.S. Army Spc. Tony Colvard, '89, and his unit discovered a tripwire attached to an explosive device. They decided to blow the booby-trap and set a mechanical ambush. Later in the morning, when the ambush went off, the Squad went to check out the blast site. Colvard's heroic actions that day earned him a Silver Star almost 38 years after the event.

The Squad found two North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldiers lying in the "kill zone." Two men stayed behind to examine the bodies while 19-year-old Colvard moved up the trail to set up an observation post. When he reached the edge of the jungle, his eyes locked with several NVA soldiers setting up an ambush.

According to Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant, William Milburn, Colvard immediately took action and opened fire on the soldiers. "As we moved quickly toward Colvard's position, we saw that he was drawing a large volume of fire in his direction," Milburn said. "The NVA had concealed themselves behind trees, rocks and downed logs and Colvard was firing at them as we advanced up the trail to his aide. Although rounds were kicking up dirt all around him, Colvard stood his ground."

Milburn was so impressed by his actions in the heat of battle that he sent in paperwork to nominate Colvard for the prestigious Silver Star, the second highest award a member of the military can receive. "Spc. Colvard's timely and heroic actions in this encounter surely saved my Squad from certain death from walking into an NVA ambush," Milburn said.

Colvard was critically wounded the day after the attack, Nov. 15, and never knew anything about the recommendation to receive the Silver Star until a few years ago when a reunion was being organized. It was then the reunion group realized the original recommendation had somehow been lost.



During a reunion in May 2007, the group voted to pursue the recommendation for Colvard's Silver Star. After about a year and a half of contact with the U.S. Congressman's office and the Army Board, Colvard received the Silver Star from Rep. Patrick McHenry during a ceremony on Oct. 8, 2008.

After his service in the military, Colvard moved back to Hudson, N.C., and served in numerous public offices including chief of the Hudson Police Department. "Tony's whole life is about public service," said Caldwell County Commissioner Dr. John Thuss during the ceremony.

He was elected as a Caldwell County Commissioner in 1994 and was named Hudson's Man of the Year in 1993. He graduated from the FBI's National Academy as part of his training with the police department. Colvard graduated from Gardner-Webb's GOAL program in 1989 with a degree in political science. He also did graduate work at Appalachian State University and the University of Virginia.

While Colvard left the Vietnam battlefield on Nov. 15, 1970, the memories remain vivid. "The emotional and mental scars haunt veterans in their daily lives even now," he said. "Decades later combat veterans can recall, and unwillingly re-live precise details of events as if they happened yesterday."

Colvard also noted the manner in which America should support our veterans. "War is indeed hell, a hell from which there is no real return," Colvard said. "If you know a veteran, take time to say thank you. They gave their life for this country even if they still live. Just an acknowledgement is all they ask."



Tony Colvard, Silver Star recipient

Class Notes

1930's

ALUMNI PASSING

OLIVER C. CONNOR, JR. '34

passed away Thursday, May 29, 2008. Connor was a graduate of Shelby High School where he excelled in athletics, earning 12 letters in football, baseball and basketball. After graduating from Gardner-Webb, Connor completed his education at Appalachian State Teachers' College. He retired as an Agent for Allstate Insurance Company after 25 years of service. He was a member of Central United Methodist Church for over 65 years where he served as a Sunday School teacher, Usher Chairman and member of the board of the Administrative Council. Mr. Connor also served in the U.S. Navy in World War II as an Athletic Specialist.

1940's

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

MARION LANSFORD JOLLEY '47

M. Lansford Jolley graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1947 with an Associate of Arts degree and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Wake Forest University in 1949. He obtained his Master of Arts degree in 1954 from George Peabody College and his Educational Specialist Degree in 1960 from George Peabody College. Jolley taught History and Sociology at Gardner-Webb for thirty-five years and was chairman of the Department of Social Sciences for thirty-three of those years.

Among many professional affiliations, Jolley has served on the Board of Trustees at Crawley Memorial Hospital. He has served on the governing board of Cleveland County, Social Services Department. In retirement, he has written the history of Gardner-Webb. Dreaming, Daring,



Doing: The Story of Gardner-Webb University. He has also written two other books and created a needs assessment survey for the Cleveland County United Way.

When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Jolley declares, "I cannot remember a time when Gardner-Webb was not directly or indirectly affecting my life. My mother graduated from the school when it was a high school in 1914. As a student and later as a professor, my Gardner-Webb experience offered many opportunities and affected all aspects of my life."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

DOROTHY ELLIOTT SINK '49

Dorothy Elliott Sink graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1949 with an Associate of Arts degree and in 1951 with her Behavioral Sciences and Health Education degree from what is now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has worked as Agricultural Assistant Extension Agent for Guilford County. She has served on the faculty at Gardner-Webb and Jefferson High School in Jefferson, Georgia. She is a retired office manager for the Guil-Rand Veterinary Hospital.



Sink serves on the Board of Directors for the Human Environmental Sciences Foundation. She has received the School Human Environmental Sciences UNCG Annual Pacesetter Award, the Distinguished Service Award from the Auxiliary to American Veterinary Medical Association, and the Martin Litwack Award, as part of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association.

Sink serves as Sunday school teacher and WMU President for her church. She has participated on the Diaconate Board three different terms. When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Mrs. Sink professes, "My life has been enriched through the Christian influence and leadership ability instilled in me while attending Gardner-Webb. I have great appreciation for the faculty of 1947-1949 who expressed personal interest in me and other students."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

WILBURN WELLMON '49

Wilburn Wellmon graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1949 with an Associate of Arts degree. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Education from Texas A&M University and Master's degree from East Texas State Commerce. He is a retired teacher from Kings Mountain High School (N.C.). Wellmon has served on the Board of Directors of both the Texas and the North Carolina Vocational Association and participated in the North Carolina Vocational Advisory Committee. He has been recognized with the International Who's Who of Professional Educators and Who's Who Among American Teachers. Wellmon is a trustee with U-Can of Lawndale, N.C. and volunteers with World Changers, a mission organization.



When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience, Wellmon said, "Dr. Robert Dyer was my freshman Bible teacher who also took me on field trips with his sophomore psychology class. His example of sharing his life experiences, along with Bible principles, and making applications toward my needs and interests has served me well in my business, teaching, and personal career. The Christian atmosphere at GW was and is especially valuable to me."

1950's

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

DOROTHY SCISM SEAGRAVES '50

Dorothy Scism Seagraves graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1950 with an Associate of Arts degree. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree from Queens College in 1978. She has worked for the Public Service Company of North Carolina and taught for the Mini School.





FORMER GWU PRESIDENT HONORED AS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Dr. Frank Campbell was honored in December as Danville (Va.) Citizen of the Year for his commitment to community and character. Campbell served as GWU president from 2002-05. During his stay with the University, Campbell not only brought vision and leadership to a campus in transition but actively built upon 100 years of excellence in education by strengthening community relationships, increasing enrollment, forging new development prospects, and instilling a renewed confidence in Gardner-Webb as a leader in Christian higher education.

The 77th Annual Kiwanis Club Citizen of the Year honor represents citizens excelling in career and professional accomplishments; demonstration of religious and family values; participation in cultural/educational and civic growth; public service and leadership; and character.

Campbell is currently living in the Danville area and has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce, chair of the board of directors for Danville Regional Medical Center, chair for the United Way (Fund) and in various capacities for Danville First Baptist Church.

Seagraves facilitates a community Bible Study. She has also volunteered with ABLE, a reading program affiliated with Central Piedmont Community College. Seagraves has served as a Gardner-Webb trustee and is the sponsor of the Scism Seagraves Music Scholarship Award and the SC Harill Pastoral Scholarship.

When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Mrs. Seagraves testifies, "Gardner-Webb enabled me to build relationships that have lasted these many years, both with teachers, professors, and fellow students which has helped to shape my life. Gardner-Webb helped me to know that I was in the place that God wanted me to be. He created me for a specific purpose to accomplish a specific mission in life. He is the guarantor of well being to the end."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE RICHARD E. PLYLER '55

Richard Plyler graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1955 with an Associate of Arts degree and completed his Bachelor of Arts degree from Carson-Newman College in 1957. He obtained his Master of Divinity in 1970 from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Before retiring, Richard served as pastor to Wise Baptist Church, Wise,



Va., Mount Beulah Baptist Church, Bessemer City, North Carolina, and Patterson Grove Baptist Church in Kings Mountain, N.C.

Plyler, a charter member of Gardner-Webb's Christian Service Organization, has functioned as Vice President, President, and a member of the Board of Directors. He has participated in the Gardner-Webb Ministerial Board of Associates. Plyler has also served Gardner-Webb as trustee and adjunct professor in the M. Christopher White School of Divinity. When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Plyler declares, "God led me to Gardner-Webb in January, 1954. I have been forever thankful He did."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE HOWARD C. DAVENPORT '56

Howard C. Davenport graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1956 with an Associate of Arts degree and continued his education at Clemson University where he earned his BCSE in Civil Engineering. He attended Georgia Tech for graduate studies. Davenport received a Senior Business Management diploma from Management College and a Business diploma from Indiana State. He pursued additional law studies at the University of Houston. For nearly twenty-four years,



Howard worked for Shell Oil Company. He has been President and CEO of the Redmond Energy and Development Company and later Executive Vice President of Redmond Holding Company. Thereafter, he became President and CEO of American Nityx Company. He then formed Financial International in Houston, Texas, from where he retired as President.

Davenport is proud to have served in the Marine Corps with Reconnaissance and Intelligence in the Korean War. He received the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts and nine other honors. He presently serves as Chaplain of the Korean War Recon Marines, nationwide as well as Military Order of the Purple Hearts. He also has many professional affiliations. When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Davenport declares, "Gardner-Webb was the most defining period of my life."

W.H. "HAM" HUDSON '58 A.A.

serves as interim CEO for the Laurens County Health Care System. Hudson retired as president and CEO from Oconee Memorial Hospital in June of 2003 where he served for 32 years.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE SONJA H. JONES '59

Sonja H. Jones graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1959 with an Associate of Arts Degree and continued her education at



Appalachian where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 1961. She was a part of Supervision of Student Teachers at Appalachian State Teachers College in 1970 and at Gardner-Webb in 1977. She is a retired educator.

Among many organizations, Jones is a member of the Association of Classroom Teachers and National Educators of America. During her teaching career, she was named Cleveland County Teacher of the Year. She has participated in several community and church committees including secretary of Boiling Springs Town Board of Elections. Jones is also a Pedi-Tours volunteer at Cleveland Regional Medical Center and Story Lady for Boiling Springs Baptist Church Daycare Center.

Jones attends Boiling Springs Baptist Church (N.C.) where she has served as Deacon. When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Mrs. Jones testifies, "Gardner-Webb has always been a 'big' part of my life! It has had a positive effect on me. The Christian family environment helped nurture me as I grew physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

My husband Allen and I have made many friends-young and old, all colors, and different religions. GWU is a wonderful experience!"

ALUMNI PASSING

THOMAS C. KEY, SR. '50 A.A.

and his wife Shirley were tragically killed in a car accident on October 24, 2008 in Johnston County. Tom graduated from Shoals High School in 1948 and later attended Gardner-Webb. He graduated from High Point College and served in the Army during the Korean Conflict. Tom worked at Liggett & Myers, the State of North Carolina, and Jenkins and Grant. He was the owner of Diamond Builders.

JACK DARYL MCNEELY '58 A.A.

passed away Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at Gaston Memorial Hospital. McNeely retired as Manager of City Loan, United Financial, Norwest and Wells Fargo Loan Company (with 43 years of service). He was former lead singer of the band "The Wanderers." He was also a former Little League coach and avid Carolina fan.

PAUL GILBERT HAYNES

passed away on Saturday, June 14, 2008 at Hospice of Cleveland County. Haynes attended Gardner-Webb and Auburn University on a Football Scholarship. He was employed by Fiber Industries for 24 years and then retired from North Carolina Department of Transportation. Haynes was a member of Zion Baptist Church, Shelby, N.C.

THERESA M. HOLT '51

passed away on June 14, 2008. After graduating from Gardner-Webb, she completed her education at Elon University and was certified in Special Education from UNC. Holt taught in public schools in Cleveland and Montgomery counties. She moved to Virginia Beach in 1969 where she retired from the Virginia Beach School System after 43 years of teaching.

THURMAN W. ALLRED '52 A.A.

passed away October 3, 2008. He was a long time pastor, inspirational speaker and author. He also served as Superintendent of Missions of the Cabarrus Baptist Association.

BOBBY McCALL PETTYJOHN '52 A.A.

passed away October 12, 2008. He was retired from Dupont Company after 32 years as a research chemist. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Camden, S.C. where he was Sunday School Director, deacon and a Sunday school teacher for over 25 years.

BEN LEWIS POSTON '57

died October 6, 2008. Poston worked for a time as a probation officer and was then recruited as the first executive of the Cleveland County Boys Club (now known as the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland County). Poston spent his time involved with scouting and was certified as a water safety instructor providing swimming and boating lessons for area youth.

1960's

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

JERRY R. WALKER '61

Jerry R. Walker graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1961 with an Associate of Arts degree. In 1963, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Western Carolina University. Through The American



College Jerry became a Chartered Financial Consultant in 1984. He is an Investment Advisor Representative for Nationwide Insurance.

Walker has served Boiling Springs, North Raleigh, and Boone Rotary Clubs as President. He has been named a Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Fellow. Jerry has also participated as Advisory Committee chairman with the High County Salvation Army and is the president of the newly established G-W Varsity Club. When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience, Walker maintains, "Gardner-Webb occupies a special place in my life. I met my wife there and served as a staff member for five years. We met many of our most cherished friends at GW."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

DONNA HENNESSEE BRYAN '62

Donna Hennessee Bryan graduated from Gardner-Webb with an Associate of Arts degree in 1962. After graduating from Gardner-Webb, she completed her Artium Baccalaureatus degree in English at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She has been Administrative Assistant for Eye Research Foundation, American Red Cross Blood Research Laboratory, and the Department of Pediatrics, Richland Memorial Hospital/USC School of Medicine. For the last twenty-two years, she has served as Director of the Seeds of Hope Farmers Market Project.



Bryan has been on a medical mission trip to El Salvador for earthquake relief. She has served on the Board of Directors and is a member of East Coast Migrant Head Start Project, Rural Mission, Inc., and Greater Columbia Cooperative Ministry. Among many awards, Bryan has been recognized for the Alex English Humanitarian Award presented by Robert D. Coble, mayor of Columbia, South Carolina as well as South Carolina Volunteer of the Year by the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund.

When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Mrs. Bryan testifies, "Gardner-Webb provided a warm welcome and nurturing atmosphere where I learned important life lessons. The small classes and good teaching provided a solid foundation for my further college education."

Class Notes

DONALD HORN '63 A.A.

retired March 25, 2007 after serving as pastor for Surf City Baptist Church for 30 years. He began his first church in March, 1967. He has served as pastor for 40 years and is now enjoying retirement.

1970's

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE DAWN SPAINHOUR NEELY '71

Dawn Spainhour Neely graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education. She obtains Master of Arts in both School Counseling 1991 and Administration



and Supervision 1999 from Gardner-Webb. She received her certification in Gifted Education from Amhurst College in 2001. She has been School Counselor for Boiling Springs Elementary School, Assistant Principal for Crest Middle School, and is currently the Principal at Hendrix Elementary School.

Neely has served with the South Carolina Association of School Administrators Board of Directors of School Policy and South Carolina Executive Board of School Leadership with the South Carolina Department of Education. Neely was awarded the South Carolina State Superintendent's Award from the School Leadership Executive Institute for Leadership. Neely is the Principal of Hendrix Elementary and in the Fall of 2009, the school will be named the first International Baccalaureate public school in Spartanburg County and the 12th in the state of South Carolina.

When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Neely affirms her University, "Gardner-Webb provided me with a wonderful educational experience through an exemplary curriculum, supportive and caring instructors, and a foundation in the teachings of Jesus Christ. The friendships I made so many years ago have impacted my life and I am proud to have been a graduate of GWU and to continue in my affiliation with the University."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE STEVE M. SIMPSON '71

Steve M. Simpson graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. He is President and Partner of South Atlantic Construction Company. Among many groups, Simpson participates in the Raleigh Homebuilders Association and Board of Realtors. He is the Vice Chair of the Raleigh Housing Authority. Steve has volunteered with Step-Up Ministry, a housing options group. He has served on the Gardner-Webb Board of Advisors and in other leadership roles as deacon and elder in his church.



When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Simpson notes, "Even though I didn't realize it at the time, my four years at Gardner-Webb truly set the stage for the rest of my life. My faith in God, the love of my wife and family, the friends met, relationships established, and memories made in my years at Gardner-Webb have proven to be the foundation for my life."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE GEORGE ADAMS '72

George Adams graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Education. While at Gardner-Webb, Adams was drafted to the NBA's world champion Milwaukee Bucks in 1972. Later that year, he transitioned from the NBA to the ABA San Diego Conquistadors. After graduating from Gardner-Webb, Adams went to work for Parks and Recreation as Superintendent. Today, he works for Favor Youth Services of Gastonia, N.C. and is a motivational speaker for numerous groups including Boys Clubs, churches, schools, and the YMCA.



Adams continues to be an active member of the National Basketball Retired Players Association. He has been inducted in the Kings Mountain Hall of Fame as well as the Gardner-Webb Athletic Hall of Fame.

When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Adams, remarks, "The transition from my hometown of Kings Mountain to Gardner-Webb

University was heartwarming, because GWU became my second home. GWU provided me with the foundation, support, and access to a world of opportunities that has led to many professional and life experiences."

WILLIAM MICHAEL GOUDELOCK '73 B.A.

obtained a master's in Family Psychology from Capella University in 2002. He earned his Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist (LCAS) in 2004 and Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in 2006; he was also certified as a Clinical Supervisor (CCS) in 2008. William provides mental health and substance abuse counseling in Caldwell County. His company has offices across North Carolina and he is the director of the substance abuse services.

JOHN D. CROWDER III '74 B.S.

retired from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources in April 2007 after 32 years of service. He started Leland News and Reporter in January 2008.

JOHN LEE '74 B.S.

is the new Community Corrections Manager in Judicial District 14 which includes Durham County. Lee is active in the Roxboro Area Chamber of Commerce, the North Carolina Probation/Parole Association and Roxboro Baptist Church.

PHILLIP CRAIG CAMPBELL '75 B.A.

currently serves as Minister of Music to First Baptist Church, Lincolnton, N.C. as well as volunteer chaplain at Carolinas Medical Center-Lincoln. His daughter, Laura Campbell and son-in-law, Tyler Roach, are 2004 graduates of Gardner-Webb. His son, Lee Phillip Campbell, currently attends Gardner-Webb and plans to graduate in spring 2009.

ROGER V. KING '75 B.A.

announces his retirement as Senior Vice President and Divisional Manager for U.S. Consumer in Wells Fargo Financial, bringing a close to a 30-year career with the company. King's career with Wells Fargo began in 1978 as a Credit Manager in Winston-Salem, N.C. He was named Assistant Manager of the store in 1980. He managed stores in Goldsboro, N.C., and Greensboro, N.C., before becoming a District Manager in South Carolina in June 1988. In January 1997, Roger was promoted to Vice President and Regional Manager, overseeing districts in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee. Roger became a Divisional Manager in August 2001, leading a division of four regions in the Midwest. In July 2005, Roger assumed leadership of the Auto Direct Stores when they moved into the U.S. Consumer group

CINDY HENDRICKS '87 HELPING TO STOP THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

by Lauren Quesenberry

There are some people who make a positive impact on their community once in a lifetime but for Cindy Hendricks, it is a daily call to service to reach those in search of hope. In October 2007, Hendricks became the director of Davie County Domestic Violence Services and Rape Crisis Center located in Mocksville, N.C.

Hendricks' job includes the responsibility to write grants for funding purposes, implement programs, keep up the 24-hour helpline, work alongside local and regional organizations, and prevent domestic violence in Davie County.

Hendricks explains the blessing of being in a position to prevent domestic violence. "We don't always have to react, we have the opportunity to be proactive."

Hendricks says she is the voice for women who haven't been allowed to speak; she is the advocate for children and young adults helping them to break the cycle of domestic violence. She is also a promoter for local programs providing support and counseling to people in need.

Hendricks remembers knowing that GWU was the place for her when she was a high school senior. It provided an opportunity for small classes and close friendships. "Gardner-Webb just felt like home."



as part of Program ABC. At the time there were approximately 1,100 auto team members in 174 stores across 34 states.

As Senior Vice President and Divisional Manager, Roger oversaw a U.S. Consumer division with more than 1,300 team members in 32 districts in the Green, Henderson, Murphy, Russell and Wahlin regions.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE GEORGE R. GILLIAM '76 B.A.

George R. Gilliam graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. He has been a Data Processing Supervisor for The Bib Company and is currently a Data Conversion Manager of Special Projects for the Georgia Power Company.



Gilliam was the first in his family to graduate from college. He volunteered for the 1996 Olympics and served as Scout Master for Boy Scouts of America. He has also participated on the local school advisory board and as PTA President of Love T Noland Elementary and Creekside High School.

Gilliam attends Zion Hall Baptist Church where he serves as Chair of the Trustee Board and

Sunday School Teacher. When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Gilliam asserts, "The experience of attending and graduating from GWU has allowed me to fulfill many dreams and ambitions."

MARY MAHAFFEE '76 A.A.

graduated in 2008 with Bachelor of Science degree from Winston-Salem State University. She has four children: Amanda, a second-year student in East Carolina University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program; Meredith, a 2008 graduate from University of North Carolina; Kaitlyn, a student at East Carolina University; and Carson, a senior in high school.

PAULA GULLEDGE WILLIAMS, '77, B.S.

has a set of ten devotions in the Fall 2008 edition of Open Windows, the daily devotional guide published by the Southern Baptist Convention. Williams currently teaches K-2nd grade special education students at Pilot Elementary School in Greensboro, N.C. and is a National Board Certified Teacher. She is the organist at Conrad Memorial Baptist Church in High Point, N.C. and writes a bi-weekly column called "Lessons Learned" for the High Point Enterprise. She and her husband, Gralyn, have two children and three grandchildren.

TIMOTHY RAY HANNAH '78 B.S.

is now teaching high school business courses after 20 years in retail management. He has one daughter who is a senior in high school. Hannah has lived in Chattanooga, Tenn. for over 20 years.

DANA DILLON WALLING '78 B.S.

has been named Director of Activities and Volunteer Development for Brighton Gardens, a Sunrise Senior Community. She and husband Jeffrey have two children, Christina and Melissa. She would love to hear from her classmates. E-mail her at yes.freek@verizon.net

CONSTANCE ELIZABETH "CONNIE" CARSWELL '79 B.A.

is employed as an elementary school teacher by Brevard Public Schools.

JOHNNY MARSHALL HUNT '79 B.A.

was elected to be the President of the Southern Baptist Convention. He also serves as pastor of First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga.

ALUMNI PASSINGS

JAMES TERRY WHISNANT '79 B.S.

passed away on October 25, 2008, at his residence. He was a member of Lakeview Baptist Church in Hickory, N.C. and was employed by CommScope for 25 years.

1980's

DENNIS A. SMART '81 B.S.

was recently named the Assistant Vice President and Community Office Manager of CommunityONE Bank in Taylorsville, N.C. He has more than 15 years of banking experience and previously served as Mortgage Loan Officer for Atlantic Home Mortgage in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

LISA FOSTER TUCKER '81 B.A.

completed her master's in Library and Information Science from University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2003. She serves on the Executive Board of the North Carolina School Library Media Association and is Chairman of the North Carolina Children's Book Award Committee. Lisa is currently Media Coordinator at Middle Fork Elementary School in Walkertown, N.C.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

MARY PROCTOR HENDRIX '83 B.S.

Mary Proctor

Hendrix graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and completed her Master of Arts degree in Reading Education in 2002 from Appalachian State University.

Mary is a Doctoral Candidate at Appalachian State University. She has worked at First United Methodist church as a Preschool Teacher and a Title I Reading Specialist with Davie County Schools. Currently, she is an Adjunct Professor for Appalachian State University.

Hendrix has been recognized as a National Board Certified Teacher. Among many groups, she is part of the International Reading Association, American Reading Forum, and Society for the Scientific Studies of Reading. She serves as a classroom volunteer for Davie County Schools.

Hendrix attends First United Methodist Church in Mocksville, N.C. where she is a Sunday school teacher and leads the children's sermon in worship. When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience Mrs. Hendrix fondly reflects, "Since third grade, Gardner-Webb has been a positive and important part of my life-first as a faculty kid, later as a student, and finally as the proud parent of a Gardner-Webb University graduate."

KRISTA COLLE GIBSON '84 B.A.

returned to working full-time as a writer for the Greer Citizen in Greer, S.C. after 20 years in the trenches of full-time motherhood. Her career in writing started at Gardner-Webb in 1984 where she worked in Information Services. She and her husband Bill have two sons, Taylor, a student at the University of South Carolina and Connor, a student at Riverside High School.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

ROGER ALAN GREENE '84 B.S.

Roger Alan Greene graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems and immediately went to work for J & L Motors of Hickory, Inc. as a wholesale car buyer. He has been ranked number one seller at Auto Auctions in Anderson and Darlington, S.C. and number two in Statesville, N.C.



Greene has participated in a mission trip to the Philippines and has served in various church leadership roles including Sunday school teacher and committee member. He is an active participant on the Board of Directors for Gardner-Webb's Bulldog Club.

Greene attends Tri City Baptist Church where he serves as Deacon and in an outreach prison ministry. When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Greene proudly states, "My experience at Gardner-Webb, in the classroom and on the football field, has led me to a successful career in the car business. I realize now that the discipline I learned at school has played a major role in my career."

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

Eddie L. Wilkins '84

Eddie L. Wilkins was drafted to play for the New York Knicks and he later played for the Philadelphia 76ers in the NBA. He is the Executive Director for Eddie Lee Wilkins Future Stars and President of the Eddie Lee Wilkins Youth Association.

Wilkins is a member of the Retired NBA Player's Association. For his work with terminally ill children, Eddie received the Jason F. Gruen Man of the Year Award. He was recognized as Citizen of the Year for Cartersville, Georgia in 1994 and 1998. Eddie volunteers with Big Brothers, a mentoring program for boys.

When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience, Wilkins says, "GWU reinforced my Christian values and taught me to be an advocate for youth."

**See Companion story in this issue on page 18.*



STEPHEN SUMMERS '86 B.A.

was recently named Vice President and Manager of Deposit Operations for Mountain 1st Bank & Trust. After 15 years of pastoral ministry in North Carolina Baptist churches, he is now engaged in ministry within the marketplace.

KIP CLONINGER '87 B.S.

received a Rank 1 certification in High School administration from Union College in Barbourville, Kentucky during the Summer of 2007. He also passed the National Administrative Praxis.

COY GIBSON '87 M.A.

has been named Wachovia Principal of the Year for McDowell County (N.C.). He is the principal of West McDowell Junior High School.

PRISCILLA MCBRAYER '87 M.A.,

has been named Rutherford County (N.C.) Schools' 2008-2009 Outstanding Educator. She is a second grade teacher at Mt. Vernon-Ruth Elementary School and has taught in Rutherford County Schools since 1974. She has also worked at Spindale Elementary and Rutherfordton Elementary School.

NATHAN CHARLES WRISTON '87 B.S.

was recently selected as the Commander of the UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter Flight Detachment for the Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe located in Heidelberg, Germany. He and his wife Julie now live in Heidelberg with their five children: Jonathan, Gavin, Rebekah Kate, Sarah Beth and Hannah Jo.

TRACY JESSUP '89 B.A.

successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, "Presidential Leadership at a Historically Baptist College: A Frame Analysis" at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership in Higher Education at the May commencement ceremonies. Jessup is the Assistant Dean of Students and Minister to the University at Gardner-Webb University.

1990's

TIFFANY DAVIS HUGHES '90 B.A.

is a 2008 graduate of Leadership South Carolina, the state's oldest and most respected leadership development program. The Class of 2008, with the aid of state and regional experts, jointly explored natural resources, quality of life, economic development, education, social and diversity issues in seven three-day sessions held around the state.

MAKING THE RIGHT MOVES

Tayuanne Dewberry Finds her Calling as Non-Profit Executive Director

by Meredith White

Tayuanne Dewberry ('97, '08) learned to make the right moves when life handed her the wrong ones. A native of Forest City, N.C., Dewberry now lives in Charlotte where she is the executive director of "Right Moves for Youth," a non-profit organization established to encourage children to excel in school.

Dewberry graduated from Gardner-Webb University with a Bachelor of Science degree in management information systems in 1997. She recently completed her master's degree in mental health counseling and education in Dec. 2008.

"I received such a thorough education at Gardner-Webb," she said. "There is nothing I encountered there that did not have some preparation for what I am doing now. Gardner-Webb sees the student as a whole person, not just as an assembly line."

Tayuanne has found her niche working with youth and uses her past experiences as inspiration. After several other human service jobs including the director at the Boys and Girls Club in Gaston County, Dewberry knows she has found her calling with "Right Moves for Youth."

"My job affords me the opportunity to reach out to young people who are subject to circumstances much like those I encountered during my youth," Dewberry said. "It gives me the chance to positively impact young lives and to effect change that will make a difference for future generations."

"Right Moves for Youth" works to help students improve school attendance, behavior, and academic performance. The organization serves approximately 2,000 children a year at 75 sites in the Charlotte area. Seventy of these sites are located at schools. "I really feel like my service to youth is a calling," Dewberry said.

For information about Right Moves for Youth and how to volunteer, visit www.rightmovesforyouth.org.



SCOTT THOMAS SLAYDON '90 B.S.

is a U. S. Navy Chief Petty Officer and was recently selected for the Security Limited Duty Officer Commissioning Program. He will commission as an Ensign in February 2009 at Naval Air Station in Key West, Fla. After completing the Officer Indoctrination Training in Newport, R.I. Scott will be assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay Cuba as a Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion Assistant Company Commander. He is currently assigned as Chief of Police of the 120 person Air Station police department. He is married to the former Susan Milton of King, N.C. They made their home in Winston Salem, N.C. for several years before his return to active duty.

LORI MAUNEY GRAHAM '91 B.S.

and her husband Robert announce the birth of their daughter, Lindsey Elyse Graham, born on December 21, 2007. Lindsey is also welcomed by older brother, Thomas.

WARREN TODD SMITH '91 B.A.

graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. with a Doctorate of Ministry in Expository Preaching.

BRUCE HARRIS '92 B.S.

and his wife Sharon announce the birth of their first child, Maddison "Maddi" M. Harris. She was born March 4, 2008 at Martin Memorial Hospital in Stuart, Fla.

SALLI PHILLIPS PETTY '92 B.S.

and her husband Michael have three children: son- Andrew, and twin daughters, Alice and Emily. Both Salli and Michael are employed with the Cherokee County School District #1 and live in Gaffney, S.C.

DWAYNE McCLURE '93 B.S.

recently accepted the position of Operations Assistance for CitiFinancial Auto Division in Fort Mill, S.C. He previously held the position of Senior Account Manager within the same division.

TONY McKNIGHT '93 B.S.

was recently elected to the Orange County School Board of Education. He will begin his four- year term in July 2008.

MARSHALL RANDALL

"RANDY" CAPPS '94 B.A.

recently became the Community Sports Editor for the Fayetteville Observer.

ALFREDA REED LINDSAY '94 B.S.

recently completed her master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling at Winston-Salem State University.

KERMIT "LEE" DARNELL '95 B.S. , '08 M.B.A

began work in September 2008 as Department Chair for the Health Technologies Programs at South Piedmont Community College in Monroe, N.C.

STEVE DUNCAN '95 B.A.

accepted a position with Fluor Corporation, formerly known as Fluor Daniel as a Human Resource Specialist. Fluor is one of the largest engineering, maintenance, procurement, and construction companies in the world.

ANGELA KROL '95 B.S.

was promoted to Vice President of First Bank. She manages the Eastgate location and has been with First Bank since 1990.

STACY WILSON '95 B.A.

and Shay Bollinger were married on December 22, 2007 at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Hickory, N.C.

KIMBERLY ANN BURRIS '96 B.S., '02 M.A. and Michael Dormas were married on November 11, 2006. Kimberly and Michael are expecting their first child in February 2009.

TAMARA FOX HINES '97 B.S.

Tamara Fox Hines and her husband Jason announce the birth of their son Landon Charles on November 20, 2007. His birth followed Tamara's adoption of daughter, Brittany Ann. Tamara and Jason are teachers employed with Caldwell County Schools.

JAMES P. WALL IV '97 B.A.

is in his eighth year of teaching, and currently serves in his fifth year at Sun Valley High School near Monroe, N.C. He teaches U.S. History and Holocaust Studies. James is advisor to the student council, which raises between \$40,000 and \$50,000 a year for charity. The council's biggest project is the Annual Children's Christmas Party, which benefits at least 40 families in need during Christmas. James is also a class one registered NCHSAA high school football official.

NIKOL McKINNEY-WITHROW '97 B.A., '04 M.B.A.

joined the staff at Converse College in August 2007 as the Job Development Coordinator.

GARY FORD '98 M.A.

is the new principal of South Point High School in Gaston County.

CHRIS GARTLAND '98 M.B.A.

was appointed Plant Manager for Brock Grain Systems in Frankfort, Ind.

ELIZABETH COATES EMERY '99 B.S.

recently earned a master's degree in School Administration from Gardner-Webb.



JONATHAN H. FIELDS '99 B.A.

is now living in Lexington, S.C. and is working for BB&T.

JASON HARGETT '99 B.S., '01 M.B.A.

was recently promoted to Supply Chain Manager of Eaton Corporation in Forest City, N.C. He currently lives in Forest City, N.C. with his wife, Kelly, and daughter, Alana.

JOHANNA BRONSINK HUMPHREY '99 B.S.

has moved to Hong Kong SAR due to her husband's most recent job promotion. She and her family hope to be there 2 years before returning to the states or possibly another Asian country.

GROVER LINEBARGER '99 M.A.

is Principal at Catawba Valley High School and has been selected as the 2009 Wachovia Principal of the Year for Hickory Public Schools. His administrative career began in Catawba County Schools as an Assistant Principal at Oxford Elementary School and Sweetwater Elementary School. He has been at Catawba Valley High School for one year.

YEN-KWANG LIN '99 B.S. AND

AMY ARROWOOD LIN '02 M.Div

welcomed the birth of their third child, Andrew Robert Lin on May 11, 2008.

SARAH JO AXE SCHASSBERGER '99 B.S.

and her husband Abram welcomed their first child, Joshua Isaac Axe February 6, 2008.

DANIEL BENJAMIN SMITH '99 B.S.

and his wife Rebecca celebrated the birth of their first child, Maggie Danielle Smith, born July 1, 2008.

LORETTA ELDER TRAVIS '99 B.S.

accepted a new position as Community Support Services Case Manager (QP) with Universal MH/DD/SA in Morganton, N.C. Travis has eight years experience in various positions in mental health since graduation including residential, individual services and management.

STEPHANIE LYNN WARE '99 B.A.

and Matthew Ryan Weiser were married September 6, 2008. She is currently a high school science teacher and they are living in Winston-Salem, N.C.

MATTHEW WEATHERS '99 B.S.

graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree and Master of Arts degree in Professional Counseling in May 2008. He and his family are moving to Fort Carson, Colo. in August 2008 to be an active duty Chaplain with the 4th Infantry Division.

ALUMNI PASSING

SHARON PALMER STALLINGS '96 B.S.

died on September 23, 2008 at Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, N.C. Stallings was a retired Customer Service Representative from Ashland Corporation. She attended Bethlehem Church.

2000's

JOHN KENNETH COX '00 M.B.A.

has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Carolinas Roofing & Sheet Metal Contractors Association. Since 1943, this organization has worked to promote and safeguard the common business interests of its members through education, public advocacy, programs and services, and a forum for networking. CRSMCA is affiliated with the National Roofing Contractors Association.

BETH DIRKS '00 M.B.A.

was appointed County Manager for Davie County, N.C.

** See Feature on page 30.*

DeANNA FINGER '00 M.A.

is Principal at Tuttle Elementary School and has been selected as the 2009 Wachovia Principal of the Year for Catawba County Schools. She began her career as a high school mathematics teacher. She has served as a principal in Catawba County for seven years, and she has been at Tuttle Elementary for three years.

KARYN CASPER HOBSON '00 B.A.

and her husband Michael proudly announce the birth of their second son Alexander Reid Hobson on October 9, 2007. They are also parents to son, Benjamin Garrett Hobson. Karyn is teaching part time with the Olenka School of Music and is the director of Howard Children's Chorus in association with the public school system. Michael is a Media Specialist with the Howard County Public School System.

Did you know that Johnny Cash received an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities in 1971.

MELISSA CATHERINE MELTON '00 B.S.
married Adam McGinnis at Corinth Baptist Church in Ellenboro, N.C. on December 22, 2007. She is a teacher at Crest Middle School and Adam serves as a Marine.

JAMEY MOYERS '00 B.S.
earned a master's degree in Instructional Technology in the classroom through George Mason University in May 2008.

JASON K. NEILL '00 B.S.
was recently recognized by Cambridge Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals in Counseling and Development. He works for Family Service, Inc. in Gastonia, N.C. as a Licensed Professional Counselor and has recently been trained as a facilitator for Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children Sexual Abuse Prevention Program. He is also a certified Family Rules counselor, which is a parenting model used in teaching community parenting classes.

AMYLYNNE PARDUE '00 B.S.
and Chris Lucas were married on May 31, 2008. She is employed by North Carolina State University as an Extension Agent - 4-H Youth Development in Alleghany County and he is self-employed. The couple live in Sparta, N.C.

BRANDON ZOCH '00 B.S.
GRETCHEN FRITZ ZOCH '98 B.S., '01 M.A.
are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Justice Brooks Zoch. He was born on March 14, 2008. Gretchen has been named Teacher of the Year at Riverview Elementary

School for the 2008-2009 school year. She has also been named Hertford County's Teacher of the Year.

SUZANNE ELIZABETH CLEMMER '01 A.A., '03 BSN
and Ronald Orin Hutchins were married on September 27, 2008 at Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Gastonia, N.C. She is employed by Gaston County Schools and Dilworth Pediatrics in Charlotte, N.C. The couple live in Gastonia.

TRAVIS DANIEL CONN '01 B.S.
was united in marriage with Julia Christy Peeler on June 28, 2008 at First Baptist Church, Spartanburg, S.C. He is a Sales Representative for Jostens, and Christy is owner of the Castle Prom and Bridal in Spartanburg.

LORI GILBERT DOTSON '01 B.S.
and her husband Chad announce the birth of their third daughter, Leah Bethany Dotson, born February 28, 2008. Leah was also welcomed by her older sisters, Lauren and Lindsey.

JOSHUA RUNTENELLI '01 B.S.
and his wife Valerie would like to announce the birth of their first child, Jackson born on April 12, 2008.

JOY COLLINS THAYER '01 A.D.N.
and her husband Frank are proud to announce a new addition to their family, daughter Lucy Carolyne Thayer born April 14, 2007. The Thayer family is stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. and Joy's husband was deployed to Afghanistan on March 28, 2008.

JOEL TURNER '01 M.B.A.
was appointed by Stanley Furniture Company Inc. as Assistant Treasurer. He will be responsible for internal and external financial reporting, financial planning, risk management, corporate income tax planning and compliance.

CASSIDY NICOLE WILLIAMS '01 B.S.N.
and Stuart Scott Butler were joined in marriage Saturday April 5, 2008 at Chase Baptist Church. Cassidy is employed by the Foothills Nursing Consortium as a clinical instructor, and Rutherford Hospital Outpatient Clinic as a registered nurse. Stuart is employed by All American Homes in Forest City. The couple lives in Forest City, N.C.

CHRISTY CORRELL-HUGHES '02 B.A.
and her husband Larry are proud to announce the birth of their son, Brooks Bradley Correll-Hughes, born March 12, 2008. Christy is also pleased to have completed her Master of Divinity degree from George W. Truett Theological Seminary. The family continues to make their home in Waco, Texas.

CONNIE BUCHANAN LICHTENHAHN '02 B.S.
assumed a new position at the Spruce Pine (N.C.) Community Hospital following graduation. Her daughter Caitlin graduated from Gardner-Webb in December 2008.

BROOKE CLARK OVERHOLT '02 B.A. AND MICHAEL SCOTT OVERHOLT '02 B.A.
welcome a daughter, Tirza Catherine born on October 3, 2007.

NATHAN ROUSE '02 EXPLORES UNIQUE THEATRE EXPERIENCE

Almost four years ago, Nathan Rouse '02 was sitting on a Florida beach reading *The Magnificent Defeat* by minister and Pulitzer prize-nominated author, Frederick Buechner. As an actor, these essays inspired Rouse to create a production based on the chapter, "The Birth."

For the third consecutive year, Rouse performed "The Birth: A Reflective Celebration of the Coming of Christ" in Charlotte, N.C. "The Birth" was designed to usher the audience into an encounter with the single most important event in human history," Rouse said. "It utilizes a broad range of artistic mediums to invoke the audience's senses in imagining what it would have been like the night Jesus was born."

Characters including the innkeeper, wise man and shepherd give first hand accounts of their involvement with the birth. With a mixture of dance, live music and theatrical performance, "The Birth" artistically unfolds literally within arms reach. The venue Rouse used created an intimate atmosphere with its 50-seat arena circling the small, black-box stage.

"Another beautiful thing about this show is its simplicity," Rouse said. "It's very minimalist... 'The Birth' is different than any other Christmas production out there."

Rouse graduated from Gardner-Webb in 2002 with a major in theatre arts and a minor in religious studies. He looks back to his career at Gardner-Webb as a time of formation and development as an actor. "I wouldn't be in Charlotte right now doing what I'm doing if it weren't for Gardner-Webb and the connections and relationships I've built there that steered my life in the direction it has gone now."



BETH DIRKS '00 LIVING HER CHILDHOOD DREAM

Serving as County Manager of Davie County

by Lauren Quesenberry

It was while Beth Dirks ('00 MBA) was still in high school that she knew she wanted to serve in government. At the age of 16, Dirks started working part time in county administration for Davie County (N.C.). She was able to work with the town manager, and remembers watching him and thinking, "That's what I want to be one day."

After graduating from UNC Greensboro in '97, with a Bachelor of Science in business administration, Dirks became the assistant manager to the town of Mocksville.

Soon, Dirks began taking classes at Gardner-Webb – Statesville and earned a Master of Business Administration degree. "Gardner-Webb really taught me a lot. I learned about interacting with people of different cultures," she said. "It really was a well-rounded experience," she said.

After graduation, she became the first town manager of Bermuda Run in Davie County. After five years, Dirks became the assistant county manager of Davie County and in October 2008, she was named as the County Manager.

Dirks is responsible for 20 departments, 395 employees, and a budget of \$65.8 million, or as Dirks says, "anything that walks in my door or calls on my phone."

Dirks states, "I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the citizens of Davie County. The job is very exciting because you never know what will come next. I leave each day knowing I made a difference."

NATHAN ROUSE '02 B.A.

and his wife Tracey celebrated the birth of their first child, Lucinda Carmichael Rouse, born August 27, 2008.

ROBIN RICHARD RUDISILL '02 B.S.

and her husband Reuben welcome their second beautiful baby boy, Coleman Mark Rudisill, born February 7, 2008.

KRISTEN LANEY BENARD '03 B.S.

and her husband Mic joyfully announce the birth of their daughter Laney Sheridan Bernard, born April 15, 2008.

AMANDA GALE PENNELL '02 B.S.

and Christopher Rogers were united in marriage June 29, 2008 at Shuford Gardens in Hickory, N.C. She is the owner of Molly Malone's Jewelry and Accessories in Hickory and Mooresville. The couple live in Bethlehem, N.C.

Anchor and Reporter with Fox TV in Charlotte, N.C. where she has a chance to cover a wide array of sports stories including interviews with NFL and NBA players.

Bartik has received a first place award with The Radio-Television News Directors Association, for outstanding achievements in electronic journalism. She is actively involved with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Charlotte. She dedicates her spare time to mentoring students who desire a career in broadcasting.

Bartik fondly recalls her experience at Gardner-Webb, "I went four semesters at the Webb and loved it. My favorite communications professors were Dr. Ted Vaughn and Dr. Bob Carey. It was great getting advice from them; I loved how I could talk with them about anything."

**Watch for a feature story on Kelli Bartik in an upcoming issue of the Gardner-Webb magazine.*

APRIL LOGAN BOLTON, '03 B.S.

graduated from the Medical University of S.C. with a Master of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies August 15, 2008.

CRYSTAL CLODFELTER '03 M.A.

has been named Director of K-5 Instruction for Randolph County Schools. She was previously the Principal at Central Davidson Middle School.

ANTHONY AUSTIN COX '03 B.A.

and Brandy Kay Adams were married May 24, 2008. Anthony is employed at Buck's Communications in High Point, N.C. Brandy

works for High Point Regional Hospital. The couple now live in Trinity, N.C.

SARAH ELIZABETH COX '03 B.S.

married Stephen Quick on July 4, 2008. She currently works as the Executive Assistant to the Chief Medical Officer at a psychiatric hospital.

CHANDA FLYNN '03 M.S.N

was promoted to Chief Nursing Officer for Mary Black Health System in February 2008.

CARI ELIZABETH HAMRICK '03 B.S.

and Andrew Michael Wilson were married September 13, 2008 at Polkville Baptist Church in Polkville, N.C. She is employed by the New You Salon in Shelby, N.C.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE SAMANTHA L. STATON '03

Samantha L. Staton graduated from Gardner-Webb in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sacred Music. She earned her master's degree in Vocal Performance from the College Conservatory of Music at The University of Cincinnati (Ohio) in 2008. She is a vocalist currently performing with major opera companies worldwide.



Staton appeared in the Opera festival di Roma in Italy as the Abbess in Puccini's *Sour Angelica*. Among several honors, she was the North

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

KELLI BARTIK '03

Kelli Bartik graduated from Gardner-Webb in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. She began her career in television broadcasting in Billings, Montana where she worked as a News Reporter and later a Sports Reporter for the ABC/FOX station. She is currently a Sports



Carolina District winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council. She has made many stage appearances as chorus member in Faust and Aida with the Cincinnati Opera and in Nabucco with Opera Carolina. Last summer she was the featured soloist in Beethoven's Choral Fantasy with the Cincinnati Symphony.

When asked about her Gardner-Webb experience, Staton insists, "GWU had a major impact on every facet of my life. It provided a strong foundation in which my faith, character, and musicianship were nurtured. Gardner-Webb prepared me to meet the challenges of life."

SHERRI HARTLEY '04 M.A.

was named the 2008-2009 Davidson County Schools Teacher of the Year. She is a Kindergarten teacher at Reeds Elementary School in Davidson County.

MELISSA MARIE HOUGHTON '03 B.S.

gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Chloe Elizabeth, September 30, 2007. She is currently working on her master's degree in Elementary Education while teaching night classes at Erie Community College.

CHRIS JOHNSTON '03 M.A.,

is the Principal at Central Davidson Middle School (N.C.). He started as a teacher at Tyro Middle School in 1991 where he stayed until 2004 before becoming the Assistant Principal at Ledford Middle School.

MARVIN JOINER '03 B.S.

was recently promoted to Engineering Manager at Haemonetics IV-Solutions Plant in Union, S.C. Haemonetics is the global leader in blood processing technology and has been in business for over 30 years.

CERETHA MITCHELL '03 M.A.

has been named the Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction for Thomasville City Schools. She is leaving her post with Davidson County Schools as Middle Schools Director. She has been working with Davidson County Schools since 1992.

ERIN BOYD ODOM '03 B.A.

and her husband Will are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Brooke Odom born June 12, 2008.

ALICIA COGDILL VANHOY '03 B.S.

received her master's degree in Social Work from the University of South Carolina, Columbia in May 2005 and received her licensure shortly thereafter. She has been working as a Licensed Master of Social Work (LMSW) for the Ernest E. Kennedy Center as an Alcohol and Drug Addictions Counselor since August 2005 in Moncks Corner, S.C. Vanhoy recently took a position as a part-time contract therapist for Oasis Christian Counseling in January 2008, where she implements play therapy with young children. She is currently working toward her Licensed Independent Social Work (LISW) and is about to become a CACI-Certified Addictions Counselor. She and her husband Christopher welcomed their first child, Christopher Michael Vanhoy, Jr. (CJ) May 22, 2006.

DAWN ZIMMERMAN '03 B.S.

and Eric Bert were married on June 28, 2008 at Owl's Eye Winery. Dawn is employed as a Registered Nurse with Kings Mountain Hospital. Eric is an Assistant Team Leader at Fox Distributing.

TRAVIS O'NEAL DAVIDSON '04 M.B.A

was conferred with her Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University in February 2008.

BEVERLY MACK '04 M.A.

has been named principal of Jay M. Robinson High School in Concord, N.C. She was the Assistant Principal of Instruction for the past three years.

LAURIE A. PINKERT '04 B.A.

recently completed her Master of Arts degree in English at the University of Maine and will begin her doctoral studies in Rhetoric and Composition at Purdue University in Fall 2008. She will continue to teach undergraduate writing courses while completing her Ph.D.

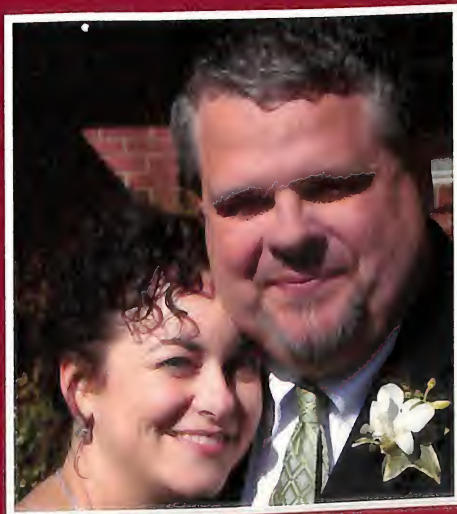
REBECCA ROGERS PAYTON '04 B.S.

and her husband Kenneth welcome their daughter Kelsie Rebekah Payton, born September 2, 2008 in Mooresville, N.C. Kelsie joins her sister Kenedi Emerson Payton.

WENDY EVA JO SNYDER '04 B.S.

and Matthew Gouge were united in marriage on "The Sweetest Day," October 20, 2007. They are looking forward to spending the rest of their lives together!

GWU GRIEVES THE LOSS OF MARCHING BAND DIRECTOR SID HATON



Sid Haton and his wife, Dr. Sydney Brown

In September 2008, GWU experienced the untimely death of D. Sid Haton, the director of athletic bands and instructor of music for the Department of Fine Arts. Haton was brought to Gardner-Webb in 2006 to kick-start a brand new marching band program that was entering its second year. From a 2007 Gardner-Webb article, Haton said a university's band was "a piece of the 'visual identity' puzzle, which also serves as a support system for intercollegiate athletic programs."

Haton, a native of South Carolina, received his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of South Carolina in Columbia and Doctoral work in Conducting at the University of Georgia in Athens. Haton was married to Dr. Sydney Brown, who serves as assistant professor for the Gardner-Webb University School of Education.

"The job Sid Haton did here at GWU was nothing short of extraordinary. In the time he was here, he built an amazing marching band 108 students strong; he transformed our music technology and was extraordinary with music business. He had so many amazing talents and he loved his students and they loved him with a passion," said Dr. Patricia C. Sparti, chair of Department of Fine Arts.

ALISHA COX SOUTHERN '04 B.A.

and her husband Eric announce the birth of their daughter, Addison Elizabeth, born February 10, 2008.

CATHERINE GORDON '05 A.D.N

and Brandon Lee McKee were married May 31, 2008 at First Baptist Church in Kings Mountain, N.C. The couple live in Kings Mountain.

HEATHER HAMILTON '05 B.S.

and Adam Carter were united in marriage July 12, 2008. Heather is a second year medical student and Adam is employed as a civil engineer.

JORDAN BLAKE HOUCHINS '05 B.S.

and Courtney Marie McKinney were married July 12, 2008 at First Christian Church in Eden, N.C. Jordan is a Child Protective Services Investigator with the Rockingham County Department of Social Services in Wentworth. Courtney is a CPA/Lawyer at Dixon-Hughes, PLLC in Greensboro, N.C.

MASON "BUDDY" JACKSON '05 B.A. AND TAYLOR JENNIFER SIMPSON '06 B.A.

were married on May 11, 2008 at the Dover Chapel of Gardner-Webb University. The bride is employed by Gardner-Webb University and the groom is employed with Forest Pointe Church in Belmont and is working towards his Master of Divinity degree from Gardner-Webb. The couple live in Boiling Springs, N.C.

RUSSELL DAVID AUSTIN '06 B.S.

is now teaching Business Education classes at Hilton Head Island High School in Hilton Head, S.C. He is also the Head Coach for the JV Football Team and Assistant Coach for the Varsity Football Team.

SHANNON BOYD '06 B.A.

and Javier Eduardo Massi Yuri were united in marriage July 26, 2008 in Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina. Since her graduation from Gardner-Webb, she has pursued her Master's degree in Elementary Education and was employed by Iredell-Statesville Schools prior to her marriage. Javier is self-employed. The couple live in Argentina.

JAMEY CROFT '06 M.A.

and her husband Rod proudly announce the birth of their first child. Riley Elizabeth Croft was born May 21, 2008.

ELIZABETH ANN KIER '06 B.A. AND DONALD JENSEN TURNER '05 B.S.

were united in marriage September 27, 2008 at the Berry Hill Estate in South Boston, Va. He is currently attending MUSC College of Dentistry in Charleston, S.C. The couple live in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

HEATHER LEE '06 M.B.A.

has taken the position of Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance at Campbell University. She worked with NCAA Compliance at Gardner-Webb University from 2004-2006 and has been involved with Compliance at Campbell since 2006.

JESSICA RUDISILL '06 B.S. AND STEVEN RUSSELL GRIBBLE '06 B.A.

are pleased to announce their marriage.

MEGAN RIVIERE ALLISON '07 B.S.

is a kindergarten teacher with Piedmont Community Charter School in Gastonia, N.C.

TAMMY BENFIELD '07 B.S.

and Christopher Young were married July 19, 2008. She is a Probation/Parole Officer with the North Carolina Department of Corrections.

AARON KEITH BLYTHE '07 M.B.A.

works with Novant Health in Winston-Salem, N.C. as a Strategic Sourcing Manager.

NOELLE DeLOZIER '07 B.A. AND JARED SMITH '07 B.S.

were married and now live in Wake Forest, N.C. where Jared is pursuing his Master of Divinity degree at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

STEPHANIE ANNE KAY '07 B.A. AND JUSTIN MATTHEW WEBB '06 B.A.

were married Saturday June 7, 2008 at Western Avenue Baptist Church in Statesville, N.C. Stephanie is employed by Isothermal Community College. Justin is pursuing a master's degree in Religion and is employed by Walker Woodworking. The couple live in Lattimore, N.C.

NATHAN JOSHUA MACDONALD '07 B.S.

and Megan Elizabeth Pickard were married February 23, 2008 at First Baptist Church in Mooresville, N.C. Nathan is a Commercial Real Estate Advisor with Sperry Van Ness in Raleigh. Megan is currently employed as a Human Resource Coordinator with Chick-Fil-A in Raleigh. The couple now live in Raleigh, N.C.

MEGAN NICOLE RUSSELL '07 B.S.N.

and Jason Allen were married July 12, 2008 at Melvin Hill Baptist Church in Columbus, N.C. Megan is currently employed with Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System and Jason with Littlejohn, Inc.

JESSICA BLACK '08 A.A. AND JOSEPH DAYNE SNEED '08 B.S.

were married May 17, 2008 at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Cherryville, N.C. He is employed by Factory Mattress Sales in Newton. The couple live in Cherryville.



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Each year more than 90% of Gardner-Webb's students receive financial aid. The Gardner-Webb Grant, provides scholarship money to almost every University student (based on academic merit or financial need). This is one of the most significant forms of financial aid that each student receives...but where does a Gardner-Webb Grant come from?

It comes from you! Your gift to the Gardner-Webb Fund goes directly to provide our students academic and need based scholarship assistance. And since so many GWU students take advantage of the grant, your support is vital to our students' success.

To make a contribution or if you have any questions about the Gardner-Webb Fund, please call (704) 406-4630 or go online at www.supportgwu.com.

DAN GOODMAN OF THE SCHOOL OF DIVINITY DIED UNEXPECTEDLY JANUARY 13



Dr. Dan Goodman and his wife, Barbara

Dr. Daniel E. Goodman of the Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity died unexpectedly on January 13, 2009 at the age of 40. Goodman was professor and Bob D. Shepherd Chair of New Testament Interpretation.

Goodman joined the faculty of The Divinity School at Gardner-Webb in the fall of 2003 as Associate Professor of New Testament. Prior to coming to North Carolina, Goodman served at Palm Beach Atlantic University, where he was twice named Professor of the Year. In 2004, Goodman was one of only ten theological school professors nationwide to be awarded the Theological Scholars Grant for his project on the history of Baptist-Jewish relations. Goodman had presented academic papers at regional, national, and international meetings and regularly contributed to book reviews and journals. In 2006, Goodman was issue editor (and author of two articles) for Review & Expositor's issue on Jewish-Christian Dialogue. Goodman's primary research interests included Christian origins, Jesus and the gospels, hermeneutics, and Jewish-Christian dialogue. Although Goodman's ministry took place first in the classroom, he was equally devoted to serving the church. He had served churches in New York, New Jersey, Florida and North Carolina.

In August 2006, the Gardner-Webb Board of Trustees awarded Goodman the distinction of the Bob D. Shepherd Chair of New Testament Interpretation.

RACHEL CRAWFORD BOZARD '08 B.S.

and Joseph Arthur Hutson were married June 21, 2008 at St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lexington, N.C. Rachel is employed with Elliott Davis, LLC in Charleston, S.C. Joseph attends the Medical University of South Carolina. The couple live in Charleston, S.C.

JENNIFER RENEE DYER '08 A.A.

and Johnathan Michael Owens were married September 27, 2008, at Faith Baptist Church in Shelby, N.C. She is employed by Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

CANDACE EDWARDS '08 A.A.

and Ronald Travis Elmore were married October 4, 2008, at Hull's Grove Baptist Church. She is employed at Grace Hospital in Morganton, and he is employed by Hull's Grove Baptist Church. The couple live in Vale, N.C.

CHALEE ELIZABETH GOINS '08 A.A.

and Thomas William Chance were united in marriage May 31, 2008 at Long Shoals Baptist Church in Lincolnton, N.C. Chalee is employed by First Baptist Church, Lincolnton Children's Ministry. Thomas is employed by Brian Gamble Automotive in Bessemer City. The couple now live in Lincolnton, N.C.

JESSICA LYNN POREMSKY '08 B.S.

and Chadwick O'Brian Bartee were married June 28, 2008. Chad is employed by Rodefer and Moss. The couple now live in Johnson City, Tenn.

ANDREW REALE '08 B.A.

is now the Long Cane District Executive for the Boy Scouts of America.

RICHARD THOMAS WELLS '08 B.S.

and Sarah Jean McDonald were united in marriage October 4, 2008 at First Presbyterian Church in Concord, N.C. The bride works as an Interior Designer and owns Simple Solution Interiors in Cornelius. The groom is a Residential Building Inspector in Charlotte. The couple will live in Cornelius, N.C.

Share your news If you have a personal or professional accomplishment you would like to share like a new job, birth announcement, or a wedding, we would like to hear from you.

Submit you class notes online at:
www.supportgwu.com or alumni@gardner-webb.edu



Donor Profiles

PROFILE IN GIVING

Dr. Wade Shepherd is currently serving his fifth term as trustee for Gardner-Webb University. He is developing the largest ever planned gift in the history of the University. We had the opportunity to sit down with him recently in his Hickory, North Carolina home.

GWU: *"Let's talk about your connection to Gardner-Webb and how that's continued over the years."*

Dr. Wade Shepherd: "It's been rewarding. Not too many years after I was elected a Gardner-Webb trustee, I owned a business in Greer, South Carolina. BMW came in and bought property right up to my property line and after two or three years, some realtor called and said 'the Port Authority of South Carolina needs your property, would you sell it?' I said, 'For enough money.' So they decided to purchase it. I gave that to Gardner-Webb as a trust; I like the fact that I eliminated the capital gains tax; I like the fact that I got credited for such a gift; I like the fact that I had income for my life plus some help with my children once I was gone. That appealed to me."

"The only true gift is a portion of yourself."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

GWU: *"You have said that you worked '47 years' and you decided when you retired that the right decision was to set up a trust to benefit others—but how did you get to that point?"*

Dr. Wade Shepherd: "Well it was very simple. My thinking was that these students that GWU is sending out to preach the word - carry forth into the world and make a difference. I was hoping when I'm in Heaven, that these ministers and these students are still being instilled with the Biblical principles. That's the bottom line."

GWU: *"You got involved about 14 years ago as a trustee. What is it about Gardner-Webb that has kept you involved?"*

Dr. Wade Shepherd: "Well, I think the people speak for themselves. Everybody seems to be on the same page when it comes to embedding the biblical truths into these students. I know this young man that I sent over there to visit Gardner-Webb. When I saw him later, his mother and himself both were astounded at how they could detect Christianity in the professors and everybody that they ran into on campus, and that's what they told me when they came back. That speaks volumes for Gardner-Webb, and if you come to be involved in one (a university), you might as well be involved in one that that's being said of."

GWU: *"What would you want people to know or remember about what you've done?"*

Dr. Wade Shepherd: "It is vital that we attend to the things that leave the proper witness to win people to Christ, in whatever method we can do. You know, except for the grace of God and his blessing, I would not be standing here. I don't know any other way to put it. Who am I? I am a little fellow who grew up in Longview; I had never even heard tell of a million dollars; and you know, to be able to give a million dollars is astounding; but outside of God's blessings, I would have never been able to do that. Someone once said, 'Take advantage of an opportunity when it passes so you don't have to chase it when it's gone.' I exercise my choices as God led me in that statement and that's why I'm where I am."

GWU: "How has the process of giving, whether it's to Gardner-Webb or church or other things been meaningful?"

Dr. Wade Shepherd: "Well it's very rewarding to be able to do it. I certainly don't want any credit for doing it, but it's very rewarding and I love to do it. I wish I had ten times what I have because there are so many areas that could take it to a great advantage for the advancement of the Kingdom of God, you know. I'm happy that

I've been able to do what I have, but I wish that I could have been able to do much, much more in the areas that I like to work with. Church is important to me, but I think in the long run, training the ministers and training these young people as they come up makes a difference. A person goes out into whatever field we're graduating them in, they don't have to be a minister to witness and reach people, you know. So it's just as important to send out a Christian nurse, a Christian business person, as it is a minister."

VISIONARY INVESTMENT

Fundraising efforts and facility improvements at Gardner-Webb continue to be successful. Last summer, Gardner-Webb announced the naming of the School of Business in honor of distinguished business entrepreneur John Godbold and his wife Linda Godbold.

**"The sole purpose of business is service."
- Leo Burnett**

John Godbold is no stranger to the world of business. He graduated with a degree in marketing and spent nearly 50 years of his life in the banking industry, including 17 years in Cleveland County North Carolina. In 1989, he founded Carolina State Bank in Shelby, N.C. and at that time began his relationship with Gardner-Webb.

A multi-million dollar gift from the Godbold family to Gardner-Webb will be used to advance the school's mission in a variety of ways, including: student scholarships, faculty enhancement and development, technology enrichment and programs focused on faith and ethics in the business world. "We know that investing our money in a Christ-centered school like Gardner-Webb will make a difference and will multiply and help a lot of people," said John Godbold.

In recognition of this landmark occasion, the business school now carries the name -Godbold School of Business. The Godbold School of Business houses the Broyhill Undergraduate School of Management and the Graduate School of Business.

Although the largest of any academic program at Gardner-Webb, the Godbold School of Business prides itself on small class sizes, personal attention by a world-class faculty and a focus on practical academic applications with an emphasis on ethical business practices. The School offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degrees including concentrations in International Business, Marketing, Finance, Accounting and Business Administration.



John and Linda Godbold

This support from the Godbold family will ensure that Gardner-Webb will continue to be a center for international business education. "I would like to thank John and Linda Godbold and their family for this generous gift," said Dr. Anthony Negbenebor, dean of the Godbold School of Business. "This gift provides the foundation to launch and sustain our strategic quality initiatives."

"We have been so pleased to work with John and Linda in this process. Their generosity will act as a powerful catalyst for giving at Gardner-Webb as we continue to pass new thresholds in giving and transform not only the School of Business, but the University as a whole," said Steve Varley, vice-president for Development at Gardner-Webb.

"The Godbold gift is an enormously important endorsement of Gardner-Webb's contributions to the business community," said Dr. Frank Bonner, GWU president. "We are extremely grateful for the Godbolds' vision, and commitment to future generations of business leaders and management professionals."

Bonner continued, "The Godbolds have been tremendously generous to Gardner-Webb. They have provided leadership and wise counsel in helping the School of Business, and this generous gift is a wonderful endorsement not only of the School of Business but of the entire University and our vision for the future."

2008 GALLERY OF DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES



Gardner-Webb established the Gallery of Distinguished Graduates to recognize and honor alumni who have made outstanding contributions in their career fields and in their service to community. Every year, alumni are selected from nominations by their peers and the Gardner-Webb community.

CHARLES MORGAN STARNES '55 JUNIOR COLLEGE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



Charles Morgan Starnes graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1955 with an Associate of Arts degree and earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Appalachian State University in 1958. In 1968, he obtained his Master of Arts degree from Appalachian State University and he later completed his Education Specialist degree from Western Carolina University in 1988. In his career, Starnes has taught and coached in New Haven, Mich. He was Assistant Principal at T.C. Roberson

High School and later principal at West Lincoln High School (N.C.). He retired from Tuscola High School as principal after twenty-three years of service.

Starnes is a past President of the Waynesville Rotary Club and was named a Paul Harris Fellow Award recipient. He was also given the Jack McCall Award, Principals Executive Program. Among many groups, Starnes has been a member of the National Educators Association and the North Carolina Association of Educators, Divisions of Principals. He participates on the Board of Advisors for Haywood Hospice and the Board of Directors for Haywood Community Foundation. Charles has served on the Haywood Community College Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Gardner-Webb Advisory Board.

Starnes has two children, Kimberly and Greg. He attends Waynesville First Baptist Church (N.C.). When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience, Mr. Starnes declares, "The Gardner-Webb experience reinforced my strong Christian heritage. I am grateful for the professors who cared about their students."

RYAN D. HENDLEY '71 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



Ryan D. Hendley graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in Health Education and completed his master's degree at East Tennessee State University in 1975. He taught and coached at Wade Hampton High School, East Tennessee State University, and One Way Christian Academy. He is now CEO/Owner of IH Services, Inc.,

Pinnacle Staffing, Gatekeeper Maintenance, and Newhold Services. His company, IH Services, Inc. has consistently been ranked in the top 100 privately held companies in South Carolina, achieving number 47 in 2007.

Hendley was honored as Coach of the Year by the Association of Independent High Schools while at One Way Christian Academy. Hendley currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Peace Center for Performing Arts and the Greenville Hospital Foundation; he is also President of Building Services Contractors Association and Thornblade Club.

Hendley and his wife, Fran, have two children, Chad and Richard. They attend Brookwood Community Church (S.C.). When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Hendley said, "Gardner-Webb gave me the opportunity to participate in athletics as well as providing me the means to complete my undergraduate education. The years I spent at Gardner-Webb enabled me to establish life-long relationships as well as a foundation for my future endeavors."

JEREMY M. MARTIN '03 YOUNG ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Jeremy M. Martin graduated from Gardner-Webb in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in Sports Management. When not in the classroom, Martin was quarterback for the Runnin' Bulldogs football team. Under his offensive leadership, GWU won two consecutive Big South titles. Following graduation, he spent four years playing professional arena football for the Tri-City Diesels and Lakeland Thunderbolts. He is currently the Sports Performance Director for Velocity Sports Performance.



As quarterback, Martin led the Lakeland Thunderbolts to their first playoff appearance within the National Indoor Football League. He was also quarterback for the NIFL-All Star Game in Odessa, Texas. Martin has also been an Olympic weightlifting performance coach and is a Certified Personal Trainer and Performance Enhancement Specialist with the National Academy of Sports Medicine. Martin continues to assist with Gardner-Webb football camp each summer. Martin attends Calvary Baptist Church (Fla.). When asked about his Gardner-Webb experience Mr. Martin states, "My years at Gardner-Webb University have been some of the best years of my life. They molded me into the man I am today."

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