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Matt Webber

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Progress meets tradition as a new school year begins.
So what has your former professor been doing since you graduated?

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Recent Events
Usher In
New Era For University

A new wellness center is made possible through a generous gift. A foundation recognizes the emerging status of the School of Business and endows a chair to ensure the brightest faculty are brought to campus. The estate from a quiet, unassuming lady from Rutherford County reveals the largest gift ever given to the University. Athletics could realistically be competing on the Division I level sooner than later. A campus bursting with activity needs room to grow.

If all of this sounds to you like something new and exciting for Gardner-Webb University, then you have company. Trustees, alumni, advisors, students, faculty and administrators are witnessing these events as we speak and everyone involved seems to be in agreement – Gardner-Webb University is at a crossroads, a time when the status and progress of the institution are about to burst forth on the national scene with a vengeance.

A new era is in the making on campus. Soon, several of the most significant developments in the life of the University will become reality. Intrigued? Consider the following.

“This has the ability to transform schools like ours.”

Gardner-Webb announced in September the largest single gift in the institution’s history, a $5.4 million bequest from the estate of the late Winifred Lindsay. The majority of the gift has been designated for the University’s endowment in order to provide scholarship support for students. Approximately $900,000 from a trust established by her late husband, David, was designated for capital needs.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay established several scholarship funds at Gardner-Webb during their lifetimes, including numerous athletic endowments. The Lindsays also are known for their contributions to physical improvements on campus. Lindsay Hall is a classroom building that also features computer laboratories and many faculty offices. Lindsay Court, located in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center, is the largest banquet facility in Cleveland County.

The importance of Mrs. Lindsay’s gesture cannot be understated,
according to Drew Van Horn, GWU vice president for university relations. “A gift of this magnitude has the ability to transform schools the size of Gardner-Webb. Not only does it provide crucial endowment dollars for scholarships, but it brings us in line with many of our peer institutions. We now join the ranks of many prestigious colleges whose largest gifts are very similar in size to Mrs. Lindsay’s. When you can mention your college among the likes of Davidson, Wake Forest and Furman, it means instant credibility for your university.”

As an institution that does not accept support from the state or federal governments, Gardner-Webb operates primarily through students' tuition and gifts from organizations and individuals. David Webb, GWU director of major gifts, said Mrs. Lindsay's gift demonstrates the power a bequest from an estate can have on the university. “It’s a positive situation for both the benefactor and the recipient of the gift. Someone like Mrs. Lindsay who names us in a will is not affected financially by this commitment during her lifetime. But at the time of her death, she has made the necessary arrangements to leave a legacy with the institution of her choice. In this case, she was very generous with Gardner-Webb.”

The gift serves as an exclamation point to the 1998 capital campaign in GWU history when over $35 million was raised for facilities, endowment and technology.

“Credibility. Validation. A heightened perception of who we are.”

Perhaps this is an appropriate time to clarify a very important point – money and gifts do not make a university great. How a university uses the money it receives is far more significant. Like the Lindsay bequest, a recent grant from the Dover Foundation, Inc., of Shelby should not be judged on its monetary value alone. What the Foundation’s gift means in broader terms will have an impact for decades.

A $500,000 grant from the Dover Foundation has been awarded to GWU to establish an endowed chair within the School of Business. What does it mean? “Credibility. Validation. A heightened perception of who we are,” says Dr. Arlen Honts, dean of the School of Business. “The top-flight business programs in the nation have endowed chairs. The chairs exist to recruit and retain the top authorities in their fields. It's a natural progression for us. So, was it unexpected? No. Over the last six years, we have built a program that has caught the attention of many around the country. This is simply the latest in a long line of achievements for the School of Business.”

Honts explained that a faculty member who fills the endowed chair of management is a known quantity in his or her field, someone who has a national reputation, someone whose mere presence on campus will ease the way for recruitment of other business faculty and students, as well as the securing of grants from other foundations. “An anchor of the quality of our academic program” is how Honts sums up the right candidate for the job.

Honts draws on the athletic arena for an appropriate analogy. “If you have a Michael Jordan on your team, others will surely want the chance to play with him. If Mark McGwire is on your team, other outstanding players want the chance to play with the best. An endowed chair is expected to lead the way and be exemplary in his or her performance. They are recognized as having the ability to change the academic world.”

“The chair is a luxury,” said Honts. No hasty decisions will be made regarding who will be hired. Deliberation will dictate the process because the ramifications of hiring the right person will mean more attention for the School of Business – the kind of attention the best business schools in America currently enjoy.
“These are not handed out like candy,” Honts explains further. “A stellar reputation as a teacher, leader and researcher are all qualities of who will fill this chair. An already exceptional faculty will soon get even better.”

“The quality of life on campus just took a giant leap forward.”

In a matter of weeks, a new campus feature will be in place. A wellness center, complete with recreational and social opportunities for students and GWU employees, is fast on its way to adding a whole new dimension to campus.

Made possible by a gift from Shelby businessman and longtime trustee Dr. J.L. Suttle, the wellness center is an answer to many questions. For students, the quality of life on campus just took a giant leap forward. A new state-of-the-art facility such as this is becoming commonplace at major universities around the country. High school graduates have said in no uncertain terms that wellness centers and campus gathering spots are high on the priority list when deciding on a college.

“Academic reputation, while important, is only one factor in choosing a school,” said a GWU freshman. “For those of us who have traveled a great distance to come to school here, we’re looking for what’s exciting to do outside of class as well. Let’s face it, we’re only in a classroom a small portion of the day. When you have it narrowed down to a few schools, usually you choose the college that offers the best choices for recreation and social activities. For many students, a place like the wellness center was the only big element of campus that was missing.”

Academicians and administrators alike agreed that the wellness center should aid tremendously in recruiting and retaining students.

For employees, much of the same results from the wellness center’s creation are expected. Several staff and faculty members are yearning for the center’s grand opening, saying that many times lunch breaks and early evening hours are spent exercising. “I think you’ll find that those of us who work here are feeling the same excitement about the wellness center as the students,” said a relatively new GWU staff member. “Many staff and faculty members are like the students here — we don’t just work at GWU or attend GWU, we live our lives here. I heard so many others say that this is just what was needed. We’re very fortunate to add something like this to campus.”

“Is March Madness very far away?”

Several months ago the news broke that GWU trustees asked the administration to investigate the feasibility of moving the athletics program up to the Division I level. According to President Chris White, this decision was highly significant for reasons that transcend mere sporting events. Raising the profile of the University, attracting students who otherwise hadn’t given GWU much consideration, recruiting faculty members who are tops in their fields, and expanding fund-raising opportunities are but a few of the rewards that accompany such a move, White said.

Now what was once a recommendation by the trustees has become an issue that is being decided upon as you read this. Last month a Division I athletic conference that has showed considerable interest in Gardner-Webb
made a campus visit in order to determine whether GWU would receive an invitation to join.

Much information was requested from the University by the conference's "selection committee," and months have been spent compiling data about our institution for their recent meetings. Based on the report from that conference's officials, GWU will soon learn its fate, a decision the trustees hope to make in the coming weeks.

What would be the impact of such a move? Dr. White said, "We would be vaulted onto an entirely new level of visibility. The implications would touch every element of our institution's life."

"Where do we go from here?"

Putting all of these grand pieces of the puzzle together in order to make them work in conjunction with one another is now the University's major goal. With recognition comes responsibility. With progress comes preparation for a new approach. Therefore, the question "Where do we go from here?" becomes key.

Administrators and trustees have agreed that a strategic plan must be put in place - a guideline for how the University will handle all of the concerns and questions that will surely be raised.

How much more do we grow?
Where will the inevitable expansion of campus take place?
When will that expansion be needed?
What building projects are crucial to short-term and long-term growth?
What about parking and traffic?
What support staff must be in place to complement the changes?
What role will technology play in the academic and professional services GWU delivers?
What is a strategic plan anyway?

Perhaps that final question is the only one to which we know the answer right now. The strategic plan takes a look at projections for, say, the next decade on campus. Factors and opinions from every facet of University life - students, faculty, staff, alumni, administrators, trustees, advisors and community - are added to the formula.

The strategic plan will then rate what GWU's goals are for the next several years and subsequently break down those goals into short-term, achievable objectives. For example, for some projects that won't be a priority for another 10 years, planning must begin now.

In conjunction with the strategic plan comes a master plan, which looks specifically at the campus map and recommends directives to improve or expand ancillary items such as new parking areas, roads, housing, utilities, etc. While those items are highly important, they are but components to the overall philosophy of growth that is detailed in the strategic plan.

"The point is," said a GWU vice president, "we're on the move. And there's a lot of planning that is crucial to our growth. Hang on. The ride should be fascinating."
"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow."

- Robert H. Goddard

**STAR WARS CONCEPTS COULD BECOME REALITY**

GWU Professor Joins Elite Group To Study The Future Of Flying

was exciting and rewarding to be a part of this project. I was only a small piece of the much larger puzzle.”

Recently, Canupp and a select group of colleagues from around the nation spent nine weeks as contract consultants for the AFRL. “We were conducting numerous experiments and simulations on the development of hypersonic trans-atmospheric (Mach 8-12) air/space vehicles,” says Canupp.

According to Aviation Week & Space Technology, “the breakthroughs developed on this project would give the United States Air Force the option of developing a cruise reconnaissance/strike vehicle that could reach any spot in the world within three hours.”

Managers of this project are quoted as saying that the first trans-atmospheric Mach 8-12 vehicle could be ready for flight by the year 2013. Officials also hope that by the year 2022, enough progress can be made on hypersonic technologies to make space launches about 100 times less expensive than it is now. NASA is slated to be the dominant partner in this USAF program.

Canupp agrees that the USAF/NASA partnership will benefit the space program on several fronts. “The space shuttle has been around since the ‘80s, and it is extremely expensive to operate. By developing a hypersonic aircraft that can take off and land on conventional runways, the aerospace community hopes to replace the shuttle with a much more cost-effective technology. Such a vehicle is called an SSTO (single-stage-to-orbit) hypersonic aircraft. There has also been talk that the Air Force may change its name to the Aero-Space Force.”

While officials note that this project is still in its infancy, some compare the potential of these proposed air/space vehicles to those featured in “Star Wars”.

“I loved being involved in the research of this project,” added Canupp. “Even if what we worked on never makes it past the early stages (because of funding), I feel honored to have been associated with it. I developed new relationships and was able to conduct experiments and simulations that challenged me. I enjoy challenges.”

“Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done.”

- Louis D. Brandeis -
For some, the retirement years are a time to sit back and reflect on one's life from the comfort of a bungalow at the beach or a serene mountain cottage. But for Dr. Lonnie Proctor, the word retirement takes on a completely different meaning.

“I believe that it’s very important to stay physically fit for as long as you possibly can,” said Proctor. “Just because you get older, doesn’t mean that you have to feel old.”

In October, the 70-year-old Proctor and some 12,000 athletes from around the nation will travel to Disney’s Wide World of Sports Complex to participate in the 1999 National Senior Olympic Games. The games are comprised of 18 different sports categories, including basketball, swimming and track and field. Proctor is slated to compete in the long jump, discus, shot put and badminton (singles and doubles) events.

Proctor came to Gardner-Webb in 1969 and was a staple of the University’s faculty for 24 years. Students continually commented on Proctor’s leadership abilities, her compassion for individuals, and her ever-present positive attitude.

While at Gardner-Webb, she was instrumental in the formation of the Cleveland County Special Olympic Games and required that Physical Education majors become involved in this annual event.

“My students were able to experience the pure joy of athletic participation through the eyes of these (special) athletes. Many of them never saw the world the same way again. The students gained a new appreciation of life.”

Proctor has competed in the Senior Games since 1984 and holds State (NC) Senior Olympic records in discus, shot put and the softball throw. She also has won 15 medals on the national level, five of them gold.

“I love the competitive nature of the games, but for me, the most important aspect of competing is not winning a medal, it’s the sportsmanship,” said Proctor. “I always tried to instill that into my students.”

Dr. Proctor was recently selected to serve as a spokesperson for the National Senior Games Association, and in her role as a national athlete spokesperson, Proctor has been interviewed by representatives from Time Magazine and the Wall Street Journal.

Time Magazine representative Adriene Navone said that an article about the Senior Olympics will be featured in the magazine this month.

“Lonnie Proctor is an inspiration to us all,” said Navone. “She shatters many of the misconceptions that are usually associated with aging. Her devotion, her sportsmanship and her nature make her the perfect representative for the Senior Games.”
Have you ever wondered what it really means to be called to the ministry? Dr. Alice R. Cullinan, professor of religious education and religion at Gardner-Webb, answers this question and more in her new book, "Sorting it Out: Discerning God's Call to Ministry," published by Judson Press.

"There's a need for an up-to-date call-to-ministry book," Cullinan said. "I searched everywhere and didn't find a single new source on the subject. Most books were 50 years old."

The purpose of the book, added Cullinan, "is to know whether God is calling you or not. Since I've been working here [at Gardner-Webb] for 25 years, I've seen students struggle with it and I myself have struggled for years."

Cullinan writes about some of these experiences with students, along with her own call experience, and covers topics including "Defining a Call to Ministry," "Experiencing a Call to Ministry," "Discerning God's Call to Ministry," "Acknowledging and Accepting a Call," "What Ministry Opportunities are Available," and "Where Do I Go From Here?"

She explores other issues related to the call to ministry as well. For example, Cullinan devotes a whole chapter to bi-vocational ministry. "A lot of students struggle between full-time or bi-vocational ministry," she explained. "So many think it's second rate, but it's really not. (The apostle) Paul was a tentmaker."

Cullinan feels that the chapter about traits of an effective minister is very helpful as well. "Even if one doesn't have these traits, he or she could be encouraged to develop them."

The book also has sparked interest from divinity school students who already feel they are called but want more specifics about the call. "It's very user-friendly, with inventories, checklists," said Cullinan. "I think it will be helpful for people to know how God speaks, and how to know the will of God for your life. Even if you think you're not called to the ministry, the principle of following God's will and hearing His voice is helpful."

Cullinan said it is also valuable for readers to understand the call of people who minister to others, to know where they are coming from and how they have answered their call. "Sorting it Out" was written during a semester-long sabbatical provided by the University. During her time of research, Dr. Cullinan used over 200 sources, including an Internet survey. She questioned people who felt and answered the call, and then compared these results with a survey on the same subject from 1949.

Copies of the book may be purchased for $13 each from local bookstores, the Gardner-Webb University Campus Shop, online at judsonpress.com, amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com, or from the author.

(This article was contributed by Mary Jones, an intern with the GWU Office of Public Relations.)
New Profs Make Impressive Debut

In what seems to be a regular occurrence, Dr. Gil Blackburn, v.p. for academic affairs, was elated to introduce a new crop of faculty members this fall to the campus. “In regard to its qualifications on paper, this could be one of the most outstanding groups to ever join the University at one time,” said Blackburn. “All of the professors bring unique and exciting credentials to Gardner-Webb. With these additions we’re definitely strengthening our position as an institution with an incomparable faculty.”

Included in this class of newcomers are:

- **Dr. Stephen Perry**, associate professor of business administration – earned his MBA from Harvard and Ph.D. from The George Washington University. A captain in the U.S. Army, he has also been president and CEO of several corporations, including Monitoring Technology Corporation.

- **Dr. Philip Williams**, assistant professor of business administration – holds the Juris Doctorate from Columbia School of Law and three degrees from UNC Chapel Hill. The lead attorney for Sea World of California, he has been employed with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

- **Dr. Joel Burnett**, assistant professor of religion – recently completed a graduate fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary as well, he is proficient in six languages.

- **Van Graham**, assistant professor of business administration – holds the Juris Doctorate from Baylor and Stetson schools of law, as well as an undergraduate degree from Yale University. He has combined the roles of pastor and attorney in Pinedale, Wyoming, and was previously an instructor of Mandarin Chinese at the Defense Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey, California.

- **Teri Hassell**, instructor in health education and physical education – a former GWU graduate who has most recently worked at the NASA space center in Huntsville, AL.

- **Dr. Ken Baker**, assistant professor of health education and physical education – graduated from Furman University among others. He received the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award at the University of Georgia.

- **Dr. Brian Neureuther**, assistant professor of business administration – the recipient of the Dean’s Excellence in Teaching Award at Texas Tech, he is experienced in teaching courses over the Internet.

- **Dr. Edgar McKnight Jr.**, assistant professor of English – a former Kenan Fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill who has also earned a degree from Wake Forest University.

- **Dr. Laura Williams Smith**, assistant professor of psychology – a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, she comes to GWU from the James Madison University faculty.

- **Doug Knotts**, assistant professor of art – a North Carolina visiting artist at Cabaret Community College, he has featured his work in over 20 art exhibitions.

- **Dr. Kevin Plonk**, assistant professor of psychology – a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina, he has numerous publications and presentations to his credit.

- **Dr. Paula Qualls**, assistant professor of religion – a Ph.D. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, she boasts an impressive list of articles and presentations.
Could The World Be Their Stage?

TWO GWU STUDENTS HAVE THE OLYMPICS IN SIGHT

by Mary Jones


Two Gardner-Webb students – Crystal Ellis, a trampolinist, and James Short, a wrestler – are aiming high and training hard for the upcoming Olympic games.

“It’s my life,” said Ellis, of her sport. Ellis, 22, a senior physical education major from Cherryville, NC, trains at the Tuck and Tumble: Power Tumbling and Trampoline Club in Lincolnton, NC. She has been trampolining for 13 years and doing gymnastics since she was three years old.

If you have never heard of trampolining, you are probably not alone. More popular in the west and in Texas where Ellis first learned it, trampolining is a relatively new sport, born near the end of World War II. Routines with skills such as pikes, twists and double, triple and twisting somersaults are performed on a trampoline built into the floor. The Sydney Olympics will be the first to include trampolining in its games. “We’re pretty hopeful that after the Olympics it’ll be more popular,” Ellis said.

Short, from Hendersonville, NC, spent two years at GWU before joining the Army to train with its wrestling team.

Short practiced with the Army team while training for the U.S. Nationals in 1997 and learned that the Army athletes train to make the Olympic wrestling team. “They are extremely competitive at placing people on Olympic teams and winning medals at that level, so I took a year to think about it and weigh the options and decided to do it.”

In August of 1998, Short joined the Army for two years, which will carry him through the Olympic trials and the Olympic games. His education is just on hold for now. “My plan is to get out of the Army in December 2000 and return to GWU to complete my major in physical education.”

“The significance of a man is not in what he attains but rather in what he longs to attain.” – Kahlil Gibran

The glamour and prestige of the Olympic gold, silver and bronze is a far-off goal for these athletes, who must press on through practices, jobs and schoolwork. Short trains at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he is stationed.

“I’m only about 15 minutes from the Olympic training center which gives us an opportunity to train with the best athletes in the country. Our
training schedule is very sport specific, meaning we don't spend a lot of time doing things that don't relate directly to our sport.” He continued, “We have a lot of two and three-week long training camps where six or seven foreign teams will come here to train with us. We also go overseas to train with them for a month or so every year.”

Ellis trains about 10 to 15 hours a week. She also works, teaches gymnastics and goes to school full time. “I'm a busy-body,” laughed Ellis.

Despite all the hard work, both athletes seem to have their eyes fixed on their goals. Short said, “I'm still wrestling because I believe God gave me the athletic and mental ability to do so. My main goal is to find out if I have what it takes to not only make an Olympic team but to win a medal too.”

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

— Philippians 3:14

“I want to win that title of being number one. I know what it feels like and want to win it again,” stated Ellis. At the World Age-Group Team trials in May in Salt Lake City, which included about 200 athletes, Ellis placed 8th in double-mini and 11th on trampoline.

These dreams of going to the Olympics developed years ago. “It has been my dream since I was three or four. I said “I'm going to the Olympics' and they all just laughed,” recalled Ellis. “But when they decided to put trampolining into the Olympics, that really gave me the motivation to do it.”

“Every man is said to have his peculiar ambition.” – Abraham Lincoln

Short recounted, “This is a dream I started to think about the end of my junior year in high school. I give a lot of the credit in helping me realize it as something I'm capable of to my good friend and coach, Norman Osteen (also former assistant wrestling coach at GWU). He helped me reach my goals in high school and has been there for me thus far, and I'm positive he will be there beside me all the way to the Olympics too.”

But their goals are not just for the Olympics. Short said, “After completing my education and when the time comes to hang up the shoes for retirement, I would like to give college coaching a shot. I'll be ready to give back to a sport that has been very good for me, but there is a lot I still need to learn and accomplish.”

Ellis said she wants to keep on trampolining as long as she can, but if she makes the 2004 Olympics, she will be ready to retire. “My dream is to open up my own gym. If I go to the Olympics, I can make a name for myself, but my first goal is to make it to the Olympics.”

“Sports do not build character, they reveal it.”
— Heywood Broun

(Mary Jones, an intern with the GWU Office of Public Relations, contributed this story)
GOAL STUDENT SHOWS HOMETOWN THAT SHE LIVES WHAT SHE PREACHES

GOAL student Tonya Oliver has done her part to make a certain neighborhood in North Wilkesboro a safer, more enjoyable place to live.

That neighborhood is her own. As coordinator of the Neighborhood Service Center, a facility which sponsors programs to deter crime and drug activity within public housing, Tonya has impacted her community by lending a hand to fellow residents.

“Our main goal here is to help the residents be self-sufficient. We try to help people get their lives on track by providing practical help.”

And she does just that, from offering literacy classes to locating child daycare. Tonya began the quest of assisting her neighbors five years ago when she decided to attend college.

“By going back to school, I began to realize all the resources that are available to residents of public housing. That peaked my interest to share what I had learned, to assist others in finding what is available to them.”

She began teaching parenting classes, as a parent educator for Smart Start, and served as the president of the public housing residents council. Then in 1997, when a federal Drug Elimination grant was awarded to North Wilkesboro, the Neighborhood Service Center was opened and she was hired as its coordinator.

“That gave me an even greater opportunity to bring more information out to those in public housing. And I also had a chance to let people know that if I can go to school, they can too.”

Tonya has earned a two-year degree in early childhood education and a two-year degree in human services from Wilkes Community College (WCC).

Currently, she attends Gardner-Webb GOAL classes at WCC and plans to obtain her bachelor’s degree in human services.

“The GOAL program is very convenient and will allow me to work as well as spend time with my kids.”

Tonya patterns a trend in many GOAL students - the persistence to juggle various responsibilities. She not only is the coordinator of the Center but has four children who are involved in several activities.

“I am a regular parent, and I don’t miss a game. I am out there for my kids, yelling and cheering like everyone else,” she laughed.

Having a special desire to encourage the children of her community, Tonya offers craft classes in the summertime, and during the school year, she hosts a homework center for children to come by after school and get help with their school work.

“I try to show the kids in the neighborhood that there is another way of life, one without drugs and abuse.”

The adults also are offered evening classes in nutrition, budgeting, stress management, drug education, and job and school opportunities.

In addition, Tonya invites guest speakers such as representatives from the department of social services and the health department to lead discussions on relevant issues.

“This has been a challenging job for me, but for my personal development it has been a plus. I think I just have the will to keep going, including completing my education. I am determined to do it.”

We try to help people get their lives on track by providing practical help.

– Tonya Oliver
Progress and tradition. Present and past. Is it possible to deliver both to students, faculty and community at the same time? Gardner-Webb thinks so, and that idea is prevalent on campus today. For over 90 years, Gardner-Webb has held fast to its roots while delivering the most modern educational experience possible to all those who seek it. Discover Gardner-Webb ... all over again.
Call them the Magnificent Seven. When the 1999 football season kicked off, the Gardner-Webb University squad boasted an abundance of Division I talent. Seven current players on the team began their college football careers at NCAA Division I-A schools. Now, each one of those seven start for the Bulldogs - one season before the program sets its sights on I-AA competition. The University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, The University of Tennessee and The University of South Carolina are well represented on the GWU roster this fall. Two of the Division I transfers were rated among the best in the nation at their respective positions coming out of high school. Three are alumni of the annual N.C./S.C. Shrine Bowl all-star game and were rated among the top 25 players in their states coming out of high school.

Senior All-America candidate Chris Mintz, a 6-foot-4, 290-pound defensive tackle, signed with the University of North Carolina after an All-State senior season at Polk County (N.C.) High near Tryon. He chose the Tar Heels after weighing his options from among college football heavyweights Notre Dame, Florida, Penn State and Clemson among others. Mintz was rated the nation's 11th best tight end prospect in 1994 and was a SuperPrep All-American. He redshirted his first year at UNC before spending the 1996 season as a reserve on a defensive line that featured future NFL first-round picks Ebenezer Ekuban (Dallas Cowboys '99), Greg Ellis (Dallas Cowboys '98) and Vonnie Holliday (Green Bay Packers '98). Mintz also backed up NFL draft choices Russell Davis (Chicago Bears) and Andre Purvis (Cincinnati Bengals) during his freshman season. He totaled one sack in the season opening win over Clemson, but saw action in only five games. Since coming over to Gardner-Webb in 1997, Mintz has blossomed into a star and potential NFL player himself. As a sophomore, Mintz registered 41 total hits and three sacks to earn second-team All-South Atlantic Conference honors. In 1998 he had a break out year, totaling 67 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, five sacks and a league-high 21 quarterback pressures to earn first-team All-SAC accolades. An outstanding senior campaign could place Mintz in contention for a spot on an NFL roster next fall, joining many of his former linemates at UNC.

A college rival who now roams the defensive line with Mintz is local product Brian Brooks, who played his prep football at nearby Burns (N.C.) High in Lawndale. Brooks spent two seasons at North Carolina State, playing in all 11 games for the Wolfpack in 1995. Fie started three games and recorded 33 tackles for NCSU that season and sat out the 1996 campaign before joining the 'Dogs in 1997. Brooks has also adjusted well to the South Atlantic Conference with 101 tackles in two seasons at defensive end. In 1997 he racked up 49 hits, including 18 over the final two games, both Gardner-Webb wins. Last season, he was in on a career-high 52 tackles and finished tied with Mintz for third on the team with five sacks. A pre-season All-SAC selection this year, Brooks is looking forward to his best season yet.

Junior Charles Briggs, also a local product from nearby Lincolnton (N.C.) High, was one of the nation's most sought-after prospects in 1994. He was a two-sport standout for the Wolves, leading his team to the 1993 N.C. 2-A State
Championship in football and an appearance in the 1993 N.C. 3-A State Championship Game in basketball as a junior. Rated the #2 player in the state by several publications, the 6-foot-6, 210-pound Briggs signed with N.C. State after turning down offers from Tennessee, Michigan State and North Carolina. He planned to play both sports for the school but failures in meeting some entrance requirements forced the rising star to enroll in Butler (Kan.) Community College.

Out of football for three years, Briggs decided a return to college to begin pursuit of his education and football career would be in his best interest. Gardner-Webb University has been the beneficiary of that decision.

Another former ACC signee entered his second season at Gardner-Webb listed as the starter at tailback. Justin Richardson, a 5-foot-9, 239-pound back from Raleigh, inked with N.C. State in 1996 but never matriculated. He joined the Gardner-Webb team prior to the 1997 season and earned the starting tailback job before a shoulder injury ended his season. After a medical redshirt, Richardson returned to the backfield rotation in 1998 and showed flashes of excellence as a fullback and running back, rushing for 267 yards and three scores on 68 carries. He also caught four passes for 90 yards, including a 47-yard scoring run with a shovel pass at #5 Carson-Newman. Richardson enjoyed a stellar prep career at Garner High, rushing for 3,147 yards and 34 scores.

Junior defensive end Casey Allen is one of three former University of South Carolina players currently on the Bulldogs’ roster. He saw his first action on the turf of Spangler Stadium in 1998 after suffering a rash of injuries during his first two years on campus. The Charlotte, N.C., native led the team with eight sacks and had 37 total hits. He earned All-America recognition from BlueChip Illustrated (now PrepStar Magazine) following his senior year at North Mecklenburg (N.C.) High, and considered Maryland, Tennessee, North Carolina, East Carolina and Duke before inking with the Gamecocks in 1995.

Junior receiver Jon-Eric Sullivan was the Bulldogs’ leading returning receiver heading into the 1999 season after grabbing 24 passes for 303 yards and two scores in his first season on campus. He spent the 1997 season returning punts for South Carolina and also caught eight passes as a reserve wide receiver. He is the son of Detroit Lions’ receivers coach Mickey Sullivan.

One of the team’s most powerful players over the past three seasons, senior Charles Palmer, was an All-State fullback at Gaffney (S.C.) High in 1993 and inked with the University of Tennessee after playing in the annual N.C./S.C. Shrine Bowl. He has cleared the way for over 2,500 yards from his tailbacks in two full seasons and entered the 1999 season in great condition. He ran for 455 yards in 1997 before redshirting last season.

The seven former ACC/SEC players aren’t the only players on Gardner-Webb’s 1999 team with Division I or Division I-AA level talent. Redshirt freshman quarterback Jeremy Martin turned down opportunities at Brown, Temple and South Florida to matriculate at Gardner-Webb University, while sophomore defensive end Rondell White, who will redshirt in 1999, turned down scholarship offers from Virginia Tech, Michigan State and Pittsburgh before spending the 1998 season with the Bulldogs. White, in fact, de-committed from the Hokies to sign with GWU after a January 1998 visit to Boiling Springs.

Redshirt freshman Anthony Timmons spent a year at N.C. A&T before joining the Bulldogs. He’s competing for playing time at outside linebacker while junior Juan “P.J.” McEntyre, who played his freshman year at East Tennessee State, entered the season as top backup at corner back.

GWU coaches and athletics officials agree – Gardner-Webb has established a reputation as a home for highly talented athletes who either participated in or considered being a part of Division One programs. Should GWU decide a higher level competition is in its future, don’t be surprised if some student-athletes simply smile and respond, “Been there. Done that.”
New Divinity Center Reaches Out To Churches

The M. Christopher White School of Divinity has announced the formation of a Center for Congregational Enrichment. According to Dr. R. Wayne Stacy, dean of the School of Divinity, the Center will offer educational and enrichment opportunities for both clergy and laity who are not enrolled as traditional, degree-seeking students in the School of Divinity.

Stacy explained that the School of Divinity's primary mission continues to be the training of ministers for churches. Through the Center, however, the School of Divinity will seek to be a full-service provider by delivering support services directly to the churches. Educational and renewal opportunities for pastors and ministerial staff include, but are not limited to, week-long summer institutes focusing on team building, various elements of worship, preaching and teaching. Likewise, the Center will offer opportunities for laity that include teacher training, Bible study, deacon ministry, Baptist distinctives, and church leadership, among others. Travel/study opportunities are also being planned to such places as the Holy Land, Greek Isles and Europe, among others.

A cornerstone of the Center's mission will be to utilize the Internet and the School of Divinity's website in various capacities. For example, offerings will include online courses to clergy seeking continuing education credit and to laypersons who can earn certificates in areas such as church leadership, Christian spirituality, biblical studies, deacon ministry, Baptist history and polity, and church governance, among others. Upcoming Sunday School materials may also be downloaded for use by pastors, ministerial staff and teachers.

Directing the work of the Center will be Dr. Charles Horton, who will join the School of Divinity administrative staff on August 16, 1999, as special assistant to the dean and associate professor of pastoral ministries. Horton, a recently retired pastor from College Park Baptist Church in Orlando, FL, brings to the School of Divinity more than 40 years experience in pastoral ministry. He has been involved in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship from its inception, serving in various capacities both regionally and nationally. He has led travel/study experiences for both clergy and laity to such locations as the Holy Land, Greek Isles, Europe and China. He holds the M.Div. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Th.M. and D.Min. degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Carolyn, have two grown children.

GOAL Grad Addresses His Peers

Gardner-Webb held its summer commencement exercises on Saturday, August 7. The graduation address was provided by Neal Alexander Jr., vice president of group human resources at Duke Power's corporate headquarters in Charlotte.

Of the 250 students who received degrees, 150 had attended classes...
through the University's GOAL (Greater Opportunities for Adult Learners) program. Designed for working adults, the GOAL program offers courses at night at 16 satellite campuses throughout North Carolina. An alumnus of the GOAL program, Alexander is considered one of the most successful GOAL graduates and is an outspoken advocate of the program.

"The GOAL program format provided me with a way to complete my college education and balance work and family requirements," stated Alexander.

During the graduation ceremony, he encouraged students, "You have realized the value of completing your degree, either as a personal goal or to achieve that next level of opportunity in your career. I applaud you for your determination to achieve this milestone. It is something that no one can take away from you."

Alexander earned a bachelor of science degree in business management, while working full-time at Duke Power. Currently, he is responsible for the delivery of human resources services to management and employees of Duke Power's corporate departments systemwide.

In addition, Alexander is a member of the Gardner-Webb Board of Trustees and chairman of the Student Affairs Committee.

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Radio Station Making Waves

WGWG 88.3 FM, the radio station of Gardner-Webb University, recently reformatted its programming.

When the station went from 5,000 to 50,000 watts a few years ago, "the administration took a closer look at how the station should be used and its potential as a tool for Gardner-Webb," explained WGWG Program Director Noel Manning.

The University then conducted surveys to determine the music preferences of potential radio listeners. Responding to those survey results, WGWG now plays album-oriented mainstream, soft rock music during the day, along with news and weather reports.

Then from 6 p.m. to midnight, the station airs contemporary Christian music, followed by a midnight blues hour and "jazz 'til dawn." Sunday programming features Christian music and broadcasts from local churches.

Emphasizing its desire to maintain community involvement, WGWG is airing local public service announcements, broadcasting Shelby High School football games and participating in festivals, concerts and other community events.

In addition, GWU football and basketball games remain a vital part of the continued programming of WGWG. Future plans are to air more GWU-related programming such as a GWU "Forum," in which professors discuss issues of national importance, and to feature special speakers and fine arts events.

www.gardner-webb.edu
Those who want experience WGWG's new sound, but live outside the broadcast area, can listen to the station over the Internet. Look for it under "Resources" on the GWU web site at www.gardner-webb.edu.

**New Name, Same Mission for Resource Center**

Gardner-Webb recently hired Dr. Donald Berry as the director of the school's Global Missions Resource Center (formerly the World A Resource Center).

Prior to coming to Gardner-Webb, Dr. Berry was an assistant professor of missiology and the director of the Institute for Mission and Evangelism at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic.

He has experience in university and ministerial settings, teaching at Palm Beach Atlantic College and Stetson University and serving as pastor in Florida, Kentucky and Indiana.

Dr. Berry's responsibilities at the Global Missions Resource Center include assisting the N.C. Baptist State Convention in recruiting, orienting and de-briefing missionary volunteers as well as providing information about people groups, cities and countries to individuals and churches. The Center also serves Gardner-Webb students by helping them access the latest research about mission opportunities.

"I hope to stimulate students to have a better awareness of what is happening around the world and how that affects them as U.S. citizens and Christians," said Dr. Berry.

In addition, Dr. Berry is an assistant professor in the GWU Department of Religious Studies.

The Global Missions Resource Center, located in the Dover Library can be found at www.gardner-webb.edu/gmrc.html.

**Comm. Studies Program and Facility Get An Upgrade**

The Department of Communications Studies has found a new home in the former Boiling Springs Elementary School, which has been completely remodeled to accommodate the growing needs of the department.

The facility boasts "one of the most up-to-date TV installations in the region in terms of academic facilities, and computer facilities as good as any in the country," said Dr. Ted Vaughan, chair, Department of Communications Studies.

"It is also complete with cutting-edge video equipment and a full-fledged television production studio," added Dr. Vic Costello, assistant professor of communications studies.

Costello noted that the new resources will allow GWU students a more hands-on experience in video production than ever before. "I truly feel that we are preparing these students for their future and equipping them with the tools they are going to need in the workplace."

In addition, Vaughn is particularly proud of the
building's new theater, designed after a 1920s dinner theater. It can be used for theater productions, poetry readings, as well as film festivals and classes.

Now with five full-time faculty and about 62 students, the department offers three degree programs – theatre arts, journalism and communications studies – and a public relations concentration that began this fall.

**Christmas CD Features A Touch of Campus**

Christmas time is special at Gardner-Webb University. From walking in the brisk, night air down luminary-lined sidewalks to joining in the reading of the Christmas story and the singing of carols, the Gardner-Webb community embraces the delights of the season.

Gardner-Webb has also been blessed with a wide range of talent from students, faculty, staff and alumni and is pleased to present a collection of Christmas favorites in the compact disc release, "A Gardner-Webb University Christmas."

This compact disc offers a diverse mix of musical selections including the classical, contemporary, spiritual and traditional genres. The emotional dramatic presentation entitled "The Carpenter," is brought to life by Keith Cassidy, assistant professor of communication studies.

Other featured artists include GWU President Dr. M. Christopher White, the Gardner-Webb Gospel Choir, GWU Alumni Mickey Sharpe and Dorene Wacaster, Director of GWU Campus Ministries Tracy Jessup and many others.

This Christmas compact disc is a first for the University, and project organizers are confident that it won’t be the last.

For more information on a “Gardner-Webb University Christmas”:
Attn: Public Relations, Gardner-Webb University, P.O. Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 28017 or call (704) 434-3841.

**V.P.: “This Was Our Gift To The Community”**

Gardner-Webb and the Town of Boiling Springs teamed up to provide an evening of fireworks and fun on July 4th this year.

The activities took place around the Lake Hollifield Complex on the GWU campus and featured the first fireworks show ever presented in the town on Independence Day.

The event was a success, hosting one of the largest crowds seen on the Gardner-Webb campus. Approximately 7,500 to 10,000 visitors came to the lake to watch the extensive fireworks display, have family picnics and play summertime games, such as horseshoes and frisbee.

Special music, including favorite beach music selections, was provided around the lake by WGWG-FM (88.3), the radio station of Gardner-Webb University. Patriotic selections also accompanied the fireworks.

Drew Van Horn, vice president for university relations at Gardner-Webb, said of the event, “From the University’s point of view, we are considering this our gift to the community. So many people in the area have supported us with their time, effort, prayers and resources, that we wanted to take this chance to thank everyone.”

Melrose South Pyrotechnics Inc. of Catawba, S.C., handled the fireworks display. It is the same company that Gardner-Webb employed last fall for a fireworks display in celebration of the University raising $34 million in a capital campaign.

Gardner-Webb and the Town of Boiling Springs hope to make the fireworks display an annual event.
Lara Self Gopp '92 B.A. developed a desire to do ministry work while attending Gardner-Webb. But she has found her calling in an unlikely mission field - television.

Gopp is a producer, director and program host at Richland County School District One, an educational cable television station located in Columbia, S.C.

She explained, “Richland One is a station for an inner-city school district, and a large population of this area is on welfare. I consider this to be my mission field. I get to go into the schools and interact with the children, to interview them and let them touch the camera and see how it works.”

Along with producing educational programming, Lara hosts a program, “Spotlight One,” which features positive aspects of public education. She highlights people who are making a difference in the educational system such as parents who take time to come to school and eat lunch with their children.

Lara also reaches the adults of the community by helping facilitate technology training classes for those who want to learn basic computer skills.

“I feel that Gardner-Webb helped prepare me for this career by encouraging me to be well-rounded. I was taught to know every aspect of television production, and God has used each individual tool in a different way to minister, whether it’s been operating a camera, teaching people or just loving the kids.”

A communications major at Gardner-Webb, Lara recalled the impression the GWU faculty made on her.

“I will never forget that my professors knew my name. People cared enough to see me as an individual. And now I try to take time to reach people one by one, name by name.”

She also credits the relationships she formed at GWU and the campus’ caring environment. “There are friendships I made there that I hold dear to my heart, ones that were formed during Bible studies, in the dorm, and at BSU and FCA. Through those relationships and organizations, I developed a heart for helping others.”

Lara’s desire for missions led her to participate in missions projects while at Gardner-Webb, and she fondly remembered her trip to Bolivia.

“I was a cheerleader at Gardner-Webb and could do gymnastics. So, I put on a clown outfit and began doing flips around city parks in South America,” she laughed. “From that, I saw that God can use a back handflip just like a smile or a hug.”

Another highlight of Lara’s experience at Gardner-Webb was being crowned as the 1991 Homecoming Queen. “I remember looking at the
crowd and feeling so honored that my peers had chosen me as a representative. Then, when my name was called, I honestly felt that it came from God as a way of affirming me and also testing me to see how I would use the title in ministry. It was a very humbling experience.”

In thinking back to that Homecoming eight years ago, Lara also looks forward to the upcoming Homecoming events as a way to reminisce about her days at Gardner-Webb.

“So many people impacted me who I never had the chance to thank, and I look forward to an opportunity to do that. Being at Gardner-Webb was a unique experience that is hard to put into words but enjoyable to share with others who have experienced it as well. When I was a Gardner-Webb I saw God molding people. It will be good to see where they are now.”

When asked if she has changed from how people knew her at Gardner-Webb, Lara replied, "I would say that my life now reflects my years in college. I still like to be involved in many things. I still am very happy to be busy!"

Besides her multiple roles at Richland One, Gopp has worked on projects for the South Carolina Baptist Convention, first as co-host of the Convention's 1997 missions magazine television program, “Within Reach,” and for the last two years as the television director for the Convention's annual state meetings.

She also is a member of the International Television and Video Association and judges national competitions for Cheer Sport, a Christian cheerleading organization. In addition, Lara and her husband, Daniel, lead a couples' ministry at the church they attend and serve on the board of directors for “Together for Him,” a contemporary Christian singing group.

“Gardner-Webb played a vital role in who I am today and taught me to dream God-sized dreams,” offered Lara. “There are many mission fields. And if you make yourself available, He can use you.”
The '40s

Libby Alexander Tyner '43 A.A. and her husband, Grover, have moved to a retirement center in Decatur, GA. In addition, they recently took a three-month trip to the Philippines.

Gloria Staton Barnette '49 A.A. is a part-time administrative assistant for the Center for Communication Strategies. She also enjoys playing golf, traveling and volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. Her e-mail address is gliby70@aol.com.

The '50s

Emma Jean Frady Herman '59 is a receptionist/secretary for Prudential Hickory Metro Real Estate. She and her husband, Frank, reside in Hickory, NC and proudly announce the birth of their grandson, Luke E. Herman.

The '60s

David W. Garner '65 A.A. is a career development coordinator with Southwestern Randolph High School. He and his wife, Phyllis, live in Asheboro, NC.

Sharon Case Randall '68 A.A. is a nationally-syndicated newspaper columnist who lives in the Monterey region of California. She has three children, Josh, Joanna and Nate.

The '70s

Barbara Bridges Greene '75 B.S., '85 M.A. has been promoted to the director of occupational extension at Cleveland Community College, where she has worked for 10 years. She and her husband, John, live in Boiling Springs and have one son and one grandchild.

Greg Taylor '75 B.S., '84 M.A. is the new head football coach at Fort Mill High School in Fort Mill, SC. He goes to Fort Mill after coaching for eight seasons at Gaffney High School. Greg also coached at Gardner- Webb from 1984 to 1990. He and his wife, Libby, have two daughters, Jessa, 7, and Kailey, 4.

Victoria Dale McSwain Curtis '77 B.S., '88 M.A. recently began a new job as the student due process officer for the Wake County Public School System. She has worked in Wake County schools since 1981, as a teacher and administrator. Her e-mail addresses are vcurtis@wcpss.net and vcurtiss5@aol.com.

The '80s

Brenda Carol Hamby '82 B.S. was married to James Michael "Mike" Mauney on June 12, 1999, at Piagah Baptist Church in Casar, NC. She is a first-grade teacher with Cleveland County Schools and the groom is employed by Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp. They live in Casar.

Tim Vaughan '82 B.S., '88 M.A. is the general manager of Fleetwood Retail Corp. He and his wife, Tammy, live in Spartanburg, SC. Tim's e-mail address is tigerfn@webtv.net.

Amy Denese Wilson Sexton '83 B.S. is an administrative assistant to the chief of police for the Anderson City Police Department. She and her husband, Michael, live in Anderson, SC and have two children, Wes, 9, and Ayrn, 8. Her e-mail address is police@innova.net.

Chris O'Neal Skinner '83 B.S. married Janet Lynn Haynes on May 1, 1999. He is the president of Taxpayers Choice, Inc. and the bride is employed with Gramling Brothers Contracting, Inc. The couple resides in Campobello, SC.

Michael Dwight Faulkner '84 B.A. recently completed the educational specialist degree in school administration from Winthrop University and received his doctor of education degree from the University of Notre Dame. He currently is a district level employee with the Clover School District of Clover, SC. Michael's e-mail address is MFaul40125@aol.com.

Tina Brinkley Page '84 B.A. recently graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a master's degree in community counseling. She lives in Creedmoor, NC and is a psychotherapist at her private practice. Tina's e-mail address is 02bealpc@aol.com.

Professional storyteller "Helen Rowe Morris '62 developed a love for the art of spinning tales during her childhood.

"My grandmother would tell me oral histories and share legends and ghost stories of New Bern, NC, when I was very small," remembers Morris.

"Those stories always fascinated me. My grandmother had a way of making those tales come to life. I think that's why I love doing this so much."

A retired 2nd grade teacher, Morris has conducted numerous workshops on storytelling and storywriting and performed at dozens of schools, churches and festivals and is even listed as a member of the National Storytelling Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Storytelling Guild.

"I enjoy using different voices to get into different characters," say Morris. "It's more fun for me and, hopefully, for the audience as well."

Morris admits that her talent for storytelling is more than just a creative outlet. "I use some of the stories to teach children subjects like math and science. But, more than anything I want to teach them the joy of listening, and if they gain a knowledge for other subjects along the way ... well, that's just icing on the cake."

During her performances, Morris shares everything from fables to ghost stories to Bible stories. "I want to be able to teach morals and good character traits through my storytelling. I love the fact that when I'm performing and living the characters, I'm able to connect with the audience, especially children. That's pure joy for me."

"I love for books to come alive," remarked Morris. "And when you can get the children actively involved in that process you help to develop their imagination. That's how it happened with me (with the encouragement of my grandmother). I'm just part of the circle ... a circle that I hope will continue with these children."

Ronald H. Lindler '85 B.A., chairman of the board of trustees for the last three years at Catawba Memorial Hospital, has received the North Carolina Hospital Association Trustee Service Award for 1999. Lindler, who has more than 20 years banking experience, is senior vice president and city executive of BB&T in Hickory.

Edwin Brooks Nash, Jr. '86 B.A. has been promoted to vice president of Lexington State Bank. He and his wife, Rita, live in Thomasville, NC. His e-mail address is b.nash64@aol.com.

Mark Sanders '86 B.S. is the director of sales at Bell Transportation Systems. He and his wife, Kim Austin Sanders '86 B.S., an investment banker with Wachovia, live in Smyrna, GA. His e-mail address is msanders@belltrans.com.

Alfred Edward "Eddie" Andrews, III '87 B.S., '99 M.Div. has joined the staff of Lincolnton First Baptist Church as the minister of youth and activities. He comes to Lincolnton from Chase Baptist Church in Henrietta, NC, where he served as interim youth director. Eddie and his wife, Peggy, now reside in Lincolnton.

Scott G. Boyer '87 B.S. has begun his eleventh year with J.C. Penney and has been assigned to the company's south Florida district staff as basic logic market merchantiser for the men's division. His wife, Christie Swaine Boyer '89, continues her employment with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Ft. Lauderdale. They reside in Pembroke Pines, FL, with their three-year-old son, Hunter.

Teresa Brandon '87 B.S. GOAL was married to Gordon H. Folz on October 24, 1998. Also, she recently accepted a new position as the general manger of IKON Technology Services. Her e-mail address is teresa@lidoned.com.
“A Light Unto The World ...”
Alumnus Fights Danger, Obstacles As A Holy Land Pastor

How far does the Gardner-Webb family reach? Throughout the United States? Covering several countries?
In fact, there are numerous international connections, such as long-distance alumnus Fuad Sakhnini ’54 A.A., pastor of Evangelical Baptist Church, the only Baptist church in Nazareth, Israel.

Sakhnini first heard of Gardner-Webb when GWU Professor Steve Morrisett visited Israel with a tour group. Sakhnini translated for the visitors, and through that relationship, Morrisett helped sponsor Fuad’s education at Gardner-Webb as well as the beginning of a career in the ministry.

But even after growing up in Israel, Sakhnini traveled a long path to Christianity. He explained, “My father only accepted Christ just before he died. With him gone, I began wondering how I would provide for my 10 siblings, mother and grandmother. And I kept thinking, ‘Why did God create me?’ ”

In a state of misery and confusion, Sakhnini agreed to go with his brother to a Christian gathering. But they did not go to find Christ. They went to taunt His followers.

“We were there, ridiculing born-again believers, when I saw the joy of heaven written on their faces. I questioned how a person could be so happy in this life and then heard the voice of God saying, ‘You have no rest in your soul. If you want peace and rest, you can find it here.’ ”

It was then that he was saved and realized he wanted to work in the ministry field. And it was at that time that he was presented the opportunity to attend Gardner-Webb.

“I was the only foreigner among 500 to 600 students, but Gardner-Webb became my second home. Everyone welcomed me to the school and I had a wonderful experience.”

After obtaining his degree, Sakhnini returned to his homeland, knowing the people there needed to hear the message of Christ. He taught in the Nazareth Baptist School located beside the Evangelical Baptist Church and then began serving in the church where he now is pastor.

“Life is not easy in this country. It is very dangerous for us to even hand out Bibles,” he sighed. “But I have a unique opportunity and challenge to bring the message of life, hope and peace to many different people and various kinds of Christians. That is the blessing of being a believer.”
employed by RPS in Charlotte and the bride works at PolyGram in Grover. They live in Kings Mountain, NC.

**Kathy Wooten ’89 M.A.** is the new principal of B.H. Tharrington Elementary School in Mount Airy, NC. She began her teaching career in Mount Airy in 1974 and has worked in various positions in the city system, including high school teacher, dropout-prevention specialist, high school assistant principal and elementary assistant principal.

## The ’90s

**Captain Stephen A. Bibey ’90,** a U.S. Air Force reserve, recently served at the Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany. He also is an attorney with this own business in Charlotte, NC, where he resides with his wife, Myong Hui, and two children.

**Karen Biddix ’90 B.S.,’91 M.A.** married Jay Bailey Thomson on July 10, 1999, on the Catawba Belle Riverboat at Lake Norman. She is a seventh-grade math teacher at Holbrook Middle School and the groom teaches math and physical education at East Lincoln High School. They live in Sherrills Ford, NC. Karen’s e-mail address is ktthomson68@aol.com.

**Sunday Denise Broome ’90 A.A.** was married to Kevin Boyd Crisp on March 6, 1999, at the Belmont Abbey Basilica. She is employed by Gaston Memorial Hospital and the groom is employed by Wood Protectors. The couple lives in Gastonia.

**Rob Holeman ’91 B.S.** and his wife, Cindy, announce the birth of their first child, Nicholas Christian, born November 23, 1998. Rob’s e-mail address is holem001@nc.duke.edu.

**Teresa O’Dell ’91 B.S.** is the executive director of the Children’s Center of Surry, a facility which provides services for abused and neglected children of Surry County, NC.

**Earl Vance “E.V.” Tate ’91 B.S.** is a State Trooper in Surry County. He and his wife, Kimberly, have two children, Anthony Vance and Karleigh Nichole.

**Lisa Alvino ’92 B.S.** has been named the assistant vice president/assistant comptroller for First National Bank. She joined the bank’s financial services department in 1994. Lisa also serves as treasurer of the Broad River Greenway Council. She and her husband, Scott, live in Shelby.

**Robert Bristow ’92 B.S.**

**GOAL** is the new police chief of the Hamlet Police Department, where he has been on the force since 1982.

**Erik D. Cummings ’92 B.A.** and Monique Nichol Ighinoba celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary on July 18, 1999. He is the associate/youth pastor at New Life Baptist Church and she is a teacher at Charles D. Whyhce Elementary School. They live in Miami, FL.

**Michelle Renee Newman Roseman ’92 B.S.** and her husband, Danny, announce the birth of their first child, Kathryn Rebecca, born on June 25, 1999. Michelle is a health care administrator at the Abernethy Center and her e-mail address is mroseman@abts.net.

**James “Jim” Shuman, Jr. ’92 B.S. and Annemarie Perry Shuman ’92** announce their birth of their son, James Jacob, born on February 28, 1999. They also have a four-year-old daughter, Madelyn Elizabeth. Jim is a claims adjuster with State Farm and Annemarie is employed as a teacher with Lancaster County Schools. They reside in waxhaw, NC.

**Donna Byers Hood ’93 B.S., ’99 M.B.A.** has been named the director of the Small Business Center at Isothermal Community College. Her e-mail address is dhood@isothermal.cc.nc.us.

**Jonathan R. Mackay ’93 B.A.** has moved to Wingate, NC where he is an electrician apprentice with Long Wire. He and his wife, Melinda, have a one-year-old daughter, Kathryn Ann.

**Marsha Peed Magnet ’93 B.S.** and David Magnet ’91 announce the birth of their first son, Andrew Garrett, born April 12, 1999. Marsha is a sign language interpreter with Sign Language Associates, and David is the associate pastor at Fairfax Circle Baptist Church of Fairfax, VA. Their e-mail address is magnet@erols.com.

**Kathy Wilson Rector ’93** is an office manager at Hickory Industrial Sales, Inc. Her e-mail address is rectorkw@hotmail.com.

**Amy Sharpe ’93 B.S.** is a communications and training director with Christian Coalition. She resides in Norfolk, VA, and her e-mail address is amyjsharpe@aol.com.

**Richard Carlyle Jones ’94 B.S.** married Nicole Lane Weatherly on May 1, 1999. He is the manager of Rafferty’s

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**Fall 1999 Highlights**

- **September 18** – GWU Football vs. North Greenville, 7:00 p.m., Home
- **September 24-25** – Family Weekend
- **September 25** – GWU Football vs. Newberry, 7:00 p.m., Home
- **September 30** – Distinguished Artist Series Concert – Richard Heard, tenor, 8:00 p.m., Hamrick Auditorium
- **October 2** – GWU Football vs. Wingate, 1:30 p.m., Away
- **October 7-9, 11** – GWU Theatre Production: "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 8:00 p.m., Dover Theatre
- **October 8-9** – Homecoming Weekend
- **October 9** – GWU Football vs. Lenoir-Rhyne, 1:30 p.m., Home
- **October 10** – GWU Theatre Production: "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 2:30 p.m., Dover Theatre
- **October 12** – Distinguished Artist Series Concert - David Fedele, flute, 8:00 p.m., Hamrick Auditorium
- **October 16** – GWU Football vs. Catawba, 1:30 p.m., Away
- **October 23** – GWU Football vs. Carson-Newman, 1:30 p.m., Home
- **October 30** – GWU Football vs. Tusculum, 1:30 p.m., Home
- **November 2** – Dimensions - Frank Shelton, GWU alumni, constituent liaison for U.S. Congressman Steny Hoyer, 9:25 a.m., Lutz-Telton Convocation Center
- **November 6** – GWU Football vs. Presbyterian, 1:30 p.m., Away
- **November 11-13** – GWU Opera Theatre Production: "Amahl and the Night Visitors" 8:00 p.m., Dover Theatre
- **November 13** – GWU Football vs. Mars Hill, 1:30 p.m., Away
- **November 23** – GWU Symphonic Band Concert, 8:00 p.m., Dover Theatre
- **November 30** – Dimensions - Bill Irwin, author and motivational speaker 9:25 a.m., Dover Theatre
- **December 2** – Festival of Lights/GWU Choirs, 8:00 p.m., Dover Theatre
- **December 6** – GWU/Community Orchestra Concert, 8:00 p.m., Dover Theatre

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Restaurant in Charlotte, and the bride is a social worker with the Department of Social Services of Mecklenburg County. They live in Charlotte.

Keenan Ray Mustin '94 B.S. was married to Dawn Lori Sprinkle on June 19, 1999, at Ebenezer United Methodist Church in State Road, NC. He is employed by the State of North Carolina with the office of juvenile justice, and the bride is employed by Crossroads Behavioral Healthcare. The couple resides in Elkin, NC.

Lieutenant Kevin Bess '95 B.A. has been selected by the U.S. Air Force for flying duty. After completing Office Training School, he will begin his Navigator Flight Training Course at the Pensacola Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL.

David Henry Craver '95 B.S. was married to Monica Lynn Gatton on May 15, 1999, at Fall Creek Baptist Church in Jonesville, NC. He is employed as a deputy sheriff by the Yadkin County Sheriff's Office, and the bride is a child protective services investigator with the Yadkin County Department of Social Services. The couple resides in Boonville, NC.

Carmalita Fredell '95 B.S. was married to David Fortenberry on May 8, 1999, at Gardner-Webb University. She works in the production control department of Curtiss-Wright Flight Systems, Inc. and David is a machine operator at Azdel. The couple resides in Shelby.

David McAmis '95 B.S. has recently been named the consulting services manager of Brilliant Training and Consulting in Australia. His e-mail address is davidm@brilliant.net.au.

Pamela Price Mitchem '95 B.S. recently earned her master's degree in Appalachian studies from Appalachian State University and has accepted a position within the University's Archives and Records Department. She and her husband, Gary Mitchem '95, live in Boone, NC. Gary is employed by McFarland & Co., Publishers.

Stacy Denise Warren '95 B.A. was married to Shaun Patrick McClain on May 22, 1999. She is an interior decorator for Cecelia's Attic and the groom is a project coordinator with Whitmire Decorating, Inc. The couple resides in Lincoln, NC.

Heather Lynne Boles '96 B.S. GOAL was appointed January 1, 1999 as the criminal magistrate of Davidson County. She lives in Lexington, NC. Her e-mail is heatherb@netunlimited.net.

Sabrina Hoffman Chewning '96 B.A. is an application controller at First Union National Bank. She and her husband, Randall Eric, will celebrate their second wedding anniversary on November 29, 1999. They live in Mt. Holly, NC, and their e-mail address is echewnin@aol.net.

David Shane Gunter '96 B.S. recently received a juris doctor degree from the Dickinson School of Law of Pennsylvania State University.

Jason Kerr '96 B.A. and Cindy Whitaker Kerr '96 B.A. spent the summer studying at Oxford University in England, through Southwestern Seminary's Oxford Study Program. Both are working on master's of divinity degrees at Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX.

Kristy Lynn Koonece '96 A.A. married Marty Joe Linder on April 10, 1999. She is employed by Total Care and the groom works at Earl Tindol Ford. They live in Gastonia, NC.

Franklin C. Shelton, Jr. '96 B.S. was a guest speaker at "Inspiration on the Bay" in Benedict, MD, on July 10, 1999. An estimated 35,000 to 30,000 people attended the 12-hour event, which also featured Christian musicians Ce Ce Winans, Michael English and Jars...
of Clay. Franklin is currently a computer programmer at Federal Research Group, and his e-mail address is shelton143@aol.com.

Hope Queen Toney '96 M.A. and Alvin Ray Toney '84 B.S. announce the birth of their first child, Emma Grace, born August 2, 1999.

Brian Keith Wetherington '96 B.S. married Kendra Warren Massey on June 26, 1999. He is a collection agent at The Finance Company, and the bride is an elementary school teacher. They reside in Jacksonville, FL.

Brian Darrell Capel '97 B.S. and Amy Lynn Copley '99 B.S. were married on May 22, 1999, at Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Durham, NC. He is in graduate school at GWU, where he also is employed. The bride is employed by Cleveland County Schools. They live in Boiling Springs.

Rhonda Janice Honeycutt '97 married Michael Christopher Lofis on June 19, 1999, at the First Baptist Church of Inman, SC. She attends Clemson University and is employed with Ryan’s Family Steak Houses Inc., and the groom works for FedEx. They live in Greenville, SC.

Matthew Robert Norman '97 B.A. and Michelle Walters Norman '96 B.A. have moved to Raleigh, NC, to pursue graduate studies at NC State University. Michelle is enrolled in the community counseling program, while Matthew is enrolled in the English program and is employed as an account coordinator with JWG Associates, an advertising agency in Cary, NC. Their e-mail address is michelleandmatt@yahoo.com.

Christopher William Spaugh '97 B.S. married Kelli Lynn Chote on May 22, 1999, at Griffith Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. They both are employed by Wachovia Bank in Winston-Salem, where he is a supervisor for international operations and the bride is a trade representative for international operations. The couple resides in Clemmons, NC.

Jacquelyn Touchton '97 M.A. has been hired as the principal of Presley Elementary School in the Iredell-Statesville school system. She has 25 years teaching experience.

Sherri Wellmon '97 M.S. has earned National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She is the assistant principal at Brookside Elementary School in Gaston County.

Graham Atkinson '98 has been elected as chairman of the Surry County Board of Education. Atkinson, now in his second term on the Board of Education, is a lieutenant with the Surry County Sheriff’s Department. He resides in Siloam, NC.


Crystal M. Giltz '98 B.S. recently completed her first year as a computer teacher at Anson County Schools. She and her husband of two years, John, live in Peachland, NC. Her e-mail address is cgiltz@earthlink.net.

Christopher Lee Ingram '98 was married to Kristina Michelle Nelson on April 3, 1999, at Crestwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC. He is employed as manager at Don’s Barbecue in Winston-Salem, and the bride is employed as a legal assistant and receptionist at Bailey and Thomas, P.A., in Winston-Salem. They couple resides in King, NC.

Melissa Meeks '98 B.S. and Bradley James Taylor '98 B.S. were married June 5, 1999, at First Baptist Church in Shelby, NC. He is employed by Shelby City Schools and she is employed by Milliken and Co. The couple lives in Boiling Springs.

The Rev. Hoyle Thomas Vinson, Jr. '98 M.Div. married Laura Langston Poole on June 26, 1999, at Mon-Aetna Baptist Church in Union, SC. The Rev. Vinson is pastor of West Chester Baptist Church in Chester, SC, and the bride is employed with the Chester County School District as a second-grade teacher. They live in Chester, SC.

Brian E. Walker '98 B.S. was married to Billie G. Cooke on May 22, 1999. He is employed with David E. Looper and Company as a superintendent, and the bride is employed by Catawba Memorial Hospital.

U.S. Navy Airman Herman Wilson '98 B.A. recently conducted a four-day port visit to Jebel Ali in the United Arab Emirates and completed a three-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf. He is assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, based in Yokosuka, Japan.

Shelby Dianne Bert '99 M.A. married William Douglas Mosley on June 12, 1999, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Shelby, NC. They both are employed as counselors at the Cleveland Center. The couple resides in Shelby.

Matthew Michael Hamrick '99 B.A. was married to Jennifer Crystal Hyatt on May 29, 1999. The bride attends GWU.

Corie Lewis '99 and Matthew Weathers '99 were married May 22, 1999, at First Baptist Church of Duluth, GA. They now live in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Matthew Lee Miller '99 B.A. married Rebecca Diane Self on May 29, 1999, at First Presbyterian Church of Mount Holly, NC. He began graduate studies at East Carolina University this fall. The couple resides in Greenville, NC.

Jennifer Carol Moore '99 M.A. was married to Clarence Michael “Mike” Stimpson on June 5, 1999, in the rose garden of the Gardner-Webb University campus. She is employed by Cleveland Center, and the groom is in graduate school at Gardner-Webb, where he also is employed. The couple resides in Boiling Springs.

Roger Douglas Moss '99 married Debbie Susan Kimrey on June 5, 1999, at Silver Springs Baptist Church in Norwood, NC. He is employed by Grover Industries in Grover, SC, as an industrial engineer. They live in Kings Mountain, NC.

Christina Whitehouse '99 B.A. was married to Matthew W. Suggs on January 16, 1999 in Miami, FL. They have recently moved to Raleigh, where Christina is an interpreter for the Department of Health and Human Services’ Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Matthew is a chemist with Union Carbide. Her e-mail is c_suggs99@hotmail.com.

**DEATHS**


Dr. Ronnie McDonald died June 3, 1999, at Crawley Memorial Hospital. He was a former economics professor at Gardner-Webb.

M.A. passed away June 8, 1999, at the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home in Winston-Salem, NC.

Sara Alyce Ratliff Lloyd '88 received her M.A. passed away June 8, 1999, at the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home in Winston-Salem, NC.

Dr. LeRoy Francis died June 8, 1999, at the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home in Winston-Salem, NC.

Carolyn Hill Pettit '44 A.A. died June 6, 1999, at her home in Spartanburg, SC.

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Jeffrey Kyle Dean '95 B.A. works as a media analyst/buyer for The Newspaper Network in Greenville, SC. He has held positions including chairman of the NP Employees Credit Union Supervisory Committee, co-chair of the Greenville News United Way campaign and team leader for the implementation of AdServ computerized billing system.

Dr. Cindy Putnam Evans '78 B.S. is an assistant professor in the biology department at East Carolina University. While at ECU, Cindy has won several research awards as well as research grants from the National Science Foundation. She also belongs to the American Society of Plant Physiologists, the N.C. Academy of Science and Sigma Xi.

Dawn Spainhour Neely '71 B.S., '91 M.A., '99 M.A. makes helping children her goal as the assistant principal at Crest Middle School in Shelby. Dawn belongs to the Association for Supervision and Career Development (ASCD), the N.C. School Counselors Association (NCSCA) and the Professional Educators of N.C. (PENC).

Amy Juanelle Blanton Schnurr '90 B.S. serves as a special agent for the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation in Charlotte. She also has experience as a child protective service investigator for the Cleveland County Department of Social Services. Amy is a member of the North Carolina Homicide Investigators Association.

The Rev. Franklin Capell Shelton Jr. '96 B.A. has many roles - student, liaison and pastor. He currently is working on his master's degree from the New Orleans Theological Seminary while also employed by Congressman Steny H. Hoyer as a senior constituent liaison and by Dunkirk Baptist Church in Maryland as its associate pastor.

Evans P. Whitaker '83 B.S. continues to enjoy the field of higher education as executive vice president at Belmont University. He is working on his Ph.D. at Vanderbilt University and is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the American Association for Higher Education and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.