

Spring 1999

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Matt Webber

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Spring 1999

# The **WEB**

A publication of Gardner-Webb University

New adventure course: a testimony to why  
developing character still matters





*Sizing up the challenges of the Broyhill  
Adventure Course*

*p 16*

## The **WEB**

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campus' new adventure course is an  
uphill climb

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# does Character still matter



Too often a word is used so frequently in the English language that the meaning of that word begins to blur. How many sportscasters reach for a perfect description of an exceptional player, but can only manage to utter “great” as the most appropriate adjective?

During election years, the political rhetoric most often centers around words like “integrity” or “courage” or “honor” ... words that invoke warm feelings, but rarely have substance these days. To be sure, despite the availability of a formal dictionary meaning, many people form their own personal definitions of such terms, thus creating confusion among those debating the issue.

Gardner-Webb in 1997 received a distinction that the University family stills holds in very high regard. Being honored as one of only 134 colleges nationwide to be named a character-building institution by the John Templeton Foundation was, as one administrator put it, “probably the most important recognition this university could receive.”

But why? What is it about that word ... “character”? Maybe because it’s so versatile. It’s fragile, yet sturdy. You can attack it. You can lose it. You can build it. You can exude it. And you can be without it.

Defined simply as “a person’s quality” by Webster’s, this simple word packs quite a punch. Just ask Bill Clinton – and his critics. The Salt Lake City and International Olympic organizing

*“You bet it does. We wouldn’t exist without it.”*

– Dr. Millard Fuller, president  
Habitat for Humanity Intl.,  
on a recent visit to campus





committees had their character questioned when it was learned several members were involved in a bribery scandal. Read the articles recalling Michael Jordan's career upon his retirement and you'll hear about his demeanor and professionalism as much as you hear about the memorable on-the-court theatrics.

In a world of extremes where morals and actions and belief systems have been pushed to the outer limits, the absence of character has a great many people yearning for its return. And some organizations, like the John Templeton Foundation and The Broyhill Family Foundation of Lenoir, NC, have even gone so far as to find ways to reward those groups or universities that place a renewed emphasis on developing a student's "quality" as much as his or her knowledge of academic subjects.

*Reader's Digest in its January 1999 issue was compelled to run an article by best-selling author Stephen R. Covey entitled, "Why Character Counts." And while the formative nature of character is somewhat different between Covey and Gardner-Webb – the Reader's Digest article makes no reference to spirituality being a component of character as GWU does – the bottom line is that a person won't truly succeed or ultimately be happy without the development of character in his or her life. "Today it is out of vogue to speak in terms of character," Covey writes. "But there is no more essential aspect of any person." He continues, "While skill is certainly needed for success, it can never guarantee happiness and fulfillment. These come from developing character."*

## putting your money where your mouth is

And many say its one thing to have others tell you that your organization is perceived as one that develops character, but it's another thing to actually do so. Gardner-Webb's approach, says Vice President Dr. Gil Blackburn, has been to generally just *be* a character-building institution since its founding – Christian atmosphere, dedicated faculty, a commitment to service-oriented education, etc. But, Blackburn adds, the Templeton recognition gave the University a greater reason to take a step back and evaluate the specific programs and elements that were needed at GWU to ensure the character-building legacy lives on for decades to come.

"The more I think about that quote – that this is probably the most important distinction we could achieve – the more I agree with it," he explained. "And that distinction should not be left to chance or perception. It should be a conscious effort year in and year out for our University. So we took inventory of the things we do well, and the things we can do better."

## what has been said about Character ...

**George Washington:** "I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man."

**Aristotle:** "Character is that which reveals moral purpose, exposing the class of things a man chooses or avoids."

**John Ballantine Gough:** "A man is what he is, not what men say he is. His character no man can touch. His character is what he is before his God and his Judge; and only he himself can damage that. His reputation is what men say he is. That can be damaged; but reputation is for time, character is for eternity."

**Heraclitus:** "A man's character is his guardian divinity."

**Author Unknown:** "Men of genius are admired, men of wealth are envied, men of power are feared; but only men of character are trusted."



# what is being said about Character ...

**Dr. Joyce Brown (GWU professor of English):** "William Butler Yeats's proclamation of the loss of values as we near the next millennium, 'The center cannot hold,' carries an awful omen. But, the center must hold. And although the distinction of our being named as a character-building institution does carry a possibility of being labeled narrow or even hypocritical, it is also a sign of public commitment to a core of values. For the willingness of our leaders here at GWU to risk holding onto and building a spiritual focus in what seems to be more than ever a spiritual wasteland, I feel a continuing sense of pride."

**Sharon Jennings (director of the GWU Noel Programs for the Disabled):** "As long as we – or anybody, for that matter – stand up for it, the idea of character stays alive. Change can start on a small level and if we stand firm in what is right and ethical and moral, then hopefully we can help make that transition back to the old values. You can't assume the next person will fight for something like this – if we don't think character is important, who will?"

What resulted was an array of ideas that are now becoming reality, due in large part to a \$300,000 grant from The Broyhill Family Foundation, Inc. A new curriculum that places emphasis on character-building, approved overwhelmingly by the GWU faculty, is to be implemented in Fall 1999. Core courses will expose students to a variety of options dealing in leadership, world cultures, volunteerism and personal reflection, among others. The grant also helped construct and maintain an Alpine Tower and Adventure Course that will focus on developing teamwork and problem-solving by tackling a series of physical challenges and obstacles, many times five stories in the air (*see related story, p. 14*). That complex is complete and now awaits the many adventures that will surely take place.

The Gardner-Webb men's basketball team this past Christmas was seen delivering stuffed animals to shut-ins and disabled children, spreading holiday cheer and making friends. Head Coach Rick Scruggs said, "The bottom line is we need to give back to the community. It's good for the kids to get out and be a part of something like this. It goes a long way in strengthening their character."



Across campus from Scruggs, a class is in debate. A special topics course called "Issues in Science and Religion" has students wrestling with the origin of their existence, evolution and how to balance scientific reasoning with that of the Holy Bible. Dr. Jack Partain, professor of religion, and Dr. Barbara Burkett, professor of biology, created

the class more to teach students how to seek answers than have answers given to them.

"This class, we feel, makes students face their prejudices, whether toward science or religion," says Burkett. "Most come in feeling there are vast conflicts among the two subjects, but they leave realizing that a truly educated person develops reasoning skills in both areas. Those in the class are overwhelmingly more mature in their thought processes at the end of the semester. It's very much a character-building exercise."

In yet another corner of campus, Tracy Jessup, director of campus ministries and minister to the university, is reflecting on a special week just passed. Charged with organizing a missions project each spring break, Jessup led a group of GWU students to Mecklenburg County (specifically Charlotte, NC) to join the effort of constructing a Habitat for Humanity house. Does a few days building a house correlate with the building of character?





"Character, like discipleship, is more than words ... it is action. The Apostle James puts it like this, '... faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead' (2:17). Along those same lines, I would say that character by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. Building houses provides an avenue for our students to put character

and faith in action."

## living by character, and shaping the world

Jessup points to the glowing example set by Millard Fuller, founder and president of Habitat for Humanity International, who visited campus this semester (*see related article, p. 13*). A self-made millionaire who gave away his fortune to the poor, his organization has as its mission to provide quality, decent housing for all in need throughout the world. No strings attached. It's a missions project, plain and simple. Fuller confesses that a great many people he helps ask "why?"

"To say we help them because we love them sometimes produces puzzled looks," he said. "But we're following the example set by Jesus. Our goal is not to measure how much character we build among those associated with our organization, but you can sure tell that something special is happening in the lives of the people who help our cause."

He adds, "Does character matter? You bet it does. We wouldn't exist without it."

*"We live in a curious time, a time in which one has to justify the idea of character-building. On the one hand, it is good to see that character development and methods are being debated. But, on the other hand, it is disturbing to see a basic principle like character doubted like an unproven theory. But even the skeptic must admire character, because the skeptic practices what he values – namely skepticism. Therefore, character is intrinsically connected to action. It is not enough to have the right thoughts, one must put ideas into action."*

– Dr. David Carscaddon, GWU assistant professor of psychology

Rick Scruggs (head coach, GWU men's basketball): "A person without character is a lost soul. We have our faith and our character and the strength or weakness of these tells all we need to know about who we are."

Dr. Shirley Toney (dean, GWU School of Nursing): "Societies tend to become preoccupied with the present and forget that while character and ideals bring about progress, eroding emphasis upon those same entities also leads to degradation and destruction, thus the rise and fall of individuals, institutions, and civilizations."

Character is the core of a person or group; its attributes include honor, integrity, goodness, caring, respectability, rationality, and accountability. When all else fails, the interrelatedness of people of character is what remains, the element that makes us human."

Dr. Doris Banner (professor of Education): "Character is the core competency of successful leadership; it is to be practiced and taught; it is a quality about which we know the least and is best taught through example. This does not mean that we will always agree with our leaders, peers and students. We will, however, relate to each other with honesty, integrity and authenticity."

WELCOME

TO

HER

WORLD



Imagine playing connect-the-dots on an atlas. Start at Spartanburg, S.C. and go to Harvard University. Then to Yale University and across the ocean to Serbia. Go to Bosnia next and then to Croatia. Go back and forth to the College of William and Mary a few times and then back over to Russia. Then back to Poland and Hungary and back to Gardner-Webb University. From there, draw a line back and forth hundreds of times to Washington, DC, occasionally going over to Bosnia a few times again.

The picture you're left with is Dr. Anne Henderson.

An associate professor of political science, Henderson is a product of all these experiences. And

"...you can't build someone's character without talking to them one-on-one the way we do with students here."

it shows. The daughter of a European-traveling historian (mother) and a musicologist (father), this Spartanburg native began seeing the world from an early age ... and she hasn't slowed down since.

Pretty handy for someone who confesses her favorite class to teach is Global Understanding.

"I like to challenge students," she explains.

"It's easy to have faith in your beliefs when you never test your beliefs. I ask them to be critical of themselves, to tell me why they hold the opinions they do. Ultimately your faith in something is strengthened when you're forced to

defend it. If someone says Clinton should be impeached, I ask why. If another feels bombing Saddam Hussein is appropriate, I ask why. It's an attempt to help them sort out the logic behind their reasoning."

Educated at Harvard and Yale, employed by the United Nations to monitor the electoral process in the former Yugoslavia, married to a health and human services employee of the U.S. Government, faculty member at William and Mary, and now an esteemed professor at Gardner-Webb University since January 1997. All of these elements comprise a woman who is helping put her University on the map.

Modestly she contends she's just enjoying herself. "If I wanted to do the whole ego thing, I would be back at Yale where you walk into a class, teach, and then leave without contact with the students. I like asking an individual what they think America's role should be in the world and having them say they've never really thought about it. That's when I say 'Well, think about it.'"

At 36, Henderson says she doesn't feel that much older than her students, but she notices that this generation is unlike her own or any other in recent history.

"An amazing thing is happening in our country. The divisions of our society were masked for so many years while we all fought what we thought was the common enemy – communism. During the Cold War we all at least had that one common bond. But now that that's over, all of our divisions have been exposed and we don't have that one thing that is serving to unify us and connect us all. This generation is at a turning point. It is in search of an identity. Some



## FACULTY

would say that we are declining in our power, but we still have the ability to be a world leader and maintain a supreme position among the other nations. But, I wonder if that can still happen with all the in-fighting and internal conflict that's so prevalent."

Sitting in one of Henderson's classes is much like sitting in her office, a small space on the ground floor of Dover Chapel – it's very easy to feel bombarded with all sorts of stimuli. Covering every free area of the walls are flags from the nations she's studied and visited. Red and yellow colors splash these emblems of the former Soviet Union, Hungary, and Croatia, among others. Sometimes while sitting at her desk, she confesses, memories of anguished faces and war-torn countrysides seem to leap back to life. It's a perspective she takes to her students on a daily basis.

For example, this semester she beams about teaching a special topics class on terrorism. "It's a wonderful forum for debate. Just like in the 1960s or during the Cold War, there are different opinions about the definition of terrorism. I see students struggling with the same issues as I do about what's happening around the world."

Perhaps it's therapeutic. Henderson admits the images invoked by the flags that adorn her walls take her on a roller-coaster ride of emotions.

"I drift between being pessimistic and optimistic. Sometimes I think of the beautiful idea of human hope prevailing over adversity, and yet sometimes I think of the absolute ferocity with which people kill other people. But either way, I become more and more appreciative of the liberty and freedom we have here in the United States. That's the one thing I push across to my students – you may be critical of your country, and even outright question it, but be thankful for the opportunity to do so without the consequences so many others face around the world."

It all goes back, she says, to the idea of character that Gardner-Webb

conveys.

"Imparting knowledge is not necessarily my goal. Many times knowledge is fleeting. Gardner-Webb is entirely correct to focus on the challenging task of building character. It's easy to impart knowledge. We could simply put kids in a room full of books or send them course material by videotape in order to impart knowledge. But you can't build someone's character without talking to them one-on-one the way we do with students here."

Her parting shot: "Harvard did nothing for my character."



## NEW BUSINESS DEAN BANK\$ ON PROGRESS

Almost like a father passing the reigns of the family business to a son, Jim Crawley announced his retirement as dean of the School of Business recently and then watched as Dr. Arlen Honts, director of the undergraduate Broyhill School of Management, was named his successor.

Honts, who has been with the University since 1993, took over as dean in January and, while vowing to continue improving an already nationally acclaimed program, paid homage to a man he affectionately called his mentor. In the midst of a ceremony announcing Crawley's decision and Honts' appointment, President Chris White also bestowed the honor of Dean Emeritus on Crawley.

Both White and Honts openly praised Crawley, 68, for making great strides in raising the visibility and expanding the offerings of the GWU School of Business during his four years as dean. For instance, the School was invited to appear on the national television show "Executive Forum," hosted by Apollo 13 astronaut Jim Lovell, as one of only four in the U.S. to be labeled an "emerging business school." The GWU School of Business also this past year was featured in U.S. News and World Report's Guide to America's Best Colleges for the second consecutive year.

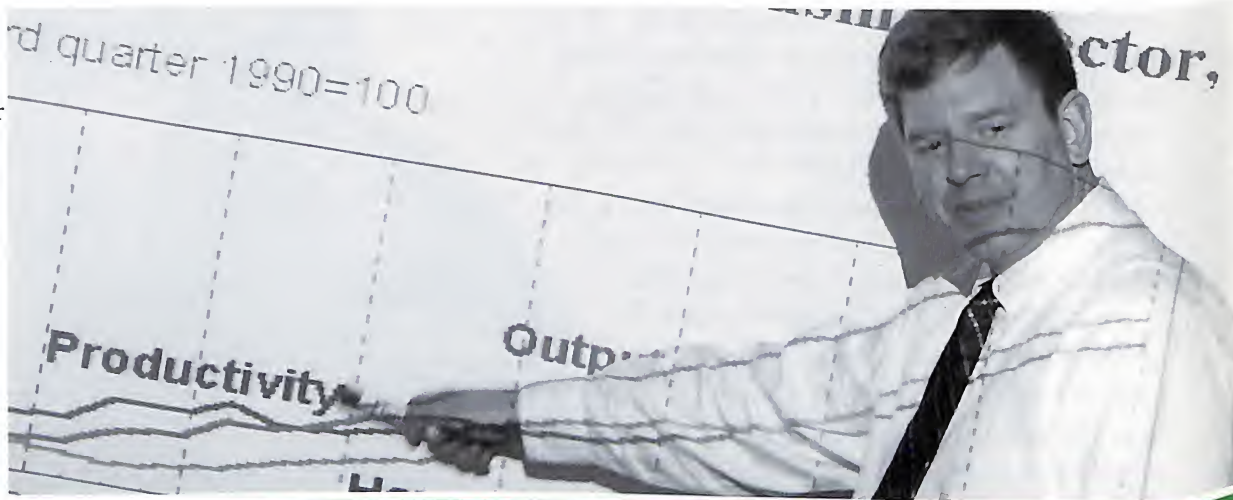
The GWU Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program expanded under Crawley to two North Carolina satellite campuses – Winston-Salem and Statesville – in addition to the Boiling Springs program. The School this year moved into a new home as well, as Hamrick Hall on campus was completely renovated with state-of-the-art accommodations and the state's most modern computer technology. Crawley also added numerous high-profile faculty during his tenure.

It's a high standard that Honts, 39, said is a privilege to build upon. "Jim brought discipline and professionalism

from the corporate world and was able to translate that into a classroom setting," said Honts. "A prominent publication even went so far as to say we were the hidden jewel of business schools. Now, the challenge is to make sure that jewel gets discovered."

Honts received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University and was highly sought-after for professorships as far and wide as the Ivy League. He is lauded for his personal and professional achievements, including previous service as an engineer, a missionary and a consultant. Most recently he developed a training program for administrators employed by the Carolinas Healthcare System, based in Charlotte. Officials believe Honts is the youngest business school dean in the region.

White said, "We have been labeled as an emerging institution, and we view Dr. Honts as an emerging force



**Dr. Arlen Honts**

in higher education. He combines an outstanding academics background with personality and professional experience. We feel we named the most talented individual to this position."

Crawley, a former executive with DuPont and Polygram, forged valuable relationships with local corporations and industries that benefitted career placement of GWU graduates. Crawley was also noted for seeking guidance from the corporate world in order to create a more timely and beneficial business curriculum. All of these efforts, Honts said, would continue in the future under his leadership.



## Retirees Leave Their Legacy

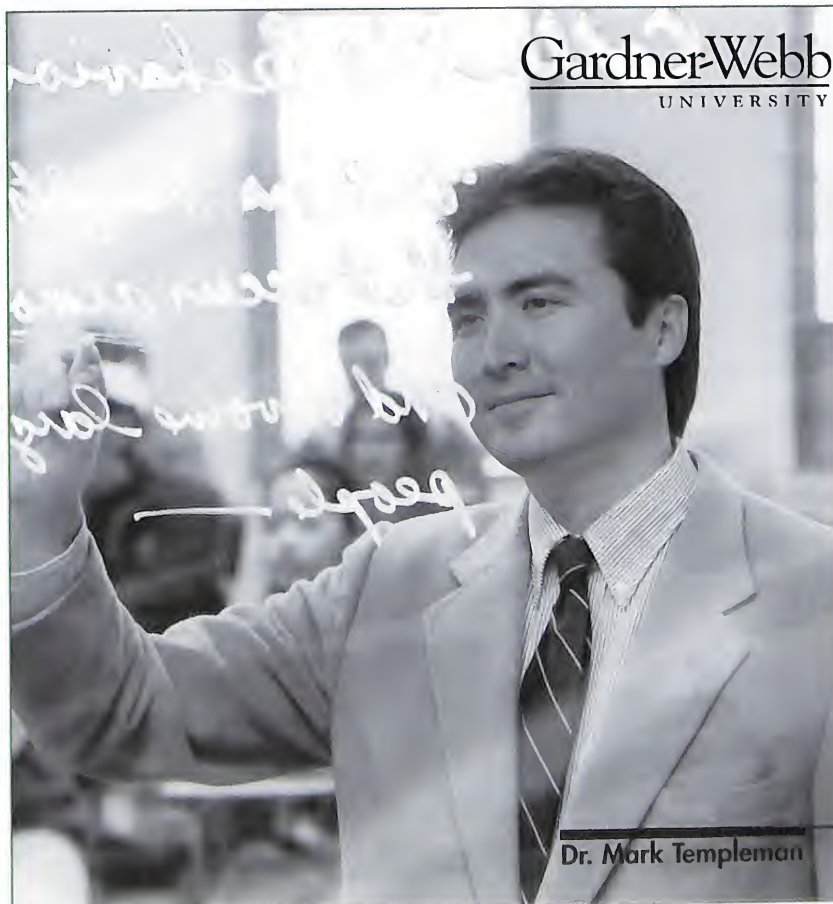
The 1998-99 academic year long will be remembered for more than the University celebrating the completion of its \$34 million capital campaign or the appearance of GWU on national television. This year we bid farewell to four personalities who had an astounding impact on the history of the University. Dr. Robert Lamb, Dr. Jack Partain, Melvin Lutz and Jim Crawley all ride off into the sunset this year, each with a career's worth of memories and achievements under their belts.

**Lamb:** founding dean of the School of Divinity; leaves a legacy as an educator, a pastor, a missionary and an administrator; literally built the components of the School of Divinity from scratch; recalled, upon his retirement as dean, that, "if the School of Divinity takes off like a rocket, I will feel as though I helped create the launching pad;" efforts have been crucial to helping the School of Divinity gain accreditation; has even launched and participated in a GWU exchange program to South Africa; one of only two to hold the title of Dean Emeritus.

**Partain:** a former Fleming-White award winner as outstanding educator of the year; dreamed that GWU should have a national religion honor society, and brought that dream to reality in 1995; co-created an innovative new course that merged the ideas of science and religion and was awarded a prestigious grant from the Templeton Foundation for his efforts; coordinated an exchange program for students wishing to study in Kenya, Africa.

**Lutz:** since the 1960s wore many hats at Gardner-Webb, most recently as dean of academic advising; has been director of student services, dean of students, and vice president for student services; never forgot a face and was never too busy to address students' concerns; one of the more passionate supporters of GWU athletics, and is a former recipient of the Bulldog Club Member of the Year Award; leaves behind fond memories as a pastor and professor as well.

**Crawley:** made terrific strides as dean of the School of Business in a short time; developed practical curriculum requirements with the help of business and industry; expanded the University's MBA Program to satellite locations as well as recruiting highly sought-after faculty to GWU; vision also greatly impacted the revival of Hamrick Hall into the most modern facility on campus; brought widespread acclaim to the School of Business, appearing on national television when the GWU School of Business was named one of four emerging business schools in the U.S.; the only other to be named Dean Emeritus.





# Out of Africa

THE OPEN PLAINS SERVE AS A CLASSROOM

Imagine the danger of coming face to face with a rare black rhino, speaking fluent Swahili with a Kenyan tribesman, immersing yourself into cultural discussions with a Masai elder or scaling a treacherous gorge where your very life is on the line. Well, if you think this reads like a page torn from the archives of a National Geographic magazine, you could be right.

Two Gardner-Webb University students discovered that these scenarios were much more than



a Discovery Channel special. "Some of the things that I experienced are beyond my description. The contrasts were phenomenal! I've seen some of the worst slums imaginable and yet, at the same time, I saw landscapes that were so beautiful, that words could never express

their majesty," says Melissa Brown, a GWU religious studies major.

Recently, Brown and Julie Moffitt, an American Sign Language major, took part in the East African Semester Abroad (EASA) program. Sponsored by Africa Exchange in cooperation with Baylor University, this program places American college students in East Africa for 15 weeks, offering an opportunity for integrated cross-cultural study. "This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me," says Moffitt. "It was much more than I ever expected it to

be. Because of this experience I am more open minded to other cultures now."

"We immediately bonded with the other eight students who took part in this," says Brown. "We became family."

As Brown and Moffitt experienced different values and traditions, they gained an awareness of the social, political and religious complexities of the African world. "We went to a church where people would stand in line just to get into the chapel," remembered Brown. "They wanted to worship so much that they would stand behind the pews, look in through the church windows or even sit outside and listen to the service through a single speaker system," Brown continued. "They didn't care that they were packed in this building. They didn't care about the heat. They were just excited to worship God. This is the kind of enthusiasm that I would love to see in American churches. Yeah, America could take a few lessons from these people."

When Brown and Moffitt returned to GWU, they



had earned a minor in African Studies. And for these two students who had never before travelled abroad, getting credit for this experience was just icing on the cake. "It was a constant adrenaline rush the entire semester," says Brown. "Everyone there



was asking, 'you mean we're getting credit for this?'" Moffitt agreed, "The whole trip was inspirational. We couldn't believe that we were getting credit for living and learning and eating and experiencing a different way of life."

The EASA had an integrated approach to learning that included formal studies of African history, religion and literature. It also offered rural and urban homestays, instruction in Swahili, and environmental and anthropological field studies. "The one-week safari was really cool. We lived on the land and sometimes the only sounds that we heard were the calls of the animals," added Moffitt. "We would sometimes go days without seeing other people. And knowing that there were wild animals beyond every stretch, well, that was invigorating."

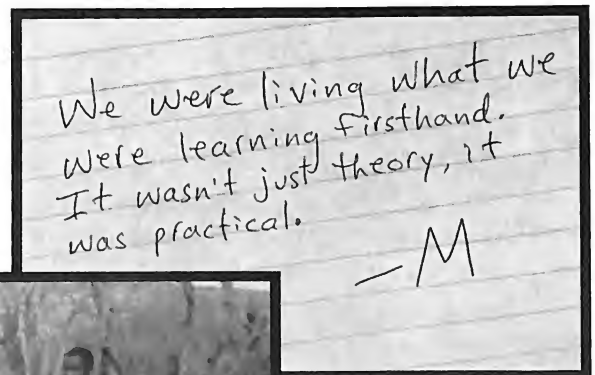
The semester also served as a commentary on American society. "I think sometimes in America, we don't realize just how good we have it. We complain about what we don't have," notes Brown. "But, we stayed in homes where it was considered a luxury if you had electricity and running water ... not a necessity. These people appreciated every ounce of life. That made me more sensitive to what I have, and what I really need."

As a component of the EASA program, each student was required to complete an internship. "The internships were very diverse," noted Brown. "We had people working with doctors and at refugee camps. I worked with orphanages and with street kids. Julie got to work with children who were considered the throw-aways of the society."

"I worked with children who were deaf, blind and physically and mentally handicapped," says Moffitt. "In parts of the East African society, these children

are not accepted. The people don't realize that these kids can succeed in the real world if given a chance. It was a tough experience to see these kids neglected and pushed aside. These children needed care and compassion ... and that's what I tried to give to them."

The mission of EASA was to educate, inform and to facilitate individual personal growth as well as to



encourage community development and dialogue between Africans and Americans. "The people were tremendous," added Brown. "There is such a deep personal attachment to that place and to these

people. There is an element of life that I have experienced with these people that no one else will ever understand. The friendships that we formed there are unparalleled because of our shared experiences."

Moffitt and Brown concur that this learning experience was unlike any other. "We were living what we were learning firsthand. It wasn't just theory, it was practical," notes Brown. "It was a whole new realm of learning for me," remembers Moffitt. "I would recommend it to anyone."

Jason Ackiss, a Gardner-Webb senior, has spent his college career studying computer science in hopes of landing a job as a computer programmer. But as he tried to gain job experience to accompany his degree, he never expected that he would spend time learning from the pros at IBM.

The recipient of a nationally awarded internship sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Ackiss worked for 13 weeks recently as a software engineer at the Research Triangle Park in Raleigh. "I really enjoyed the internship at IBM because I learned how things work in the real world," said Ackiss. "It was good to see how my studies apply to the overall operation of a company."

He adds, "And Gardner-Webb has been a big help to me as far as class size. I went to a larger school for a year and a half. There, I did not get the one-on-one attention that students get here. It's helped me make progress and know just what I can accomplish, like the internship."

AAAS is a service group that places in math and science-related positions people with disabilities. Since Jason is legally blind in one eye and totally blind in the other, he qualifies for such assistance.

While working in Raleigh, Jason also was chosen to appear in a promotional video for AAAS. The video features Jason's testimony of his positive experience at IBM and will be used for encouraging other students to participate in AAAS internships.

In addition to being selected for the summer internship, Jason was awarded a scholarship from the American Council for the Blind. He was one of the 15 students nationwide recognized at the Council's annual convention in Orlando.

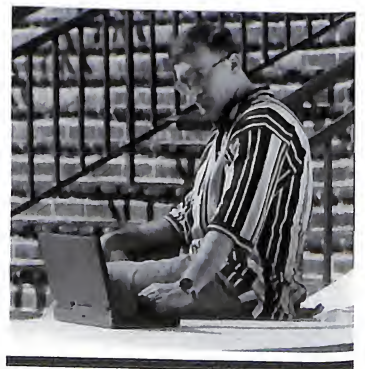
"Beth Lloyd from the Noel Program really helped me in the whole application process. Many told me that this was an elite award and not to expect to win, but I am pleased I did," Jason said.

He considers the Noel Program for the Disabled as one of Gardner-Webb's strongest assets. Through this program, he has received assistance with accommodations such as notetaking and enlarged class materials.

Jason says that this comfortable learning environment has paid off for him. He currently has a 3.4 GPA and is doing well in his major, which is computer science. Within that focus area, Ackiss also has gotten involved in Gardner-Webb's Association for Computing Machinery.

Through it all he refuses to let his eyesight get in the way of vision. "It was an honor to be chosen for this internship, especially since it relates to my career goals."

## A Senior With A Vision



**Sight Disability Doesn't Impede Student's Lofty Goals**





### *Students learn "theology of the hammer"*

**W**hen Gardner-Webb students participated in a Habitat for Humanity International project during their spring break, they helped others through the pounding of hammers and the buzzing of saws. And when Millard Fuller, the founder of Habitat, visited the GWU campus on January 18, he related how he considers these actions a part of God's will.

"Christianity is more than sitting in church," said Fuller, whose organization builds homes for low-income families and sells the houses at no profit and no interest. "We are challenged by Jesus Christ to love one another in practical ways and put the Bible into practice in the real world. The will of the Father is tied up with deeds, not words."

This motto of ministering through deeds has been the foundation of Habitat since its beginning in 1976 and has been the catalyst for the construction of homes for more than 300,000 people in 1,300 U.S. cities and 50 countries.

"This is a practical way to deliver the goods to a non-believing world. We want to show those people in need that we love them unconditionally, the way Jesus does," he continued.

Contributing to this cause were Gardner-Webb students who helped build a Habitat house in Charlotte during their spring break. They joined other college students from throughout the state, in celebration of the 75th anniversary of Baptist Christian Ministries on North Carolina campuses.

"God has given me a heart for inner-city missions, and I felt that this was a way for me to show I care. I know that a family has a home who might not otherwise. I am thankful to be a part of someone's home, of someone's dream," said Jacqueline Bowen, a freshman at Gardner-Webb. The student groups also did mission work – feeding the homeless, visiting the jails and spending time with the children of the inner-city areas – at other Mecklenburg County locations.

Bowen continued, "The kids in these places were so grateful and accepting of love. They were so open to what we would say and I really felt that God used me to love them."

"I was happy to spend spring break doing mission projects. It was the least I could do to help," added freshman Daniel Mackey. "After all, it's not a sacrifice to see others get such a blessing. It was a wonderful opportunity to minister and share Christ's love in a real, lasting way."

Millard Fuller agrees that each house has a lasting effect on its owner and is, in effect, a sermon of God's love. "This is a passionate calling for me. I feel privileged to be a part of a ministry that makes an impact. There is always crying and shouting at the opening of each house. People are just blown away by it. It's not only about having a house, but how they got it. It touches them profoundly."

During Fuller's visit, he was presented the inaugural Gardner-Webb University Medallion, the institution's highest honor for demonstrated service and character.



*Dr. Millard Fuller*



# THE GREAT ADVENTURE

## TRUST, TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION: A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

When struggling with a project, do you ever feel like you've reached the end of your rope? When climbing the corporate ladder, is someone always stepping on your fingers? Are you constantly confronted with new walls to tear down in your life? Have you ever asked yourself "how can I be rescued from the stresses of work, home and society?" If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Broyhill Adventure Course on the Gardner-Webb campus may be just what the doctor ordered.

"This course is without a doubt a metaphor for life," says Jennifer Boroughs, GWU coordinator of leadership and volunteerism. "Life is an incredible adventure, but sometimes coping with those daily challenges of life are the most frustrating roadblocks to get through."

The Broyhill Family Foundation Inc. of Lenoir, NC, provided Gardner-Webb a grant of \$300,000 to assist in numerous areas of leadership development. A portion of the grant funded the construction of the Broyhill Adventure





Course. The course incorporates several structures, including a ropes course (the Alpine Tower), a five-story climbing wall and a rescue training center. The course will be utilized by campus groups and numerous community organizations and business who wish to enhance teamwork skills and develop quality leadership. "We are using some group dynamic philosophies

that apply to your job, your family and your social life," says Boroughs. "We're going to teach the facilitators (adventure course leaders) about these value systems and how to deal with the conflicts that may occur. These situations will not only benefit the participants, but the facilitators will see value in it as well."

The ropes course, climbing wall and rescue training center are designed specifically to promote partnership, communication and trust. The experience also serves to enhance self-esteem as participants are challenged to face and overcome tremendous physical obstacles that can be paralleled to a real-world society. "Through this course, you get to know someone in a completely different environment," says Boroughs. "You can really see the course in action with business groups. I worked with a pretty large corporate group one time and they were having some internal struggles at their office. And for them to deal with some of the same types of issues in this setting, well, it was enlightening and encouraging for them."

When Boroughs speaks about the importance of the GWU Broyhill Adventure Course, her enthusiasm for this project is evident. "With a course like this, you are able to work with such a diverse group of people. I've worked side-by-side with college vice presidents, kids from the YMCA, children from low-income housing projects and college students. That's the beauty of this experience, it allows diverse groups to come together as a one."

Boroughs received her adventure course training while working at Samford University and she feels that this unique opportunity can have a monumental impact on student leadership in particular. "Through this course, Gardner-Webb is extending yet another opportunity for students to get involved in a leadership experience," notes Boroughs. "Some don't feel comfortable taking part in Student Government or other structured club-type settings. But, this may be just the outlet those students need to display their talents."

The true potential of the adventure course experience is reached when partners from different cultural backgrounds develop compassion, care, respect and understanding for each other and realize that their safety depends on working together toward a common goal. "We have faculty members as well as students interested in becoming facilitators. So, we will have some opportunities for students, faculty and staff to work as equals," explains Boroughs. "It will give them an opportunity to truly work with someone who is not a peer. It will also teach respect for each other, and in some instances, you may see a reversal of roles to some extent."

The course is slated to be utilized by several groups as early as this summer. "It is a great tool to use to develop self awareness and group awareness," Boroughs adds. "It takes the participants out of their comfort zone and challenges them to challenge themselves."

For more information on the Broyhill Adventure Course, contact Jennifer Boroughs at 704-434-4257.



# Division I Status Being Pursued, Say Trustees

## *Addition of new sports helps pave the way*

The GWU Board of Trustees at its February meeting approved the idea of investigating Gardner-Webb's move to the Division I level. Currently GWU competes as a Division II school.

Unless there are unforeseen complications, the University hopes to formally announce its intentions this fall. The move, said President Chris White, would have positive implications far beyond athletics.

"This is more of an institutional move than it is an athletics move," White explained. "The exposure will result in a greater number of people taking a closer look at our university. Media coverage should intensify, the pool of prospective students should increase, and the level of support for our overall institution should escalate. We feel we're ready to pursue this."

Administrators added that conversations will begin immediately with a number of conferences that GWU may want to be affiliated with.

A factor that has impacted this move is the recent decision to increase athletics offerings by three sports, with the addition of men's and women's track and field, along with women's swimming. The sports are scheduled to begin varsity, NCAA Division II competition during the 1999-2000 athletics season.

Chuck Burch, vice president for athletics, sees the additions as a significant move for the athletics department, which currently sponsors 15 NCAA Division II sports.

"The addition of these sports especially offers female student-athletes at Gardner-Webb University more opportunities to be involved in

intercollegiate athletics," Burch said.

"Over the last several years, Gardner-Webb has seen tremendous growth across the board. By adding these new sports, it is our hope to continue that growth in our area of the University."



In January the University took the first step in establishing the track and field offerings with the hiring of Bryan Fetzer of Ranger (TX) College

as head coach of both the men's and women's programs. Fetzer takes on duties as GWU cross country head coach as well. He started the women's cross country program at Ranger and led that squad to a 1997 NJCAA Region V Championship.

"We hope to enhance the appeal of GWU to student-athletes who would not have normally considered us," Burch explained. "The addition of track and swimming accomplishes that goal."



"The recent renovation of our pool will enhance it from an intercollegiate, community and University perspective," Burch said. "The renovated facility will be a major asset to the program, and will enable us to host intercollegiate meets in the future."

With the three additions, Gardner-Webb University athletics will sponsor 18 NCAA Division II sports – nine programs for male student-athletes and nine for female student-athletes.

Your feedback on the move to Division I is welcomed. E-mail us at [mwebber@gardner-webb.edu](mailto:mwebber@gardner-webb.edu) with comments.





## Shooting for Christ

Randall Cunningham, quarterback of the NFL's Minnesota Vikings, is often seen leading players in prayer at midfield at the conclusion of a game, and he consistently gives God the credit for his abilities. "What some critics say is a shameless attempt to draw yet more attention to already over-exposed athletes," Cunningham notes, "couldn't be further from the truth. People watch what we say and do – so if they're watching, we want them to see the true power that guides our lives."

A group of GWU athletes agrees with Cunningham's philosophy. Called "Shooting for Christ," several men's basketball players and coaches form a special team that speaks to churches and organizations about their faith.

Assistant Coach Roger Idstrom echoes Cunningham's thoughts when he says, "Shooting for Christ was created because of the natural platform athletes have in our nation. We wanted to take advantage of that platform to share about our relationship with Christ. Even though our team performs many different types of community service, there is nothing more exciting than sharing our faith."



The players – Bert Epting, Bruce Fields, William Hawkins and Todd Wilson – and coaches give personal testimonies, lead Bible studies, speak at prayer sessions and share stories of their daily Christian walk.

Idstrom adds that the players get an additional blessing from this activity as well, giving them the opportunity to learn how to effectively communicate their faith.

"The only way they will get better at articulating their faith is to practice that communication."

## National FCA Camp Chooses GWU

Gardner-Webb received some good news early this year when the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) announced it was moving its national all-sports camp to the University. From June 28 – July 2, well-known coaches from across the nation will lend their expertise to young men participating in various sports, including football, basketball, baseball, soccer and wrestling. The camp had been held at the University of North Carolina at Asheville prior to its arrival here. "This is an excellent opportunity for young men to learn not only better techniques in their respective sports, but to become acquainted with and learn from positive role models," said GWU head football coach Steve Patton.

Patton noted that many of the most well-respected names in coaching have given of their time and expertise in past camps, including basketball notables Buzz Peterson and Bobby Jones, football players and coaches like Pete Metzelaars and Frank Reich (formerly of the Carolina Panthers), Lee Rose of the Charlotte Hornets, and John Chavis of the NCAA football National Champion Tennessee Volunteers. FCA camps offer five-and-a-half hours workouts per day in addition to inspirational speakers and small group time with huddle leaders comprised of college athletes and coaches. T-shirts, magazine subscriptions and an FCA Study Bible are all included in camp costs. For information on registration deadlines and prices, call 1-800-289-0909 or visit the FCA web site at [www.fca.org](http://www.fca.org) for more details.



# SINCE WE LAST MET

## Scholarship for African-Americans Names First Award Winners

Gardner-Webb recently named the first-ever recipients of its new full-tuition scholarship for African-American males. The two men who will receive the R. W. Andrews Scholarship are Marquis Bridges, a senior at Burns High School, and Carey Eugene Mitchell, a Crest High School and Isothermal Community College graduate.

Each year the scholarship fund, which was endowed by a \$1 million bequest from the late Mr. Andrews, a Cleveland County native, will seek to award full tuition, room and board to a graduating Cleveland County senior who enrolls at Gardner-Webb. Plans are also to award full tuition annually to a junior college graduate from Cleveland County who plans to complete his four-year degree at GWU.

Marquis Bridges, who aspires to study both chemistry and music, serves as president for the Burns High School DECA Club, has achieved recognition as a Coca-Cola Scholar-Athlete and a member of the "A" average Honor Roll. Bridges was honored for Outstanding Achievement in Music and lists theater productions, choral performances as favorite activities, as well as service in the Key Club, Spanish Club and the Youth Legislature. Additionally, he holds the office of Junior Deacon.

Carey Mitchell is a 1980 Crest High graduate who later earned his associate's degree in electronic engineering technology from Isothermal. He served the U.S. Navy for 12 years and is currently employed by Reliance Electric. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree in business or engineering at Gardner-Webb. He and his wife, Pam, have two children, Curtis, 11, and Tyler, 19 months.

Andrews, who passed away last year in Hawaii,

had left a large portion of his estate in excess of \$1 million to Gardner-Webb University. Andrews, who had a strong compassion for the African-American community, stipulated that an endowment be established at Gardner-Webb to provide full tuition scholarships for



**R. W. Andrews**

African-American males.

Andrews left Cleveland County after graduating Shelby High School in 1942 and made his way to San Francisco after college, beginning what would be a long career with McGraw-Hill Publishing Company.

## Dolls Say Bald Is Beautiful

The Samantha Project started as a way to deal with pain and blossomed into a way to provide joy. And Becky Daves, an administrative assistant in the GWU School of Divinity, couldn't be happier about her calling.

Daves, a dollmaker whose hobby has mostly supplied friends and family members with gifts for birthdays and Christmas, recently expanded her goodwill a bit. A few months ago, as she was about to put the final piece – the hair – on one of her dolls, a friend remarked that the hairless doll looked like a child after taking chemotherapy.

"I couldn't get the notion out of my head," said Daves. "The seed was planted. I thought: Wouldn't it be nice to give a child going through chemo a doll like this to love?"

The prospect of helping sick children was especially significant to Daves, whose five-month-old granddaughter died in



1986 from a viral infection.

Building on the idea of making hairless dolls – later named The Samantha Project after her deceased granddaughter – Daves and about 50 women from her church in Spindale now take orders from hospitals across the Carolinas that use the dolls to revive the spirits of young patients.

Beverly Henson, director of Spartanburg (S.C.) Regional's Cancer Treatment Center, responded to an e-mail message from Daves describing The Samantha Project. "Making dolls

***Becky Daves with her treasured creations***



with no hair – that just intrigued me," Henson said. "I'd never heard of that before. I thought it was a novel idea. Somebody should've done this a long time ago."

The dolls, which each have a name and a tag reading "Please accept this as a gift of love," cost about \$15 each to make. It's a volunteer effort fueled by donations.

Word has spread far and wide of The Samantha Project since its inception. A local reporter who wrote about Daves put her story on the Associated Press newswire and Daves said calls have come in from all over the eastern United States. Though

she confesses filling all the orders can be time-consuming, she says it's a labor of love.

Daves recalls something a teacher told her once when she was growing up in Rutherford County. "She said, 'Find one thing you can do well and do it,'" Daves explains. "Well, I found out I could do this well. And it has brought me a lot of joy."

## **Divinity School Gets First Endowed Chair**

A retired pastor and Baptist leader now has his name permanently associated with the M. Christopher White School of Divinity.

It was announced recently at a special luncheon on campus the formation of the Bob D. Shepherd Chair of Biblical Studies.

Shepherd served as director of development at GWU from 1980-83. He has been pastor of churches in Sanford, Mooresville and Morganton. He has also served as interim pastor

in Winston-Salem and Lincolnton, and in South Carolina as well.

Those in attendance at the luncheon represented all of his former churches. He also has been president of the board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and was former president of the Council on Christian Higher Education.

Dr. Wayne Stacy, dean of the M. Christopher White School of Divinity, said, "I am thrilled that the first chair is named in honor of Bob D. Shepherd. He knows the Jesus he talks about."

GWU President Dr. Chris White presented Shepherd with a framed proclamation that noted Shepherd's friends and former church members who chose to honor his dedication in the area of biblical studies by contributing to the endowment of the School of Divinity.

Gardner-Webb trustees have set a minimum \$500,000 to endow a chair of instruction within the University.

# A COURSE IN SELF STUDY

When Eva Whittington Self '84 B.A. came to Gardner-Webb, there were few facilities for physically disabled students; ramps, accessible curbs, parking spaces and elevators were rare. Yet, as the first GWU student in a wheelchair, Eva learned to adapt. And that story of adaptation has been a source of inspiration for thousands.

**I NOW HAD TO WONDER WHAT TO DO WITH MY LIFE.**

At the age of 17, Eva was traveling home one snowy night when a car, passing another vehicle, came directly in her lane, approaching her head-on. As she swerved to miss the car, her automobile flipped over a bridge. In the hospital, Eva was informed that

her back was broken, but it was not for another week and a half that she realized she had lost the function of her legs.

"I remember the doctor asking me if I had any questions, and I said, 'When will I walk again?' His reply was, 'Never.' That was devastating. It was a loss of who Eva was."

**I KNEW I COULDN'T WORK...**

About to graduate from high school, Eva had been involved in school sports as a cheerleader and a basketball player. But now faced with paralysis, she went through all the stages of grief - depression, denial and anger.

**SO WHAT WAS LEFT?**

She recalls, "It had been my dream to marry, have kids and maybe go to work. But, I now had to wonder what to do with my life. I knew I couldn't work...so what was left?"

The answer came from her friend, **Keith Flippin '81 B.A.**, who told her to read the Bible to find courage. In the months that followed, Eva took

his advice and noticed God working in her life. She had set goals for herself - lifting herself from her wheelchair to a couch and learning how to drive with hand controls - which she was able to accomplish, and this renewed sense of purpose gradually repaired her feelings of despair.

It was at that time that Keith approached Eva about attending the same college he was going to, Gardner-Webb. He told her that the campus was in transition, making provisions for wheelchair accessibility, and that she could help with the process.

"No one from my family had been to college before, and I wasn't so sure what to think about going to college. But when Rick Holbrook, the dean of admissions, came to my home and then took me to campus so I could see Gardner-Webb, I was hooked."

With newfound optimism, Eva enrolled for classes, but soon afterwards was met with her first test - buying books.

Unaware that textbooks were not included in the price of tuition, she had a mere \$10 in her pocket when her friends came by her room to accompany her to the campus shop.

"I just closed my door and cried. It seemed that I was going to have to go home. Then, I began to pray. When I opened my eyes, I saw an envelope that had been slipped under the door, and inside it was a \$200 check from a





church I had spoken at the weekend before I left for Gardner-Webb. This is just one example of how God has provided for me."

Another way that Eva felt blessed at Gardner-Webb was through good friends such as **Jonathan Scott '84 B.A.**, who had music classes with Eva.

Since the music building did not have a ramp, Jonathan would wait outside just prior to their class so he could carry Eva up the steps. But Eva laughingly remembers one morning when she overslept and arrived at the bottom of the steps too late. That's when she started gathering pebbles and throwing them at the classroom window. After several attempts to summon someone to help her, the professor finally stopped his lecture and told Jonathan that he had better go out and get Eva.

Through involvement in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and outreach trips, Eva's relationships and perspective also broadened. During FOCUS retreats, she was asked to share her testimony. At the time she was not familiar with testimonials, but Eva was glad to supply what was explained to her - a five-minute speech on what God had done in her life.

"The amazing thing is that those short testimonies grew into entire programs. As churches began asking me to come and tell my story, I realized that my experience really affected people. And God once again provided. Through the honorariums I received, I was pretty much able to pay for school. The verse, Matthew 6:36, really became evident to me. I learned to seek him first and I would be blessed."

But the scope of her inspiration widened considerably when two years ago she was contacted by Lisa Harper. While working with FCA, Eva met Lisa, who recalled Eva's stirring account of overcoming obstacles. Now the master of ceremonies for the Focus on the Family conference for women, Renewing the Heart, Lisa asked Eva to share her story at the 1997 event.

"The conference was a sell-out. There were 20,000 women there in Nashville and 12,000 on the waiting list," Eva related, "and there I was in a wheelchair, eight months pregnant. But I loved it!"

She again narrated the life-changing accident and gave the women hope of drawing strength from adverse situations. "I tell people that the Christian life is full, but everything is not fair. The challenge is handling those circumstances."

Eva also participated in the 1998 conference and already is booked for this year's event, during which she hopes to share the story of Esther.

"My favorite part of the conference is the time afterward when I get to meet the women, to talk with them, cry with them and hold their hands. When I'm on the platform, the seeds are planted. But the real work of God is watering the seed by connecting with the women, hearing and hurting with them."

She feels that this time of relating with the audience is just as much a part of her testimony as the telling of her life story. "It's important for them to see that I am real and that I am really interested in how God works in their lives."

Eva and Lisa Harper have co-authored Eva's story in a book, entitled "May Bell's Daughter," due out this spring. In it, Eva says, are many tales of her GWU experience.

"I enjoyed Gardner-Webb because I knew that I wasn't a number to the faculty. They cared. The school really took a chance on me, but I am grateful they did. I learned how to tell my story there and help other people in that process."

Now living in Hopkinsville, KY, Eva and her husband, Andrew, have two daughters, Abby, 5, and Audrey, 1.

**I LEARNED TO SEEK  
HIM FIRST AND I  
WOULD BE BLESSED.**

# CLASS NOTES

## The 40s

**Ruth Bland Hamrick '43 A.A.** recently retired as a high school English teacher.

**Zeb Lowery '48** is proud to announce that his former classmate, Norris Jones, who played football at Gardner-Webb in the '40s, was recognized at the Carolina Panthers-Pittsburgh Steelers football game on October 10. Mr. Jones will be inducted into the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in April.

## The 50s

**Ronald "Scoop" Kiser '53** has been inducted into the Cherryville Sports Hall of Fame. Kiser is in his 51st year of sports reporting, with the majority of his journalism work done in Cherryville. He estimates that he has covered more than 3,000 sporting events. While at Gardner-Webb, Kiser served as statistician for the athletic association.

**Barbara Harrill Graham '54** continues to sell real estate but now enjoys spending more time traveling since her husband, Don, retired.

**Betty Joan Staton Reid '55 A.A.** and her husband, Dick, are moving to the Smith Mountain

Lake area near Roanoke, VA, and they will be building a house on the lake. Her e-mail address is reiddandb@aol.com.

The Honorable **Jack Miller Allison**, who attended Gardner-Webb in 1956, has been named the recipient of the 1998 Aging Network Volunteer Service Award by the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Aging. A retired county magistrate and current municipal judge for the City of Gaffney, Allison has been the chairman of the Senior Centers of Cherokee County Board of Directors for four years, assisting the centers with fund-raising events and serving over 500 meals weekly to dining participants.

**Dr. Joe H. Camp '58 A.A.** announces that his daughter, Elizabeth Camp, will graduate from the UNC School of Dentistry in May.

**Marjorie Greer Rainey '58 B.A.** retired on September 30, 1998, after 37 years of teaching. During her career, she taught at Southern High School in Alamance County, Gibsonville High School in Guilford County, Rockingham Junior High School and Richmond Senior High School.

**Kenneth Wilson '58** retired as a school administrator for Chattanooga Public Schools. He and his wife, Carolyn, live in Hixson, TN. They have two daughters and five grandchildren.

## The 60s

**Rev. Denny L. Turner '60 A.A.** was recognized in April 1998 for twenty years of service as the associate minister at Oakhurst Baptist Church in Charlotte. His e-mail address is dturner673@aol.com.

**Linda Brown Plummer '62** and **Robert Plummer '75** are

on furlough, after serving as Southern Baptist missionaries to Trinidad and Tobago. While in the United States, the Plummers will reside in Rose Hill, NC.

**Pat Ramsey Wells '63 A.A.**, a retired school teacher, joined the Cherokee County School Board of Trustees on November 12, 1998, and was elected by the board members as the vice-chairperson. She and her husband, Nick, now have three grandsons.

**Janice Pike Reid '65 A.A.** retired in August, after teaching first grade for 31 years at Fairforest Elementary School in Fairforest, SC.

## The 70s

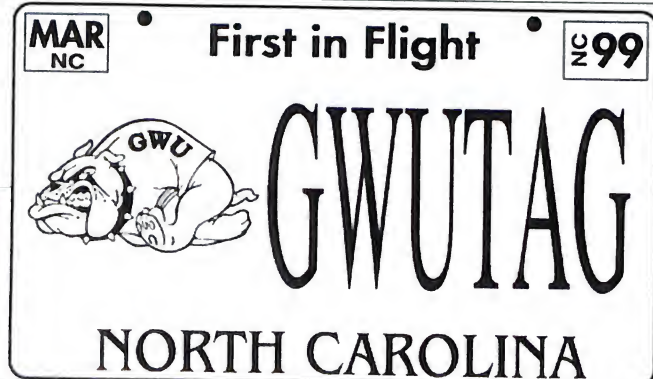
**Henry Ronald "Ronnie" Turner '71 B.S.** is a sales representative for Riddell Sports. He currently lives in Lugoff, SC.

**Rev. Michael J. Darby '72 B.S.** has been called as pastor of New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Brunswick. Rev. Darby also serves as the general superintendent of the Ocean View Baptist Association and is employed with the New Hanover County School System. He and his wife, Verdell, have three children.

**Linda Raney Rostan '72 B.S.** and her husband, Jim, live in Valdese, NC. They proudly announce that their daughter, Kimberly, is an English and literature professor at the University of Wisconsin and their son, David, works at a Wall Street law firm in New York.

**Carolyn Thomas Santanella '72 B.A.** resides in Asheboro and is employed as an assistant librarian. She has three children, Alyson, Gabriella and Timothy. Her e-mail address is carolyn\_santanella@shmm.com.

**Woody Fish '73 B.S., '83 M.A.** was named the new head football



## Display GWU with Pride

Want to help spread the GWU spirit? GWU is surveying its alumni and supporters to determine the interest in a University license tag that could be purchased for your automobiles. There would be an annual fee and we must have 300 commitments before the Department of Motor Vehicles will approve our design. A portion of proceeds would benefit GWU. If you are interested, contact the Office of Alumni Relations by phone: 704-434-4255, or email: alumni@gardner-webb.edu.



# Cribb At The Head Of His Class

Campus life is no stranger to Lt. Colonel David Cribb '79 B.S. The son of Gardner-Webb professors emeriti, George and Barbara Cribb, he practically grew up going to GWU. Now a professor himself, David feels right at home teaching on the campus of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

"I remember the faculty at Gardner-Webb and the way they took time with me and all their students. As I now teach, I try to bring that feeling to the classroom."

Gardner-Webb was a launching pad for David. He excelled both in academics and athletics. A member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society, he served as the organization's president. He also was involved in the track team and ran long-distance and cross-country events.

After graduation, David furthered his education and realized a new meaning for the term "cross-country."

He recalls, "While getting my master's degree, I decided to join the Air Force ROTC. But, little did I know that this four-year commitment would find me flying a helicopter in the other side of the country."

He flew helicopters in rescue missions, encountering emergencies from snake bites to a ruptured appendix.

David ultimately was given the opportunity to teach math courses at the Air Force Academy. He obtained his Ph.D. in mathematics and has advanced to division chief of the Academy's Analysis Division. He now teaches upper-level math classes to engineering students.

In addition, David was recently nominated as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Air Academy Federal Credit Union. "At Gardner-

Webb, my character was developed. I matured as an individual and learned how to deal with people. Hopefully, my students are learning those life lessons as well."

David and his wife of 12 years, **Alexia Bentley Cribb '79 B.S.**, are now stationed in Colorado Springs, CO and have three children, Adam, 9, Katie, 4, and Andrew, 2.



coach at Pisgah High School. Fish was Gardner-Webb's head football coach from 1982-1996.

**Henry Jones '73 B.S.** was inducted to the Cherryville Sports Hall of Fame. A baseball coach at Cherryville High School since 1974, his 25 baseball teams have won 423 games including five state championships - more than any other coach in North Carolina has accomplished. While at Gardner-Webb, Jones played second base for the state and regional champion Bulldogs.

**June Tallent Mull '73 A.A.** and her husband, **Gary Thomas Mull '91 B.S.**, have two children, Joe, who works at the Catawba County branch of the USDA, and Sherry, a senior engineering major at NCSU. June is a homemaker, and Gary is employed by the North Carolina Forest Service as the Cleveland County assistant forest ranger.

**Freida Cole '74 B.A.** has been called by First Church of Laurinburg as minister of families.

**Rev. Barry Dodson '75 B.A.** has joined Courtney Baptist Church as the minister of music. He and his wife, Janet, have three children, Traci, Jeffery and Angela.

**Frank Morehead '75, '89 M.A.** was named as Burke County's 1999 principal of the year. An educator for 19 years, he currently is the principal of Liberty Middle School.

**Daniel Wayne Walter '75** currently works as a police officer for the City of Pompano Beach, FL. His e-mail address is [walter4@mediaone.net](mailto:walter4@mediaone.net).

**Bidgie L. Buchanan '76 B.S.** is the head volleyball coach and the chairman of the English department at Patrick County High School in Virginia. Her e-mail address [bbuch@swva.net](mailto:bbuch@swva.net).

**Bill Mackay '76 B.S.** and his wife, Tammy, announce the birth of their twin sons, Tyler Leonard and Brandon Gary, born July 14, 1998.

**Shirley Jean Pridmore Martin '76 B.A.** was named teacher of the year for Deep Creek Central Elementary School, located in Chesapeake, VA. In her sixth year of teaching, Shirley earned her certification in 1992. She and her husband, **Rick Martin '76 B.A.**, live in Portsmouth, VA, and their e-mail address is [rlmjrrun@juno.com](mailto:rlmjrrun@juno.com).

**Sherwin Johnson Washburn '77 B.S., '86 M.A.** achieved National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. A fourth-grade teacher at Cliffside Elementary School, Sherwin is one of only two teachers in Rutherford County ever to receive this honor. In addition, she is a member of the International Reading Association and Association for Childhood Education International.

**Rev. Robert Cooke '79 B.A.** has moved to Honduras to minister to the people affected by Hurricane Mitch. He and his wife, Denise, will live there for a year, while he takes a leave of absence from his pastorship at Clyde's Chapel Baptist Church.

## The 80s

**Rev. Daniel Worth Carson '81 B.A.** currently lives in Somerville, NJ. His e-mail address is [gracechurch@worldnet.att.net](mailto:gracechurch@worldnet.att.net).

**Richard V. Matthews '81** and his wife, Vandy, reside in Nashville, NC and have two children, Vance and Elizabeth. Richard is self-employed as a sales representative and Vandy is a teacher at Southern Nash

Senior High School.

**Susan Heise Bruson '82 B.S.** received her master's degree in education from Georgetown

College in 1997, where she graduated summa cum laude. In November 1998, she was called as director of Christian education at Wilmore UMC.

Susan, her husband, Scott, and her three children, Lindsey, Ashley and Ryan, live in Wilmore, KY.

**Donald Carnes '82 B.S.** is employed as a computer systems integrator with Lockheed Martin in Marietta, GA. He and his wife, **Lisa Gilmore Carnes '81 A.A.**, live in Acworth, GA and have two daughters, Christie and Katie. Lisa recently had an article published in Special Education Today, a quarterly publication of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board. Their e-mail address is [dlcarnes@aol.com](mailto:dlcarnes@aol.com).

**Diane Davis '83 B.S.** GOAL married Billy Conner on June 13, 1998. She is a teacher at Rutherford-Spindale Middle School, and he is a supervisor at AGI.

**Kimberley Ann Stout Jessie '83 B.A.** is employed as the church and community ministries director for the Norfolk Baptist Association. She and her husband, David, reside in Virginia Beach, VA. Her e-mail address is [kasjkas@aol.com](mailto:kasjkas@aol.com).

**Richard L. Leonard '83 B.S.** is a teacher and the varsity boys' basketball coach at Byrnes High School, in the Spartanburg, SC school district. His wife, **Karen Suddreth Leonard '84 B.S.**, is a third grade teacher at another Spartanburg-area school, Mayo Elementary.

**Franklin Craig Meadows '83 B.S.** was appointed city manager of Bedford, VA, in December 1998. Prior to that, he served as the assistant city manager of Monroe, NC for five years. Craig and his wife, Melanie, have three children, Ashley, Jennifer and Bradley. He also serves on the Gardner-Webb University Alumni Board. His e-mail address is [craig@ci.bedford.va.us](mailto:craig@ci.bedford.va.us).

**Ilene Allinger Candreva '85 B.S.** has written two books, *Faith-Building with Preschoolers and More Faith-Building with Preschoolers*, which were published by Concordia Publishing House. Her e-mail address is [ilenemsw@aol.com](mailto:ilenemsw@aol.com).

## SPEAKING FROM THE HEART

It had been 15 years since Jonathan Scott '84 B.A. had returned to Gardner-Webb when he came back to sing some of the songs he had written while a student here. He found that the campus he knew had gone through some changes, but the songs still had the same harmonies, the same message of God's love.

"You're awesome not because of the color of your skin but because of the God who made you, and He's proud of you just the way you are," he encouraged GWU students at the January 19 Dimensions program. A day after the remembrance of Martin Luther King's birthday, Jonathan spoke about the harmony of racial reconciliation.

He reminded the students that King did not strive to elevate one race but bring races together under the love of God. "What compels us to love is not the love of humanity. What compels us to love is the love of God. You see, God's not in the business of changing your heart. He's in the business of destroying it and putting in its place His heart.

"God says there's no other plan ....it's you and me. If there is to be a change in our world, it must start with me. I must surrender my kingdoms and you must be willing to surrender your kingdoms to the kingdom of God. And I've learned that to accomplish this we must draw closer to God."

Recalling his Gardner-Webb experience, Jonathan said he struggled with the effects of racism but found encouragement in his theology classes.

"I learned that God is proud of what He made, so therefore I have to be proud. I also learned to communicate that message and I am eternally grateful. I had many opportunities through being in bands and traveling with speaking groups to develop my personal style. Gardner-Webb is responsible for birthing who I am in ministry, relationships and my understanding of God."

Jonathan is now the director of discipleship and single adult ministries at University Baptist Church in Coral Gables, FL. There, he leads worship and Bible study groups and ministers to single adults ranging in age from 18 to "80-something."

Since graduating from Gardner-Webb, Jonathan also has received his master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and wife, Kathleen, have two children, Nathan, 6, and Christine, 5.





**Johnny Richards '85 B.A.** has been called by Wrightsville Beach Baptist Church to serve as the minister of education to students and children. He and his wife, **Kathy Hagler Richards '87 B.S.**, have three children, Heidi, Nathan and Caitlin. The Richards now reside in Wilmington.

**Angela Kristen Burcham '86 B.S.** is employed at Lenoir Community College as a biology instructor.

**Patricia Hawkins '86 B.S.** has joined Pamlico Community College as a GED instructor at the Pamlico Correctional Facility. Her duties are to recruit, administer admissions exams and provide educational counseling and goal setting for the students.

**Tim P. Wells '86 B.S.**, his wife, Colleen, and his daughter, Taylor Clark Wells, born on November 20, 1997, now reside in Montclair, VA. Tim is a system programmer for the Department of Defense, while Colleen is employed as an applications consultant for LEXIS-NEXIS.

**Kip Cloninger '87 B.S.** recently moved from Abingdon, VA to Blountville, TN. He now is the assistant football and baseball coach at Sullivan Central High School. Kip and his wife, Margaret, have a five-year-old son, Colton.

**Gilbert Llewellyn Noetzel '88 B.S.** and **Janice Lynn Apple '93 B.S.** were married on June 27, 1998, at Main Street United Methodist Church in Reidsville. Gilbert is an information system manager at Bio-Lok International Inc. in Deerfield Beach, FL. The couple resides in West Palm Beach, FL. His e-mail address is gilbertn@gekko.net and her address is jlynn@gekko.net.

**Amanda Thomas '88 B.A.** was recently hired as the technical consultant in charge of volunteers, scenic design and facilities management for the Vero Beach Theatre Guild in Vero Beach, FL. Her e-mail

address is mandith@juno.com.

**Carolyn Turner '88 B.S.** is a student program advisor at Greenbrier Community College Center, a campus of Bluefield State College, in Lewisburg, WV. Her e-mail address is cturner@bscvax.wvnet.edu.

**Laura J. "Suzy" Bridges '89 B.S.**, an attorney, resides in Rutherfordton.

**Teresa Merritt Deaton '89 B.S.** achieved National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She is a seventh-grade science and reading teacher at Kings Mountain Middle School.

**Steve Young '89 M.A.** has been named as the principal of Mooresville Intermediate School, which is scheduled to open during the summer. Steve leaves a principalship at Mooresville Middle School to prepare for the opening of the new facility. Serving in the Mooresville district since 1983, he also has held the positions of assistant principal, athletic director, chemistry teacher and coach.

## The 90s

**Dr. Karen Elizabeth Curtis '90 B.S.** accepted a new position in December 1998. She now works at Due West Family Medicine in full-time private practice. Her e-mail address is kcurtis@emeraldism.com.

**Jimmy Mitchell '90 B.S.** was named the Carolina-Virginia Athletic Conference's 1998 Women's Soccer Coach of the Year. He coaches at Belmont Abbey College, where the women's soccer team won the Carolina-Virginia Athletic Conference and advanced to the NCAA Division II National quarterfinals.

**Trina Parsons Goettel '91 B.S.** and her husband, Fred, announce the birth of a daughter,

Petra Claudia, born on February 24, 1998.

**Lorie M. Hardy '91 B.S., '97 M.A.** recently accepted the assistant principal position at West Rowan Middle School in Salisbury. She has taught within the Iredell-Statesville school system for seven years. Her e-mail address is lhardy@abts.net.

**Bobbie Charlotte Low '91 B.A.** married Sonny Huntsinger on December 12, 1998, at Christopher Road Baptist Church in Shelby. They are employed at Youth with a Mission, and they plan to continue missionary work by running summer missions programs for musicians. The couple resides in Shelby.

**Patricia Gale Mayfield '92 B.A.** married Jay Brooks Plyler on October 17, 1998, at Broad Street United Methodist Church in Statesville. Patricia is employed

with Alexander County Public Schools as a band director, and Jay works at Pomeroy Computer Service. The couple resides in Statesville.

**Heather Bowers Lloyd '93 B.S.** and her husband, Ed, announce the birth of a daughter, Allison Nicole, born November 30, 1998.

**Mike McCalley '93 B.A.** and **Jill Galloway McCalley '93 B.A.** announce the birth of their son, Richard Michael, III, born July 15, 1997. They also have a daughter, Emily, who is two.

**Andrea Starr Sells '93 B.S., '98 M.B.A.** was married to Adrian Joseph Dezern on December 5, 1998, at Yadkinville United Methodist Church. Andrea is employed at Lowe's Inc. in North Wilkesboro, and the groom is employed by Unifi, Inc. in Yadkinville. The couple



# OOZE-BALL

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**Lorrie Michelle Jenkins '94**  
B.A. was married to Greg Alton  
Johnson on September 19, 1998.

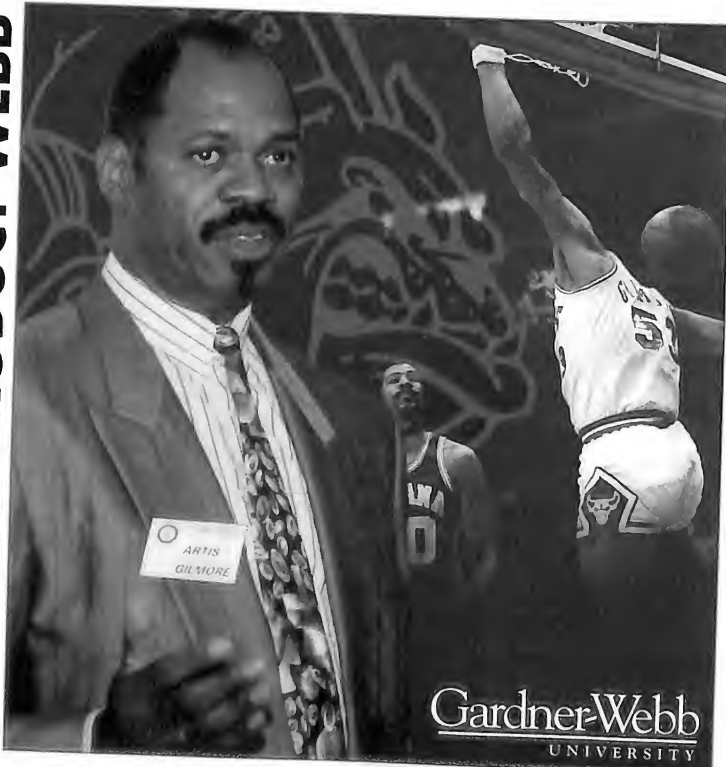
**Sonya Leah Spearman '94 B.A. and Sean Christopher Kelly '95 B.S.** were married December 12, 1998, at Spencer Baptist Church in Spindale. She is employed by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System, and

## Gardner-Webb vs. Lenoir-Rhyne

**Details to be mailed soon ...**

**Larry McNeil '95 B.S.** was named supervisor of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department's Palmetto Center substance abuse treatment facility in Florence. The department assists people with disabilities to prepare for, achieve and maintain employment. Larry has been manager of SCVRD's work training centers in Bennettsville and Hartsville for eight years. Prior to that, he had a 15-year

**L. Alexander Thomas '96 B.S.** has been promoted to senior accountant with the Gastonia accounting firm of Butler & Stowe. An employee with Butler & Stowe since 1996, Alexander





earned his CPA certificate on October 19, 1998.

**Cynthia Gail Williams '96 B.S.** married Roger Dean Driggers on December 5, 1998, at Calvary Baptist Church in Hamlet. She is employed as an accountant at Richmond Home Health Services, and the groom is employed at Sealed Air Corp. The couple resides in Hamlet, NC.

**Jamie D. Carr '97 M.A.** was recently named the new principal of Hillcrest Elementary School in Morganton. Previously, Carr taught at East Burke Middle School for six years and was the assistant principal at Table Rock Middle School.

**Nicole Relinda Crofts '97 A.A.** married Johnny Charles Franklin on September 12, 1998. She is employed by Rutherford Hospital as a registered nurse, and the groom is employed by Morrow Motors as assistant manager. The couple resides in Ellenboro.

**James Calton Duckworth III '97 B.S.** is the proud grandfather of three boys, Calton, Holden and Jackson. He is employed at Cadmus as a cost accounting manager, and his e-mail address is duckworthj@cadmus.com.

**Angela F. Hull '97 B.S.** has joined the firm of Dale K. Cline, CPA, PLLC in Hickory, as a

Certified Public Accountant candidate. She comes to Dale K. Cline, CPA, PLLC from C. Dewitt Foard & Co., CPA, PLLC in Charlotte where she was a staff accountant.

**Mickie Norman '97 B.A.** has been called as full-time minister of youth and children by Chadbourn Church in Chadbourn, NC.

**Mitchell Sherril '97 M.A.** has been named the new assistant principal of Sherrills Ford Elementary School in Catawba County. He has seven years of teaching experience.

**Crystall Starr Barbee '98 B.S.N.** was married to Anthony Wayne Noles on November 10, 1998, in Hawaii. Crystall is a registered nurse in outpatients surgery and critical care at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, and the groom is employed with Gloria Jeans Gourmet Coffee as distribution manager.

**Chasitty Camp '98 B.S.,** a physicians' assistant, recently was hired by the Complete Wellness Medical Center of Forest City.

**James "Trey" Greene '98 B.A.** married Nicole Setzer, a GWU senior, on December 19, 1998. Trey is employed with Sen. Ken Moore and at Caldwell Personnel Services, and Nicole is employed

with Lincoln Bank. The couple resides in Sherrills Ford, NC.

**Laura Beth Harris '98 A.A.** was married to Scott Brandon Buchanan on November 7, 1998, at Allens Creek Baptist Church in Waynesville. She is employed by WestCare as a registered nurse at Swain County Hospital, and the groom is employed by WestCare EMS. The couple resides in the Savannah community of Western North Carolina.

**Angela Helton '98 B.S.** married Timmy Miller on May 23, 1998. The couple lives in Hickory.

**Betsy Hill '98 B.S.** GOAL was married to Jason Hazlett on November 21, 1998, at Rocky Mount Baptist Church. She is the roll goods account manager for Collins and Aikman, and the groom is employed with Homes by Oakwood and Harris Teeter. The couple resides in Oakboro.

**Kelly Holder '98 B.S.N.** GOAL is a nursing supervisor at the Bradford Clinic in Charlotte.

**Brady L. Johnson '98 M.A.** has been named assistant principal at East Iredell Middle School. A teacher in Iredell County since 1979, he has taught at both North Iredell and South Iredell high schools. While at South Iredell High School, he was named teacher of the year two times.

**Jennifer McBride '98 M.A.** was named the new assistant principal of St. Stephens High School in Catawba County. Her teaching experience includes one year at Arndt Middle School and seven years at Freedom High School in Burke County.

**Jennifer O'Neill '98 M.B.A.** has joined Alba-Waldensian Inc. as assistant product manager in the company's consumer products division. She currently resides in Hickory.

**Lisa Snyder '98 B.S.** GOAL married Bruce Wayne Lambert II on Oct. 3 in Gatlinburg, TN. She is employed by Carroll Companies Inc., and the groom is employed by Critcher Brothers Produce. The couple now resides in West Jefferson, NC.

## DEATHS

**G. Lennon Clements**, a former Gardner-Webb trustee, died December 24, 1998, at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

**Stacy Lynn Farmer**, a former member of the GWU Lady Bulldogs basketball team, passed away June 28, 1998, at the age of 22.

**Beverly Kay Farrington '90 B.S.N.** died December 2, 1998, at her home.

**Rev. Lewis J. Hayes '71 B.A.** passed away November 6, 1998, at his home in South Carolina.

**Peggy Lineberry Johnson** died January 10, 1999, at her home in Elkin.

**Maude Piercy Melton** passed away December 4, 1998, in Bostic, NC. Gardner-Webb honored her as an Outstanding Citizen of NC in 1968.

**Daniel Alexander Norton '88 B.S.** died December 27, 1998, at Valdes General Hospital.

**Margaret P. Speagle** passed away January 11, 1999, at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

**Lee "Tommy" Thomason, Jr. '67** passed away on April 1, 1998.

**Rev. Dr. H. Gordon Weekley** died November 16, 1998 in Asheville, NC. Rev. Weekley was honored with a Doctor of Humanities degree from Gardner-Webb in 1994.



**Richard Neal Bass A.A. '54** has made helping others his goal for many years. He currently serves as the president of the Hospice Board of Rutherford County, the president of the Crimestoppers Board of Rutherford County and the pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church of Forest City, where he has ministered for 33 years.



**William Thomas Bell B.A. '71** has emerged as one of the top leading businessmen in Georgia and across the U.S. He is the president and owner of Transportation and Distribution Associates, Inc. and Bell Transportation Systems, Inc., both located in Atlanta.



**Cheryl Elizabeth Moose B.A. '95** can most likely be found at the scene of the crime, as she is employed as the crime and courts reporter at "The Morganton News Herald" and serves as secretary on the Board of Directors for the Morganton and Burke County Crimestoppers.

## GALLERY OF DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES



**Lois Emily Clay Perkins A.A. '67** is widely praised for her participation in volunteer activities. Recently, she co-organized a reunion for the nursing class of '67. In addition, she's received the Parent's Association Award for volunteerism and the Red Cross Service Pin.



**Jeffrey Steven Price B.A. '95** recently joined Manier and Herod of Nashville, TN as an associate attorney. A member of the Tennessee Bar, he obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the Univ. of Tennessee. He is a member of the National Order of the Coif.



**Sidney Kirk Ward B.S. '83** is the customer service manager at Furnitureland South, Inc., one of the largest furniture companies in the U.S. He's recognized by Who's Who Among Young Business Leaders and is president of the Gardner-Webb Alumni Board of Directors.



# ALUMNI NEWS NOTES

CLASS OF: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Earned: (Example - BS, MA, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ GOAL Graduate \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
If female, include maiden name

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
If alumnus, please include graduation year

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street or box City  
State Zip

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

NEWS NOTE INFORMATION: \_\_\_\_\_

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WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS INCLUDED IN YOUR CLASS NOTE? ☐ No ☐ Yes

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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