Spring 2001

The Web Magazine 2001, Spring

Matt Webber

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/the-web

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/the-web/24

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Gardner-Webb Publications at Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Web Magazine by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@gardner-webb.edu.
The Williams Observatory celebrates its first decade

A look at President White's 15 years at Gardner-Webb
Comet Hale-Bopp is just one of many extraordinary events witnessed over 10 years at the Williams Observatory.

**CONTENTS**

**OUR TOP STORY** 2-5
what started as a set of goals (perhaps dreams) 15 years ago has blossomed into an impressive list of accomplishments

**FACULTY & ACADEMIC NEWS** 6-9
tom english looks at 10 years through a telescope/a professor and the county's history/faculty members making their mark

**STUDENTS** 10-13
the Gardner-Webb experience from a somewhat different perspective/care packages plus volunteerism equals impact

**ATHLETICS** 14-15
basketball bursts into division I with a shocker/plans for the future?

**NEWSWORTHY** 16-19
a leader remembered/what is GEM?/deaf students benefit from new technology/from Oprah to GWU

**ALUMNI LINKS** 20-28
alumni couple welcomes special additions/a turn in the national (late night) spotlight/announcements galore/class notes

[www.gardner-webb.edu](http://www.gardner-webb.edu)
In Retrospect: 1986-2001

President Chris White Hits The 15-Year Mark Still Pressing Forward

Overheard at a recent GWU men’s basketball game—

Cleveland County resident: “Your team looks pretty good, but you’re still basically playing smaller Division I schools. It will be interesting to see what happens when you play a team from the Big South, or Conference USA, or even the ACC. What makes you people here think you’ll be successful at the NCAA Division I level?”

Gardner-Webb employee: “Because Dr. White wants us to be successful as a university. And he usually does whatever it takes to achieve that goal.”

**************

Dr. M. Christopher White, the tenth president of Gardner-Webb University, is completing his 15th year at this institution. Among GWU presidents, he now has the second-longest time of service in that capacity.

As he turns the corner to move toward the completion of his second decade at
the helm of GWU, one would be remiss to overlook the dramatic changes and improvements that mark this tenure.

**Inside the Numbers...**

If you like bottom-line figures, there are certainly statistics that support the progress made:

- since 1986, there has been a 160 percent increase in overall enrollment;
- since 1986, Gardner-Webb has experienced a 633 percent increase in its endowment;
- since 1986, the university has increased its operating budget by 332 percent;
- in 2000-2001, Gardner-Webb’s operating budget was $39 million;
- the 2000-2001 academic year represented the 15th consecutive year with an operating budget surplus;
- Gardner-Webb’s academic program is now conducted in 17 satellite locations around North and South Carolina.

**Beyond Balance Sheets...**

Higher education pundits observe that Gardner-Webb is easily one of the fastest-growing, progressive-thinking institutions of its kind, but not just because of increased enrollments or expanded budgets. No, it’s the philosophy. The attitude, if you will, of the university that amazes most. It’s an attitude that begins with Dr. White.

Consider a few examples from recent years:

In the early 1990s, Dr. White held that Gardner-Webb could be a place for ministers to be trained in a seminary-style experience here on campus. With little or no funds to speak of for the project, he declared that a School of Divinity could be created. And created it was. On a shoestring budget, with very few faculty, and very little resources.

But Dr. White’s faith far outweighed his fear. Students came. Scholarships were formed. Outstanding faculty members were recruited. And the School of Divinity, less than a decade old, now thrives with a national reputation.

The GWU Board of
Trustees felt so strongly of the president’s vision that the Board voted to name the School of Divinity after him.

Consider also the fundraising campaign that Dr. White felt was so desperately needed in the mid-1990s to fund scholarship endowment, facilities, and new technology.

“I was told we couldn’t raise our goal of $20 million because there wasn’t $20 million among our supporters,” White said. “And they were right, there wasn’t $20 million ... there was $35 million.”

The determination by Dr. White and his staff to press forward in pursuit of the campaign goal led to the creation of countless new scholarships, a “new” Hamrick Hall and apartment-style student housing, and a fiber-optic computer network for students and employees.

And, of course, there is the desire to move the institution to the Division I level.

“It’s time,” Dr. White declared when the Board of Trustees approved the move. “We are growing. We are moving. This is only natural.”

The naysayers would contend that a school with just over 3,000 enrolled, tucked away in rural North Carolina, isn’t right for Division I. White disagrees.

“This is not just about winning and losing games in the athletic arena. It’s an institutional move ... one that will be felt throughout every program – academic and athletic – on campus.”

He continued, “You are either moving forward or you are going backward. I want us to keep moving forward. To do that, we need to be among the Division I schools in this country.”

That philosophy of progress can be felt in every significant activity and event in recent memory at GWU.

The evidence:

- Gardner-Webb makes the transition from “college” to “university” in 1993;
- the University is now pursuing a strategic plan that will guide the next decade’s decisions on campus;
- a new wellness center and physical development complex now provides a higher quality of
(from left to right): described as one of his “proudest moments,” Dr. White receives the honorary doctorate from Moscow State Conservatory; students Brian Burgess and Janet Jones join Dr. White for the opening of new apartment-style dorms; the Whites at the celebration ceremony for the $35 million “Dreaming, Daring, Doing...” capital campaign.

life for students and employees;
• new master’s programs in nursing, English and sports science are in place;
• a feasibility study is being conducted concerning the formation of a law school;
• national accreditation of divinity, nursing and teacher education programs have placed GWU among an elite few;
• national recognition as a character-building university;
• a student enrollment that has not only increased in numbers, but quality as well, with incoming freshmen averaging a 3.4 GPA and well over 1000 on the SAT;
• a faculty that is superior in all respects, comprising experts who mostly hold the terminal degree in their fields, are recognized for scholastic achievement, and hold true to the Christian philosophy and mission of the institution.

And, according to Dr. White himself, while the 1980s and 1990s were noteworthy, there is more excitement in store. “My vision for the new millennium,” he says, “is a Gardner-Webb University reaching full bloom.”

Supporters Speak...
Those who sit behind closed doors with President White are those that can attest to his love for Gardner-Webb and his sheer doggedness to make her among the best in the region and the nation.

Dr. Gene Washburn, chair of the GWU trustees, says quite simply, “Chris White hasn’t been afraid to have this institution stand by its religious principles and core values. I think that has provided the positive spirit by which this university is guided.”

Tommy Hardin, trustee vice chair (and former chairman), likened President White’s presence to that of Harry Truman, saying, “Dr. White is a visionary. But he’s one who will get in the trenches to make his visions a reality.”

He added, “I look around at Gardner-Webb and I am amazed. In a very short amount of time, under his leadership, tremendous strides have been made on this campus – physically, academically and programmatically. It’s phenomenal.”
The Sky’s the Limit

TOM ENGLISH REFLECTS ON A DECADE WITH THE WILLIAMS OBSERVATORY

As small children, many of us would look to the skies and immerse ourselves in the mysteries of that final frontier. We would imagine exploring exotic new worlds and seeking out new life and new civilizations. We thought to ourselves, ‘If only we had the right tools at our command, we could make those dreams a reality.’

Ten years ago, the Williams Observatory was established at Gardner-Webb to assist astronomy enthusiasts and backyard star-gazers in taking one step closer to that reality of going where no one has ever gone before.

“When I look back at my first year here,” said Tom English, director of Williams Observatory, “I recall that President White issued a challenge to me to ‘make this observatory work for us.’”

And work for Gardner-Webb it has. Over the past decade, thousands have participated in the numerous activities sponsored by the Gardner-Webb University Williams Observatory. Since 1990, the observatory has played host to countless amateur and professional astronomy gatherings and conventions for youth. Several internationally known speakers and experts in the fields of space science have also been involved in activities sponsored through the observatory.

“Ten years ago, the Williams Observatory was established at Gardner-Webb to assist astronomy enthusiasts and backyard star-gazers in taking one step closer to that reality of going where no one has ever gone before.”

“The past year has been our best ever,” said English. “We’ve averaged 600-800 people per year visiting the observatory, but we’ve already had around 400 visitors during the first five weeks of 2001. Fall semester drew a larger than normal number of visitors as well.”

Recently, Gardner-Webb received a $25,000 grant from the Janirve Foundation in Asheville, NC, to assist the Williams Observatory in numerous capacities, including a recent purchase of a new telescope for the observatory.

“The Janirve grant will allow us to purchase a CCD camera,” said English, “giving us the opportunity to experiment with digital imagery. We are also going to purchase a Hydrogen-alpha solar viewing system, which will allow views of the sun that show dramatic eruptions of gas.”

English says that anytime an eclipse or any other spectacular stellar phenomenon is visible from this area, the observatory is in high demand. “The viewing sessions associated with Comet Hale-Bopp brought hundreds of visitors. People stood in line for 40 minutes to get one look at the comet through the telescope under the dome.”

As a public outreach tool, English says the observatory has been a valuable resource for the community.
and for Gardner-Webb.

"Several hundred kids come to the observatory each year, and hopefully they will recall their visits as memorable experiences. Perhaps these experiences will influence them as they consider choosing a college. The observatory also brings adults from the area to campus when they might not have had any other reason to visit."

"The current semester is the high point of our decade of serving the university and the community. We've had our most successful regional meeting ever (over 100 people), we're bringing two very important astronomy historians to our campus, we just installed a new telescope, and we just received a major grant that will allow us to enhance the facility further. The fact that so many good things have happened this year is testament that the observatory has made its mark in the community."

"I'm proud of what we've been able to accomplish, and I'm happy that we're in a position to have a successful year of celebration."

---

English says the observatory is on a record pace in 2001 for visitors. Around 400 star-watchers had visited the facility by the start of February.

---

Every Picture Tells a Story

Using over 200 historic postcards and photographs, Dr. Barry Hambright, professor of political science and history, and friend Rusty Patterson journey back to the Cleveland County of yesteryear covering the county's history from the turn of the 20th century through the 1960s in the visual history book entitled, "Images of America: Shelby and Cleveland County North Carolina."

"Local history is about people," says Hambright. "We tried to include ordinary people in everyday life rather than just the famous."

After collecting historical postcards of the area as a hobby, Hambright and Patterson discovered that Arcadia Press (Charleston, SC) had created the Images of America book series, an ambitious publishing venture to produce a comprehensive history of communities across the United States, covering both the small town and metropolitan experience.

This photographic history touches upon many aspects of everyday life, showcases much of the region's lost architectural treasures, and remembers several of the area's most recognized citizens, such as the political "Shelby Dynasty" of Governor O. Max Gardner, Governor Clyde R. Hoey and Judge James L. Webb.

Since the launch of the Images of America series in 1993, Arcadia Publishing has produced over 1,250 local and regional history titles. The Images of America series recounts the stories of communities from all over the country, written and collected by men and women who share an overwhelming pride in their communities.

"We hoped to give people pleasant memories of yesterday," added Hambright. For more information on the book, contact Hambright at 704-406-4468.

www.gardner-webb.edu
Of Teaching And Memories

Nell Griggs’ 36-Year Career at GWU Has Been Marked By Compassion

For Nell Griggs, associate professor of health and physical education, retiring from GWU after nearly four decades is hard to describe.

“Does it feel like I’ve been on the faculty at Gardner-Webb for 36 years?” she says, repeating the question that’s been asked of her. “Yes and no. If I stop and think about all the young people I’ve taught, I realize it has, indeed, been that long. But then I think about my first year here, which I can vividly remember, and it doesn’t seem that long at all.”

After 36 years, it’s amazing the specific memories that leap to mind when asked to describe her tenure.

“I remember the time the new library was built and a line of staff and students stretched from the old library to the new one – we passed boxes of books to each other until all the books were transferred. That’s a special memory of staff and students working together.”

Another memory she adds: “When the swings were put up around campus ...that let the young people have a place to sit and hold hands.”

She’s seen three presidents. She’s watched buildings sprout up around campus. She’s watched administration and students become partners in doing the university’s work (“That’s the biggest change over the years,” she says). And she’s taught countless young people about health and physical education – and life.

President Chris White said of her: “I can’t think of another person other than Nell Griggs who has been more of a mother figure to our students.”

To that, Griggs blushes. “I guess I have been sort of a mother. I just took it upon myself to help those who needed help. A note of encouragement with some candy inside was one way of doing that. Simply talking with students was another way to do it. I felt I could help them learn to make decisions. Of course, learning something academically is important. But I wanted them to learn something that would help them grow as well. I tried to prepare students for life. I really enjoyed these years. Some would say I cared too much, but I guess there’s worse things someone could say about you.”

Memories of campus growth and new programs and attending basketball games will all live on in her recollections of GWU, but one characteristic stands out most. Her husband, the late Keith Griggs, was a longtime GWU business professor who passed away in 1999 after a lengthy illness. The comfort and support the family received, Nell Griggs says, is what defined working at Gardner-Webb.

“Even students who never took a class from him sent their best wishes. And faculty who never taught with him in the business school attended his funeral. That’s the spirit that shows what Gardner-Webb really is – it’s people. It’s people who care, just like the university’s slogan says.”

"Some would say I cared too much, but I guess there's worse things someone could say about you.”

– Nell Griggs
**Simmons, Hunt Proud of Teacher Education Report**

The State Board of Education has released again this year a report that measures the performance of statewide teacher education programs in N.C. colleges and universities. Included in that report is Gardner-Webb's teacher education program, which improved its score from last year's inaugural report.

One of 46 teacher education programs in the state, Gardner-Webb’s program scored 124 points out of a possible 150. GWU scored 115 points on last year’s report, which has program and university administrators encouraged by the progress. Dr. Dee Hunt, dean of the GWU School of Education during the 1999-2000 academic year, said of primary importance was not the points received, but the fact that GWU’s program continues to improve.

"It shows others what we already know internally – that we have a very good program that is only getting better."

Dr. Donna Simmons, chair of the GWU Department of Education, added that while the overall score for Gardner-Webb’s program was “very satisfying,” she was particularly pleased with specific areas in which GWU scored highly.

"Many, many areas of these programs are rated in order to reach your aggregate score,” Simmons said. “One particular area rates how you use technology to educate students and how employers feel your graduates use technology in their classrooms. We rated a perfect score in that area, and that says a great deal about how we are teaching our students in a cutting-edge environment.”

Both Hunt and Simmons added that categories in the rating system called “service components” garnered the GWU program high marks as well. “These categories reveal how the GWU faculty and the institution as a whole support their students, graduates and the greater educational community in this region,” said Simmons. “This shows that we are not simply staying here on campus, but we are taking a role in the larger world of education.”

---

**Swiecegood Keeps Eyes On Fickle Economy**

He’s not E.F. Hutton, but when Alan Greenspan talks, investors and business leaders everywhere will listen.

The Federal Reserve chairman in February forecasted a sharp slowdown in the economy this year with consumers appearing less confident about the future. Also included was the strong possibility of more interest rate cuts.

Dr. Philip Swiecegood, assistant professor of finance at GWU, said it takes seven to nine months for consumers to feel the effects of a federal interest rate cut. "It’s not reason to despair, it just means that we have to be patient," said Swiecegood. For investors, he said that means balancing risk. For consumers, it translates into monitoring their level of debt.

"Those kinds of issues you can control," he said, adding that stock market levels can’t be predicted so "there’s no use really worrying about it."

If people are fearful of a souring economy, he said, "they kind of hunker down in their wallets and that in and of itself can slow down the economy. "If we’re not careful, it can become a self-fulfilling prophecy.”

He urged consumers to take a practical, long term view of the economy. "It's not like we're heading into a massive depression," said Swiecegood, who gave a 12 to 18-month recession as a "worst case" scenario.

"I'm still fairly optimistic for the economy. We just have to make sure that we don't overmagnify it at this point," he said. "It's good for a little healthy belt tightening at times."

(Shana Bretzis of The Shelby Star contributed this story.)
Most people think of college not only as a time to prepare them for a career, but also an opportunity to experience new things, meet diverse people and open their minds to a new world of ideas.

However, the majority of the student population at Gardner-Webb shares very similar family and religious backgrounds, listens to the same music, enjoys the same recreation, and views the world through the same value system.

But during a time of year in which Black history is celebrated, two of GWU’s brightest and most promising students have insights about the African-American experience at this growing and changing university.

April Bolton is a biology major with minors in Spanish and chemistry, an Academic Fellow, honor student, member of the gospel choir, part of the Student Alumni Council, and she works as a DJ on weekends at WGWG, the school’s radio station.

An Academic Fellow and honor student as well, Patrick Woody is a double major in history and political science, a student admissions associate, Presidential Associate, member of the University’s Strategic Planning Committee, and has served as an intern with the U.S. attorney in Richmond, Virginia.

Aside from being outstanding academically, both plan to make their marks in the community as well. Bolton plans to attend medical school and is thinking of pursuing a career in obstetrics and gynecology and would like to conduct medical research. She wants to offer her medical services to low-income minorities who often receive second-rate care, if any at all.

Whereas Bolton plans to alleviate immediate community needs, Woody’s aspirations are aimed at making a difference through politics. He plans to attain his juris doctorate, as well as postgraduate degrees in history and political science. He has the ambition of being involved in government, hoping to one day serve the nationwide community in the White House.

Bolton and Woody view themselves not as “black students, but as students who happen to be black.” They do, however, embrace their black culture and feel they must work extra hard to represent the black community in a positive way to transcend harmful stereotypes that are often placed on minorities.

Drawn to Gardner-Webb because of its caring Christian environment, Bolton and Woody’s race still posed challenges to their decisions to enroll here.

Bolton said that when she first came to GWU a friend told her she “probably received her scholarship to fill a quota.”

And while she knows this isn’t true, it still pushes her to study above and beyond the average student in order to prove wrong those who might hold this opinion. Bolton also fears that people might question her intelligence because she likes to “dress
ghetto.” After spending a few minutes with her, it’s apparent that her style is an external demonstration of her vibrant personality.

Patrick stated, “Identity should lie in a person’s human qualities and not in an individual’s race, yet I still have something to prove.” Bolton and Woody are often the only black students in their classes and Woody once lived in a dorm with all white students. This places more importance on their views in a particular class. Bolton laughs as she thinks about her peers “walking on eggshells in order to be politically correct.” But she views this as any other challenge. “Once they get to know me, they know I want them to feel comfortable around me and say what they mean. I think honesty is an important first step toward understanding what you don’t know.”

Woody says he perceives his position at GWU as a responsibility, saying, “I have to take into account that things I say may be interpreted as a representation of all blacks.” But, Bolton says, “I don’t want people to see me as a representative of the African American race but as an individual.”

Although both students are more than satisfied with their decisions to come to Gardner-Webb, they have become aware of the challenges that young people of different races face. Bolton proclaims aloud how beneficial it would be to have all the different cultures on campus come together to put their various styles, opinions, traditions and views on display. She asserts that simply exposing oneself to something new can help close gaps, such as listening to a different type of music. She grew up listening to rhythm and blues. When she heard the contemporary Christian music performed in Dimensions, she really enjoyed it, asking, “Why didn’t I try listening to this before?”

Woody suggested white students try a black church or vice versa. He says, “Until religion is integrated, we have no chance of eliminating racism. Complete integration will take reaching out on both sides and finding common ground.”

Woody contends that Gardner-Webb has a great faculty with instructors such as Susan Bell, one of his favorite professors, whose art survey class is an experience to learn not only about the visual arts but about the beauty found in diversity. Those kinds of experiences, the pair say, show that the educational experience at GWU can teach diversity and benefit students of all races and cultures.

Bolton and Woody conclude that they are bettering themselves in various ways at GWU, a school that has made them think in depth about their faith and challenged them academically. “I will look back at my time at Gardner-Webb after I graduate and be very thankful for it,” says Bolton. “I feel I have grown as a person.”

Woody adds, “Coming out of high school, I didn’t know about Gardner-Webb University. I’m grateful I looked into it.”

(Editor’s Note: Gardner-Webb’s minority enrollment currently stands at 10 percent, which is above the state average for North Carolina’s private colleges and universities.)
GWU A LEADER IN "EXAM PACKS"

The use of exam care packages as a fund raiser has been prevalent on college campuses for some time. Tracy Jessup, GWU campus minister and director of campus ministries, explained that the sponsoring group on each college campus determines where the proceeds go.

"Campus Ministries United sponsors the exam care package project on our campus as a fundraiser for the student summer mission program in cooperation with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina," Jessup said. "Through this program, many of our students have served as summer missionaries in both U.S. and overseas assignments."

During the Fall 2000 semester, Jessup's office prepared 368 exam care packages, raising almost $4,000 towards a $6,500 pledge. Last year, Gardner-Webb was fifth in giving among approximately 50 colleges and universities in the state.

The exam care packages contain fruit, candy, other snack foods, coupons, various fun items, and a special note from their parents. Jessup's office sends a letter to the parents and/or guardians of each residential student, inviting them to participate. Jessup said with a smile, "Their response has been fantastic."

Faculty and staff are also given the opportunity to give an exam care package to their work study student(s).

The Campus Ministries United council prepares the packages under the supervision of Amy Armstrong, director of student ministries. Students are notified through campus mail that they have a package to be picked up in the Office of Campus Ministries.

"It is great to see the smile that comes on their face when they receive the exam care package," Jessup added. "The timing couldn't be better since students are under so much stress during the week of final exams."

RHA NAMED "SCHOOL OF THE YEAR"

Gardner-Webb University’s Residence Hall Association (RHA) was named “School of the Year” at the North Carolina Association of Residence Halls student conference. The conference was held at Appalachian State in Boone, NC.

The honor is awarded to an institution for outstanding service to students, campus programming, and leadership. UNC Chapel Hill, NC State and Appalachian State were other contenders for the award.

The hard work of GWU students was recognized and rewarded publicly. This award has brought Gardner-Webb considerable attention within the state for its excellence in this area.

The RHA Executive Board consists of Summer Jeffcoat, President — Senior, English major, from Little Mountain, South Carolina; Aaron Parker, Vice-President — Junior, Business Management major, from Yadkinville, North Carolina; Sarah Phillips, Secretary — Senior, Communication Studies major, from Wilmington, Delaware; Cathy Mills, Treasurer — Senior, Accounting major, from Matthews, North Carolina; Antwan Campbell, National Communications Coordinator — Sophomore, ASL major, from Fayetteville, North Carolina; Melissa Miller, National Residence Hall Honorary President — Junior, ASL and Psychology major, from Baltimore, Maryland; and Julie Laughlin, Area Director, Residence Life — Gardner-Webb University RHA Advisor.
As a part of the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) "National Teach A Child About Business Week," the SIFE team from Gardner-Webb helped 420 Crest Middle School students gain a better understanding of how the world of business works.

Developed by SIFE as a special competition, "Teach A Child About Business Week" encourages college SIFE teams to develop a project or projects for children grades K-8 that further their comprehension of the free enterprise system by increasing their awareness of how businesses operate, responsible consumerism, professional opportunities and how business impacts our daily lives.

The SIFE National Teach A Child About Business Week special competition will award $13,500 to SIFE Teams with exceptional projects.

Fifteen Gardner-Webb students served on the SIFE team that introduced sixth graders at Crest Middle School to the automobile production process. Students participated in many hands-on activities that familiarized them with the steps required to produce a finished automobile.

"The SIFE Team wants to illustrate the positive correlation between education and a successful future," notes Kristen Setzer, advisor for Gardner-Webb SIFE. "Students were taught that higher education levels equal higher paying jobs on the production line."

Dr. Anthony Negbenebor, director of the GWU Graduate School of Business, added, "These are the best students I have ever worked with in my life. They are very astute and conscientious about helping middle school kids."

"SIFE students have a tremendous impact on the children they teach," said Keith Heckel, vice president, Merchant Sales, Discover Financial Services, Inc. "Giving youngsters an early understanding of how a free market economy works will enable them to make more responsible business and personal decisions throughout their lifetimes."

Active on more than 900 college campuses in twenty countries, SIFE is a non-profit organization that works in partnership with business and higher education to help students take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it in real working situations to better themselves, their communities and their countries.

Family Weekend CELEBRATION 2001

Parents and friends of GWU students will be welcomed to the campus again this year during the Family Weekend Celebration September 21-23, 2001. Various events being planned include: the Senior Pinning Dinner and Ceremony, a Faculty/Staff Talent Show (sponsored by the Student Alumni Council), opportunities to meet with some of the distinguished GWU faculty members, a picnic at Lake Hollifield, and special seating at the GWU football game. The weekend will culminate with a student-led worship service held in the Dover Chapel. More information will be available in the near future.
Men’s Basketball All Smiles After Defeating Appalachian

by Shelby Star Sports Editor Alan Ford

Around the Gardner-Webb University basketball offices they’re still smiling. And with good reason.

December’s 68-65 win at Boone against Appalachian State University was a “feel-good” victory for the Runnin’ Bulldogs, and not just for the basketball team itself. Just like GWU’s football win over nationally-ranked New Hampshire, the basketball success against ASU was the kind of triumph that not only gives the Bulldogs some sudden attention, but it goes a long way in getting people to take the GWU athletic program seriously.

The move to NCAA Division I starting this season is certainly a big challenge and all associated with athletics at the school know it. I’m not so sure that alumni and general sports fans in the area understand that, however. That’s why achievements like this win are so special right now. The road in Division I in all sports is a rough and long one in all sports. When you’re competing with teams far from home against schools that folks in Cleveland and surrounding counties don’t know much about, even the wins don’t register in the public consciousness that much.

That’s why taking advantage of opportunities against colleges and universities in the Carolinas, especially one as reputable as ASU – which competed in the NCAA Tournament last spring – are so important.

It’s not that beating the Mountaineers per se is really the issue. It’s obvious that the ASU program, even with its sparkling new arena, is going through a rebuilding year with a new coach and a lot of young faces on the court. No, it’s what it represents.

It’s a moment to be savored because of the progress and direction it points to for Gardner-Webb as a whole. Besides the obvious pride that comes from the moment for loyal Bulldog backers – it marks the first Division I team GWU has beaten in men’s basketball and the first Southern Conference opponent – it reinforces the notion that the school and athletic department are headed to bigger and better things.

Yet, if you saw the team’s celebration at midcourt after the final buzzer, and the joy around the locker room afterwards, all that high-brow stuff can be forgotten. It was a reminder again that it’s about young people pouring their heart and souls into a game they love, and doing it with friends and teammates they enjoy being around.

It stirred the kind of emotion that had GWU head basketball coach Rick Scruggs probably go a little overboard in his comments afterwards. “I’ve coached in three national tournaments and this is by far the biggest win I’ve ever had.”

Even so, it was more about what it means for the future.

“I hope this is just the start of us getting going in Division I,” he said.

For the players that meant confidence for the rest of the season.

“We kept our composure and were executing what the coaches wanted,” said point guard Chas Criss. “I think we’re more happy for Coach Scruggs than for ourselves. This was a real big step for us.”

(Editor’s Note: The men's team finished the regular season with a 17-10 record, including a number of wins against Division I opponents.)
Reader Survey
Before You Begin ...

1. Please read the directions for each series of questions you answer.

2. Be honest with your feedback (you do not have to include your name on this survey). Use the "Additional Comments" section if needed.

3. After you complete the survey, tear off the survey.

4. Fold the survey according to the directions on the back of the survey.

5. Make sure to tape or staple the survey so it does not open while being delivered back to campus.

6. Do not place stamp or postage on the survey. Postage is paid for by Gardner-Webb University.

Thank you for your participation.

The staff of The Web always welcomes your comments and suggestions. If you have thoughts or input about the magazine, please contact us at anytime at 704-406-4637 or mwebber@gardner-webb.edu via e-mail.

Sincerely,

Matt Webber
editor
Directions: Please rank the following on a scale from 1 to 5 (1 is “excellent;” 2 is “very good;” 3 is “good;” 4 is “poor;” and 5 is “very poor”).

1. The cover designs of The Web (in general) __
2. The layout of information in The Web (in general) __
3. The attention devoted to alumni and alumni news __
4. The attention devoted to faculty __
5. The attention devoted to students __
6. The attention devoted to athletics __
7. The attention devoted to current GWU news __
8. The general writing in The Web __

Using the same system, with “1” being the best possible opinion and “5” being the worst possible opinion, please answer these additional questions about Gardner-Webb University:

9. What is your general perception of Gardner-Webb University __
10. If applicable, please rank your undergraduate experience at Gardner-Webb __

Please provide information about yourself:

11. How far do you live from the Gardner-Webb campus?
   less than 50 miles   50-100 miles   100-200 miles   more than 200 miles

12. What is your relationship to Gardner-Webb?
    alumnus parent friend/donor employee other: ____________

13. If you are an alumnus, please provide the following information:
    class year _______ department in which you studied _____________

14. If your spouse is also an alumnus, please indicate his/her class year: ________

15. Please indicate the last time you visited campus:
    within the last month    within the last year    within the last 5 years    more than 5 years ago

16. Your gender: male female

17. Your race:
    Caucasian    African-American    Asian-American    Hispanic    other: ________

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your feedback.  Spring '01
Gardner-Webb University
Office of Publications
P.O. Box 976
Boiling Springs, N.C. 28017
Football Recruiting
Class Diverse, Balanced

Gardner-Webb, after a 7-4 season in 2000, has announced a talented 18-man recruiting class.

The group is diverse but balanced, with players signing on from five Southeastern states. Four of the prospects earned some form of All-State honors in their respective home states and two played in the prestigious Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas.

Ten are either linemen, linebackers or tight ends. Six are skill position players (wide receiver, running back, def. back).

Wide receiver Travis Gregg, a 6-3, 185-pounder from Boiling Springs (S.C.) High, is perhaps one the most highly touted recruit to sign with the Bulldogs in the Patton era, coming into his senior season rated one of the nation's Top 30 receiver prospects by the Dick Butkus Football Network. He chose Gardner-Webb over South Carolina State and East Carolina. He drew early interest from Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Clinton (S.C.) High star Eric Fuller was rated as one of the state’s Top 10 defensive backs in the class of 2001. He chose Gardner-Webb after considering Appalachian State, Western Carolina, East Tennessee State and several other I-AA programs.

O’Neal Captures National Track Titles

Senior Julia O’Neal has already established herself as one of the premier sprinters in Division I track and field. She continued to steamroll through her competition this indoor season with a pair of individual titles at the Virginia Tech/Pepsi Invitational in February. O’Neal equaled a school-record and personal best with a time of 7.34 in the 60-meter finals on February 10 to capture another title in the event. The time is currently the third fastest by an American woman this year.

New Athletic, Academic Facilities In Works

Much excitement surrounds campus as the Division I transition is taking place. Among the topics being discussed are plans to improve the baseball facility. New dugouts, bleachers and press box facilities are elements of the stadium that will be addressed in the near future.

The Porter Arena has improvements scheduled as well. A new scoreboard, new goals and new locker room facilities are being planned.

GWU administrators say academic facilities are being discussed in conjunction with new athletics facilities.

For example, a new athletic training center will enhance one of the university’s most popular majors.

Drew Van Horn, vice president for university relations, said recently, “We are looking closely at how we can best accommodate students in and out of the classroom. In fact, an additional classroom building is being discussed.”

He added that GWU is pursuing the possibility of a new science facility to house that program as well.
Since We Last Met

'Gentle Giant'
George Blanton
Dies at 86

Friends and colleagues speak with affection about George Blanton Jr., calling him a gentle giant, and a man whose quiet work out of the spotlight helped build many foundations in his community. Blanton, a third generation banker and leader in state and federal banking, died January 10 at his home. He was 86 years old.

Joining his family members at First National Bank in 1936, he became the youngest president of a national bank in America in 1947 when he was 32. The first president of N.C. Young Bankers, he later served in many posts with the N.C. Bankers Association. In 1964, he was appointed to the board of the Fifth Federal Reserve District in Richmond, Va. He also served on the Federal Advisory Commission to the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency.

First National Bank President Adelaide Craver said Blanton's legacy is strong. "He believed that the bank should have a large role in making the quality of life in our community better. He's left a large legacy for those who are following him to fill." Blanton never retired from First National and held the title chairman emeritus.

GWU President Chris White described Blanton as "the gentle giant."

"He stood tall but he was a quiet person," White said. "He rarely raised his voice and never sought acclaim."

Blanton served as a long-term trustee of the university and held numerous positions on the board. He received a doctor of humanities degree in 1997 and in 1999 was named trustee emeritus, a rare honor, White said. He was also a former trustee.

"He served on the presidential search committee that brought me to Gardner-Webb, so he and I had a special relationship," White said. "He and I were tennis buddies," he said. "He was very aggressive and became quite good."

The auditorium in Hamrick Hall, the most prestigious historic building on campus, is named in his honor, White said. Blanton and his family funded several scholarships, primarily for academically gifted students.

GEM Program Means Prestige for Students

Officials with the Gardner-Webb University School of Business announced that a new program for business students will give graduates a competitive advantage when pursuing job opportunities. The GEM (Graduates with Executive Mentoring) Program, as it will now be called, formally begins this fall.

The emphasis of the GEM Program is to allow business students the chance to take at least one-third of their major courses under the tutelage of GWU business faculty who are former chief executive officers or chief operating officers.

Students who have a 3.0 Grade Point Average or higher are eligible for the GEM Program. One expectation of the program is that GEM students maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA. Another requirement is that GEM students will participate in some form of international study travel. Annual retreats are also a major part of the program, allowing GEM students to
interact with and learn from well-known industry leaders.

Dr. Arlen Honts, dean of the GWU School of Business, clarified that GEM students take the same courses that other business students take, but GEM students are held to a higher standard in those courses. Stricter grading scales and additional course requirements are what will separate GEM students from other students.

"This is simply a way for students to more greatly capitalize on their time with these faculty members who are former industry leaders."

Honts added that the initiation of the GEM Program at Gardner-Webb was born from discussions with corporate business leaders who desire better-prepared business graduates from our nation's colleges. "We feel the students who choose to complete this program will not only be better prepared for the working world, but will have an advantage in an increasingly competitive job market."

Parish Nursing Program Off and Running

The GWU Schools of Nursing and Divinity have teamed together to explore ways that churches and health care personnel can work together. A newly initiated Parish Nursing program now helps congregations provide health through community building, enhancing the meaning and dignity of life for all persons, nurturing spiritual values, and serving as an advocate for the poor and underserved as a ministry of the church.

This unique health care program has been included in the new Master of Science in Nursing program at Gardner-Webb. Dr. Rebecca Beck-Little, MSN director, sees Parish Nursing as offering an approach to health and wellness that fits the School of Nursing’s philosophy of “caring for the body, mind, and spirit”.

The School of Nursing and the M. Christopher White School of Divinity have developed a Parish Nursing program that applies knowledge derived from theology, pastoral care, and community health nursing. One of the first in the state of North Carolina, this program’s goal is to unite health care and religious communities in working together to meet the holistic healthcare needs of congregations.

The program began this spring and offers a curriculum that will educate Registered Nurses to provide health ministry through education, counseling, referral and coordination of care for church communities. Dr. Shirley Toney, dean of the School of Nursing, added, "We believe graduate education in Parish Nursing helps provide quality health care that incorporates spirituality, wholeness, psychological and physical care."

The M. Christopher White School of Divinity will offer special courses for students in the School of Nursing and to ministry students, emphasizing the important relationship between health, wholeness, and holiness.

Dr. Douglas Dickens, professor of pastoral care and counseling in the School of Divinity, said, "This program will provide an opportunity for nurses to work as partners with churches and ministers in providing holistic care and practical services. Parish nurses are necessary to provide health promotion and prevention activities, restorative care, self care and referrals to the faith community and the larger community."
Deaf Students Get Innovative Technology

Recently, Gardner-Webb received technology that allows a greater communication between deaf and hard of hearing students, their professors and other classmates. It’s a technology that is getting high marks from students and faculty alike.

“Last semester I used C-Print for the first time at Gardner-Webb. And although my classes were hard, there was a lot of improvement in my grades,” said GWU student Jennica Humphrey.

“I really understood the material much better because of C-print. I think that this is a great tool for the deaf.”

C-Print is a computer-aided speech-to-print transcription system developed at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) as a support service option for some students who are deaf and hard of hearing in mainstream educational environments.

It was developed by NTID researchers eager to improve the classroom experience for students at both the secondary and college levels and is being used successfully in many programs around the country.

Research supports the idea that some students who are deaf and hard of hearing prefer printed text of lectures – the basis of the C-Print system – over sign language interpreters or notetakers as a means of acquiring information.

Additionally, C-Print is cost effective and can be more readily available than stenography-based services that a university or secondary school may provide.

A typist called a C-Print captionist types a teacher's lecture (and students' comments) into a laptop computer. The typed information is displayed simultaneously on a second laptop computer or a television monitor for students to read during class.

Afterward, the printed text is available to students for review purposes.

The technology used is a laptop computer and specialized software. The software has three major functions: a text display, abbreviation expansion, and remote communication. The captionist receives training in an abbreviation system to reduce keystrokes and in text-condensing strategies. The captionist types as much information as possible, generally providing a more complete representation of what was said than summary notes.

A GWU student using the C-Print system demonstrates how easy it can be used throughout the campus.

This Is Not Your Father's Blackboard

In efforts to develop a more technologically advanced learning platform for students and professors alike, Gardner-Webb purchased the commercial software program Blackboard CourseInfo to house both online and web-enhanced courses.

Blackboard frees up class time that has, in the past, been used to distribute paper copies, lecture notes, etc.

“The beauty of this program,” notes Deidre A. Camper, director of Academic Technology, “is that it can be accessed anywhere in the world for students with Internet access, no matter what Internet browser or computer platform they are using.”

Web-enhanced courses still meet in a traditional classroom, but the idea behind using Blackboard to "web enhance" a course...
is to free up class time that has, in the past, been used to distribute paper copies, lecture notes, etc. These types of documents can be posted on the course's website to be examined by the student at his or her convenience.

Blackboard can be used to varying degrees, from posting syllabi and office hours, to delivering entire courses online, including assignments and quizzes.

"What impresses me about Blackboard is how powerful its features are, yet it is so easy to use," adds Camper. "Users do not have to know web design. They are provided templates with a consistent look, but are given the freedom to express individual creativity.

Dr. Pat Partin, professor of psychology and coordinator of the school counseling program, echoes Camper's assessment.

"It's a wonderful tool for graduate students because 99 percent of them drive in from varying distances for class. I don't think distance learning will ever replace the face-to-face aspect of skill development for counselors, but I believe that Blackboard enhances and extends the learning process. I do not anticipate teaching a course in the future that does not have a Blackboard site as an enhancement."

This semester, there are approximately 50 classes that are being taught and/or developed, to some degree, as web-enhanced classes.

From Dropout To Oprah’s Book Club

When a high school dropout from the backwoods of the North Carolina mountains gets featured on the Oprah Winfrey Book Club you know that dreams can come true.

Born and raised near Hendersonville, NC, award winning author and poet Robert Morgan visited Gardner-Webb this semester as part of the Year of the Scholar Lecture Series speaking to classes, presenting a public lecture and co-hosting a lunch with friend and GWU alum Ron Rash (class of '76).

Morgan's childhood memories are a fertile and constant inspiration for his fiction, which deals with such powerful and formative experiences as attending Pentecostal services, farming, marriage, fighting disease and death.

His novel “Gap Creek” was a New York Times Bestseller and a focus book on the Oprah Book Club in 2000. He studied at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and in 1968 he earned an MFA from UNC-Greensboro.

In 1971 Morgan began teaching at Cornell University where, since 1992, he has been the Kappa Alpha professor of English.

CD Available:

Funds raised from a new compact disc “Live from the Webb Sessions, Volume 1” will assist WGWG radio in operations expenses. Local and independent adult contemporary musicians are featured. Copies are available for $20 at: WGWG, Attention: Webb Session CD, PO Box 876, 106 Emily Lane, Boiling Springs, NC, 28017. More information is available by e-mail at info@wgwg.org or by phone at 704 406 3525.

www.gardner-webb.edu

Spring 19
Adoption Story Has Happy Ending For Alumni Couple

Bonnie Burgess Brown '88 B.A and Robert Lowell Brown '88 B.S.
love to recall how their family grew recently. In their own words:

"We began the adoption process in March with our initial application. We had our homestudy, fingerprinting by immigration and waited for our approval. We received that in June and received our referral at the end of July. We began making travel arrangements for Vietnam the second week of August. Arriving in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, we wanted to wait until we had some rest before meeting the boys. They brought them to us the next day and we fell in love. Caleb and Colby bonded with us very quickly. It took three days to get everything done but we stayed the whole week. They assigned us a "Giving and Receiving" ceremony for September 29 – this is our official adoption ceremony. It was very difficult, but we had to give the children back to the foster mother during the month waiting period. We came back to America and spent that month getting our home ready for twin boys. We arrived back in Vietnam on September 27 and couldn't wait to see our boys again. They had grown so much (they had gotten teeth and were both crawling). What a change! We had our "Giving and Receiving" on September 29 and officially became a family. Then we had to get their passports and US visas so that took another week. That gave us time to do some sightseeing and shopping in the local market. We took a tour of Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) and went to a Vietnamese War Museum. Finally we got their visas and were able to start home. We were very excited but, also, sad to leave our children's homeland. We arrived back in Charlotte, North Carolina, on October 10. Caleb and Colby have adjusted beautifully to their new family, home, and country."

The Browns add that if anyone is interested in adoption, or specifically Vietnamese adoption, you can contact them at: Bonnie and Robert Brown, 323 Cottonwood Park Drive, Charlotte, NC 28214 or via e-mail at brwnrlb@aol.com.

'91 Alum Sings For David Letterman (and Forrest Gump)

Robert Harrelson '91, a member of the US Air Force Singing Sergeants, was recently featured on the award-winning CBS late-night talk show, "The Late Show with David Letterman." Said Harrelson, "Several years ago, David Letterman began doing a morale-boost show for troops deployed during the holiday season. He has been having Motown great Darlene Love come on the show to sing "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" for most of those years and someone thought it would be neat if she had a vocal group from one of the service branches to back her up this year."

The Singing Sergeants, the 24-voice official chorus of the United States Air Force, is one of the world's most versatile and traveled choral organizations. It is also one of a select few singing groups internationally recognized for its continuing commitment to excellence in vocal performance. "When we got the request to perform on Letterman (about five days before the taping took place), we said, 'Sure, we'll come,'" remembers Harrelson. "Fortunately we weren't performing at the White House that day."

Originally formed in 1945 from within the ranks of The United States Air Force Band, the chorus is now composed entirely of professional vocalists who have come from leading colleges, universities and music conservatories throughout the world, and who are, yes, all sergeants in the United States Air Force. The Singing Sergeants have appeared before every president of the United States since President Truman, and have also performed at the New York World's Fair, Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. They have performed in all 50 states and 49 countries.

Also appearing on the Late Show that evening was a two-time academy award winner who starred in Forest Gump and Saving Private Ryan. "Some of us met Tom Hanks," notes Harrelson. "He was very nice guy."
50-YEAR REUNION AT GWU
Plans are underway for the 50-Year Reunion to be held April 6 at O. Max Gardner Memorial Hall. The Class of 1951 will be in the spotlight this year and the committee of classmates have been busy contacting fellow classmates and meeting with Laurie Varley, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, to prepare for their reunion. The Class of 1951 Reunion Planning Committees includes: Julius Pinkson - Co-Chair, Ellen Clary Painter - Co-Chair, Doris Grigg Ball, Patricia Thompson Beason, Nell Grantham Bray, Troy D. Bridges, E. Don Dixon, Bill Elliott, Julia Hancock Gilbert, E. Bryan Gillespie, Alfred Homesley, C. Ronald Kiser, E. Ann Lancaster, Cora Ray Beam Shinn, Beth White Williams, and Frank W. Wilson.

HALF-CENTURY CLUB LUNCHEON
The Half-Century Club of Gardner-Webb University was established to recognize and honor all alumni who have been graduates of the University for fifty or more years. Since fifty years is quite a milestone in the life of an alumnus, we annually host a special luncheon in the historic O. Max Gardner Memorial Hall. This year’s event is scheduled for Saturday, April 7 at Noon. Alumni will have the opportunity to enjoy the meal with classmates and then be honored as inductees into the Half-Century Club. Invitations will be mailed in the near future for this event. More information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 704-406-4255.

Ken Brooks '74 B.A. served as clinician for a concert

ALUMNI LINKS

www.gardner-webb.edu
featuring an all-women’s choir and a mixed choir in November 2000. Ken is choral director at Crest Senior High School in Shelby. Crest choral groups perform at various festivals and events under his instruction, including the Holiday Candlelight Tour at the Biltmore Estates in Asheville.

Ervin Wagner ’74 B.S. is hoping to return to a town council member after being absent several years. He previously served one term from 1994-’96. He is a retired disabled veteran from the Army National Guard and Air Force. He has two children.

William B Crosby ’75 B.S. and his wife, Rehnea, are proud to announce the birth of their first granddaughter, Skyler Lyna White. She was born on July 24, 2000. Her parents are Christa and Roy White of Katy, TX.

Ray Thomas ’75 B.S. ran for the office of Cleveland County Commissioner for the November election. He currently markets and distributes petroleum products.

Rev. Larry Wilson ’75 B.A. was a featured speaker at the Homecoming Service on October 8, 2000, at Littleton Baptist Church. Rev. Wilson has served as pastor for First Baptist Church of Biscoe, Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, and the Bethesda Baptist Church in Palmer Point, VA. He has also served as youth director to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Oakboro, NC.

The Rev. Dennis Hester ’76 B.A. consults and leads workshops for churches and small businesses in communication, conflict management and dealing with transitions. He anticipates a book, “Pastor, We Need To Talk,” to be published this spring. He and his wife, Pam, live in Shelby. E-mail is dHester@shelby.net.

Susan Jones ’76 B.S. was promoted by First Union Bank to customer relations leader for Boone, Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro, Elkin, Mount Airy and Dobson. She is also a member of the board of directors for the Catawba Valley area Girl Scout Council, and she volunteers as a first aid and CPR trainer for the American Red Cross.

Russell M. Montgomery ’76 B.S. is national sales manager for P.D.I., a contract sales corporation focusing on the pharmaceutical and medical sales industry. He and his wife, Linda, live in Dacula, GA. His e-mail is rmontgomery@pdi-inc.com

The ’80s

Ronald E. Flynn ’81 B.S.
GOAL has been named vice president of terminal operations for Wilson Trucking Corp. of Fisherville, VA. He and his wife, Hattie, have two children, Jason and Valerie. They live in Columbia, SC.

Adonna Appling West ’81 B.S. was recently voted to the NC Foster Parent Board of Directors. She is also president of the Rutherford County Foster Adoptive Parent Association. She and her husband, Terry, recently adopted a son, Dylan Matthew. They live in Carolene, NC.

Joyce Allen Hensley ’82 B.S. and Henry Frank Hoyle ’84 B.A. were married December 10, 2000 in Mooresboro, where they live. She is employed by DCI in Shelby. He is a minister.

Jami McNeely Crisman ’84 B.A. and husband Robert, have an eight year old daughter, Victoria. Victoria was crowned young Miss Greenville, SC, on December 9, 2000. She was also chosen as Miss Photogenic in the competition.

Sherri Lutz Curtis ’84 B.S. is Office Manager of Lutz Petroleum in Spindale, NC. Sherri and her husband, Dale, have two boys – Alan, 16, and Brannon, 11.

Barbara Lavery Hill ’84 B.S. and Paul Bennett Hill ’85 B.A. reside in Statesville with their two daughters. Paul serves as associate pastor in education and outreach with Fairview Baptist Church. Barbara is a seventh grade math teacher. Barbara was voted Teacher of the Year for North Middle School for the 2000-2001 school year.

Joanne Ruhland ’84 B.S. has been installed as chair of the Government Relations Representatives Group of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). She is assistant dean for governmental relations at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Gay Sain ’84 B.S., ’86 M.A. is a training officer, teaching defense tactics, physical fitness and ASP batons with the Mecklenburg County police. He is also the training coordinator and liaison for the department. He live in Vale, NC, and can be reached at: gaye@shelby.net.

Vera Jane Seary ’84 B.A. recently accepted a job as business manager for the Mirazon Group, a technology company in Louisville, KY.

Bruce Wilson ’84 B.S. was hired by Cleveland Community College as the computer network specialist. He recently earned his Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE) certification as well. Prior to his new role, Bruce was the micro-computer technician at the college. He and his wife, Sharon, live in Shelby. Bruce can be reached at Wilsonbb@cleveland.cc.nc.us.

Harold Dean Wright ’84 B.S. GOAL lives in Randleman, NC, with his children – three sons and a daughter.

Martha Sue Hall ’85 B.S. was recently the subject of an article in The Stanly News & Press, Albemarle, NC. She has been employed as county commissioner since 1994. Martha Sue and husband, Bill, have a 13 year old daughter and 10 year old son.

Teresa Jessup ’87 B.S. and Tracy Jessup ’89 B.A. announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Elizabeth. Anna has a proud big brother, Christian. Tracy is employed at GWU as campus minister and director of campus ministries.

Tamara Nance ’87 BSN and her husband, Van, announce the adoption of a son, Alec, on October 31, 2000.

National Tax Strategist To Lead Free Seminar

Nationally recognized tax strategist Winton C. Smith will be on the Gardner-Webb campus to lead a special estate and tax planning seminar on April 24, 2001. This free workshop for donors and friends of the University will be held from 9 a.m. until noon in the Blanton Auditorium, located in Hamrick Hall. Lunch will be provided free for all registered participants. To make reservations and receive additional information, please contact the GWU Office of Gift Planning at 704-406-3975 or 704-406-4250.

22 The Web
Susan Curti Beck '87 B.S. and her husband, Charles, announce the birth of a son, Charles Robert, on October 30, 2000. They also have a daughter, Sara Catherine, 3. They live in Cary, NC, and can be reached at sbeck3992@aol.com.

Ginger Ellen Blackburn Collins '89 M.A. received her doctorate degree in music education from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro in December. She lives in Yadkinville, NC.

W. Gene Lancaster '89 has been called to serve All Saints Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, VA. He previously served at St. John, Melbourne, KY. He and his wife, Julie ('85 and '87) live in Chester, VA, with their daughter, Abbey. Their e-mail address is glanc@homeemail.com.

Susan Reynolds '89 M.A. has been named Cherryville High School's 2000-2001 teacher of the year. She lives in Cherryville with husband, Bobby, and son, Drew.

The '90s

Greg Marshall '90 B.S. has joined John S. Clark Company, Inc. as controller. He and wife, Lori, live in Mount Airy, NC.

Wendy Karen Propst '90 B.S. was married to Enrico Mortarino on September 23, 2000, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church. Wendy is employed by Dr. William Straka as a registered dental hygienist. Enrico is employed by Comez North America, Ltd., as a textile engineer. The couple reside in Hickory.

Cindy Bowers Barnes '91 B.S. has been named BB&T banking officer and branch manager. She volunteers with the United Way of Wilkes County. Her and husband, Ronnie, reside in Millers Creek with two sons.

Amy Cooper '91 B.S. has been named Teacher of the Year for the Mount Airy City Schools. Cooper is a 10 year veteran of the teaching profession and has taught fourth, fifth, and sixth grades.

Sherry D. Enloe '91 B.S. was married to Averett Vincent Thomas on November 11, 2000, at Abbot Creek Missionary Baptist Church. Averett is employed by Wal-Mart pharmacy in South Boston. The couple reside in South Boston.

Scott Parker '91 M.A. accepted the position of athletic director and head football coach at T.L. Hanna High School in Spring 1999. His wife, Gena Linder Parker ('84 M.A.), is a school teacher at Calhoun Elementary. They live in Anderson, SC. E-mail is jgweez2@yahoo.com.

Melissa Parton Robbins '91 B.S. and Edward Calvin Thompson, III were married August 26, 2000. After a trip to Tennessee, the couple make their home in Forest City with their daughters, Sarah and Laura Robbins.

Angela Lane Ehrenreich '92 B.S. and her husband, Scott, announce the arrival of their first child, Emily Jane, who was born December 2000. Angela is a social worker with Catawba County Social Services. The family lives in Claremont, NC. E-mail is saepl@bellsouth.net.

Joy Liles Perkins '92 B.S. was married to Woodrow W. Graham, Jr., on November 4, 2000, at Stevens Memorial Pentecostal Holiness Church. She is employed as a supervisor of developmental disabilities services for Scotland County Mental Health and the groom is employed as an environmental engineer with Willamette Industry. The couple resides in Bennettsville, SC.


Marie Clark Blankenship '93 B. S. in November was named Human Resources Manager with Capel, Inc., the nation's oldest manufacturer of braided rugs. She lives in Troy, NC.

Jason Crook '93 works as the manager of research services for an Internet/Web-based pharmaceutical research and medical education company called Target RX, Inc., located in Horsham, PA. Additionally, he became an adjunct professor of Advertising and Marketing Communications at Philadelphia University in January 2001.

Edward J. Faille, Jr. '93 B.S. is currently employed by TIAA-CREF and resides in Charlotte. His e-mail address is ejfaille@aol.com.

Rosemary Dawn Roshto Jones '93 B.S. and husband, Doug Jones, announce the birth of their baby girl, Katlyn Paige Jones, on July 26, 2000.

Katrina Penland McDowell '94 B.S. was selected as one of the Great 100 Registered Nurses in North Carolina for the year 2000. Mrs. McDowell serves as an assistant clinical nurse manager at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. McDowell has been a nurse for 15 years.

Pamela Price Mitchem '95 was recently promoted to assistant archivist at Appalachian State University. She and her husband, Gary Todd Mitchem '95 reside in Deep Gap, NC.


If you have fulfilled your pledge to your Senior Class Campaign and have not yet received your brick or information about your brick inscription, you will be receiving something in the mail this summer (July or August 2001). Only those graduates who have fulfilled their $250 Senior Class Campaign pledge will be entitled to name a brick. If you have not fulfilled your pledge, you can mail your pledge payments to Gardner-Webb University, Office of Annual Giving, Boiling Springs, NC 28017.

If you have questions about your pledge or "naming" a brick, you may contact Darlene Broadhurst at (704) 406-4654 or Francine Schau at (704) 406-3824.

www.gardner-webb.edu
Gardner-Webb University and YOU - Provide Promising Futures and Priceless Opportunities

Your gifts to the Annual Fund help these students and hundreds of others achieve their educational, athletic and spiritual goals.

- Soyini Thompson, sophomore: “I decided to attend GWU to further my athletic career and to start toward my goal – a job in the medical field. Receiving a scholarship helped a great deal since I am an international student.”

- Ray McLeod, senior: “I came to GWU because of the outstanding faculty, small size, and friendly, Christian environment. Financial assistance also weighed heavily in my decision to attend.”

- Brantley Paschal, senior: “I appreciate that my professors are student-focused. Also, receiving scholarships was a major factor in my decision to attend Gardner-Webb. Without them, I probably would not have been able to attend.”

Why do alumni and friends support the Annual Fund?

“Gardner-Webb gave us a start in our life and ministries together. We are proud to claim Gardner-Webb as the school from which we graduated and give our support to keep it a strong academic institution.”
- Rev. Dr. William K. Neely and Rev. Dr. Wanda (Suddreth) Neely, Class of 1971

“My experiences with students and faculty at GWU helped to mold my life both personally and professionally. Hopefully, my contributions can help provide that to future generations at Gardner-Webb.”
- Dave Kinzer, Class of 1993

Make a gift to the Annual Fund this year! By mail: Gardner-Webb University, Office of Annual Giving, Boiling Springs, NC 28017; or online at support.gardner-webb.edu. Please call (704) 406-4654 if you have questions. Thank You for supporting the GWU Annual Fund. Your support makes a difference.
Boiling Springs, NC. Chad is the owner of Humphries Automotive. Audrey is a human resource manager at Carter Chevrolet-Oldsmobile Inc. After a wedding cruise, the couple resides in Boiling Springs.

Joel W. Thompson ’98 B.A. and Elizabeth Carraro were married January 13, 2001, in Louisville, KY. Joel is a ministerial intern at Liberty Heights Church in Cincinnati, OH. He is also a student at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. They live in Cincinnati. Their e-mail address is joelandelizabeth@hotmail.com.

Aaron Stanford Watson ’98 B.S. and Kimberly Medford were married on October 14, 2000. Aaron is a Web developer with ECM. They reside in Lenoir, NC, and can be reached at: anvil76@msn.com.

Pankaj Amar ’99 B.S. became a C.P.A. in October 2000. He works with Duke Energy, where he was promoted to associate accountant in December. Pankaj lives in Charlotte. E-mail address is pankaj@blueridge.net.

Jennifer Truncer Bryan ’99 B.A. and Mark Bryan were married October 21, 2000, in Stone Mountain, GA. They live in Lawrenceville, GA.

Alan James Bagwell ’99 M.Div. was married to Melanie Hennett Hipp on November 18, 2000, at First Baptist Church in Boiling Springs, SC. Alan is employed by Crossroads Baptist Church in Easley, SC. Melanie is employed by First Federal Bank. After a trip to Charleston, the couple resides in Boiling Springs, SC.

Emily Leigh Bowman ’99 and Wesley Wayne Bradshaw were married November 18, 2000, in Casar, NC. The couple lives in Lawndale.

Suzanne M. Morris ’99 B.S. was recently hired as the vision-impaired support teacher for Rowan Salisbury Schools. A resident of Salisbury, Suzanne can be reached via e-mail at SmorrisV1@es.com.

Marla Beth Rhoney ’99 M.B.A. was married to Charles David Nutting Jr. were married at St. John’s Episcopal Church. She is employed by Valdese General Hospital as assistant director of rehabilitation services, and the room is owner and manager of Outdoor Impressions. The couple resides in Hickory.

Jason Douglas Queen ’99 B.S. was married to Mattie Jill Jordan on October 14, 2000 at White Oak Baptist Church in Raleigh. Jason is employed by Rockwell Automation as an e-commerce Web site analyst.

Class of ’00

Jill Bailey ’00 and Scott Brisken were married at First Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC, on July 1, 2000. She teaches at Springmore Elementary School. He is employed at the Gap Outlet.

Stephanie Berry ’00 B.S. has been promoted to general accountant for Alba-Waldensian Inc., the US division of Tefron Ltd.

Elizabeth Jaye Carroll ’00 B.S. married David Michael Nicholson on December 2, 2000. She is employed by Gaston Health Care. He is employed with EDD Automation.

Tony Eunette Clinkscales ’00 B.A. was married to Demorris Lavar Smith on November 4, 2000, at Pendleton Street Baptist Church. The groom is employed by National Cabinet Lock in Mauldin. They live in Simpsonville.

Kelsey Elizabeth Coffin ’00 B.S. was married to Darren Thomas Sumners on November 11, 2000, at First Baptist Church in Morganton. Kelsey is employed with Western Youth Institution, and Darren is employed as the assistant store manager at Food Lion in Lenoir. The couple resides in Morganton.

Paula Garrard ’00 B.S. GOAL is a graduate student in the Joint
Master of Social Work (JMSW) program at N.C. A&T University and UNC-Greensboro. She has been chosen as one of eight JMSW first-year students to receive the N.C. Child Welfare Education Service Award. She lives in Greensboro. E-mail her at pgoutback@hotmail.com.

Jonathan Boyd Lattimore '00
B.S. and Ruth Ann Brown were married October 21, 2000, at Carmel Baptist Church. The bride is employed as a pharmacist at Northern Hospital of Surry County. The couple resides in Mount Airy.

Jennifer Kiley McElrath '00
B.S. married Timothy Perry Johnson on September 2, 2000. Jennifer is working as recreation supervisor at the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa. Timothy works as a golf professional. The couple resides in Hendersonville, NC. Their e-mail address is: jdog_7@hotmail.com.

Meredith Jewel Moorefield '00
B.S. was married to Gregory Lee James on November 11, 2000, at Oak Ridge Baptist Church in Sandy Ridge. Meredith is employed as the office manager and bookkeeper at Moorefield Construction Company, Inc. and Morpus Trucking, Inc. in Danbury. Gregory is employed as co-owner and operator of Beef Performance Racing, Inc. in King. The couple resides in Winston-Salem.

Rachel Elisabeth Parlier '00
A.A. was married to Tyrel Wayne Wetz on October 21, 2000, at Fairgrove Methodist Church. Rachel is employed by Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem as a registered nurse. Tyrel served in the US Army 82nd Airborne. After a trip to Cancun, Mexico, the couple lives in Mocksville, NC.

Dee Robertson '00 M.A. was recently named the North Carolina Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year. She is employed at Catawba Intermediate School. She and her husband, David, live in Newton and have two children, Andy and Jessi.

Jo Ann Sherrill '00 B.S. GOAL is HUD accountant with United Church Retirement Homes, Inc. She and her husband, Frank, live in Hickory. Jo Ann's e-mail address is jsershill@ucrh.org.

Paul Jonathan Taylor '00
M.B.A. and Jamie Caroline Welborn were married September 16, 2000, at Arbor Grove United Methodist Church. Paul is working with Wayne Farms. The bride is employed by Lowe's Companies. After a trip to Cancun, Mexico, the couple resides in Millers Creek.

Monica Lynn Williams '00
B.S. was married to Timothy Lee Curry on September 23, 2000, at Antioch Baptist Church. She is employed by First Union National Bank. Timothy is employed by Gardner Glass Products. The couple resides in North Wilkesboro.

Deaths

Dr. William P. Cavin, Sr. died October 28, 2000, at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. Restorative Care after a brief illness. Dr. Cavin taught at GWU in 1945.

John L. "Buck" Fraley Sr. died December 20, 2000 at his home. He had served as a member of the Gardner-Webb University Board of Advisors.

The Rev. Wilburn T. Hendrix '42 died January 18. A former Gardner-Webb trustee, he was a longtime loyal Baptist who served in various locations as pastor and chaplain. In addition, he held numerous positions with Baptist conventions on the state and national levels.

Darnold Dee Nanney died October 28, 2000, at Mary Black Memorial Hospital.

Thomas Augustus White III died November 17, 2000, at his home.

Jo Ann Sherrill '00 B.S. GOAL is HUD accountant with United Church Retirement Homes, Inc. She and her husband, Frank, live in Hickory. Jo Ann's e-mail address is jsershill@ucrh.org.

Paul Jonathan Taylor '00
M.B.A. and Jamie Caroline Welborn were married September 16, 2000, at Arbor Grove United Methodist Church. Paul is working with Wayne Farms. The bride is employed by Lowe's Companies. After a trip to Cancun, Mexico, the couple resides in Millers Creek.

Monica Lynn Williams '00
B.S. was married to Timothy Lee Curry on September 23, 2000, at Antioch Baptist Church. She is employed by First Union National Bank. Timothy is employed by Gardner Glass Products. The couple resides in North Wilkesboro.

Deaths

Dr. William P. Cavin, Sr. died October 28, 2000, at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. Restorative Care after a brief illness. Dr. Cavin taught at GWU in 1945.

John L. "Buck" Fraley Sr. died December 20, 2000 at his home. He had served as a member of the Gardner-Webb University Board of Advisors.

The Rev. Wilburn T. Hendrix '42 died January 18. A former Gardner-Webb trustee, he was a longtime loyal Baptist who served in various locations as pastor and chaplain. In addition, he held numerous positions with Baptist conventions on the state and national levels.

Darnold Dee Nanney died October 28, 2000, at Mary Black Memorial Hospital.

Thomas Augustus White III died November 17, 2000, at his home.
ALUMNI NEWS NOTES

CLASS OF: ___________ Degree Earned: (Example – BS, MA, etc.) ___________ GOAL Graduate (Y/N) ___________

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:

Today’s Date: ___________

Would you like your e-mail address included in your class note? □ No □ Yes
e-mail address ___________

Complete, clip and mail to Gail Adams, P.O. Box 997, GWU, Boiling Springs, N.C. 28017

Officers of the Corporation
H. Gene Washburn ’52, M.D., Chairman
E. Thomas Hardin, Vice Chairman
H.S. Keeter, Jr., Secretary
W. David Ellis, Treasurer of the Corporation
M. Christopher White, Ph.D., President
Fred A. Flowers, J.D., Attorney
A. Frank Bonner, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary
Donnie O. Clary, Assistant Treasurer

Board of Trustees
C. Neal Alexander ’84, Lincolnton, N.C.
Ralph Bentley, M.D., Statesville, N.C.
Tom Bell ’71, Marietta, G.A.
Gladys Boroughs ’42, Greensboro, N.C.
E. Udoin Burke, Maiden, N.C.
Adelaide Craver, Shelby, N.C.
Boyce F. Grindstaff, Forest City, N.C.
C.E. “Bad” Hamrick ’54, Boiling Springs, N.C.
Max Hamrick, Boiling Springs, N.C.
E. Thomas Hardin, Spindale, N.C.
C. Lorance “Rance” Henderson, L.H.D., Morganton, N.C.
H.S. Keeter, Jr., Shelby, N.C.
Graysen Kellar, Gastonia, N.C.

Nancy Lee Kirdler, Charlotte, N.C.
W. Randall Lolley, Th.D., Raleigh, N.C.
Sam McMahon, Charlotte, N.C.
Harvey L. Montague, Sr., Raleigh, N.C.
Mailon “Nick” Nichols, Taylorsville, N.C.
Thomas E. Philson, Charlotte, N.C.
James E. Robbins, Forest City, N.C.
John E. Roberts ’49, L.H.D., Greenville, S.C.
William S. Rouse, Gastonia, N.C.
Wade R. Shepherd, Hickory, N.C.
Carl Spangler, Jr. ’52, Shelby, N.C.
Dorothy Ann Spangler ’47, Shelby, N.C.
Helen M. Stinson, M.D. ’54, Greensboro, N.C.
J. Linton Suttle, Shelby, N.C.
Bruce R. Trefet, Gastonia, N.C.
Lisa Tucker ’89, Concord, N.C.
Carl Vick, Raleigh, N.C.
Doris L. Walters, D. Min. ’59, Winston-Salem, N.C.
H. Gene Washburn, M.D. ’52, Boiling Springs, N.C.
Dale Watters, Hickory, N.C.
H. Fields Young, L.H.D., Shelby, N.C.

Lois Perkins, First Vice-President, ’67
Craig Watson, Second Vice-President, ’87
Gay Melton, Member-At-Large, ’67
Richard Ambrose, ’95
James Douglas Armstrong, ’88
Noble and Doris Ball, ’51
Phillip Carl Brown, ’86
Roger Dixon, ’64
Dorothy W. Edwards, ’35
Lara Self Gopp, ’92
Tim Hagler, ’86
Randall C. Hall, ’88
Lucielle Caudry Hamrick, ’44
Ronald Hefner, ’50
Tammy Campbell Hoyle, ’88
David Brent Keim, ’87
Minna Bolling Rice, ’38
Cecil H. Rollins, ’54
Cindy Swartz, ’85
Randy Swartz, ’87
Keith Taylor, ’78
Lisa Carol Tucker, Past President, ’89
Yvetta Washburn, ’88
Evans Whittaker, ’83
Darrel and Sue Wilson, ’53

Officers and Alumni Board of Directors
Mark and Kim Sanders, Co-Presidents, ’86

www.gardner-webb.edu Spring 27
Marsha S. Baker ’73 A.A., ’87 B.S., ’00 MBA is the V.P. for Community Care Services at Rutherford Hospital, Inc. in Rutherfordton, NC, and an instructor at Isothermal Community College. She has received the Governor’s Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. She said, “Three times I’ve chosen GWU and three times I’ve been right.”

Udean Burke ’60 A.A. is the owner of Nancy and Udean Christian Tours. He was also recognized this year as the Gardner-Webb Junior College Alumnus of the Year. He is currently a GWU trustee, serving his third term. He said, “I know I could not have made a better decision than to have chosen and attended Gardner-Webb.”

Larry Keith Dixon ’76 B.A. has been pastor at Flint Hill Baptist Church in Shelby, NC, since June 1985. He says, “The Gardner-Webb experience continues for me, as faculty and staff have become friends and fellow ministers as well as through the many opportunities to be a part of the lives of the students.”

Larry Durham ’99 B.S. is a Recruiting Specialist for Duke Energy Corporation in Charlotte, NC. Among other awards, he was named Most Outstanding Student upon his graduation. He says, “I look forward to remaining closely involved with Gardner-Webb as long as I’m able to effectively contribute as needed.”

Carolyn Pettyjohn ’52 is a homemaker who is currently serving on the GWU Christian Service Organization Board of Directors. Also, she has served with her husband on the GWU Alumni Board for over 25 years. She says, “The GWU experience for me is intensely personal as I feel the Lord led me here in part to meet my future husband...”

Joe Roberts ’50 A.A. is retired as Director of Stewardship for Furman University. In addition, he has served as interim pastor for nearly 40 churches. He says, “Affirmation and encouragement from faculty and modeling of leadership and humility by President Elliot have enriched my life.”
Gardner-Webb colors and logos now adorn the M/V Daniel Russell, a ferry with the North Carolina Ferry Division. The vessel now is part of the Pamlico River Operation, transporting passengers and vehicles along the North Carolina coast.