Gardner-Webb again held two Spring graduation ceremonies because of record numbers of graduates. May 11th featured a 10 a.m. service for approximately 500 undergraduates and a 3 p.m. service for over 100 receiving master's degrees.

The morning ceremony featured the presentation of an honorary doctorate to Dr. Gene Washburn, past chairman of the GWU Board of Trustees, who is a distinguished alumnus and benefactor as well. "Dr. Washburn and his family have given much of their time and resources for the sake of helping grow GWU into a strong regional institution," said Tommy Hardin, current board chair.

Washburn also was hailed for his many years of service as physician for GWU students and the university's athletic teams. "Look around you," said Hardin, "much of what Gardner-Webb is today is due to the efforts of Dr. Gene Washburn."

Student speakers representing various academic and extracurricular programs delivered keynote addresses at both ceremonies. But perhaps the most memorable line was spoken by Douglas Monroe, a member of the N.C. Highway Patrol and a graduating GOAL Program student, when he lamented, "It's taken some of you four years to graduate ... it's only taken me four terms - Reagan, Clinton and both Bushes."

A touching storyline to this year's ceremonies was a handful of students who are natives of the Holy Land, where conflict and political agendas have rocked the lives of these newest GWU alumni.

In particular, Nihal Kaisieh of Bethlehem was torn between the emotions of the day. With a full-tuition fellowship awaiting her in the pharmaceutical chemistry program at Iowa State University, Nihal had to walk across the stage in Porter Arena without her family there to watch. Travel restrictions in her homeland prevented her parents from seeing her accept her degree and those same restrictions also are preventing Nihal from returning home - possibly ever again.

Nihal and her family are members of the Church of the Nativity (less than a mile from her home) where much of the fighting has centered. Her father was recently shot during crossfire there, but has since recovered.

Having made contact with Dr. Chris White during a GWU trip to the Holy Land several years ago, Nihal's father pleaded with White to take Nihal back to the U.S. so the young girl could have a chance at an education.

White said, "He knew he would probably never see her again if she left, but he said he would be happier knowing that she had an opportunity to make a better life for herself."
May Banquet Also Honors Baptist Leader With Medallion of Honor

RANDALL Lolley CHAIR IS GWU’S THIRD ANNOUNCED THIS YEAR

Gardner-Webb’s status as a prestigious academic institution has been bolstered yet again with the announcement of the third endowed chair in less than a year.

The Randall Lolley Endowed Chair of Pastoral Studies, to be occupied in the M. Christopher White School of Divinity, was completed in May with $840,000 in gifts and pledges from friends and former church members of the esteemed Dr. Lolley, one of the most revered and recognizable figures in North Carolina Baptist life.

Establishing an endowed chair at GWU requires a minimum of $500,000. The others to be announced since August were the Bob D. Shepherd Endowed Chair of New Interpretation and the Dover Foundation Endowed Chair of Business Management.

Since the passing of beloved business professor Dr. Keith Griggs in 1999, a highlight of each spring has been the presentation of an award to a business student in his memory.

The F. Keith Griggs Memorial Scholarship Award is presented to a business student entering his or her final year of study. This year’s recipient, Brantley Paschal, received a $1,000 scholarship and three additional hours credit at no extra cost to the GWU undergraduate Broyhill School of Management.

Applicants for the award also write essays entitled ‘A Business I Would Like To See Started.’ In addition, business plans in support of their new ideas were developed by the nominees and presented to the GWU business faculty and representatives of the Griggs family.

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Griggs’ MEMORIAL LIVES ON Scholarship Award Honors Creative Business Students

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Racial Unity Service Brings County To GWU Campus; Over 1,000 Worship Together

A family takes part in communion during the April service

"It's rare, it's shocking, it's extreme, the kind of racial unity we seek ..."
- Dr. Wayne Stacy

Over 1,000 people from in and around Cleveland County gathered on Sunday evening, April 28, on the Gardner-Webb University (GWU) campus to worship at "Racial Unity 2002: A Christian Celebration," a service organizers hope becomes an annual event.

Set in motion by Dr. Marvin Gobble, moderator of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association, and Clinton Feemster, moderator of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association, the event began as a common idea between Gobble, a white pastor of Zoar Baptist in Shelby, and Feemster, a black pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist in Kings Mountain.

With the help of GWU administrators and staff who provided the setting for the historic event, the two men began enlisting nearly 20 area ministers to assist with the program, among them Hispanic, Asian, white and African-American Christian leaders. The two-hour service was capped by a sermon from Dr. Wayne Stacy, dean of the M. Christopher White School of Divinity at GWU.

"Racial Unity 2002" was sponsored by Drs. Marvin Gobble and Clinton Feemster of Cleveland County androtate with nearly 20 area ministers to assist with the program, among them Hispanic, Asian, white and African-American Christian leaders. The two-hour service was capped by a sermon from Dr. Wayne Stacy, dean of the M. Christopher White School of Divinity at GWU.

Stacy said in his message, "It's rare, it's shocking, it's extreme, the kind of racial unity we seek ... we're not just talking about replacing an infrastructure ... we're talking about a whole new people."

"I didn't know what to expect," the Rev. Feemster said. "I know what we had hoped, and it exceeded expectations of our object of worship. We had a sense that something's happening."

Nicole Littlejohn of Kings Mountain, whose husband, Lamont Littlejohn, was on the program, said she came "because when we get to heaven, it's going to be a gathering, it's not going to be a color thing."

With 8-month-old daughter Mia in her arms, she added, "I think we ought to do this more often. It will make a difference in what kind of world she grows up in."

Heritage Award Recognizes Commitment of Wade Sheppard

The N.C. Baptist Foundation and the Council on Christian Higher Education jointly sponsored an event for 27 years in which a North Carolina Baptist has been recognized as the "N.C. Baptist Philanthropist of the Year." The recipients of that award have been worthy of that special recognition. They have been people who personify outstanding examples of generosity and determination. They have served as points of inspiration for others to consider investing parts of their lives in one of the strategic aspects of our life as NC Baptists. We are indebted to those who have been recognized and honored in that way.

Last year, however, a transition was made, and the "NC Baptist Heritage Award" was introduced for each Baptist college in the state to recognize a special individual. The winner of that distinction from Gardner-Webb was Wade Sheppard.

Wade Sheppard that we are able to move toward the future with a high degree of confidence," said Dr. Drew Van Horn, GWU vice president for university relations.

The 'NC Baptist Heritage Award' is based upon each agency, institution and General Board of the Baptist State Convention nominating someone who has made a genuine difference in the life of their organization.

In a letter nominating Sheppard for the award, GWU President Dr. Chris White said, "Wade learned from his father, a merchant, how to operate a small business. Through uncanny wisdom and hard work, Wade developed a strong hosiery operation and foam rubber business in Hickory, North Carolina. Wade's wisdom and business sense, coupled with his commitment to quality education for future pastors and church staff members, have made Wade a valued trustee for Gardner-Webb University and a highly esteemed leader at Penelope Baptist Church in Hickory."

Sheppard has had a particularly strong role in shaping the growth, achieving of accreditation, and the securing of finances for the M. Christopher White School of Divinity at GWU. Sheppard is currently a second-term trustee at Gardner-Webb.

Wade Sheppard was honored with the 2002 Heritage Award at the Grandover Hotel in Greensboro, NC. He and his family were hailed as outstanding supporters of Gardner-Webb and Christian higher education during the event.
DR. GAYLE PRICE'S NEW TITLE: THE FLEMING-WHITE PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

At GWU's annual year-end employee luncheon, Apples and Accolades, the University's educator of the year award was presented, service awards were given to faculty and staff who had completed a decade or more at GWU, retirees were recognized, and the male and female staff members of the year were honored.

Dr. Gayle Price, professor of English, was honored with the Gardner-Webb Fleming-White Excellence in Teaching Award. A student who nominated Price for the prestigious award wrote, "Her main goal was for us to become better writers. She did not make distinctions between the students who could write well and those who could not. We didn't even know who she considered to be the strongest writers in the class... she encouraged all equally." Danny Davis, assistant vice president for business and information systems manager, was named Male Staff Member of the Year, and Vickie Webb-Morrison, administrative assistant for student development, was honored as Female Staff Member of the Year. The awards, said Dr. White, recognize those who have demonstrated longevity, integrity and, above all, "the character of the university."

Nine faculty and staff were recognized with 10-year service awards, and three - Shirley Pyron, Joyce Summers, and Sarah Elam - were given 25-year service awards.

Fear retirement awards were presented - Dr. Marvin Taylor, Sarah Elam, Joyce Summers, and Mae Walton. Each was presented with an engraved Gardner-Webb captain's chair.

"STAY CONNECTED" FAMILY WEEKEND 2002

Parents, students, and faculty members are encouraged to participate in GWU's Family Weekend September 13-15, 2002. Family Weekend is an opportunity for families to 'connect' to GWU life on campus... to "connect" to other GWU families... to "connect" to faculty and staff.

Various events are planned, including the traditional Senior Pinning Ceremony and Staff/Faculty Talent Show. A reception will be held for students and families on Friday afternoon. On Saturday, students and parents will have the opportunity to "connect" with faculty and alumni about career options for the future. Students and families are invited for some Carolina barbecue and bluegrass music followed by a Runnin' Bulldog football game. On Sunday, GWU students and families are encouraged to "connecting" time for all, so don't be the missing piece! For a Family Weekend brochure or to register online, contact the Office of Alumni & Parent Relations at (704) 406-3824 or visit our website at www.alumni.gardner-webb.edu

Friday, September 13
5 p.m. - "Get Connected" registration Office of Alumni & Parent Relations
8:30 p.m. - "Be Connected" GWU Family Reception Convocation, Late-Tenon Convocation Center
6:30 p.m. - "Stay Connected for a Lifetime" Senior Pinning, Banquet and Ceremony Late-Tenon Convocation Center
8:30 p.m. - "Music and Food" Gala Annual Staff/Faculty Talent Show Dover Theatre

Saturday, September 14
Morning hours - "Stay Connected as a Family" with options such as swimming, tennis, shopping, Broyhill Adventure Course and Sunset Wellness Center activities
3 p.m. - "Networking for the Future" with a career fair involving faculty and alumni in the Late-Tenon Convocation Center
4 p.m. - "Stay Connected in Fun and Fellowship" during a Barbecue and Music Fest at Lake Hollifield
6 p.m. - "Stay Connected in Bulldog Spirit" as GWU plays E. Tennessee St. in football

Sunday, September 15
10 a.m. - "Stay Connected in Prayer, Praise and Worship" at a student-led worship service in the Dover Chapel

We won't be complete without you!

HOMECOMING 2002: GARDNER-WEBB USA BULLDOG TRADITION, AMERICAN PRIDE

Homecoming 2002 promises to be more eventful than ever as plans are being made that celebrate nearly a century of GWU tradition with American Pride. Pack your re, white, blue, and Bulldog spirit too and join us November 1-2.

Activities include:

Friday, November 1
• Golf Tournament
• Alumni and Student Reception
• GWU Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet
• Powder-Puff Football Game and Bonfire
• Concert on the Quad

Saturday, November 2
• Memorial & Remembrance Service at Lake Hollifield
• "Tradition Walks" & Campus Tours
• "Cars & Stripes" Tailgating Events
• Homecoming Parade
• GWU Bulldogs vs. University of Tenn.-Martin
• Gala of Washington Graduates Banquet
• Student and Alumni dance
• Alumni Social
• Activities for children

As part of our Homecoming celebrations, we would like to honor and remember those alumni who have served (or are serving) our country in the military. Please let us know who these alumni are.

For more info about Homecoming 2002 or to share ideas for upcoming events contact:
Dawn Anthony, asst. director of alumni and parent relations, GWU, P.O. Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 29311
Phone: (864) 464-5824 danthony@gardner-webb.edu www.alumni.gardner-webb.edu
New Charlotte Campus Officially Opened To Public This Spring

The official opening of GWU at Charlotte highlighted by a reception and a ribbon-cutting. Classes for students in the GOAL Program then were held as scheduled.

Gardner-Webb is branching out again. After opening a new branch in Statesville last August, it opened the doors on a new home in Charlotte in early April.

"This gives us a genuine presence in the Charlotte area and in the Charlotte business community. I think it shows we're serious about being here," said Dr. Frank Bonner, provost and senior vice president of GWU.

Gardner-Webb had previously offered classes in Charlotte at local hospitals and other various locations, but the college owns the new building in a business park on Airport Center Parkway, just off Billy Graham Parkway. "It's much better to be in control. The building is ours to do with as we choose," said Bonner.

"GWU at Charlotte" offers courses to undergraduates at night under the GOAL program. The new Charlotte location also offers courses in the Graduate School of Business as well as the nursing program. The college currently offers classes in 16 locations throughout the region.

"In most of those places we teach classes in a community college or school building and we're there as a guest," said Dr. Frank Bonner. "But with the Charlotte campus, we think it's a great location that is easy to find and easy to get to."

Bonner said the permanent home in Statesville has offered the branch the opportunity to get involved in the community through service groups and civic organizations formed at the university.

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The new Charlotte facility is at 4948 Airport Center Parkway, Suite D. The site is just off Billy Graham Parkway and Morris Field Drive. If you would like more information about the GOAL program, call (800) 283-4655 or for the Graduate School of Business, call (800) 437-4655.

New Director for Divinity Center

The M. Christopher White School of Divinity welcomes Dr. Danny M. West as director of its Center for Congregational Enrichment. The Center, established in 1999 as an auxiliary of the School of Divinity, offers ministerial referral services, travel/study opportunities, continuing education for theological education for laypersons. When West assumes full-time leadership of all the Center's programs beginning in May, however, the Center's mission will be significantly enlarged as a result of a $1.25 million grant by the Lilly Endowment to develop a program for nurturing the call to ministry among theological education for laypersons.

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When West also will serve on the School of Divinity's resident faculty as Associate Professor of Pastoral Studies. Dr. West comes from the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home where he served as Regional Vice President for East Tennessee. He has extensive pastoral experience, having served churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana.

SIMMONS, NEGBENEBOR ELEVATED TO DEAN POSITIONS

This spring Dr. Chris White announced the appointment of Dr. Donna Simmons as the new dean of the GWU School of Education and Dr. Anthony Negbenebor as associate dean of the GWU Graduate School of Business.

Both appointments represent promotions for the two faculty members. Simmons previously served as chair of the Department of Education and Negbenebor was director of the Graduate School of Business.

President White explained the new titles were a recognition of Simmons' and Negbenebor's notable results with the quality of their respective programs, increased recognition and enrollment in their programs, and their revered status among faculty, staff and administrators.

Simmons has been recognized in her field for elevating GWU's teacher education program into one of North Carolina's strongest, according to ratings assigned by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Educators. She has led the effort to reestablish a middle grades education program at GWU as well as new initiatives for increased student and faculty diversity within the School of Education. In addition, Simmons serves to direct the accreditation process for the GWU education programs.

Negbenebor has developed the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program at GWU into one of the five largest in the state and has consistently led the effort to add new graduate business offerings such as the new master's of accounting and master's of international business degrees. Negbenebor also helped develop the combination MBA/Master of Divinity degree, one of the first of its kind at any institution. In addition, he has coordinated the presence of the Graduate School of Business in off-campus locations such as Winston-Salem, Statesville, and Spartanburg, SC.

"Dr. Simmons and Dr. Negbenebor typify the strongest characteristics of Gardner-Webb faculty," White said of the appointments. "Both are tireless leaders. They are dedicated to scholarship, improvement of self and instruction and, above all, character education."

WINTER TRUSTEE MEETING CONFIRMS TENURE, PROMOTIONS FOR FACULTY

Those receiving tenure were Dr. Kent Blevins (religion), Dr. Tamara Cox (French), Dr. Lorin Cranford (religion), Dr. Charles Moore (Spanish), Dr. Donna Simmons (education), Dr. Matt Theado (English), and Dr. Ron Williams (religion).

Announced at the winter trustee meeting were promotions and the awarding of tenure for faculty members. Promoted to associate professor were Dr. Ken Baker (physical education), Dr. Rebecca Beck-Little (touring), Dr. Tamara Cox (French), and Dr. Matt Theado (English). Promoted to assistant professor was Chris Parsons (communication studies).

Dr. Charles Moore was among those faculty members receiving tenure this spring. Moore also this year was named the new chair of the Foreign Language Department, succeeding Dr. Marcie Taylor.
**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS INDUCTS MORE INTO ALUMNI RANKS**

Following what has become a campuswide tradition, the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program closed the 2001-2002 academic year by honoring its graduates with a banquet and pinning ceremony. Here, Billy Chen allows his father, Edward, to do the honor of placing the pin, an act that symbolizes a graduate’s selection of a person who has supported him or her through the pursuit of the GWU program.

**M.B.A.**

**OF MEDICINE AND MISSIONS**

"Opportunity of a lifetime" Draws Future Doctor To Africa

One GWU student has jungle fever. And not only does he have it, but he hopes to cure it.

Nick Bodenheimer, a rising junior from High Point, NC, is traveling to South Africa this summer to learn about the science of medicine.

Selected to be a part of a program known as the "International Mission on Medicine," Nick will be spending 16 days in universities, hospitals and villages learning about helping others through medicine.

"I received a letter about this mission and nominated Nick," says Dr. Tim Zehnder, chair of Business Administration. "Nick is one of 60 other students from across America who will also be going to South Africa."

A letter to Dr. Zehnder, the International Medicine, Nick says he was given several options.


Once he was invited to be a part of the program, Nick says he was given several options.

He could choose to go to Australia, South Africa or China. "It’s kind of interesting how it all worked out. I wanted to visit Australia but several other people said they felt like South Africa was where I needed to go. I decided to write down Australia as my first choice and South Africa as my second and God would put me where I needed to be. I later learned that the Australia trip was full and I knew God wanted me to be in South Africa." Nick is one of 60 other students from across America who will also be going to South Africa, Australia and China.

In a letter to Dr. Zehnder, the International Medicine described the trip as an educational adventure: "This summer, the students you nominate will join with about 60 other exceptional college students from across America, dedicated young men and women who share their dreams - and perhaps their uncertainties as well - for an extraordinary premedical experience that will change their lives and add to their academic profile. Your students will find this cultural and career opportunity to be a time of mentorship, reflection and learning that will ignite their enthusiasm, help them define their goals and focus their energies as they are inspired by leaders in today's medical profession ... your students will return from this once-in-a-lifetime adventure of self-discovery filled with a new confidence and an even greater desire to pursue a medical career."

Nick says simply that he's grateful to have such an opportunity.

"I am excited to see how other countries practice medicine. It will give me a different perspective. I see this trip as a way to learn how to interact with different people and cultures, and gain a different view on medicine."

Dr. Zehnder agrees that from a medical perspective this trip will have certain benefits for Nick.

"He will have the chance to see a lot of things, and the more experience you have the better."

Nick adds that the trip is also a blessing.

"God is giving me an opportunity of a lifetime ... something not many are able to do."
Memories
of Me...
A May Graduate Looks At Four
Years Passed

by Sarah Shong '02

As I think about graduation and reflect on the past four years of my life, I am aware of the hand of God.

In Jeremiah 15, it states, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." Psalm 139:16 states, "All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." These two verses have been extremely real to me in the past few months. They have become real because without God, nothing is possible. Without God being in ultimate control over my life, the past four years specifically, I would not have been able to walk across the stage on May 11, 2002.

Jeremiah 29:11 states, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." It is a verse that many use at graduation speeches and celebrations for a turning point in someone's life.

For four years, I have been surrounded by Christian friends, professors, work-study bosses and staff. In a few months, I am going to start over, trying to again find my place in the world. As I reflect back on my years in college and before, I am reminded of this verse and how God keeps his promises. I am reminded that although I have one plan, which normally doesn't work out, God has yet another. I am reminded that it is by His strength that I have been able to make it.

My four years at Gardner-Webb have been a journey. From the very first time I set foot on Gardner-Webb, my life has drastically changed. I have heard God described as a "traffic man," carefully mapping out one's direction to avoid congestion. That is how it has been in my life, especially in these past four years.

When I think about graduating from college and finally entering the real world, I have to honestly say that I am terrified. In many of Dr. Callinan's religious education classes, we discussed how important it is to have a support system. I have never realized how true that really is. The support that I have received over the past few years have been amazing. The professors, friends, roommates and staff that I have met on my journey have carefully shaped me into the woman I am today.

A quote in our time tracker this year was, "no one is ever truly alone. Just as each rock bears the mark of the countless winds and water, we all contain echoes of the people who have mattered in our lives."

In my future, my life will echo the experiences I am taking with me from Gardner-Webb. Here, I have learned the value of a personal relationship with Jesus. The value of taking your traditional religious experiences and making them your own, of evaluating what you believe and why you believe it, how you can love God and others without loving yourself. These are just a few lessons I will be taking with me from my time at GWU.

For four years, I have been surrounded by Christian friends, professors, work-study bosses and staff. In a few months, I am going to start over, trying to again find my place in the world.

When we are younger, we dream of the day when we finish school and get to have a career. We dream of what we want to be when we grow up. Sometimes those plans work out, sometimes they don't. In June, I am embarking on a new journey - I have felt the call to teach abstinence education.

God really does have plans for us. He knows exactly where we are going to be in five years, what lessons we need to learn, what friends we are going to make and so on. He has set each one of us apart and given us a role in his kingdom. While we may not know those plans and roles, God does. In the past four years, I have seen that in my life.

Ephesians 3:20 states, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

I challenge everyone reading this to reflect back on their college experience at Gardner-Webb and life in general. Reflect on how God has placed his hand on your life and formed you to be the person you are today. My life would be dramatically different if I had not made a decision to place God as a priority in my life. During my twenty-two years, there has not been one time when God has left me or made me do something or go through something on my own.

When I think back through my life, especially my past four years, I can only be extremely grateful for the time I have spent at Gardner-Webb. I have not only received a double major in religion and psychology but have found many wonderful friends, mentors and myself. God has already done far more than I could have ever imagined in my life and I am excited to embark on a new journey and a new and exciting career for him.

I am ready to take on the world and change it one person at a time.

(Sarah Jo Shong is from Harrisburg NC. She graduated with a religious studies/psychology degree.)
Gardner-Webb football player Richard Williams, projected to be selected as high as the third round in this spring's NFL Draft (April 20-21), withdrew his name from consideration just days before the draft and will not pursue a professional football career.

The Charlottesville, Va., native, who starred on the offensive line, was an honorable mention I-AA All-America selection and a first-team All-Independent selection in 2001 for the Runnin' Bulldogs, helping the team to one of its best offensive seasons in recent memory. A sociology major, Williams will continue to pursue his degree at Gardner-Webb with plans to graduate and seek a position in the field of strength and conditioning.

Williams was listed by NFL scouts and draft experts as the second strongest offensive lineman in America who was eligible for the draft, so it's no surprise the student-athlete feels a future as a professional weight lifter could be a possibility for him. Williams bench presses 540 pounds and has posted squat-lifts of nearly 700 pounds. A close friend of the player said Williams may even seek opportunities to use his physical gifts as part of the Christian ministry. No matter what lies ahead, Williams has the support and encouragement of all on the GWU campus.

"As a program, we support Richard's decision to decline the opportunity to play football on the professional level," said Gardner-Webb head coach Steve Patton. "It is a tough decision for many to understand, but Richard's first love is not football. His desire is to pursue a career as a power lifter or as a strength and conditioning coach. He is being honest about his wishes. To make this decision takes a tremendous amount of bravery and courage on his part, especially in a day and age when money is such a primary part of most athletes' focus. Richard wants to do something that makes him happiest, which should be saluted. He made the right choice for himself, and I am at peace with that decision."

Williams made the decision April 4th following a flight to Miami, FL, to work out with the Miami Dolphins. A total of 20 teams watched Williams work out privately in Boiling Springs, N.C., on March 27, and the results of that workout were solid, with many experts predicting the 6-foot-3, 338-pound Williams would be among the top 100 picks taken in the draft. In fact, the Dolphins were so taken with Williams' abilities that the team was planning to draft him with its first pick, or 90th overall. Traditional signing bonuses for players selected that high range from $500,000-$750,000, with contracts usually offered in the range of $3 million to $4 million.

Ken Jones, GWU offensive line coach, explained that because Williams had no real desire to be in the NFL he did not want a team to invest its time and money on someone whose heart was not in it.

"There's real honor in that," said Jones. "I have always said I hope my two little boys grow up to be like Rich, and I still say that today."

GWU Provost Dr. Frank Bonner said, "Richard's decision took so much character that he perhaps accomplished more for Gardner-Webb's reputation by walking away from the NFL than by playing in it."

Williams would have been the third Gardner-Webb player drafted by the NFL since 1994, joining former Green Bay Packer Gabe Wilkins (1994, 4th round) and former New Orleans Saints wide receiver Terry Guess (1996, 5th round).
The decision to elevate Barry into the head coaching position was an easy one," said Burch, "and I feel that the head coaching position was an
impressive resume.
During his career at JC Smith, Street posted a 96-92 record and led the Golden Eagles to the CIAA tournament semifinals for the first time in 10 seasons in 2000-2001. In 1999-2000, Street directed JC Smith to a school-record 25-5 season and a CIAA Western Division Championship.

McCurley spent seven seasons at the helm of the Gardner-Webb program, posting a 98-97 record. In 18 seasons as a head high school and college coach, McCurley posted a career record of 325-166. This past season, McCurley posted a career record of 22-5 season and a CIAA Western Division Championship.

GWU Vice President for Athletics Chuck Burch announced in May that Barry Street would take over as head women's basketball coach at the school, replacing Eddie McCurley.

McCurley resigned his position in May to pursue interests in the private business sector.

Street, who came to Gardner-Webb this past season after a three-year stint as head women's coach at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., has an easy one," said Burch, "and I feel that the head coaching position was an impressive resume.

GWU Sports Ticker

2002 Fall Sports Schedule - These dates are tentative. Please refer to www.gwusports.com for the latest information.
The Gallery of Distinguished Graduates seeks to recognize Gardner-Webb alumni who represent the University in such a way that they have brought honor and positive attention to their alma mater. Those who are recognized have their photos and career descriptions displayed prominently in the Dover Campus Center on the Boiling Springs campus. The University extends its deepest appreciation to all alumni who have helped GWU gain the reputation of being a character-building institution.

Barbara B. Hendrix (M.A. '89) is a teacher at Wiley Middle School in Winston-Salem, NC. A member of the National Education Association, among many other organizations, she was the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Outstanding Math Teacher for 2000. She and her husband, E. Phillip, live in Lewisville, NC.

Terry L. Ledford (B.S. '73) is a practicing psychologist of Woodruff Psychological Associates PA in Rutherfordton, NC. Previously he received the Outstanding Faculty Award from Alfred University and the Mental Health Association Award in Rutherford County. He and his wife, Sheila, live in Forest City, NC.

Julia Jackson Strange (B.S. '82) is president/owner of Julie Strange Designs, an interior design business. Previously she was a realtor and property manager. An active community member, Julie lives in Richmond, VA, with her husband, Anthony, and their children, Ashley Brooke, Corrie Adam and Carson Elizabeth.

Diane C. Brooks (B.A. '71) has been choral director at Crest Middle School since 1990 and the North Carolina Honor Chorus Coordinator for 11 years. She received the Richard Chiseler N.C. teacher of the Year Award for 2000-2001. She and her husband, Kenneth, reside in Shelby.

Dr. Joseph Allen Freeman (B.S. '82) is president of Duncan's Inc. in Greenville, SC, and was previously vice president of the First Union Corporation from 1984-1997. A member of First Baptist Church in Greenville, he and his wife, Julie, have two children, Cam and Betsy.

Dr. Mamadi Corra came to America as a high school exchange student. He was visually impaired from birth, but lost his sight entirely during surgery that was hoped to help correct his vision while an undergraduate student at Gardner-Webb. He not only finished out his undergraduate and graduate degree from GWU with a double major in business and sociology, an MBA degree also from Gardner-Webb, and now the doctoral degree from the University of South Carolina (USC).

Dr. Mamadi Corra teaches Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of the Family as an undergraduate and graduate student. Sharon Jennings has been a part of the GWU staff since Dr. Corra's first days here. She said, "Dr. Corra is not only an intelligent person, but he is also kind, caring and courageous. Our staff feels blessed that we have been allowed to be part of his many life experiences."

While he is doing well in America, Dr. Corra hopes to return to Gambia one day, using his knowledge to assist those in his native country. "I want to help the people at home."

"When I first went (to USC), I didn't have the infrastructure that they have here. My first semester (in the doctoral program at USC) was basically as a Gardner-Webb student instead of a USC student."

Staff and volunteers from Gardner-Webb continued to provide some of the same services they gave Dr. Corra while an undergraduate and graduate student. Sharon Jennings has been a part of the GWU staff since Dr. Corra's first days here. She said, "Dr. Corra is not only an intelligent person, but he is also kind, caring and courageous. Our staff feels blessed that we have been allowed to be part of his many life experiences."

Dr. Corra has congenital glaucoma, having some sight until 1992. Some of his other family members, which includes three brothers and one sister, still living in Gambia, have vision problems as well. Dr. Corra teaches Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of the Family as an undergraduate and graduate student. While he is doing well in America, he hopes to return to Gambia one day, using his knowledge to assist those in his native country. "I want to help the people at home."

In April, he received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Study from USC. Additional credits to Dr. Corra's success include being published in professional journals and giving numerous presentations, including multiple lectures for the American Sociological Association, the Southern Sociological Society and Annual Group Processing conferences.

Gambia's Accomplished Son

The providence of Gambia fathered its first blind native to receive a doctoral degree when Mamadi Corra '93 and '95 received the degree in May. The soft spoken gentleman with numerous credentials to his name is quick to shift the focus of his achievements from himself to those who have helped him along the way. He does admit, however, that his success comes from a combination of determination and the help he received from Gardner-Webb, especially the Noel Program (GWU's program for assisting the hearing and sight impaired). Dr. Mamadi Corra came to America as a high school exchange student. He was visually impaired from birth, but lost his sight entirely during surgery that was hoped to help correct his vision while an undergraduate student at Gardner-Webb. He not only finished out that semester, but continued on to receive his undergraduate degree from GWU with a double major in business and sociology, an MBA degree also from Gardner-Webb, and now the doctoral degree from the University of South Carolina (USC).

He currently works as a professor at USC. Corra says he could not have made it without the assistance of the faculty, staff and students he experienced at the Boiling Springs campus.

"When I first went (to USC), I didn't have the infrastructure that they have here. My first semester (in the doctoral program at USC) was basically as a Gardner-Webb student instead of a USC student."

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Reverend Paul T. Brock and Mrs. Brock (formerly Gladys Scoggins) 2002. A reception was held at Florence Baptist Church in Forest City. Both received edifications at Gardner-Webb University. Reverend Brock was ordained at Spencer Baptist Church in 1939 and has been in the ministry for 65 years.

The '60s

Vicki Hull Johnson '69 B.S. is currently working on her doctoral degree in physics. She taught physics at Gardner-Webb University, where she has received the Outstanding Teacher Award. She plans to return to Durham, NC, area, where she can be reached at poekardy@icloud.com.

The '70s

Jack D. King '75 B.S. earned his Juris Doctor from Barry University School of Law in September 2002. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from GWU, he went on to get a Masters of Journalism from Columbia University. Jack has also completed professional school assignments while serving in the United States Marine Corps for 11 years, where he earned the rank of Major. Jack has been teaching High School and has been working towards obtaining his professional teaching certificates. He plans to return to the Florida bar exam in July.

Wanda Kay Poe '78 ADN is working at Durham Regional Hospital in the special care nursery. She enjoys the nurses' community in May and would love to hear from former classmates. She can be reached at PoeKay078@icloud.com.

The '80s

Jean Parker Lovin '84 B.S. is employed by CSC, Computer Science Corporation, of Dallas, TX and of Tokyo, Japan. She is a senior consultant in Financial Services, and has a business assignment in Tokyo. Initially Jean's assignment was for one year, but it has been extended to a minimum of two years. Jean's official home is in Lincoln, NC. She has four children, and two grandchildren.

Timothy Bray Sigmou '85 B.S. and wife, Suzanne, announce the birth of their second child, Bethany Marie Sigmou, on December 22, 2002. Their older brother, Blake, is 2 years old. Tim manages the Data Center for Carolinas Tokyo Federal Credit Union. Suzanne is a CPA, working from her home. You may reach the Sigmouns at sigmoufamilies@hotmail.com or visit www.sigmou.com.

Kaylynn Watts Poland '86 B.S. and her husband, Doug, have moved to Tullahoma, TN. After getting her Masters in Social Work from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1991, Kaylynn practiced clinical social work until 1996. She is a stay-at-home mom with two children, Hope and Zachary. David Roach '86 B.S. has just released his second CD, "Elegance on Ivory." He began playing by ear at the age of five. David studied piano under Sarah Moss for ten years. Today he has 35 full-time students, is the pianist at Floyd's Creek Baptist Church and is pianist for the gospel group, "The Glory." On Friday nights, David plays the piano at Caution's restaurant in Forest City. David is married to Janet Roach, a nurse at Rutherford Hospital. The couple have two children, Wesley and Ashley.

John L. Singleton '86 BS, '89 MA has been appointed as Dean of Students at Bethel Christian Academy in Canton, NC. He resides in Waynesboro, and can be reached at jsingleton@bethelca.net.

Kim Bartle Flende '86 B.A. has submitted a correction to her e-mail address: kim@csinc.com.

Cherril Thompson Arnett '87 ADN has obtained her bachelor's degree in nursing from Lee McRae College. She works as an RN at Watauga Medical Center. Her e-mail address is: plantation@klybext.com.

The '90s

Adam Higgins '88 BS, and wife, Jamie Touchton Higgins '89 B.S., reside in Clemmons, NC. Adam has accepted a promotion to buyout, packaging for Sally and Playtex, and moves from Sara Lee Hosier to the sister division of Sara Lee. His assignment is in Winston-Salem.

Janet Berry '93 B.S., owner of Payne Masters Gallery in Shelby, NC, was recently chosen by the Shelby Chamber of Commerce as Entrepreneur of the Year 2002. Janet launched her business in 1976 and has risen to national recognition in her profession. The award is chosen by nominations of her peers and votes from the Shelby Chamber committee.

Todd Capps '93 B.S. and wife, Kimberly Wilson Capps '93 B.S., announce the birth of their daughter, Carrington Elizabeth Capps, born October 1, 2001. Carrington has a big sister, Paige Marie, age 5, who lives in High Point, NC, and can be reached at paigeandmommy@yahoo.com.

Amy Warren '93 B.S. and husband, Oliver, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Rebekah Catherine Warren, on July 20, 2001. Amy is a teacher with the Wake County School District. Amy can be reached at awarren@wchsd.k12.nc.us.

Jimmy T. Douangdara '90 B.A. GOAL Scholarship recipient, Ngoum Thong, announces the birth of their son, Michael Tyong, on March 9th, 2002. Michael was 6 lb and 15 oz. Jimmy is an employee of Overlook Middle School in Massachusetts. Their e-mail address is: douangdara@awrd.com.

R. Shawn "Flounder" Lewis '90 B.S. has been published in the catalog of the Lake Lure Independent and Lake Lure Daily Journal in Rockingham, NC. He was formerly the editor of Ohio Valley Publishing Company in Gallipolis, OH, where his three daily newspapers claimed national journalism awards and three national newspaper winners-up in 2011. The couple are featured in "Day of Terror," a New York Times bestseller that highlights America's best investigative pages for Sept. 11, 2001. In addition, Lewis' front page from the day America invaded Afghanistan, a dramatized, true story, has been pieced together. "PAYBACK," will be featured in an upcoming best practices book by the American Press Institute. Lewis also had a spot news photograph chosen at msnbc.com's first international Photo of the Week in 2000. The photo, which depicts a jeep Cherokee lodged in the second-floor of a house, was tagged Photo of the Week at the Ohio Associated Press. Lewis is married to the former Dawn Jester '92 B.S., and the couple has two children: Breanna and Zachary. They reside in El1erabe, NC, E-mail: gebraves66@carolinaweb.com.

Karen Biddix Thompson '90 B.S., '91 M.A. and husband, Joy Thompson, announce the birth of their second child, Jason Lee Thompson, on March 25, 2002. Their first child, Katie Diane, was born in December of 2001. The couple resides in Sherrills Ford and can be reached at kthompson6@comcast.net.

Gary Mitchell '91 BA graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in December 2001. He earned a masters of art in Christian education. He will be serving as a church pastor and chaplain.

Erik Delevin Cummings '92 B.A. was recently selected as the new Life Baptist Church of Casio Florida, City. The church has several ministries, including being a part of the New Life Church Network, one of Miami-Dade County's leading primary Christian churches. He and his wife, Monique Nichols, live in Miami, and can be reached at pastor@newlifeorlando.org.

Dawn Jester Lewis '92 B.A. has relocated to Ellerbe, NC, with her husband, R. Shawn Lewis, and their two children. Dawn was formerly the office manager at the Gallia County Chamber of Commerce in Gallipolis, OH. In that capacity, she managed the day-to-day operations of the Gallia County Safety Council and the Gallipolis Retail Merchants Association, as well as overseeing the Chamber of Commerce's administrative functions. Following a brief stint as a stay-at-home mom, she plans to re-enter the community. Dawn is employed at a law firm in Gallipolis, OH. Their e-mail address is: dawjen4th@hotmail.com.

Steve Lankford '93 B.S. and wife, Mary Catherine, announce the birth of their daughter, Eliza June, in December 2001. They live in Charlotte, NC, where they were both born. Steve has been admitted to New Hope Treatment Center as a therapist / case manager. They can be reached at stevens@newhopecnt.com.

Rusty Rhine '93 B.S. and wife announce the birth of their second child, Andrew Ray, on January 3, 2002.

Michael Alan Jordan '94 B.A. has been called to pastor of Mulberry Grove Baptist Church in Buckingham, VA. This fall, he followed his attendance at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Forest Worth, TX. Michael is married to thirsty Christine. Michael can be contacted at mja94@hsc.edu.

Steve Duncan '95 B.S. and wife, Kristina, announce the birth of their third child, Matthew Clark, on January 2, 2002. This little girl was born in Nashville, TN. The family resides in South Carolina. Mary is a medical student in Nashville, and plans to pursue a career in the Army. Lori can be reached at allychamp@juno.com.

Deanna Wise '95 B.S. and Korey McCree '95 B.S. were married February 8, 2002, in Spruce Pine, NC. Deanna is employed by Vanguard Furniture of Conover in their MIS and Sales Support departments. The couple resides in Yale, NC.

Lori Alyson Champion '95 B.A. is engaged to be married February 22, 2002, in Columbia, SC. Lori is employed by Bethany Adoption Agency in Nashville, TN, and is a counselor for birth mothers. Joshua is a medical student at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, in order to pursue a career in psychology. Lori can be reached at allychamp@juno.com.

The Seventeenth Annual Scholarship Luncheon and Reception has been scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2002, in Lindsay Court of the Lutz-Elton Convocation Center. Reception begins at 11:30 a.m. Lunch begins at noon.
Kerrie Brooke Connor '96 BSN was married to Kevin Wayne Brooks on February 9, 2003, at the Green River Plantation. Kerrie is employed as a registered nurse at the Rutherford-Polk Health Department. Kevin is employed by Mastertech. The couple honeymooned in Gatlinburg and now reside in Spruce Pine, NC.

Frank Shelton, Jr., '96 BA, is working as a corrosion specialist with the NC Department of Correction, Division of Prisons. He and his wife reside in Rutherfordton.

Robert David Mitchell '96 B.S. GOAL is working as a court reporter specialist with the NC Department of Correction, Division of Prisons. He and his wife reside in Spartanburg, SC.

Jennifer Deese, '96 BA, is working as a quality assurance associate with the University of Tennessee Medical Center.

Tommy Ray White '82 B.A., died March 18, 2003, at the age of 52. Tommy graduated August 2003. They reside in Boiling Springs, SC. He can be reached at dwebb@gardner-webb.edu.
Mom Inspires Alum to Change Lives of Youth

Hoyt Bynum Jr.
'93 B.S. in not the type to make excuses. Growing up in a single parent family, he could have succumbed to adversity. But he and his two sisters succeeded with the help of their mother, the Reverend Naomi Omega Bynum.

"She let us know that we can attain anything we want – be anything we want – (if we) trust in God, work hard and persevere," Bynum said. Referring to his family’s situation, he said, "We didn’t use that as an excuse."

Bynum’s hard work has paid off in success, if success means changing the lives of young people through the positive serring of the Boys and Girls Club of the Sandhills in Southern Pines, NC as its executive director.

Bynum played football on a full scholarship at GWU. But instead of dreaming of NFL glory and dollars, he worked on his education. "This led to my ultimate moment: graduating," he says. "It led me into a career working with communities and young people."

Bynum returned to Hendersonville after college and began working with the Henderson County Boys and Girls Club. During that time, he married Shawna Nichelle Bynum with whom he had met in Asheville. Since beginning the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Sandhills in October 1998, the club has grown to include 500 members. It serves between 150 to 200 young people a day.

"I believe our youth need to know that adults care and that we need to continue to reinforce the idea that dreams and goals can come true," Bynum also has taken a talent that could easily have been a career – playing piano – and used it to bring others joy. "I started playing at age 5. I never had a lesson. I just play by ear."

Bynum believes God has given him the ability to play music, saying, "Whatever I hear, I can play. I give credit to God for that gift."

He is minister of music at Harrington Chapel Baptist Church and has conducted many choir workshops for churches throughout the state.

At age 19, Bynum got the chance to play and sing with gospel artist John P. Kee of Charlotte. He played with Kee for three years during college.

"That experience led me to return home and organize a choir in Hendersonville," Bynum says. He organized the Greater Victory Mass Choir and directed it for eight years. He credits his mother for giving him "courage and inspiration" to take on new challenges.

Bynum says she instilled a work ethic in her children. She let him know that he should keep striving to be what he wants to be. "If it wasn't for her, I don't know if I could attain my goals," he says. "Everything I am today is from her."

Bynum now tries to return the favor by inspiring young people in the Boys and Girls Club.

"I can relate to a lot of kids here," Bynum says. "Many of them come from single-parent families."

I’m excited about the possibilities for (these) young people," he added, "as our organization continues to proactively advance our mission to inspire, enable and educate young people from all backgrounds and circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens."

Bynum and his wife have two children. Hoyt Caleb, now 3, and Naomi Rochelle, born this year.

(Reprinted from The Pilot newspaper, Southern Pines.)

Meet Tate Campbell

Tate had two dreams as a boy growing up in nearby Catawba County: to play football and to attend college. Thanks to people like you who contribute annually to the Gardner-Webb Fund, Tate will be able to realize both of his dreams.

He says, "Playing football at Gardner-Webb has taught me the importance of teamwork and to always try my hardest, but more importantly, because of my scholarship, I am getting a top-notch education that will help through the rest of my life, whatever I choose to do."

Did you know that more than 90 percent of GWU students receive scholarship assistance? Here’s how YOU can help ... simply return the form below in the reply envelope provided. Since ALL gifts to the Gardner-Webb Fund help provide scholarships for Gardner-Webb students, you will be making an enormous impact on the lives of our students. Please consider your involvement in this effort. Together we can shape the future of Gardner-Webb University and Christian higher education.

Thank you for your faithful support and generosity.

Use the enclosed envelope to mail to: Cassie Bridgeman, GWU, PO Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 28017

Yes! I will support the Gardner-Webb Fund with a gift of:

□ $150  □ $100  □ $50  □ Other: $  

□ My check is enclosed  □ Please charge my:  □ VISA  □ MasterCard

Credit Card #  Exp. date:

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Centennial Moments

The staff of The Web has certainly gotten into the spirit of the GWU Centennial Countdown. Thumbing through file cabinets of photos is especially entertaining - that's why we thought you would enjoy more images from the memorable decades gone by. If you have photos or memories of Gardner-Webb from the past 100 years, please share them with us. We'll make sure to keep them safe and return them when we're done. Send your materials to: Matt Webster, The Web Magazine, Gardner-Webb University, PO. Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 28017.

As right) Could it be that Colonel Sanders is really a Bulldog fan?

(Above) Cute couple from 1950, but they're not identified... do you know who they are?

(Below) Dr. Tony Eastman lost the jacket long ago, but the tradition of pipe smoking on

Paula Hughs and Janice Anderson with the trophy for being the top debaters

(Above) John Olson creates synthetic fibers in a chemistry lab in 1964

Introducing “A.O.N.”
The Alumni Outreach Network

Beginning this fall the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations is looking alumni willing to help identify and recruit students for Gardner-Webb. Called the “Alumni Outreach Network” (AON) you'll be asked twice a year to write and/or visit prospective students.

A special recognition for members of the network is being planned to honor your assistance in this vital effort.

We hope all alumni know that their contribution to Gardner-Webb through this is effort invaluable - we want to continue identifying the best and brightest students who are right for Gardner-Webb!

Interested? Fill out this card today. For more information call Steve Varley at 704-406-4255 or e-mail him at svarley@gardner-webb.edu.

☐ Yes! I want to be a part of the Alumni Outreach Network.

Name
Address
Phone (home) Work
E-mail
Graduation year
Major while you attended Gardner-Webb
Current occupation

Use the enclosed envelope to mail to: Steve Varley, GWU, PO. Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 28017.
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