



The Pilot

GARDNER-WEBB COLLEGE



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Alpha Chi Convention

By Amy Sharpe
Staff Writer

Five members of Gardner-Webb's North Carolina Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Chi (AX) National Honor Society attended the region three convention in Atlanta last weekend. William Johnson, Dawn E. Camp, Melanie Ward, Brian Miller and Marty White, along with advisor Dr. Bob Morgan, represented the college at the bi-annual meeting. The convention involves AX chapters from colleges and universities in eight states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Johnson, Camp, Miller, and White presented academic papers to the convention on topics ranging from insectivorous plants to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

During the final session of the three-day event, White was elected by the convention to represent District 3 at the National Council of AX. He will attend this year's national business meeting in Chicago in two weeks as one of seven student representatives elected across the nation. Besides being a voting member of the council, White will be able to take the floor of the national convention to speak on behalf of students and will sit on a variety of committees.

"It's a great thrill to be able to represent so many students from such a wide area," White said. "Hopefully by my involvement on a national scale, Gardner-Webb will become even more well-known."

ASL: New Foreign Language

By Mike Tansey
Staff Writer

Gardner-Webb is undergoing a change in the curriculum as of Fall 1992. One of the changes is American Sign Language has been accepted as a foreign language. In the past, it did not offer foreign language credit. Students enrolled for interpreting degrees, interest, and elective credits.

Barbara Selph, sign language instructor, said that ASL should count because it is not grammatically related to English. In addition, deaf students face an unfair burden if they need a track that requires a foreign language, she added. Starting in the fall, deaf students who sign ASL fluently can claim ASL as their native language and use English to meet the second language requirement. Deaf students who sign English or who are oral may use ASL to fulfill the requirement.

Celebrate Earth Day: April 22, 1992

By Dawn E. Camp
Editor

Nearly every American has seen those trendy little posters with the earth in the background and a catchy saying like, "Do something nice for your mother. RECYCLE!" or "If you're not recycling you're just throwing it all away."

Well, there's a group on campus who knows that there is more to caring for the earth than recycling. And they want you to know, too.

To heighten awareness of how to care for the earth, a small group of students and faculty advisor, Tom English, are planning a celebration for Earth Day 1992.

The second-annual GWC Earth Day Shindig-on-the-Green will be held Wednesday, April 22, beginning around 3 p.m. Scheduled events include displays on environmental issues, the popular Can-Slam contest, and musical entertainment. The group has even arranged to have the evening meal moved outside.

If you would like to be involved with the Earth Day celebration, contact English or come to the meetings, which are held on Thursdays at 3:15 in the small conference room of the DCC.

Watch for Yearbooks!
Coming at the End of April

ASL has absolutely no relation to English; it has its own grammar, structure and syntax. Also, deaf culture is part of ASL.

What do GWC deaf students think of ASL as a foreign language? Junior Joe Johnson said, "I think it is good because ASL is the third hardest language in the U.S., and it is fair to the deaf students. Also, it will be important for jobs because hearing people will meet deaf students quite often. This way they can communicate."

Hearing students agree. Lori Harrison, student interpreter, feels that this is an appropriate thing to do. Having a language like ASL should be like any other foreign language, she said.

ASL is a good opportunity for hearing people here at GWC. It gives them more options than just Spanish and French. Please remember, however, that ASL will not be considered a foreign language until the fall, and then, only for students coming in under the new core.



Last year's popular Can-Slam contest is on this year's schedule as well.

First Earth Day Facts:

- Held on April 22, 1970.
- 20,000,000 Americans united to show their concern for the environment.
- The mayor of New York City closed Fifth Avenue to all automobiles for the day.
- 100,000 people filled Washington D.C.'s Union Station for an eco-fair.
- Public concern led to the passing of several major pieces of environmental legislation, including the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Gospel Choir Sponsors Play

By Erik Cummings
Staff Writer

On Saturday, March 28, the GWC Gospel Choir sponsored the dramatic gospel musical, "A Struggle to be Free," in the Lutz Yelton Convocation Center. The play was well received throughout the community and was attended by approximately 1,000 people.

The play addressed the issue of how cocaine abuse can tear a family apart. Many members of the Gospel Choir made their stage debuts, as they provided music for the church scenes. A few even had speaking parts.

The experience was enjoyable for the members of the choir. They felt that the opportunity to participate in something that could be the driving force of someone turning to Christ is what the choir is all about.

"The play not only touched the audience, but it touched each and every member in a special way," said Dorethia Miller, Gospel Choir advisor. The choir would like to thank those who helped in the production of the play.