



# Gardner-Webb University

# THE PILOT

**Student's Santa  
Wish List**

See "All I Want"  
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## Miss America visits GWU

by Sunny Benton  
staff writer

Miss America 1995 Heather Whitestone addressed the student body, met with University President Chris White and attended a reception given in her honor during a visit Tuesday, November 14, to the Gardner-Webb campus.

Whitestone, who is deaf but has the ability to conduct speaking engagements without the use of an interpreter, spoke to students about achieving dreams despite experiencing obstacles that often clutter the way. Due to a large expected attendance from students and the public, the program was held in the 5,000-seat Paul Porter Arena on campus. Silent Touch, a nine-member sign language choir that has performed internationally, joined Whitestone for the event.

As the first-ever hearing impaired Miss America, Whitestone developed a platform centered around overcoming difficulties and

limitations in life, such as deafness, through a five-step S.T.A.R.S. program. S.T.A.R.S., which stands for Success Through Action and Realization of your Dreams, states: have a positive attitude; believe in your dream; face your obstacles; work hard; and build a support team. That platform was the focus of her address to the Gardner-Webb students.

"It is our responsibility to overcome the barriers that prevent us from reaching for our dreams," Whitestone said. "As a profoundly deaf woman, my own experiences have shown me the impossible is indeed possible ... through hard work."

She recalled the dance she had prepared to Christian music for the talent portion of the Miss America pageant. An onlooker proposed that she should drop that kind of music if she had any hopes of winning. Whitestone declined.

"God is the most important thing in my life. I thought if God made the world he has the



Miss America 1995 speaks at Dimensions.

power to make anything happen if it's in His will. So I'm not going to worry about it. Whitestone also serves as an executive member on President Bill Clinton's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Especially significant about Whitestone's  
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## Handguns on campus?

by Matt Elliot  
staff writer

On December 1, 1995, a law went into effect that allows citizens who meet certain eligibility requirements to carry a concealed weapon. This law was passed earlier this year by the North Carolina General Assembly.

To carry a concealed weapon, a person must be a U.S. citizen who is twenty-one years of age or older and who has been a resident of the state for at least thirty days. A person must also take an approved firearms safety and training course in order to be eligible.

When carrying a concealed weapon, a person must have a concealed handgun permit and a valid identification in his or her possession. Concealed handgun permits are issued by the sheriff to applicants who meet the criteria.

"This law does not supersede existing laws governing the possession of firearms on the campus of an educational facility," said Campus Police Chief Tracy Curry. "A person who applies for and obtains a concealed weapons permit will not be allowed to possess a weapon on campus."

## Final Exam Schedule

TIME	DEC. 11 MON.	DEC. 12 TUES.	DEC. 13 WED.	DEC. 14 THUR.	DEC. 15 FRI.	DEC. 16 SAT.
	TTH	MWF	TTH	MWF	MWF	MWF
8 - 11 a.m.	2:40 3:55	9:00 9:50	11:50 1:05	10:00 10:50	1:00 1:50	11:00 11:50
	MWF	MW	TTH	MWF	TTH	TTH
1 - 4 p.m.	12:00 12:50	2:00 3:15	10:25 11:40	8:00 8:50	8:00 9:15	1:15 2:30

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