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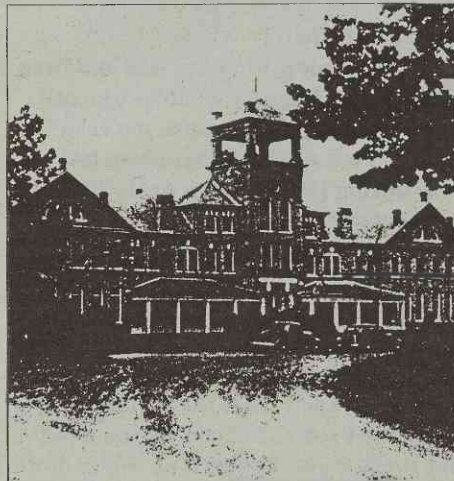
Homecoming '96: Celebrating 90 Years

by Nic Floyd
staff writer

In 1907, Boiling Springs High School opened its doors with one goal in mind: to educate tomorrow's leaders. Twenty years later this goal would be threatened. With the sudden outbreak of state-supported high schools, Boiling Springs High School had to make an important decision: either close its doors permanently, or change its curriculum drastically. So in 1928, the curriculum was updated and Boiling Springs High School became Boiling Springs Junior College, according to documents in university archives.

Under the leadership of Presidents James Blaine Davis, Dr. Zeno Wall and J. L. Jenkins, the junior college flourished. Interestingly, these first presidents worked with little or no pay and considered themselves pastors first and presidents second, said Dr. Lansford Jolley, university historian.

In 1935, the Great Depression was taking its toll on the country and President A.C. Lovelace was afraid that he was not going to be able to open the school, said Jolley. There was no money for books, food or teachers' salaries. Therefore, Lovelace relied heavily on donations and he allowed



students to pay their way through college with food and milk, Jolley said.

According to Jolley, one student remarked that "he could always tell when they were going to have turnips for dinner, because the hedges had been trimmed the day before." In 1936, stress from trying to keep the school open took its toll on Lovelace and he had to retire. Lovelace's successor was George J. Burnett, who served from 1936 to 1939, according to documents in the archives.

See "Years of change" on page 7

GWU's father of Year of the Scholar:

Dr. Les Brown takes leave next spring to study Harvesters in Linville Cave, NC

by Janet Jones
Editor

The individual who organized the idea for Year of the Scholar at Gardner-Webb is taking a leave of absence next semester to study spiders.

Study spiders?

That's right. Dr. Les Brown will be going to Linville Caverns, NC in the spring to continue his research for a project on the migration of harvestmen, or granddaddy spiders.

Dr. Burkett of the science department has helped Dr. Brown in the research. The two have given a presentation on the research to the North Carolina Academy of Sciences.

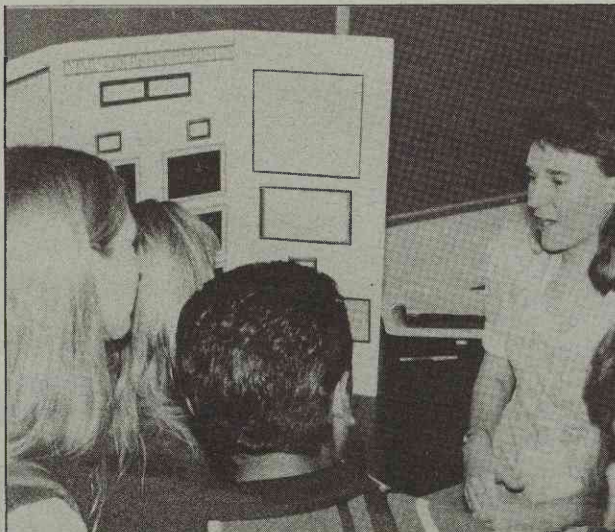
Brown said that he hopes to have this research published after he completes his study in Linville Caverns.



See "Brown" on page 8

"Scholarship Showcase" reveals hidden talents among GWU students and faculty

Fifteen students and 19 faculty were involved in the first Gardner-Webb University Campus Scholarship Showcase. This "Year of the Scholar" event, held 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Sept. 26 in Ritch Banquet Hall, was coordinated by Physics Professor Tom English. Each scholar prepared a visual display. Another showcase is already being planned for spring, English said.



Senior chemistry major Marlene Wheeler presents her immunochemistry showcase to some fellow students. Wheeler has had a summer job for two years at Duke University Medical School as a research assistant on using pig organs for transplants in humans. She has been offered a job as a researcher on the project after her May 1997 graduation.