

CAMPUS NEWS

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Sports always a part of life at GWU

Amanda Wood
Pilot copy editor

On a Saturday in the fall of 1920, one of Cleveland County's first football teams lined up in a Boiling Springs cane field to answer a challenge from Gaffney High School.

Due to lack of equipment, members of the newly-formed Boiling Springs High School football team walked onto the field wearing a pair of overalls over four other layers of clothing, according to a 1955 *Shelby Daily Star* article written by John Roberts, who was Gardner-Webb Junior College's director of public relations.

According to B.E. "Pop" Simmons, a player and student at BSHS who was interviewed in Roberts' article, the team didn't even have a football.

"We didn't have a team," Simmons told Roberts. "We didn't even have a football, but we had to play a game because our name was at stake."

But despite the lack of uniforms and a football, BSHS defeated Gaffney High 6-0.

Simmons, who played right end, later told Roberts that the event was more of a fight than a football game.



GWJC's football coach Norman Harris stands with some players during a football practice during the 1950s.

photo courtesy of University Archives

When the player opposite Simmons rammed his shoulder into Simmons' stomach, Simmons hit him in the face and bloodied his nose.

"By game's end we were all bruised and bleeding," the article said. "We beat 'em though, 6-0. Our touchdown came on an end sweep that almost went out of bounds. The referee sighted from one boundary tree to the other and aided by a few threats from us, decided it was inside."

Simmons and another student, Paul Greene, organized the team and practiced with an old shoe

since they didn't have a football. Simmons handled all negotiations because the school didn't have a football coach.

Sports in the early days

Early BSHS publications said school authorities believed proper games and sports served the best interests of students by providing healthful, mental diversion and physical exercise, according to GWU Historian Lansford Jolley.

"Sports was just something they did for recreation," Jolley said.

Competition with other

school teams was not a significant feature of the high school period because of the cost involved in equipping teams and travel, according to Jolley.

"There just weren't many teams around," Jolley said.

Academics were a main priority for athletes because BSHS required students to maintain a grade average of 75 or higher to play sports.

However, by the time the school became a junior college in 1928, athletics appeared more prominent.

Boiling Springs Junior College students played

football, baseball and basketball.

The school's football team won the state championship in 1930. The team enjoyed an unbeaten record and was scored upon only once that season, according to Jolley.

"I think the school got some criticism," Jolley said.

Many critics wondered why the school was spending money on football during the Depression, according to Jolley.

The team brought home another state championship title in 1933.

Athletics at GWJC

According to Jolley, the modern era of athletics at GWJC began after World War II.

Bob Bush, who played baseball, basketball and football in the early 1950s, said his time playing sports at GWJC contributed to his education.

"You've got to pass to play," Bush said. "If I don't pass this course, I'm not going to play next fall. That motivated me a lot."

Bush represented GWJC in the 1951 basketball all-star game at Wingate College.

He also played in the 1952 Golden Isle Bowl against Georgia Military College.

"It was a big, big thing here at Gardner-Webb,"

Bush said. "The bowl was such a treat for the guys. We had never been on nothing like that."

GWJC won the football game 14-0.

Edward "Mac" Hill, who graduated from GWJC in 1955, played basketball.

"By today's standards I was sort of a point guard," Hill said. "I played all over the court except for center. We weren't a basketball school then."

According to Hill, the game was different when he played.

"We didn't play defense in those days," Hill said. "We just shot the ball."

Backboards were half the size of today's backboards, according to Hill.

"We didn't have three-point goals," Hill said. "Palming the ball was illegal—you had to give up the ball. The game is called differently."

Hill, who went on to be a sports journalist, said his time playing for GWJC influenced his life.

"It made me want to play as long as I could," Hill said. "It probably guided me into my newspaper career. It's like every other sport—it teaches you teamwork, values you use the rest of your life."

Students plan for event

Stephanie Falle
Pilot staff

The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life is getting a lot of help and attention from Gardner-Webb University this semester.

The event, in its second year at GWU, is the largest source of private, non-profit donations to the ACS and has raised \$2.5 million for research on cancer.

GWU draws from a long history of giving in the area—Cleveland County is third in the nation in raising contributions for the ACS.

This year's Relay For Life, scheduled for April 15 and 16, will be another overnight event and will include all-night live music and food.

Opening the festivities will be the Cancer Survivors' Victory Lap around Spangler Stadium, walked by survivors of the disease. Another major point of the night is the fund-raising Luminaria

Ceremony. Anyone who wishes to honor or memorialize a loved one may purchase a luminary to be lit in the evening.

Between now and April, GWU teams are busy organizing the event and inventing new ways to raise money. These ideas are still being developed, but some have incorporated a wheel-barrow race and a hot dog sale. Relay For Life bracelets are available now and will be available during the event as well.

Included in the planning process is a call for more teams to contribute.

Karl Mosbacher, a junior public relations major, is the public relations officer for Relay For Life on the GWU campus.

"Our main goal this year is to form more captain groups," Mosbacher said. "We need more people to participate."

Mosbacher, who participated in last year's Relay For Life, encourages everyone to get involved in the event.

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dents and their living conditions. More than 200 students attended the meeting from universities such as North Carolina A&T, UNC-Charlotte, Western Carolina and UNC-Chapel Hill.

The theme for this year's conference was "Finding S.E.Y.M.O.U.R. (Just Keep Swimming)," which stood for Service, Encouragement, Yourself, Motivation, Optimism, Unity and Recognition.

"There were leadership conferences, an awards ceremony and of course fun and entertaining activities



"I enjoyed it so much," Mosbacher said. "It was like a big slumber party. People brought tents and sleeping bags and just had fun with their friends."

Those who are interested in becoming a team captain or a member of a team can contact any of the executive members of the GWU Relay For Life, go to a Relay For Life planning meeting or attend the event.

Upcoming meetings will take place at 7 p.m. Feb. 12, Feb. 24 and March 10 at the apartment clubhouse. For information about forming a team, contact Relay For Life chair Allison Blackwell at ext. 4533.

to do," said Rob Foreman, director of Residence Life.

Also included during the weekend's events was a benefit to help the Pathways organization called Philanthropy. The main focus of Pathways is to provide aid to mentally handicapped children and adults.

If you want to become involved in next year's NCARH or for more information you can visit www.ncarh.gardner-webb.edu/programs.

—Sheyahshe Littledave



photo by Christina O'Grady

Owner Seth Stevens stands in front of the newly opened Broad River Coffee Co. located in Shelby near the hospital.

BRCC opens in Shelby

Sarah James
Pilot web editor

The new Broad River Coffee Company in Shelby is officially open, even though a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony has not occurred.

Seth Stevens, coffee shop owner, said that they are working on getting a date together for the grand opening and ribbon cutting. They are waiting to hear from the Shelby Chamber of Commerce.

The new store offers the same drinks and menu as the coffee shop in Boiling Springs. However, the Shelby store is smaller and serves more bottled drinks.

The new coffee shop also offers a more intimate place to go, Stevens said. There are 23 chairs, six tables and four leather chairs in the store. The coffee shop offers free wireless Internet to anyone with

a wireless connection.

"It's a good place to study," Stevens said. "It gets you out of Boiling Springs and has a good, quiet atmosphere."

Many college students are already coming to the new coffee shop.

The vision for the new store is the idea of community, according to Stevens.

Stevens wants the new coffee shop to be a hub for relationships and for people to get to know one another. Stevens said he does not want the store to be a walk-in, walk-out place.

Stevens has been looking for some time to open a new BRCC in Shelby.

"It was just the right time and the right community," Stevens said. "Things just came together."

Carolyn Harkey and Judy Person enjoy visiting the coffee shop.

Harkey has been driv-

ing into Boiling Springs to get coffee at the BRCC and is glad there is one closer to home.

Person said she has been looking for good coffee in Shelby for some time and believes she has finally found it.

Both Harkey and Person said they are pleased with the new BRCC and will continue to come.

To get to the new BRCC in Shelby, go straight down Hwy. 150 towards the hospital and turn left at the light in front of the hospital. Then take an immediate left after passing CVS. The coffee shop is behind CVS in the medical community.

The hours of the BRCC in Shelby currently are 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Stevens hopes to add hours to the store.

Forum held on campus

More than 13 universities were on the campus of Gardner-Webb University Feb. 4-6 for the annual meeting of the North Carolina Association of Residence Halls.

NCARH is an organization dedicated to serving resident students in the state, said its Web site. NCARH hosts a yearly forum to discuss important issues about resident stu-