

## "We've Only Just Begun"

Homecoming 1972 bears the theme, "We've Only Just Begun." The future of Gardner-Webb is a major concern. Student life this year projects a more enthusiastic atmosphere on campus than in past years.

The Student Government Association is constantly invoking effective action. An example is the coffee house which has become an activity. The coffee house project proved what responsible and cooperative action can initiate.

A look at the first nine weeks on campus reveals many positive changes that have already occurred this year. Registration was not a disaster as in past years; the new chapel certainly enhances the physical environment of our campus; the cafeteria personnel have been working for the students and have adequately resolved almost all existing problems; and the new library, under construction and hopefully this will also bring more library hours.

Hopefully all of these happenings and the present phenomenon is just the beginning. Last year we "Got It Together" with accreditation and this year GW is truly a senior college in all areas of student and campus life. There are still many "insignificant rules" hindering advancement and there are many changes that GW needs and deserves. (A weekly newspaper would initiate further communication and complement the changing times.) Gardner-Webb has advanced and the ground is broken, but let's hope "We've Only Just Begun."

# Progress In Ending Draft And Achieving The All-Volunteer Draft

On August 28th, President Nixon announced that conscription into the armed forces would be eliminated by July, 1973. The following are excerpts from a Defense Department report concerning the draft.

October 17, 1968—  
President Nixon  
"I say it's time we took a new look at the draft—at the question of permanent conscription in a free society. If we find we can reasonably meet our peacetime manpower needs by other means—then we should prepare for the

day when the draft can be phased out of American life."  
Selective Service Act  
The President signed into law a bill which reduced the period of draft vulnerability from seven years to one year, the latter being the calendar year following a young man's 19th birthday.

The bill further provided that draft selections would be made by the drawing of sequence numbers at random, rather than by birth date.

Draft Calls  
The most direct evidence of

progress toward ending reliance on the draft is the sharp decline of draft calls. Draft calls have been reduced from 299,000 in 1968, to 50,000 in 1972—one-sixth of the previous level.

Enlistments  
Despite this sharp drop in draft calls in 1972, the proportion of true volunteers that is those who enlist out of their own free will, and not because of pressure from the draft has increased from 50% to 75% in the last year.

During July to December 1970, enlistment for ground combat averages 277 per month; but during July to December, 1971, ground combat enlistments reached a one month high of 39,000 and averaged 3,000 a month.

This rise is accredited to the offering of choice of overseas locations and unit assignments to combat arms enlistees, by advertising these new options, and by aggressively recruiting candidates for them.

June 28, 1972  
The President announced that no more draftees would be sent to Vietnam.

August 28, 1972  
"The experience of the past three years . . . seems to show that sufficient numbers of volunteers can be attracted to the armed forces to meet maximum manpower needs, and that ending all dependence on the draft will be consistent with maintaining the force-level and degree of readiness necessary to meet our vital long-term national security needs. We will no longer need conscription to fill manpower requirements after July, 1973."

# Student Expression and Opinion ..

## Graduation 1973

Editor:

It has just been conveyed to me that the speaker for the commencement in May has already been selected.

It appears to me, as a graduating senior, that the senior class should have some say so in regard to the selection of a speaker.

The purpose of a commencement speaker is to give a message to the graduating class, not a political move to increase enrollment or play favorites to a possible college supporter.

I can see no reason why the selection of a speaker cannot be made by a Student-Faculty Committee. The way those groups most directly concerned will have a say as to who will be the speaker.

Thank you,  
Mike Stewart

## Evident Decline In Religious Instruction

Editor:

In my estimation as a student and senior religion major at G.W.C., Dr. T. Furman Hewitt is one of the more progressive professors that I have had during my college career. Of all my professors few have challenged my thinking more. It is because of his influence that I have been

impelled to rethink many previous viewpoints, and to be perfectly honest, in some cases to think for the first time period.

Because of an ultra-conservative bias, my first impressions of Dr. Hewitt were negative. I was afraid to face some truths as he presented them because they seemed to challenge my faith. After an honest inward struggle I came to see that faith that fears challenge stands on trembling ground. Now my faith is stronger than ever and much more my own. I see very clearly that I don't have to commit intellectual suicide to maintain a genuine Christian faith. My own quest now is for truth, which is never seen in contradiction though often apprehended paradoxically. Dr. Hewitt's teaching has been great in influencing this change of attitude. I can truthfully say that my original impression has progressed to one of love and respect and real thankfulness to a professor who has proved himself to be patient, even with the most closed-minded students.

I am especially grateful to Dr. Hewitt for going the second mile with me personally a period of serious illness. He has truly demonstrated to me a spirit of real Christ likeness in a man of the highest scholastic ability. In my opinion the loss of Dr. Hewitt will prove to be a major setback to the religion department of this institution . . . reflecting a con-

tinuous plung downward in religious instruction at G.W.C. since the similar loss last year of Dr. J. Thomas Ballard, also a brilliant instructor. Both of these professors are men of integrity and ability as well as true friends to the student.

To me it is by no means a bad reflection upon Dr. Ballard's replacement, Dr. Lewis, who is unmatched in his major field of Biblical languages as is Dr. Ballard in Old Testament. But rather, my view is an overall look to religious instruction at G.W.C. Consider religious instruction as a wheel with different spokes. Each of three areas—general religion courses, R. E. courses, and Biblical language courses—is a part of this wheel. Of course the wheel is going to be weaker when two of the spokes are lost and one is shifted from its preferred position.

Concerned reflections,  
David Ford

## Early Closing of The CID

Editor:

Sunday night at 8:00 an event took place which I, as well as

## 25 Million New Voters

In 1972, 25 million young people will be able to vote for the first time. The right to vote yields the right to choose who will govern the country and what their policies will be. This right cannot be exercised if the voter is not registered.

Twenty-five million votes can change the course of history; or not change it. That's just too much power to throw away.

Nearly 80% of all college students are now registered to vote—the highest rate for any group in the nation. Yet over four million of these students are registered away from campus. They can only vote by absentee ballot.

Hundreds of thousands of student votes will be lost if students do not apply for absentee ballots by October 31, the Federal deadline.

many other students, had thought was not to happen again. It had occurred numerous times last semester and after many complaints had been stopped. I am glad that the decision of the closing of the Campus Center before its closing hours. It is stated in the handbook that this facility will remain open every night till 11:00. On Sunday students returning to campus need to check mail that they might have received while gone.

The Campus Center is one of the few buildings open on Sunday night. Many students who care not to fight the talking and congestion of the library find some peace in the CID lounge. Also we as students pay for the facilities to be used on the ground floor. How are we to do so if we are locked out at the convenience of someone else. If the CID is for the use of G.W.'s students and if it is a Campus Center, then please can't the college abide by rules and regulations as we students do.

Thank you  
Bud Thomas

# THE PILOT

Editor ..... Samala High  
Sports Editor ..... Carol Garrett  
News Editor ..... Donna Turner  
Features Editor ..... Lou Winton  
Photographers ..... Benny Bridges, Gary Cloer, Wayne Klutz  
Cartoonist ..... Judy Greene  
Typist ..... Beth Balick  
Staff ..... Carroll Forest, David Jarman, Cathy Robinson, Cindy Rose, John Spiess, Bruce Wade

Advisor ..... Mr. Bill Boyd  
Published by students of Gardner-Webb College, Bowling Springs, North Carolina 28017. The office of THE PILOT is located in the Charles L. Dover Student Center, Room 112. Advertising rate is \$2.00 per column inch. Telephone 434-2211.

The opinions expressed in this student newspaper do not necessarily represent the views of the GWC faculty, administration, or student body. Responsibility for content is contained in the Pilot are possible by writing Editor, THE PILOT, Box 439.

maybe they gave you  
the right to vote  
because they thought  
you'd never use it.

prove them wrong.

REGISTER  
& VOTE

© 1972 by The Associated Press