

Recital Breaks

Those of you who missed the Faculty Recital on Friday, September 21 at 8 p.m. truly missed a great series of performances. Chris McKinney's dramatic readings of selections from God's Trombones, by James Weldon Johnston, started off the program with a rarely seen air of scholarship that could have only shocked me further if the works quoted had been by T.S. Eliot, or W.H. Auden. McKinney's presentation filled a gaping cultural gap here, and his performance left little to be desired.

Terry Fern followed the opening with a repertoire of three songs, the most memorable of which was Charles Ives's "Charlie Rutlage." I was amused with Mr. Fern's "casual" approach to the whimsical song, and Tina Summey's accompaniment was equally commendable, especially considering the harsh dissonances characteristic of Ives's music.

Dr. Caroline Billings then sat me on the edge of my seat, immobile for at least 12 minutes. Her rendition of Prokiev's Sonata No. 7, Opus 83, produced some rhythms and tone clusters that are still bouncing around in my head. Although the Allegro Inquieto, the first movement, stretches nearly to the breaking point, Dr. Billings managed to contain my attention through the entire piece. Normally, I dislike piano recitals, but anyone who attempts a Twentieth Century Piece can count on my attention. This was definitely the highlight of the entire recital.

Following Dr. Billings, Stephen Harrill sang two numbers, an Italian, and an English piece called, "My Master Hath a Garden." Although Mr. Harrill's performance rang clear and true in his unique tenor voice, I felt that the music limited Mr. Harrill, who has been known to astound us. (Remember *The Student Prince* last year?) Dr. George Cribb, chairman of the music department, accompanied Mr. Harrill.

Bringing a new twist to the idea of "performance," Elizabeth Minus and Terry Fern sang a series of three soprano-bass duets, accompanied by Tina Summey. I was shocked to see a stand full of music brought onto the stage, and equally distracted by the flipping of pages as the two followed along. Sorry, folks: that's *Just Not Done!* However, their performance was immaculate. Mr. Fern and Mrs. Minus sang, "Only the Longing Heart" with such intensity that lines like "I'm on the verge of madness" seemed almost believable. Equally intense was their final duet, "Come to my castle, Love," a Mozart piece from the Opera Don Giovanni. The slapstick in this piece was carefully choreographed, and the result was hilarious. These two work incredibly well together, and I should hope to hear some more of their combined efforts before the year is out.

While I was resting my stomach from its fits of laughter and wiping my silly grin from my face, Timothy Cherry took to the stage. Mr. Cherry is Assistant Professor of Arts, and his original slide/tape production, "Images of Christ in Art" closed out the evening. This presentation, despite initial technical difficulties publicly ascribed to "Operator Incompetency," carefully portrayed much of Christ's life through various works of art. "Images of Christ in Art" was done very professionally, boasting snippets of Handel's Messiah and portions from "Jesus Christ Superstar" in the accompaniment tape. The overall effect was extremely sensitive; I felt a tear slip down my cheek before it was over, and anyone who didn't was missing the whole point of the presentation. Mr. Cherry billed this piece as "Dedicated to my Father, David."

A singularly phenomenal recital. The dramatic readings and slide presentation made this the most enjoyable recital I've ever attended at Gardner-Webb, and along with the Prokiev piece by Dr. Billings, probably the most enjoyable anywhere. Congratulations to all that took part. If you packed up your suitcase and missed this one, I'm sorry you blew it.

Language Choir. Only hearing impaired students trained in sign and interpreters are permitted in the choir. Carol Rellick will be advising directors Ilene Allinger and Becky Hicks. The choir will be performing at Convocation several times this year and is seeking opportunities to perform for community churches and other organizations in this area. Performances will include Top 40 pop hits, Christian contemporary music, and hymns. Members of this group include Debbie Adams, Angie Ayers, Tamara Wood, Abby Babson, Cathy Dline, Krista Matthews, Rhonda McBerry, Don Donald, Rhonda Downey, Michelle Durso, Troy Smart, and Debbie Lynn. If you are highly qualified in manual sign language you might want to consider becoming part of this group which communicates in such a meaningful way!

Choral Variety At G-W

In keeping with the ongoing tradition of fine choral music at Gardner-Webb College, the prospects of this school year are very promising. The curtain rises on two brand new musical groups which will perform concerts both on campus and on the road. But not only does the Gardner-Webb Concert Choir and the Chorale afford the interested student musical opportunities, but also opportunities for fellowship, experience, travel, and a lot of fun.

Under the direction of Dr. Phil D. Perrin, the Concert Choir meets three times per week with one credit hour awarded. The Choir sings the finest arrangements in musical history available to students from such composers as Schubert, Vittoria, Bach and Handel. If you like foreign languages, this year's Choir will sing in Latin and German. If not, several English arrangements, as well as Negro spirituals and also a choreographed number will be performed.

Throughout the year, the Concert Choir will represent Gardner-Webb in churches and schools across North Carolina, as well as performing in special concerts on the campus.

Several students hold important positions in the 41-member choir. Chris Roberts is well qualified as this year's Assistant Conductor. Anna Saunders and Sherry Lieurance lend their talents at the piano as co-accompanists. Concert Choir members are accepted by audition only. Since this is the first year of organization for the Choir, you still have a chance to be a charter member by auditioning in the spring.

Also in the capable conducting hands of Dr. Perrin is the all-new G-W Chorale. Unlike the Concert Choir, the Chorale is open to all students without audition, it meets two times per week for one credit, and is a bit less formal.

On a few select occasions, the Chorale and Concert Choir will combine to form the Choral Union under the direction of Mrs. Elizabeth C. Minus with Dr. George Cribb as piano accompanist. The highlight of the year for Choral Union will be a performance with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra later in this semester.

Whether you are a performer or an avid listener, the 1984-85 Gardner-Webb choral groups will display music with which any college would be proud to be associated!!

Why Convocation Anyway?

Convocation. This seems to be a widely discussed issue among the Gardner-Webb students this year. For the first time in six years the Convocation requirement is being strictly enforced.

This requirement, found in the Gardner-Webb handbook, states, "Each student is required to attend Convocation each semester of full time enrollment at Gardner-Webb College... Exemption from Convocation attendance and satisfactory attendance are determined by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Only in cases where an exemption has been granted can the hours that would have been gained by Convocation attendance be replaced by taking other credit hours to complete the graduation requirement."

This policy has been in effect for six years, but only now is it being strictly enforced. Dr. John Drayer, Vice President for Academic Affairs brought this matter to the attention of the Convocation Committee and the faculty. He noticed an alarming drop in the number of students receiving Convocation credit. In the fall of 1981, 940 students received Convocation credit. By the fall of 1983 only 510 students received Convocation credit. Secondly, Dr. Drayer felt that it was not fair to the students who were attending so he decided to the committee that the policy be enforced more strictly.

Communication Connection

Starting this semester Gardner-Webb College offers a new major in Communications for all interested. Dr. Bill Stowe is the Director of Communications Studies. He states, "There is an obvious need for a bridge between the growing chasm of 'supply and demand.' There is a big gap between employment demands and college graduates communications skills. If a communication major that is well grounded in liberal arts and strengthened on communications skills can be offered, Gardner-Webb will be able to bridge this gap.

This major is different from other majors in that it requires a nucleus of courses in written, oral, and visual communications. The major also requires courses in media specialty, which includes radio, television, drama, the print media, and photography. After this is completed, two internships must be done in the student's specialty.

This school's program does not intend to compete with other school's programs, but graduates of the program at Gardner-Webb, will be able to compete for the best jobs in the field of specialty. Dr. Stowe insists that the unity and coherence of this program will be more attractive than many hastily assembled approaches at other small colleges.

If you are interested in this degree and want to know more, contact Bill Stowe in the Lindsay building.

Religious

Emphasis Week

Religious Emphasis Week, a yearly Gardner-Webb tradition, is an activity funded by the Thomas F. Stanley Foundation, a trust fund designed to encourage religious activities in various colleges. This foundation sponsors Religious Emphasis Week (or Fall Revival,) each year.

This year, Fall Revival will be held during the week of October first through fifth, with guest speaker Dr. Nathan Porter of the World Hunger Association. This year's guest music director will be Gerald Hamilton, Minister of Music at First Baptist Church in Lumberton, N.C., and a Gardner-Webb alumnus. The theme of Fall Revival this year is "It's A Family Affair," a topic suggested by last year's Religious Activities Committee.

The five morning services are being held in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center, and the evening services in Dover Chapel at 6 p.m. The morning services are considered a part of convocation, and thus the attendance of all students is expected. The less formal evening services are intended more as an evangelical outreach, and as a source of strength for the Christian students here. The Fall Revival services are open to the public, in order that the community and student body may fellowship together.