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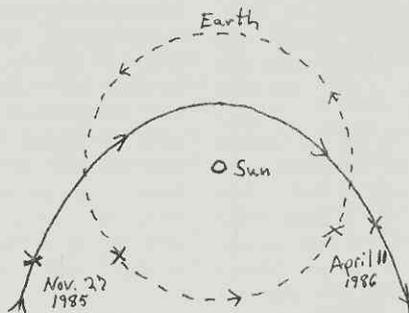
Universal Streaking

By Jeff Melton

For the next six months, our generation will witness a phenomena that only occurs every seventy-five years. Halley's Comet, which was last visible to the naked eye in 1910, will make its initial appearance on or around November 27, and will remain visible until next April.

The comet, named after British astronomer Edmund Halley, will look similar to a shooting star to begin with, but later on, it will become a more illuminating sight. When Halley's Comet first appears, it will be farther away from the sun, but as it gets closer, it will pick up brighter rays and become more spectacular.

Halley's Comet cannot be seen more often than it is because of its wider orbit around the sun.



Earth makes one complete cycle around the sun in 365 1/2 days. Earth's orbit is more circular, but Halley's Comet travels in an oblong cycle, and it only gets between the earth and the sun once every seventy-five years.

When Halley's Comet was last sighted in 1910, people were frightened that it might fall down and blow up the earth. Of course, this was a myth. But it is

not out of the realm of possibility that fragments can breakoff the comet and land on earth as meteorites. Scientists have not predicted that this will happen.

Halley's Comet, just like Earth and all the other planets, is part of the solar system. But don't miss seeing the comet when it appears, because it will not be seen again until the year 2061.

Handicap — What Handicap? Portrait of an Inspiration

By Dr. Jeff Elwell

In this age of nuclear detente, human rights abuses and international terrorism it's not always easy to find something positive and upbeat to write about. At Gardner-Webb, however, there is at least one person who exemplifies both of these words: Doug Armstrong.

Born 19 years ago in McGehee, Arkansas, James Douglas Armstrong was a five-time Arkansas State wrestling champion. He is also an excellent runner who competes for the Bulldog cross country team. In addition, he is the president of the college band and the math club. Last year he was elected Freshman-class president. Doug is also a Presidential Scholar whose QPR hovers above 3.5. In high school he ranked second in his class. At Gardner-Webb, Doug is majoring in both political science and computer science and hopes to attend law school following graduation.

It sounds like another All-American boy story except for one small twist: Doug is blind. He has been since birth when too much silver nitrate was put in his eyes.

He can't see the course that he runs on. He can't read the music that he plays on his alto saxophone. He won't be able to read this story in The Pilot. Yet this doesn't stop him from doing everything that a sighted person would do.

As Nell Kilpatrick, director of the program for the blind and visually handicapped students, says, "His parents never let him get away with anything." And, according to his mother, Dorothy Flemings, it seems as though Doug never let anything get away from him.

"When he was little," says Mrs. Flemings, "He had to do whatever the other children did. He was always determined not to let his blindness hold him back."



As one of five children, Doug was constantly being tested. "I can remember," says Doug, "when the kids in the neighborhood used to play tag and I was always it. They'd run right at a tree and then veer away at the last second. Boom, I'd run into the tree."

Doug soon became wiser, however, anticipating their veers and beat them at their own game. When the kids started riding bicycles, Doug had to do it, even though he fell off several times before finally staying on.

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by Melanie Lynch

Homecoming 1985 seemed to be a roaring success. The toga dance Monday night, which had cheese and fruit for refreshments, had a good turn-out. Tuesday, which was named "Western Day," had a better response as a dress-up day than usual. That night the food committee sponsored cloggers for entertainment at the evening meal. Later the movie "Splash" was featured in Bost Gym. Everyone that came brought out his "husband" and blanket and settled down to watch this hilarious movie. Dress-up day for Wednesday took us back in time to the rocking fifties. This day also had a good response from the student body, as they greased back their hair or put on their "poodle" skirts.

At the "Skate at Kates," Sugar creek posters were given away to students whose names were drawn. As each student entered, he placed his name into a box. The grand prize was an album, and Maria McKinney was the lucky winner. One student broke a bone, the only injury of the night. Tim Haigler remarked, "Oh, well, that's the breaks!"

Thursday, Louise Anderson entertained us in the Library. Various talents were displayed throughout the day in the library, and a pep rally was held after Louise Anderson's delightful performance.

Friday was Spirit Day, and as tradition held, everyone dressed up in their black and red attire.

Several games were held throughout the week, such as the candy football guessing game. Bill Howard was announced the winner at halftime of the ballgame with his lucky guess of 247 footballs.

The dorm winners were as follows: Lutz-Yelton, 1st place, who won fifty dollars; HAPY, 2nd place, with twenty five dollars; and Stroup, 3rd place, with fifteen dollars.

The freshman class was first place winner in the float contest; Phi Beta Lambda was second; and the Sophomore class was third place winners. They won fifty, twenty-five, and fifteen dollars, respectively. The freshman class also came in first place during the poster contest. The Sophomore class placed second, and the Outdoor Explorers (Science Club) placed third.

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Homecoming. Many have expressed their opinions that the week, and especially Saturday night's video dance, was the best ever. May you remember the week with a smile as you think back on your years at Gardner-Webb.