



## Across the Editor's Desk

Roberta L. Borden

It seems that the subject of respect is on a lot people's minds lately, especially the students of Gardner-Webb. Respect is essential to any healthy relationship as all people need to be regarded in a positive way. Respect deals with feeling or showing honor toward a person or a thing. We all know what it is like to have been denied respect and we have all grown up with the biblical theme which reminds us to treat others as we would have them treat us. We are, however, guilty of denying others the exchange of respect.

Often we become so caught up in our lives that we ignore the common, but often deep-rooted, courtesies which when combined are recognized as respect. A point that I would like to raise is that does this institution and its administrators become so bogged down in pleasantries that it turns its back on true respect for the students of this college? On a very basic level the administrators of this school are very friendly and warm, but on a deeper, more substantial level are we as students ignored?

Convocation would seem to be a prime target for this idea of a lack of respect. Usually the convocation program does not reflect a quality that it would seem the students of this college would deserve. We have been promised "better" convocation speakers but only the future will tell if that is, in fact, true. We respect this college enough to attend convocation, so; why aren't we respected enough to be given the kind of speakers that we want.

Another arena of respect exists in the relationship between the residence assistants and the Administrators who supervise them. Recently, a male residence assistant was asked to resign his position because he was, essentially, doing his job. Again I must ask, Are we as students respected? It would seem not.

Respect for the average student is pushed aside when special considerations are made for male athletes on this campus. Also, better supervision in the dorms would prevent the illicit behavior which now occurs including substance abuse and visitations violations. Respect for the many is denied for the pleasure and freedom of the few. When will students on this campus all be treated relatively equally? The optimist and idealist in me says, "Soon!" while the realist in me

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Please feel free to express your opinions to the *Pilot* in the proper manner. All letters are welcome. Please place letters under the Student Publications door (112) in the C.I.D. building.

## Bill's Beef



Bill Lang

There are a lot of reasons why people do or fail to do things. One reason for acting or failing to act has to do with a big thing called respect. One of our professors has an old sign in his house that says something like: "Have respect for your school; Dress up on Sunday." In 1986 dressing up or not dressing up on Sundays no longer means a whole lot as far as respect for one's school goes. But there are other ways to give and to get respect, and everybody likes to be respected.

Most of us have been taught that there are certain people or institutions that we must respect, a lot of time regardless of whether they deserved it or not. What I'd like to ask is: Is respect generated within a person because of the way that person thinks, or if it is taught and demanded and gotten by things and people around us? There comes a time when respect for respect's sake no longer seems reasonable. There comes a time (I think) that respect must be earned.

For over a year now we, the students, have been hearing all about empty dorm rooms and falling enrollment. The cost

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor;

I think that it is high time that someone began to set the record straight as to how a Christian should act at Gardner-Webb. I think that it is time that WE as Christians reach out to those who are in need. It is all too often that we're too busy to stop and talk to those who are in need. I, as a Christian, have also failed in my abilities as a counselor for those who may need help. I feel that the relationship that we have with Jesus should

per semester continues to go up. The present administration has given us some new windows, new lounges and a few other things to make this school look externally nice, but we have had a lame duck here lately and no one willing to make hard decisions. But what about what's at the core of this place? A pretty handbook full of rules and a new purpose does not respect earn. Either act on these or decide to change and act on that change. Do not say one thing and do something else. On V.I.P. and Presidential Scholar days prospective students are brought through and shown the golden edges but we all know day to day (and weekend) life can be quite different than that first impression.

If Gardner-Webb wants or expects our respect, it needs to respect us. Let us go one way or another. Tighten the academic standards, accept federal money, and let us decide our own social life, or enforce the handbook, get rid of a few people, and continue some of the academic ambiguity.

Although there must be some very naive people in the administration, students who want respect must also give a good reason to be respected. Philosophy of rhetoric is great but prisons are full of great philosophers. New dorms and lax enforcement of rules are good for a time but don't expect to wake up hung-over and get a lot of respect from the faculty just because you're in your seat at 8 a.m.

determine the way we walk, talk, and carry ourselves.

I have observed several things on this campus and one thing that I do not understand is why one group of Christians sit at one end of the cafeteria, while another group of non-Christians sit at the other end. Jesus went out to the people. He reached out where there were needs. If we are to form a purpose for our roles as Christians on this campus I think it would be stated as following:

## Challenger Talk

One great fallacy which I hear, ever since Tuesday, January 28, 1986, is that the explosion of the CHALLENGER of "God's punishment" for mankind trying to explore the gates of heaven just like he confused the language of those building the Tower of Babel. However, it is a fallacy to assume that HUMAN advancement is opposed to one's faith in GOD when we, as humans, are able to apply automation, program computers, walk on the moon, acquire knowledge, and become intellectually and materially advanced, we will eventually become self-reliant and thus extinguish our need and desire for God.

But, does human advancement really threaten or strengthen our need for God? What is advancement anyway? How do we know when we, being humans, have met our potential? Has man yet traveled as far, flown as fast, dug as deep, or discovered as much as he was originally intended to do? And, answer me this; what are the other planets for? Did God waste his time and energy by creating these other planets if they have no purpose, or value?

The fact which is many times forgotten is that as we develop in our humanity, we also develop in our likeness to Him. If we are presently ultimately advanced, why then can we not explain our past discoveries such as the atom? It is true, and will always be, that our discoveries are far more astonishing than our inventions!! Indeed, God is the creator who should be worshipped. Therefore, human advancement or discoveries actually reaffirm our belief in a creative and orderly being, known as God.

Tomorrow we will continue our steps of advancements (maybe launch another space shuttle) and, in doing so, will continue our search for better understanding of the created which will cause us to admire and worship the Creator.

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