



From Your Editors

Deborah Cravey & Melissa Brown

Another Parents' Day has come and gone here at Gardner-Webb, and the event was met with the expected level of success. At lunchtime, the campus lawn swarmed with students, parents and VIP's, all wearing smiles and their Sunday best. The whole event did just what it set out to do- it highlighted GWC's beautifully-landscaped campus, entertained the guests with a football game and a delightful variety showcase, and generally left everyone enveloped in a feeling of being a part of the "Gardner-Webb Family." It's just too bad the folks could not have made their visit on, say, November 14th. Then, picnics and showcases aside, Gardner-Webb will show its true colors. On November 14th, visitors to Gardner-Webb will witness: nothing; not even students. The typical weekend at GWC is nothing like the festive den of amusement portrayed at Parents' Day. Instead, our beloved college becomes a lonely ghost town each Friday night, whereby the parking lots empty and the wind whispers but one word through the tops of our landscaped trees: Boredom.

Now, which came first- Do students leave because there's nothing to do, or is there nothing to do because students leave? Okay, students who would rather go home, (and you know who you are), tell us, what would it take to make you stay? Obviously, having to pay for two days worth of food you will never eat has not worked. So what do you want?

Remember folks, there's only one way to bring about change- let your opinions be known. And just to remind you that you actually do have a place to air your views, THE PILOT is launching an all-out "Tell Us What You Want" campaign. We are encouraging every reader out there to take the time to write us a letter. Prove to us that you care about your education and your college. In the meantime, we will see you November 14th.

PILOT Editorial Policy

The Pilot's policy for letters to the editor remains that the letter must be signed by the student in order for it to be published. The name may be withheld by request.

We reserve the right not to publish articles which are defamatory in nature. Views expressed in the editorials are not necessarily those of the Pilot. We also reserve the right to edit any letters submitted.

All letters are welcome. Please place letters under the student publications door (112) in the C.I.D. building.

Editorial

To the Editor:

For most of my 17 years at Gardner-Webb College, I have been a loyal supporter of Chapel/Convocation. I attended with regularity until about four or five years ago when advancing age and lowered emotional stamina caused the weekly stress of enduring student immaturity and disregard for the rights of others to be more than I could manage. However, the consistent quality of the Staley lecturers through the years has drawn me back for that series.

This year, I endured the ambient noise of the fans and the conversations and congratulated the speaker on her disciplined delivery which enabled me to follow her excellent address. During the lecture, however, one group was talking so loudly that, even though I was seated almost half the length of the arena away, they intruded on my concentration to the extent that I could not follow the speaker. I went to that group and told them that they were interfering with my ability to concentrate. It has long been my belief that one person's freedom ends when it interferes with another's. In that case it is the responsibility of the person to let it be known.

The statement made by the dean at the conclusion at convocation (regarding excessive noise and rudeness from students) encouraged me to believe that it may be possible to do something constructive about the problems in convocation which have been ignored for so many years. I have pledged my support to the dean in trying to improve this situation.

I invite all members of the faculty and student body to join in an effort to make convocation a time when the college family can come together in an experience of

community without having to resort to childish practices such as calling down individuals, assigning seats, or using any other means of achieving the quiet, attentive response which any audience should give those who attempt to speak, announce, or in other ways communicate with its members.

Robert L. Decker
Associate Professor of Music



"Bleak Monday"

By Marshall Pope

On October 29, 1929, the stock market crashed, causing almost instant poverty, panic and ruin for many of its investors. On October 19, 1987, the stock market again took a major dive, this time even greater than the one that caused '29's Great Depression. Many are afraid that this plunge could ripple into a recession. What caused the bottom to fall out of the market? What is now being referred to as "bleak Monday" could have been caused by several factors:

- *Fear from the policy-makers that leading industrial nations would be unable to find a way to deal with problems in international trade and debt

- *Increasing tension in the Persian Gulf, especially after the U.S. retaliatory strike against Iran

- *Rumors that the market would indeed crash

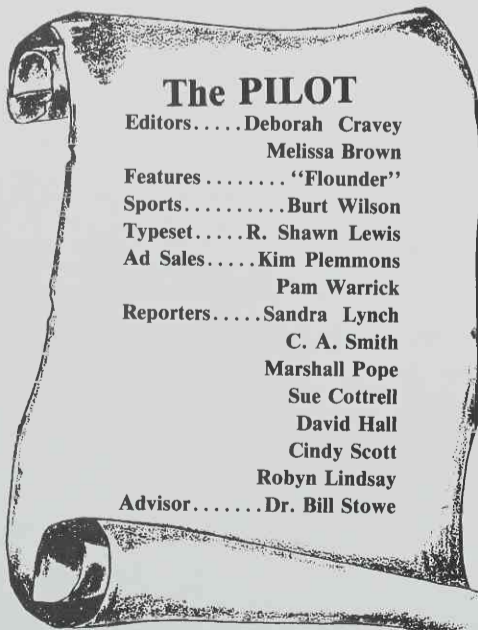
- *Alarming increase in the bond market by investors who forsook the drop and wanted to place their money in a safer investment

- *An overall decrease in confidence in the American economy

By the end of the market day on Monday, the Dow Jones had plunged 508 points, causing catastrophic losses in nearly every aspect of trade. On Thursday evening the Dow Jones rose 102 points, but the rollercoaster ride hadn't ended, judging from Friday's 77 point drop.

Overall, the business world appears fairly gloomy.

continued on page 3



PILOT ADVERTISING POLICY

We reserve the right to refuse advertising that which is detrimental to the Christian nature and spirit of the institution. The rates are \$2.50 per column inch.