



The Pilot

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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by Abdul Asghar
Staff Writer

The 19th of January was a very big day for Gardner-Webb. If you couldn't feel the charge in the air, you must have definitely noticed the changed (and reduced) class times. Indeed, excitement was in the air, for Tuesday was the day that Gardner-Webb College ceased to exist, and Gardner-Webb University was born. To celebrate this new birth, the school decided to hold a special convocation.

The convocation, which was one of the largest ever held at Gardner-Webb, had an attendance of over 1300, with a student attendance of over 900. The ceremony started off with a bang; literally, with Aaron Copland's Fanfare to the Common Man, conducted by Stephen Plate and performed by G-W's very own Wind Ensemble.

After that came the faces known by the students at G-W all too well; the Faculty and Staff, donned their black robes and looked very elegant and exquisite as they filed into the arena. This was followed by President White's son, Martin L. White's ringing of the University Bell. Reverend Burdette Robinson then said the prayer. The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Lloyd C. Bost, then gave the welcoming message. After that the whole arena stood up and sang the national anthem, led by Dr. Terry Fern.

From then on came the words of greet-
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Students Do Mission Work

by E.J. Dolce
Staff Writer

With months of prayer and preparation under their belts, a group of 17 students set out on a mission. Mission Impossible? Not quite.

On December 29th, while 1992 was racing towards its end, this group was just beginning to learn about life outside of the United States. Glenview Baptist Church of Ponce, Puerto Rico received this church group enthusiastically. The group's first taste of Puerto Rico came through the uniquely charismatic celebrations held in church.

"They said they were Glenview Baptist, but I've never known a baptist church like it!", said Keith McKinney, a member of the group. The lively usage of the tamborines, congas, *guidos* (a native Puerto Rican instru-

School Of Divinity Opens

by Amy Sharpe
Staff Writer

Students of Gardner-Webb this year are seeing history being made. Many changes have occurred that will be written in the history books of Gardner-Webb. We are now officially Gardner-Webb University, a change that will become a stepping stone for more advancements.

One major advancement that has come with the change is the addition of The School of Divinity. The school will provide the opportunity for students to obtain a Masters of Divinity. The MDIV is the basic standard theological degree recognized by the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada as professional preparation for pastoral ministry.

Approval for the program was given in December by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Robert Lamb, Dean of the new School of Divinity, says that while some students obtain their MDIV right out of college, the majority are people who are in their thirties and forties who feel it is God's call as a second career. Dr. Lamb also states that most who enroll in the MDIV program do not have degrees in religious studies, so the program must start from scratch with courses such as Introduction to the Old Testament, but on a much more intense level.

The School of Divinity now offers a Masters of Arts degree, which is new this semester. The MA consists of students who

are pastors, staff ministers, and some who work in the field of social services. Currently there are twenty-three students enrolled in the MA program.

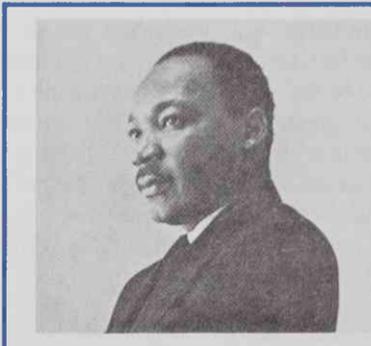
In order to enroll in the MA program, a person must have a major in religion. In order to obtain an MA, a person must complete forty-two hours. The MDIV does not require a person to have majored in religion. In order to obtain a MDIV, ninety hours must be completed.

Although the MA program has already gotten underway, the MDIV is still in the beginning process. Dr. Robert Parsons has been appointed assistant to the Dean. Rev. Buddy Freeman will be in charge of admissions for the new school. Dr. Larry Gregg is the first full-time faculty member of the School of Divinity.

As for the rest of the faculty, that has not been determined yet. Their offices are located on the first floor of Noel Hall. The NC Baptist State Convention voted last November to give scholarship aid to students in NC Baptist Colleges and Universities who have professional theological educational programs. This will make it possible to offer scholarships to those who enter the MDIV program.

Admission to the school is not open yet. Each applicant will be screened, but Dr. Lamb added that they want to meet the need for any qualified person who wants to come.

Gardner-Webb is the second University among Southern Baptist schools to start a School of Divinity.



"I have a dream..."

A special service was held, January 18, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr in the Dover Chapel.

ment), and other instruments made Glenview anything but traditional.

Keith reports that the group was very impressed with the way the church not only celebrated in the church, but outside as well. While caroling, many avenues for evangelization opened. The mission team used a combination of short dramas, puppet plays, and music to share the love of Jesus to the people of Ponce, Puerto Rico.

This is not to say that the team received

little from the people. "Sometimes I think that we as a team were more ministered to than we actually ministered," said McKinney, "the people were so giving." The memories of that trip are unique to the mission team members. However, the mission they took overseas is the same mission that Christians need to take right here at "The Webb".

What mission? A mission from a call to love, serve, and respect others for Christ's sake. Mission Impossible? Not quite.