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Running Bulldogs fall to Wofford in season opener see page 4



Gardner-Webb University

THE PILOT

**Barking
Bulldog**
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Students discover new year brings many changes

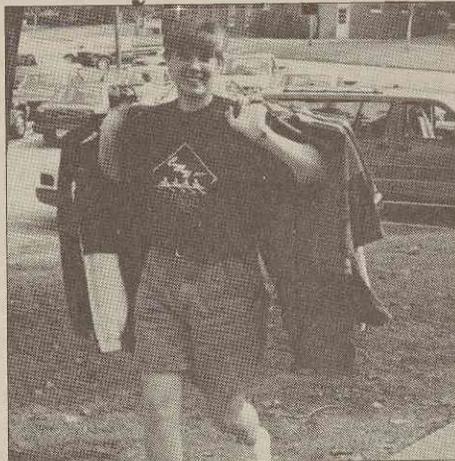
by Jason Farr
editor

With the beaches empty, the camps closed, and the weather changing, only one thought comes to mind: back to school. As always, students new and old make their way back to campus for the start of a brand new year, a new beginning.

"It's exciting to be here," said Kristen Bayles. "This year God has given me a new start to glorify Him."

One of the things most evident when returning to campus was the many changes that had taken place over the summer.

Students learned fast that there was a new sheriff in town, Chief of Security Charles Cochran, former Police Chief for the City of Shelby. Many athletes were ticketed for driv-



Cindy Burress helps a freshman move in.

ing to the cafeteria even before school started.

A major change was the addition of several new members to the faculty and

staff. Thirteen new professors were hired over the summer.

One of the changes for many of the athletes was the addition of lights on the practice field. Word has it these lights were put to use early as the football team had some practices at 12 am.

A change that benefited freshman was the formation of the Campus Ministries United Crew. This crew, a joint effort of BSU, FCA, and Gospel Choir, helped freshmen move into the residence halls.

"I liked working on the CMU crew because it was a great chance to meet the new freshman," said James Julian.

There is one thing that we need to keep in mind: this is still Gardner-Webb University. This is our school and our home. Nothing can change that.

Religion professor finally arrives

by Telesa Wilson
staff writer

A recent vacancy in the Religious Education Department opened the door for a new professor to enter the Gardner-Webb family. Dr. Sophia Steibel, a graduate of GWU, has come armed with a vision and a purpose for herself and for the students of Gardner-Webb.

Dr. Steibel is a former director of a theological school in Brazil. She sees the opportunity to share her knowledge as a challenge.

"It was a difficult decision," she said. "But when a more challenging door is opened for you in your life, you have the responsibility to enter. God allows doors to open at different stages in life so you can grow and fully develop your potential as a mature person."

The process by which Dr. Steibel arrived at Gardner-Webb was, she believes, quite arduous.

"It was a long process," she said. "We finally arrived in Miami on July 2 around 6 am. We were supposed to catch a later flight, but we requested an earlier one."

That evening, Dr. Steibel learned of the tragic plane crash of US Air Flight 1016, the flight for which she had originally been scheduled.

"This confirmed," she said, "that I came here for a purpose. My time has not yet come. God has a plan for me here."

Dr. Steibel came to Gardner-Webb

twenty years ago as a student from Rio de Janeiro.

"Back then, Gardner-Webb was like a big family. It wasn't as 'fancy' as it is now, but it still has a friendly atmosphere. Even then, you weren't known as a number. You were known as an individual," Steibel comments.

Dr. Steibel said that, even though she enjoyed everything about the campus, the thing she enjoyed the least was the food. Some things never change.

She is the fourth of six children and is here with her husband, Eduardo, who currently manages the Gardner-Webb bookstore.

Dr. Steibel enjoys walking, painting and playing the piano. She also likes studying the work of impressionistic artists and listening to music.

Steibel said, "I like Bach. His music is so detailed and rich. For me, it has so much meaning."

Most importantly, Steibel says she enjoys relating to students.

"I like getting to know them and relating to each student as a person. I also like to see people discovering new truths for themselves and using what they have learned to make a difference in their lives."

Dr. Steibel has a vision of helping students become lifelong learners. She says she wants to be co-learners with the students.

She said, "I want learners to have a responsibility in their learning. My mission, my calling on this earth is to teach. I want students to use what God has given them, to see and catch the vision."

Honors Program stimulates students

by Brandy Fought
staff writer

Gardner-Webb has always prided itself on quality education and the attitude that its students are the best and can compete with the best. The Honors Program is a way that G-W faculty and students promote that competitive edge.

Approximately twenty institutes of higher learning in North Carolina sponsor programs for students that better prepare them for challenges in the working world by providing a more challenging classroom environment. The Honors Program was instituted in the fall of 1989 when a need was seen by the faculty.

"There were already classes available for students who were less prepared with tutoring programs and developmental classes," said Dr. Tom Jones, present sponsor of the Honors Program. "We were putting an emphasis on maintaining students and weren't doing much to stimulate gifted students."

Fifty percent of honors students from other schools showed on surveys that they got more out of honors classes because the students were open to new ideas and came to class better prepared.

There were five graduates in the first Honors Program. Since that time, however, the program has not been very obvious on campus. Still, this year alone, 58 freshman have been added to the program.

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