

Gardner-Webb University

THE PILOT

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In memory of Dana

With the start of a brand new year upon us, the opportunity arrives for many of us to start over.

As a returning student, I can reflect on last year and on my emotions in response to the disappointing football season, the up and down SGA Constitution trials, and the turmoil that most of us faced when finals rolled around. It seemed like there was not an end in sight.

But, you know, none of that is as tragic as losing a friend to cancer. Upon our return to campus, many of us learned that Dana Scott had lost her battle with cancer and passed away shortly before the school year was to start. It was sad news, but we all knew that Dana was in heaven and nothing could harm her now.

That kind of new start is one that we all will look forward to. Just think: Dana is not hurting anymore and she is looking down on us and cheering us on. She was and always will be an inspiration for all of us on campus.

As I think of her in heaven, I think of the lyrics to the song *If You Could See Me Now* by Truth.

The song talks about walking the streets of gold in heaven, the glorious moment of seeing the face of God and being made whole again. There is no doubt in my mind that Dana is experiencing God more now than ever.

Dana, believe it or not, we can see you now. And we can just picture you walking those streets of gold with your mother. You are made whole now, and for that we give thanks. We are so glad that you were a part of our lives last year. You will always be in our thoughts and prayers.

This issue of *The Pilot* is dedicated to the memory of Dana Scott, our inspiration.

Jason Farr

The Pilot Editorial Policy

The Pilot's policy for letters to the Editor requires that all letters be signed by the author(s). Names may be withheld only with consent of The Pilot's Editorial Board.

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Student Forum

O.J. Simpson: An Accused Legend

I think the majority of the United States knows some details about the O.J. Simpson case. After all, the famous chase interrupted one of the NBA Championship games. Soap Opera fans are aggravated also. Instead of running their favorite daytime drama, every channel covered the preliminary trials. This case has appeared in magazines, tabloids, books, television and anything else having to do with the media. In all honesty, I don't think the truth will ever be known. If O.J. Simpson is found not guilty, there is still always that slim chance that he did it, or vice versa.

The main question now is whether or not O.J. can get a fair trial. Most of us are thinking "no way." This is only to be expected. After all, a person would have to be pretty much out of touch with America not to have heard anything at all about the Simpson trial. The media have given a lot of evidence that persuades their readers to judge O.J. before the trial. Yet that doesn't mean that a fair trial isn't possible.

There are some people who don't care that O.J. Simpson is a football legend and don't place any trust in the media. After all, the media, in a sneaky way, accused O.J. before the preliminary trials ever started. Such headlines as "A Fallen Hero" were flashed all over the newspapers and tabloids. Along with these headlines came articles suggesting that Simpson became jealous and killed two innocent people.

I'm sure that the high-powered lawyers involved in the case will try to pick a jury that will provide a fair trial, as well as a couple of jurors that will be biased in their direction. Already *USA Today* reports that preparations are being made for the arrival of 1,000 potential jurors.

Trial Judge Lance Ito is expected to issue a sweeping gag order on the case. This order

will keep lawyers and trial participants from discussing the case outside of the courtroom. O.J. may have a fair trial when this order is issued.

Although we may not receive a verdict until Christmas, I still feel that the jury will be made up of fair minded people who know what justice is. People who can put themselves in O.J.'s shoes and see what he is going through, as well as people who can put themselves in the shoes of the mourning family members of the deceased.

Despite the media, innocence is innocence if there is no truthful evidence to make one think differently. If this is how the jury thinks, then America will see justice. After all, that is the way the system works. Even to an accused legend.

Reggie Hunt

Media may have ruined O.J.'s hopes for fair trial

Knock, Knock! Who's there? O.J.! O.J. who? Good, you can serve on the jury!

Since the murders of Ron Goldman and Nicole Simpson, the media have been bombarding not only people in the U.S., but people all over the world with the murder charge against Orenthal James Simpson. Finding twelve peers of Simpson who have no preconceived ideas about his guilt or innocence will be totally impossible.

First of all, the media have already proved that Simpson physically abused his former wife. With all the media coverage, the 911 tapes, the interviews of Simpson's friends and former dates etc., it will be virtually impossible to find anyone without knowledge of this case.

I don't think it is possible for O.J. to get a fair trial because it will be hard to find a jury of his peers that has not been overly exposed to the facts and non-facts of this highly publicized case.

James Sexton

From the Sea

The Student Entertainment Association will be showing several movies in the coming weeks. Also, Fun Flicks will soon be returning to G-W. You will have a chance to make your own videos. Truth will bring their "Equation of Love" tour to Gardner-Webb on September 30. The concert is free to all students with a valid GWU ID.

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