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10-31-95



Gardner-Webb University THE PILOT

Proposed New
Soccer Complex

See "Soccer"
page 4

No. 3 October 31, 1995

The Official Campus Newspaper

Boiling Springs, NC

GWU goes through accreditation process

by Michael Owens
co-editor

In just a few weeks, you should expect to see some visitors on campus. A committee from the Southern Association will be here from November 13 - 16 as part of GWU's reaffirmation process.

Dr. Frank Bonner, provost and senior vice president, described accreditation as a "procedure that says to a school's constituency that the school meets basic requirements of quality." Accredited institutions such as GWU go through this process every ten years, as required by the federal government if students hope to obtain federal financial aid.

The country is divided into geographic regions and within each region is a federally recognized accrediting agency. For the southern portion of the United States, which includes states from Texas to Virginia, the Southern Association is the accrediting agency.

These agencies "do not rate institutions or levels of quality; rather, they set basic standards for

quality that educators see as imperative if a school is to be what it should be," said Bonner. The reaffirmation process is beneficial to "students and parents as they are assured that an institution meets basic requirements for quality," said Bonner, who went further to say that the process is "important for employers as they see that an applicant's diploma is worth something and the general public and contributors are assured that the institution is worthy."

This accrediting process includes a self-study of the University. For the past two years, GWU has had twelve self-study committees comprised of more than 125 students and faculty members. These committees evaluated every aspect of the institution ranging from effectiveness to financial aid, to programming.

Each committee and committee member received a pamphlet from the Southern Association which detailed certain criteria that must be met for an institution to obtain accreditation. These criteria were known as "must statements." The various

committees then investigated to see if GWU met the criteria within their individual category.

The self-study has been directed by Dr. Sue Camp, professor of business. It was her job to supervise the self-study and to compile the results in a document to be submitted to the Southern Association. This self-study report comprises the work completed by each of the various committees.

Camp said that this process has been very beneficial because "any time you look at your institution, you find ways to improve." Assisting Camp was Peggy Gregg, the secretary of the self-study, who compiled the report. Camp said that Gregg's "work and dedication to the task have been superb."

Gregg felt that her involvement in the process has been helpful as she has been able to underscore her belief that "we have a good faculty."

There was however a great deal of student

See "Students" on page 2

Big names come to GWU

by Janet Jones
staff writer

GWU's Student Entertainment Association brings some big name performers to our campus this fall. On November 13, Contemporary Christian Music performers Geoff Moore and the Distance and Big Tent Revival will be putting on a concert at Gardner-Webb.

Geoff Moore and The Distance first stepped on to the music scene with their album "Pure and Simple". They were well accepted by fans from the beginning, but this acceptance strengthened following the release of their next two albums, Grammy-nominated album "A Friend Like U" (with hits "Listen to Our Hearts" and "House of Faith") and "Evolution." The group won the Billboard Music Award for best contemporary Christian video of the year for "Evolution. . .Redefined."

According to Forefront Communications, Inc., Geoff Moore—lead vocalist for the group—was quoted as saying, "I'm not in life to walk, or hit singles or knock one off the wall. I want to go all the way, to experience everything that God has for us in

our lives. . . I want to hit a home run." And that is just what Geoff Moore and The Distance did with their latest release, "Home Run." Moore describes the lead songs as "a fun look at life through the eyes of a baseball game."

Big Tent Revival covers a diverse area of subjects. On its latest, self-entitled album, the group encompasses a variety of musical style—from gentle acoustic story songs to edgy blues and rock, and a little 60's pop sound—and combines them into a unique sound of their own.

"The Big Tent is the world," said Steve Wiggins, the group's song-writer and lead singer. "We're all under the same roof. Even though the

See "Big Tent" on page 3



Geoff Moore & the Distance will be at GWU on November 13.

Inside You'll Find...

Editorials.....	2	Sports News.....	4
Faculty Spotlight.....	3	Sports Editorials.....	4
Fine Arts Information.....	3	Cross Country Update.....	4