

So why do they call it *The Pilot* anyway?

by B. J. Johnson
staff writer

The Pilot--where does that name come from? What does that mean? Have you ever wondered why the student newspaper is called *The Pilot*?

Actually, *The Pilot* is a nautical term. According to Dr. Barry Hambright, professor of social sciences at GWU, the name originated with a former GWU math professor named Dixon.

According to campus legend, Dixon came back from serving in World War II and gave all the student publications names based on Navy terms. The yearbook was called *The Anchor* and the student handbook was called *The Porthole*.

The Pilot has had other names including *The Kalarathea*, *The Foothill Echoes* and *The Piedmont Piper*, according to documents in the university archives.

The student newspaper staff is interested in changing the name of the newspaper to better suit the campus of today. Anyone with suggestions should tell a staff member of the paper or drop his or her idea in the newspaper advisor's mailbox--Dr. Gayle Price, box 265--or the *Pilot* editor's mailbox--Janet Jones, box 5517.

Saturn

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The eight signatures from Gardner-Webb will join a million other names for the 11-year Cassini space probe mission. Four of those 11 years will be spent orbiting Saturn to collect information on the planet itself, its rings, and its moons. The journey is a joint mission of NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Italian Space Agency (ASI), English said.

October 6, 1997 is the scheduled launch for the space probe. It will be a little over a year before these Gardner-Webb students make history on the first space probe to use modern technology as a way of storing information.

Have an opinion? Let us know. Send your letters to the editor for consideration for publication. Just mail your letters to campus box 5517.

Three's a Crowd: Can GWU's unexpected influx be called a "good" problem?

by Jenny Rogers
staff writer

This fall Gardner-Webb has experienced an overcrowding problem like never before. Not only was Myers converted to house the extra women, but a surplus of men was packed into already-full Lutz and Mooney dorms.

Wayne Johnson, assistant dean of residence life, attributed the overcrowding to a survey in July that showed more women enrolled than men, causing the overhaul of Myers. In the last days an influx of men enrolled and places to put them began to decrease.

Some men were put three to a room in Lutz and Mauney dorms, and others were housed on Memorial Drive.

Frieda Conner, residence life secretary, stressed that they are doing all they can to get men out of cramped rooms.

"Our main issue of every day is to get them out of there," she said. She also states

that the men have been "very, very cooperative and understanding."

Conner said there are only three or four rooms tripled at this point.

Although converting Myers has helped the overcrowding situation, it has brought other problems. Some women have said they are uncomfortable being housed so close to men's dorms.

According to junior Melanie Coker, an RA in Myers, a lot of men are frustrated at losing the dorm.

Coker suggested creating housing and reducing enrollment. "They need to build another dorm, which they won't do unless (the overcrowding) keeps on for another couple of years," she said.

Johnson said that they are in the preliminary stages of building new facilities now. He added that consolidation rules, which state that you must have a roommate or pay for a private room, must be enforced.

Johnson predicted that next year will be even tighter. "Enrollment is increasing, but beds aren't," he said.

Permit prices increase for '96-'97 school year

by Randy Capps
staff writer

Returning students got an unpleasant surprise at registration this semester when they learned that the cost of campus parking permits had risen from \$25 to \$40.

Although this is a 60 percent increase in parking fees for students, GWU parking fees are still cheaper when compared to other schools in North Carolina.

"Mars Hill's permits cost \$50 and UNC's cost \$185," said Tracy Curry, GWU's Chief of Security. "And that's just for a 'hunting license' to try to find a parking place."

According to Chief Curry, the increase in fees was ordered by GWU vice president for business, Donnie Clary, and likely was made to help offset the cost of paving two commuter parking lots. Clary could not be reached for comment.

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GWU parking

an editorial by Randy Capps

Let's face it, we have all had a parking problem at Gardner-Webb at some time or another. So, what is the root of the problem and what can we do about it?

As far as University Police Chief Tracy Curry is concerned, the problem is simple: "We do not have a parking problem. We have a convenience of parking problem."

According to University Police figures, there are 1200 registered automobiles with permits to park on campus. There are 882 marked spaces. These do not include gravel lots or the grass section of parking on Memorial Drive.

Even when you add these other areas, the fact remains that a lot of students are wasting time circling parking lots searching for a space.

As of Sept. 4, here is the breakdown of parking permits and spaces:

Spaces	Registrations
Residents 486	500 (rising)
Commuter 156	361
Faculty/Staff 240	390
Handicapped 26	NA

Some people are going to read this and say, "Okay, let's just take away all freshman parking privileges." That would be fine if GWU were located in the middle of a big city, but we all know that's not the case. You have to remember that there just isn't much to do around here if you can't drive anywhere.

In the long run, it would be helpful to pave the gravel lots. Why not tear down that old house next to Royster and add, you guessed it, more parking places? Until something like that is done, happy hunting!