

Is the Morgue Dead?

an editorial by Karen Brower
co-editor

Whatever happened to the Morgue? You remember the Morgue, don't you? It's the coffee house that administration assured us would be up-and-running by spring.

Now that spring semester has arrived, some students are beginning to wonder if the Morgue is dead. It seems that nothing new has been said or done about the coffee house in a long time.

What will happen to all of the events planned for the Morgue this spring? Fred Chappell, the writer/poet who is scheduled to speak at the coffee house on Feb. 13, will have to find somewhere else to appear.

Getting funding worked out seems to be the main setback in the opening of the Morgue. But Dr. Frank Bonner said that "the bond issue is, to my knowledge, in the very final stages."

Once the bond issue is settled, "Hamrick will be ready to go," and so will the Morgue, Bonner said. The company in charge of the Hamrick Hall construction will probably be working on the Morgue as well. This will help decrease the cost of the project.

Hamrick renovations can be expected to begin in February, Bonner said. But some students are still skeptical about a spring opening of the Morgue. After all, Hamrick Hall construction has been talked about since the Daring, Dreaming, Doing campaign kickoff last February, if not before then. Why should students expect the Morgue to move along faster than that project?

Regardless of their faith in the project's completion this spring, most students, faculty, and administrators are enthusiastic about the prospect of an on-campus coffee house, and eagerly await the day when the Morgue will come to life.

Parking still a problem for students

an editorial by Melody Cannon
contributing writer

In some places a space is so valuable. In New York City, for instance, rent on really crummy apartments can be up to \$700 a month. Even worse, renting an apartment does not assure you a place to park your car. To get that, you may have to rent a space in a nearby garage or lot.

Gardner-Webb is a lot like that. The number of people with cars on campus has rapidly increased over the last few years (everyone is so happy about growth), and so has the cost of parking permits (from \$25 a year to \$40 a year). The only thing that hasn't really changed is the number of spaces.

Campus Security has painted new lines all

Year of the Scholar: Why not?

by Dr. Sophia Steibel
Assistant Professor of Religion

Your best friend is on the verge of losing the last scholarship grant. One more "D" and that's it. You seem to handle writing assignments better than your friend. An "A" on a research paper would bring your friend's grade to a "C." What do you do?

1996-97 has been called "The Year of the Scholar" at Gardner-Webb University. As a part of one of the many YOTS faculty committees, I reflected on the theme and decided that on my syllabi for the fall semester I would insert words such as "self-learner," "involvement," and "commitment" to help define the concept of scholarship.

As the semester progressed, however, I noticed that chapters were being read because of due dates, papers were being written because of grades, and classes were attended because of points given. What happened to the "whatness" of what being a scholar is all about?

Perhaps it is still there. If Gardner-Webb students can spend hours in the computer lab working on the internet, I am sure they can understand what is involved with "being a scholar."

There is another side to the coin, however: that of structure. The "whyness" of something. Our thoughts are formed within a given structure, which reflects where we are intellectually, psychologically, socially and so forth. Just as knowing about being a good citizen does not make one a contributor, realizing the meaning of engagement in learning does not make one a life-long learner. It takes a whole context for the understanding of an idea to be transformed into action.

Stop for a moment. Read again the case in the opening paragraph. What would you do to

help your friend not lose the scholarship?

Whatever the answer, why would you act in this way? Is your response a result of the way you were taught as a child? Is it out of fear of being caught? Are your intentions based on internal convictions? This kind of questioning helps a person to determine the context in which he/she is operating.

Knowing involves more than memorizing facts and information, as significant as these are. The structure in which our thoughts are formed is as important as the content of our thinking. In order to find out the structure of our thinking, we must take time to reflect.

As the new semester begins, consider why you are a scholar. What kind of scholarly response would you give to attending classes, writing papers or studying for a major test?

Recently I heard someone say that "The Year of the Scholar" is just in the minds of teachers. Is it?

Where I come from (Brazil), there is a custom of sitting around in a circle in order to drink the "chimarrao," a herb tea that supposedly helps digest meat enzymes. As the tea is sipped, many questions are raised. You see, the drinking of the chimarrao is but an excuse to talk about and reflect upon a greater value, i.e., the meaning of life.

Would you care to join me, other professors, and your colleagues in a cup of tea? I hope together we will discover the meaning of "The Year of the Scholar," and more, I hope each of us will seek to be a true scholar in all that we do.

Pilot Staff: Karen Brower, co-editor; Randy Capps, co-editor; Carlton Hurt, Sports Editor; Nic Floyd, Julie Gibson, B.J. Johnson, and Jenny Rogers.
Contributing writers: Sherril Bradley, Matthew Elliot, James Julian, Julianne Kuykendall, and Amy Parker.
Advisor: Dr. Gayle Price

from most classes and residence halls. To find a space a little closer, students turn to gravel lots which can more rightly be called "mudpits" for much of the year. For this, commuters and some residents pay \$40 a year.

Personally, I want a refund. Does it make sense to pay \$40 to park in a mudpit (if I am one of the lucky ones) two days a week for one semester, which is all I am here for? It's understandable if some students do not register their cars. If they don't, they can park in any space they like, since campus police will not know whose car they are ticketing.

We're not in New York City. Let's have some reasonable parking fees or some spaces. Just one for each of us would be fine.