

## Dear Eddie...

Well, I hope you guys enjoyed the April Fool's edition of the Pilot, and the appearance of a kinder, gentler Eddie. But I have good news for you. I'm back to my old, lovable-as-a-porcupine self for this issue.

I didn't get any letters this time around, so I guess I'll just have to make one up.

Dear Eddie,

**I'm really excited about the rebuilding of Hamrick Hall. I know you have something to say about it. So let's hear it. Happy Around Hamrick**

I'll admit that I'm a little excited about the Hamrick Hall project. It will be nice to actually be able to walk into the building pictured on the brochures that convinced me to come here. But, as with all things at "the Web," there is a catch.

Personally, it doesn't bother me that they had to cut down the 164-year-old tree next to Hamrick. I don't worry about trees a whole lot, but the giant fence dividing our campus in half is just plain stupid. There are a couple of things about this fence that I don't quite understand. First of all, why is part of it chain linked, and the rest of it plastic meshed? And why does the gate stay open all of the time? Why does it need to stretch all the way to the flagpole? And why not set up a promotional deal with Hardees or something and move the fence all the way over there?

One more question about construction before I forget--to whoever stole the 385-pound jackhammer: What exactly do you plan to do with it? I'm just dying to know.

Oh yeah, I almost forgot. How about the new geyser they found on Friday, April 11, outside of H.A.P.Y.? Construction crews found it while they were digging trenches for our new fiberoptic phone lines. Rumor has it they were going to name it "Old Infidelity."

A funny note about the fiberoptic equipment is that they are storing its guts in the pottery studio and part of the music building, thus deporting art students and music faculty to a tin building behind the publications house or to a tent in the middle of the quad, depending on who you ask. I don't want these people in my backyard! Put them in Webb Hall so the administrators can see the Hamrick project's *amazing* progress.

Anyway, the construction around Hamrick Hall will be going on until 1998 or until the students steal all the equipment, whichever comes first.

Well, that was refreshing. Please send genuine letters and stolen tools to Campus Box 265.

Thank you for your support.

## BTI: Bad Telecommunications, Inc?

**an editorial by Jenny Rogers**  
staff writer

I picked up the phone to call my dad back home in Virginia for about the second time this semester. Since my \$5.53 budget won't allow many expensive long distance calls, you can be sure it was something important. Surely BTI wouldn't let me down on this one.

"I'm sorry, you have entered an invalid account code."

I tried again, thinking I must have misdialled the numbers.

"I'm sorry, you have entered an invalid account code."

My mind ran over the bills I had received -- all paid in full, on time. No disconnections, no unpaid account, no reason for problems.

I called BTI and asked what was wrong. The operator had me recheck my numbers, give her all sorts of information, and then she put me on hold. The ultimate slam.

When she finally returned, she announced, "The connection for the whole campus is down. You'll have to try again in about six hours."

Sure. Dad will be happy to get a call from me at 3:00 in the morning.

Since when can a phone company just flippantly say that the whole campus is unable to make long distance calls? Does the word

"emergency" ring a bell? Sure, campus security will assist with calls in the case of such an event. But its definition of "emergency" and mine are slightly different.

Students put up with haphazard connections, incorrect billing, incorrect charges, unwarranted card disconnection, bills sent to the wrong address, voice mail errors, account mix-ups and a host of other problems which make life with BTI generally traumatizing. All ending with a cheerful, "We apologize for the inconvenience."

To top it off, Gardner-Webb students had no choice whatsoever in choosing a phone company. I doubt a single person on campus would have voted to have BTI for a "campus-wide policy," which is code for "Ah-ha! Now we've got you. And you can't do a thing about it." Oh, and if you want cable or phone use of any type, fork over the non-refundable, non-negotiable \$45 PER SEMESTER. But just so you know, we apologize for the inconvenience.

Some students and administrators have suggested (a little too late) that we change the phone company next year. The prospect makes me so happy that I think I just might call my dad and tell him. Provided I can get through.

Before that, however, I think I'll call and disconnect myself from BTI for good. And apologize for the inconvenience.

## Forgiveness often overlooked in Bible studies

**an editorial by Suzanna Saadi**  
staff writer

Every other day it seems you hear about someone holding a Bible study at GWU on just about any subject you could come up with. But one topic not often approached is that of forgiveness.

Whether it is because forgiveness stories must involve hurt feelings and most would rather not discuss it, or perhaps because there is a general lack of biblical knowledge in that area, forgiveness isn't a popular topic.

Someone is trying to change that, however. His name is Jeff Floyd and he was sponsored by the Concert of Prayer Committee at Gardner-Webb to bring the "Lay Aside Every Weight" seminar to town.

As a pastor and evangelist, he knows

exactly how to reach the people where they are and let them know what the Bible says about conflict and forgiveness, both in the church and in the home. He shares the principles that tell us to let go of sin and hurt and allow ourselves to be drawn closer to those around us.

The best part about the seminar is that you can take it home with you. The biblical truths focused on are applicable to daily life as well. Instead of simply listening and agreeing with the message, you can apply it to your life from that point on.

Gardner-Webb deserves credit for sponsoring such a program. It's a step in the right direction for the university and the community that surrounds it. Drawing closer together in Christ is a goal we should be striving for with each day that goes by.

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