

Features



A Wedding story

Two students prepare for adulthood

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Pilot copy editor

'Tis the season to get married. With graduation fast approaching and with it the first step into adulthood, many Gardner-Webb couples prepare to take yet another important leap—marriage. Yet, each couple has a story and each story is different. Brian Robertson and Emily Greene tell their story.

—The Story—

"21 days," said Greene, smiling as she talked about her upcoming wedding to Robertson on May 17 in her hometown of Cape Cod, Mass. Greene, a disability specialist and interpreter at GWU, and Robertson, a graduating senior, have been dating for over four

years. The couple met through a mutual friend, during a game of Ultimate Frisbee.

The two got a chance to see each other again a few days later at an intramural hockey game. "The next time we saw each other, we were playing floor hockey and he was checking me out," said Greene.

"She was the goalie and I thought she was adorable," said Robertson.

Robertson remembers April 6, 1999 as the day of their first real conversation. "We decided to 'spend time together,' which only lasted about two days before we decided to start dating," he said.

—The Engagement—

The couple got engaged on June 29, 2002 at the Broad

River Greenway. "It was at a point when all our friends were getting engaged," said Greene. "So Brian decided the only way he could surprise me was to make me really mad."

The couple planned a picnic at the Broad River Greenway and Greene said she was expecting him to ask her all day. As they packed up to leave, Robertson still had not asked Greene to marry him. "I was upset. He pulled out his dip can, which I hate and made it even worse," said Greene. As she turned to leave, he called her name. She turned around and he was there, on one knee, with her ring in a small bag inside the clean dip can.

"He said, 'I love you and I want to marry you.' I went from

the epitome of anger to a blubbering fool in two seconds," said Greene.

—The Wedding—

As for planning the wedding, Greene relates the pros and cons involved. "Because the wedding is so far away, I have to stay on schedule, which is good," she said. "But I have to depend on my mom for a lot, which is hard because we have different ideas."

Robertson had mixed feelings about the planning process. "I liked registering and picking out gifts," he said. "But no one has gone to Sears and bought the power tools we registered for."

As for the wedding itself, the couple decided on a ceremony laced with Scottish influences. "After thinking about 100 different ways to have a unique wedding, the idea came around to wear my clan's tartan [pattern]," said Robertson.

"He's proud of his heritage and he should have some part of the wedding that is his," said Greene.

Robertson and his six groomsmen will wear kilts fashioned from his clan's tartan. The ceremony's music will feature a bagpiper and a snare drum.

"It's a little different but also deep and meaningful," said Robertson.

Robertson and Greene are going to Nova Scotia for a week and a half for their honeymoon. For part of the trip, the newlyweds will stay at a bed and breakfast, situated in a wine vineyard.

Despite his obvious excitement, Robertson took time to reflect on his relationship with Greene. "I'm glad we dated for so long before we got engaged," he said. "I feel like we know each other very well and are deeply committed. It's been a fun, loving and interesting ride."

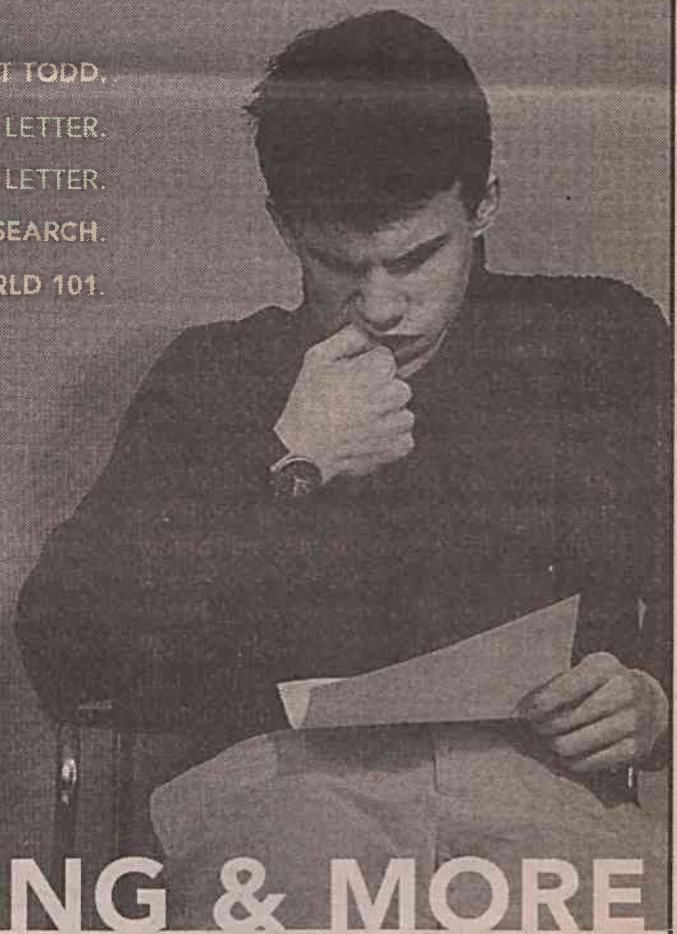
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