

## Features

# Chuck Burch makes a difference

Jared Smith  
Pilot staff

As the clock strikes 5:45 a.m. in Boiling Springs and the sun has barely started to rise, Athletic Director Chuck Burch is already preparing for a busy day of events.

He sits down for breakfast and a quiet time with God. Minutes after breakfast, his three children come scampering around the house trying to round up all they need for the school day. Burch and his wife, Frankie, help the children prepare for school as much as possible and then leave for work.

For Burch, being involved in his children's lives is important.

Born in Greensboro, then raised in Charlotte and Roanoke, Va., Burch was one of six children. With parents that like to be involved in their children's lives, Burch's dad was his scout master, and his mother made sure he was active in the church.

"I give them the credit for what I have today," said Burch. "As a parent now, I want to be involved with my children's lives without smothering and to take interest in them as much as I can."

After the routine morning at home, Burch walks into his

office at GWU around 8 a.m. with expectations of what he wants to accomplish during the day.

"There's a variety of things we have to deal with," said Burch. "There are issues with the football stadium renovations, and we work on scheduling for future years and keeping up on NCAA regulations."

A former Gardner-Webb student from 1975 to the fall semester of 1980, Burch majored in Social Science, while concentrating in Political Science. His involvement with athletics was through the football team, where he served as the Bulldogs' center.

Upon graduating, Burch enrolled in the athletic administration program at Eastern Kentucky. Through the knowledge he acquired there, he received a position at Liberty University to work in the athletic department, and then moved to GWU for a similar position.

On Wednesdays and Sundays, Burch involves himself in the Shelby Baptist Church activities. While serving as a youth leader for over five years, Burch feels he reaps what he sows.

"I think we're called to give something back. I go to sporting events with the kids, take them for breakfast and then take

*"I think we are called to give something back."*



Photo by Jared Smith

Athletic Director Chuck Burch takes a daily jog at the Broad River Greenway during his lunch break for his physical and emotional health.

the opportunity to make sure they have a relationship with Jesus and the importance of that," said Burch.

Around noon, Burch leaves the deskwork for running down at the Broad River. His activity of running during lunch break started twenty years ago, and he realizes the influence it has on him.

"I know the positive effect it has on me from a physical and emotional standpoint."

The work day rounds out with more hours at the desk making sure all activities in the athletic department are running

smoothly, followed by mingling with the student athletes and coaches in the various athletic programs.

"Whenever possible I try to interact with the different teams," said Burch. "It's neat to see the change in our student athletes as they grow and mature."

Once the workday is complete, Burch tries to attend all home sporting events, while also making sure he does not miss the soccer matches of his own children.

His son plays varsity for Crest, and his two daughters

play in a recreational league known as Cobra soccer. Burch then makes his way home, where he gradually works on his 100-year-old home.

For Burch, spending countless hours trying to better the community while doing a successful job at being a parent, husband and athletic director is important.

"I enjoy interacting with individuals and the community," said Burch. "As a Christian, my walk and testimony are important, and hopefully through what I do here, I can help others see that."

## Dressing for success: Creating the perfect costume

Emily Killian  
Pilot co-editor

Halloween, with its myriad parties, contests and treats, is fast approaching. But the festive holiday just isn't as festive without the proper attire—costumes.

Resorting to the same outfit year after year may be cost effective, but people eventually catch on.

So for those who are looking for cheap and easy alternatives to store-bought costumes, here are some tips and ideas for homemade costumes.

1. Yard sales may yield the perfect accessories—tacky ties and gaudy jewelry abound.

2. A monster costume can be constructed out of almost anything—the only limit is your creativity.

3. You can make a Mr. Potato Head costume by taking a brown garbage bag and attaching construction paper cut into the shapes of his ears, tongue and other accessories. Buy a pair of large yellow clown glasses.

4. To make a Lego costume, take a cardboard box and some Styrofoam bowls. Spray paint them a bright color. Glue the bowls to the outside of the box.

5. Sweat suits, balloons and cardboard boxes can be used to create lots of different costumes.

6. Think of a funny word (preferably from another language). Break

that word apart so it sounds like a name. Make your costume match that name. Ex. Granola. You can be Granola—an old lady who likes to hike.

7. Wear your bathing suit, sunglasses, flip-flops and a towel. Put cherry Kool-Aid powder on your skin. Dab the Kool-Aid with water until it stains your skin red and looks like a sunburn. Carry around a bottle of SPF 45 sunscreen and a romance novel. Tell everyone you're a sunbather.

8. Take a clear garbage bag, blow up balloons and tape the balloons to the inside of the bag. Cut a hole for your head in the top of the bag and tape a sign on the stomach area of the garbage bag. Write Jelly Belly jelly beans on the sign.

9. Cut out large pieces of construction paper in bright colors. Wrap yourself in tin foil and place the construction paper so parts of it stick out of the top and bottom of your tinfoil outfit. Tell everyone you're dinner leftovers.

10. You can dress up as pizza, a turtle or other round object by taking two large pieces of cardboard, cutting them into circles and painting them. Poke a hole on either side of the top of the cardboard pieces and tie a string in between them so you can have shoulder straps.

11. If all else fails, you can find someone else who doesn't have a costume and intertwine your arms so you can say you're Siamese twins.