

Op/Ed

The Pilot

Gardner-Webb University

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The Pilot is the official Gardner-Webb University student newspaper. It is produced by students under the supervision of the Department of Communication Studies.

Gardner-Webb fosters an atmosphere in which student journalists may report on matters of common interest and write critically about University issues, policies and programs without fear of reprisal. At the same time *The Pilot* adheres to high standards of integrity and journalistic responsibility.

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Letters to the editor must be signed, but names can be withheld if requested by the author

**You want
your name
on this list?**

**Join the Pilot
staff.**

**For more
information,
call Emily
Killian at
x3784 or Sarah
Olimb at x3785**

Mission, not a memo

Sarah Olimb and Emily Killian
Pilot Co-editors in chief

Deciding to create a mission statement before our tenure as editors of Gardner-Webb's Pilot began, we stayed up through the wee hours of the morning, giggled a lot and finally decided on these:

- Continue earning the public's trust and respect
- Avoid getting sued
- Help students make informed decisions
- Cover stories that apply to our readership
- Clean the Pilot office
- Avoid soap boxes
- Increase readership and number of students on staff
- Continue to conduct ourselves with integrity and truth
- Build relationships with our staff and the GWU community
- Hard-core recruitment of males- more diversity on staff!
- Continue to get the facts straight and quote sources with accuracy
- Fan mail, not hate mail
- E-ment is crucial
- Foster camaraderie among staff members
- Connect with our sources
- Help readers develop an accurate picture of reality
- Cover the good news, along with the news breaking stories
- Attempt to replace the irreplaceable Mike's Mic and the That's Life cartoon

Sarah

Emily

Presidential welcome

To all new and returning Gardner-Webb students:

Allow me to first welcome you to campus with open arms. I cannot emphasize enough how glad we are that you are here. Gardner-Webb exists for our students, and without you we are not only incomplete, we are unnecessary. Please know that we are here to serve you and make your educational experience at GWU valuable and inspirational.

As you embark on this new year I would like to challenge you to take a personal inventory. Ask yourself how you can grow in some way this year. It could be as simple as strengthening your study habits or as critical as developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

No matter what area of your life needs growth, we who work at Gardner-Webb are at your disposal to help you along our journey. Create for yourself a support group of friends, faculty members, staff members, administrators and alumni to lean on and take guidance from as you seek to better yourselves this year. As a Christian institution, Gardner-Webb should invest in your health, your well-being, your development and your success. We ask that you hold us to that standard.

The 2003-04 academic year promises to be exciting and eventful in so many ways. For example, while I have enjoyed my time at Gardner-Webb as interim president, I will move aside at the end of this year so that a permanent replacement can become your president. A search committee that features faculty, student and trustee representation is hard at work to find the right person to lead GWU to newer and greater heights. Let's work together to prepare a place that will attract the president this institution needs and deserves.

Finally, I say to you "Get Involved!" The more you put into your experience as a Gardner-Webb student, the more you will reap from these precious years you have with us. You have chosen to spend this year at a wonderful college that loves you and appreciates you. I pray that each of you realizes your dreams and that God blesses and watches over you in the coming year. If I can be of any assistance to you, please let me know. You are always welcome to come by my office.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Campbell
President

SGA President encourages students

To returning students and newcomers alike... WELCOME! On behalf of the student body, faculty, staff, administration and all those involved, it is my pleasure to welcome all first-time students to Gardner-Webb University. To freshmen and transfers alike, we are so pleased that you have decided to make GWU a part of your life. I only hope that you grow to love Gardner-Webb as much as I have. It is indeed a special place full of God's blessing.

Let me first say to the parents/ guardians of those students attending Gardner-Webb for the first time, THANK YOU! Thank you for the sacrifices you have made, are making and will make in have your child attend this school. I know from personal experience, we as your children will never really understand everything you have been through to get us to this point, but do know that we appreciate it. You are as much a part of the Gardner-Webb family as your children are.

To the transfer students, thank you for choosing Gardner-Webb to continue your education. I want to assure you, Gardner-Webb University as a whole is very glad to have you as a new member of our family, and we look forward to seeing the positive effects you will have on our campus.

To the incoming freshmen class, DON'T BE AFRAID! I think the week before classes is my favorite time of the entire school year. I love to see the new faces on campus slowly starting to discover their new home-away-from-home. I'm sure there are many different feelings throughout your entire class, but believe that this place will change your life and help form the beliefs that will define you as an adult. So again, freshmen, I tell you, don't be afraid of Gardner-Webb. This place is so wonderfully blessed, and it will be that much more blessed now that you are a part of it. Let GWU influence you, as you in turn will influence GWU.

To all my friends returning to school, welcome back to good 'ole G-dubb! There are many new projects taking place on campus this school year, and I will do my best to make sure your interests are not only represented, but are the primary concern. After all, the purpose of having an institution of higher learning is to help the students excel.

In Christ,
Chip Carter
SGA President 2003-2004