

## News

## Student poll: How creative were you?

Classes at Gardner-Webb were cancelled on Jan. 26 and 27 due to bad road conditions from winter weather.

While many students took the days off to catch up on some much needed sleep, others let their inner child out and went out to do some sledding on some of the hills around campus. Some students used storage containers, football practice mats, and other plastic objects to hurl themselves down the icy slopes.



"There were three of us on one sled and we went down this really curvy and steep hill. When we got to the bottom there was a creek so we had to purposely fall off."

- Freshman Joanna Helton



"Me and a couple of friends went behind the lake and sled down on the tops of storage containers."

- Sophomore Stephen Rieman



"The light spray of ice on my nose, the weight of my friends piling on my back, and the gleeful cheers enveloped me as the bottom of the hill loomed closer.

Rising out of the mist the track surfaced, glossy like that of a mirror, rushed at my face. I gripped the edge of the football practice mat and embraced myself for impact. Before my body could tell my mind that we had slid to a halt, I was already standing, rising onto that plateau between reality and fantasy...a wasteland of snow both terrible and extraordinary. It is in that mystic realm that my heart still lingers."

- Junior Bruce Wham.



"I wore shorts because it brought back memories of Alaska where I have been on mission trips. We took a piece of plastic and went with it, took a running start, dove, and hit some cars in the

LYCC parking lot." - Senior Jamie Pruitt

## Department offers new course

Jennifer Menster  
Pilot copy editor

It is hard to imagine how a psychology class can be hands on. Think about it. In science classes, students learn by interacting with rocks and plants. In health, students see bones and different types of foods. But in psychology?

Well not only is Gardner-Webb professor Frieda Brown teaching a new concept of psychology, but she also makes it hands on.

"In class we have a lecture time where we learn the different aspects of positive psychology and at the end of class we have time to practice those aspects," said Emily Davis, a senior.

Davis is one of 18 students in Brown's positive psychology class. She is also one of few in the world who are taking a class on the new area of psychology.

Positive psychology is a brand new field of study developed by a professor at the University of Pennsylvania. This new area is the study of positive emotions, positive traits and positive institutions, Brown said. It focuses on one's strengths, happiness, forgiveness and overall optimism.

Brown was one of 300 people from all over the world who took a course by telephone on positive psychology last year. She is grateful GWU and the psychology department has taken the chance on the idea of positive psychology.

"The students are really responding well to it," Brown said. "There is so much excitement about this."

One of the hands-on projects the students have already taken on this semester was a gratitude letter,

which was named one of New York Time's best ideas of 2003.

Students wrote the letters to a person who helped them on a professional or personal level. Several of the students read the letters to their person with laughter and tears.

"It was a really neat experience," Davis said. "It made me realize how grateful I really am for the people in my life."

At the end of class, students also get a chance to break down into small pods, or groups, to talk more in depth about the subject. Davis said this is quite different from other psychology classes she has taken.

"Dr. Brown wants us to gain personal fulfillment from this class and carry its lessons into our everyday lives," Davis said. "I feel I am getting a lot out of this course."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Charlotte set to hold ROTC banquet

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte 49er Battalion will hold the annual dining-out at The Adam Mark Hotel in Charlotte at 6 p.m. on Feb. 20, 2004. It will involve cadets from Gardner-Webb University, Johnson C. Smith University, Davidson College, Belmont Abbey College, Winthrop University, Catawba College, Wingate University and UNCC to mingle in a social setting and experience another dynamic aspect of Army life.

The Army dining-out is a tradition in the Army that the cadets in the 49er battalion maintain. The dining-out normally takes place during the spring semester. The cadets and cadre wear their dress uniforms and are accompanied by their spouses, or dates, for a night filled with military protocol and tradition, humor, skits, dinner and dancing.

- Amanda Yeck, Davidson ROTC

## Deaf activities promote awareness

The silence spoke volumes Tuesday morning as deaf performer Kevin Clark presented a mime in Dimensions as part of Gardner-Webb University's Deaf Awareness Week.

The Dimensions service began with a song performed by the Joyful Hands Sign Choir and ended with Clark's mime.

"Can riches give you happiness? Can hard work? Can education? Without Jesus, who died upon the cross and three days later resurrected for your sins, these things are nothing," said Clark through an interrupter. Clark is a student at the Tri-State School of Theology for the Deaf and a part-time evangelist.

The Dimensions service was followed Tuesday night by a deaf Bible study in Lindsey Hall. Missionary Tom Lineberger signed to a group of about 10 students, faculty and staff members about the need for evangelism among the world's deaf community.

Other events of the week included a coffeehouse social at the Broad River Coffee Company prior to a trip to Shelby Lanes Monday night, a presentation of the motion picture Radio Wednesday night and a deaf performance Thursday night at the Millennium Playhouse.

Friday's events include a scavenger hunt and a silent dinner.

Deaf Awareness Week is a weeklong, 15-year-old tradition that promotes awareness of deaf culture on campus and in the community. It is sponsored by the GWU deaf club.

- Amanda Wood

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