

Op/Ed

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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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The
JEFF ZONE
a humor column by Jeff

Recent Ramblings

It's been a while since we checked in on the chase for the Democratic presidential nomination. We can call Massachusetts Senator John Kerry the winner now that John Edwards has dropped out. Edwards may be a front-runner for Kerry's running mate position. Imagine a Democratic ticket that is a tale of two Johns.

We haven't seen a pair like this since John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. That pairing worked real well until, well, you know.

Meanwhile at press time Dennis Kucinich and Al Sharpton were surprisingly still in the race, however many laps down. Their campaigns are so poor they can't afford to call a press conference to drop out. Despite dropping out a month ago, at press time Howard Dean was expected to win Vermont and celebrate by screaming Yeeeeeaaarrgh! More on politics later.

Perhaps the biggest news item these days is a movie based on the best-selling book of all time. Directed and funded by actor Mel Gibson, The Passion of the Christ portrays the Biblical account of the final twelve hours of Jesus Christ's life in the flesh. The critics have been shouting that it is Anti-Semitic.

I disagree but that argument is for another day. Many critics of the movie

have complained that it is full of violence, brutality, blood, gore, pain, and suffering. Apparently they didn't pay close attention to the book. It is indeed an authentic masterpiece the likes of which the entertainment industry has never seen.

In local events, most of you saw the Dimensions performance on Feb.24 of "The Continentals." If you liked this musical performance then quit reading. Apparently seven boys and twenty girls go on tour singing and dancing in a way that would make Hanson look good.

In the last Jeff Zone we talked about things to leave out of your resumé. This would be one of those things. "The Continentals" have a global tour. This is arguably America's most embarrassing export, ranking right up there with Janet Jackson in the column of "Bad things America produces." Criticism aside, at least they had good intentions. To the folks that have made a habit out of booking "The Continentals" for Dimensions, I have two words for you: "Recycled Percussion"!

Got comments? Write to Jeff Davis at jwd0228@gardner-webb.edu or check out <http://www.expage.com/the-jeffzone>

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"latest fashion" by jordana hart



Hopes for high heels:
A history of one of the most complexing fashion accessories

The other day, I decided to dress up just for the heck of it, you know, just because I wanted to look good for me. Unfortunately, I made the mistake of deciding to wear my little black kitten heels to spice up my ensemble. By the time I made it back to my apartment after class, my feet were killing me. Determined not to forego my "look," I walked back to class in my flops and slid my heels on just before entering Lindsay Hall. Later that afternoon, as I gleefully removed the kittens for the last time and slid into my super soft AE flops, I realized that perhaps I'd gone too far.

What gives heels their appeal? Why do women insist upon wearing them, and why do men love them so much? I mean, let's face it. Heels—stiletto, kitten or spike—are not comfortable; in fact, at the end of the day, I feel like I've been walking on broken glass, but I'll get up and put them on again because they look good. So, what, I must ask, gives heels sex appeal they have?

I bet you'd be surprised to find that the "first precursors of stiletto heels were discovered in a tomb of Tebas in Old Egypt, and date from 1000 BC." The whole idea of heels prevailed in Old Greece and also in the East, where differing shoe heights were

indicative of social status. High heels were and are still associated with sex. "Chinese concubines and Turkish odalisques had high sandals possibly to prevent them from escaping from the harem, and prostitutes of Old Rome were identified by their high heels." (Check out <http://www.heikes-heels.de/english/history-shoes/>)

The modern European heel that we know and love (or do we?) was started in Italy, where the mounted shoes were on a 15 to 42 cm high cylinder. And if you thought trading out kitten heels for flops was bad, how about women who wore heels that were 75 cm high heels—that's 2.5 feet!!!!—and had to lean on sticks in order to walk!

Fortunately, the heel has advanced greatly since it's beginning, which is, by the way, attributed to Catherine of Medici of 16th century Paris, who was unhappy about her short stature. Nevertheless, the high heel is still a very painful sex symbol that appears to be going nowhere in the near future. Therefore, until someone invents a comfortable heel, I'm chalking it all up to the words of a woman I just heard on an Oxygen commercial: "I can't walk in these shoes, but, you know what? I look fantastic."