



# Out with the old; In with the new

## Professors and students get high-tech with communication

Anna Sieges  
Pilot staff

Loren Cranford of the Religious Studies department is going the extra mile to be available for his students.

The 58-year-old uses America Online's instant messaging system to communicate with his classes.

"I don't think professors even know about that stuff," said Ashley Pryor. "Have you seen the weird robes that they wear at convocation. I mean, those are so gauche."

Though students like Pryor may find it hard to believe, Cranford has managed to set up his own IM account, and he is not alone on campus.

Many professors operate in highly technological communication venues. Communications Professors Bob Carey and Denise McGill require that assignments be turned in via an electronic "drop box" in the network of Macintosh computers in the "Mac Lab."

Carey maintains his Web site, where he posts classroom notes and extra resources for students.

McGill has the task of grading Web design projects for her students. This requires some

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**Text Messages:** This communication form can be accomplished through cell phones. The text message option is usually under the "message" menu. In many European and Asian countries this is the main form of communication, it is, however, less costly.

**Online Forums:** Forums are already used widely in educational settings, and a membership is generally required. Forums resemble billboards slightly. Often, a forum is specialized for a certain topic. These topics can range from popular movies to favorite ice-cream to World War II. Generally, forums provide an area to post announcements and a place for members to introduce topics and hold open discussions concerning them.

**Web blogs:** This is something like an online journal; however it does require that its patron post links to and evaluations of other Web sites. Each entry is dated and contains the patrons' opinions and thoughts. The main categories Web blogs can fall into are: personal, directories, news, collaborative and resource.

**Instant Messaging:** The main vein of instant messaging is done through American Online. AOL instant messaging, referred to as AIM, also offers the text message option. One has the ability to insert names of contacts and then compose text messages through an AIM instant message box.

**Chat Rooms:** These can be found nearly anywhere but are, again, most popular through AOL and Yahoo. They allow many individuals to participate in conversation over certain topics online. They are widely used among early adolescents with Internet access. They are a viable way to make connections with people and discuss pertinent topics.

## Y serve? Students help in community

Amanda Wood  
Pilot copy editor

Every Thursday, members of Gardner-Webb University's YMCA club make a trip to Kings Mountain to work in the community kitchen at Central United Methodist Church.

"We go and help prepare dinner and serve dinner," said Pamela Darnell, president of the club. "We just hang out and talk to them and form relationships."

The YMCA club began last semester when GWU became one of three schools in the U.S. to offer YMCA courses as a part of its curriculum.

The club is the first student YMCA to be formed in 50 years, according to club Vice President Henry Hunter. "We're really pioneering," he said.

Work at the community kitchen is one of the club's service projects, which are the main thrust of the

club's activities, according to Darnell.

During the club-sponsored Y-week in September, members of the club worked with other students on campus to make lollipops for children in after-school programs and cards for members of the U.S. armed forces stationed in Germany.

According to Darnell, service is what the club is all about.

"It's about meeting the needs of that community," Darnell said. "Our YMCA club is trying to meet the needs of our community."

And that community includes Boiling Springs, Cleveland County and GWU's campus, according to Hunter.

"Our goal is to take these students from Gardner-Webb and show them this community - what we can do for the community and for the campus," Hunter said. "It's getting the shutters off

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### YMCA and GWU

- The first YMCA was founded in London, England in 1844. YMCAs now operate in over 120 countries worldwide.
- According to the YMCA Web site, the Y invented basketball, volleyball and student work study programs.
- According to the site, racquetball, professional football, Father's Day and The Gideon's International also started at the Y.
- GWU's YMCA club will find and set up internships for students interested in non-profit work or working with the YMCA.
- The YMCA club is planning a spring break mission trip to Ireland.
- The YMCA club will be coordinating the second annual LINKS Random Acts of Kindness Week on campus beginning April 11, 2005.

Source: GWU's student YMCA club and the YMCA Web site (www.ymca.net).



photo by Joel Fluty

The dedication of Spangler Stadium will take place Nov. 20, during the last home football game. Construction on the stadium began last year.

## Stadium dedicated to GWU

Sean Hubbard  
Pilot sports editor

It's finally finished. During halftime of the Runnin' Bulldogs final home game tomorrow, Gardner-Webb University President Frank Campbell will dedicate the newly renovated Spangler Stadium to the entire Gardner-Webb family,

according to Vice President for Athletics Church Burch.

The process of renovating Spangler Stadium began Oct. 11, 2003.

"We are dedicating the stadium to be used in a way that honors the university and the Christian principles that are at the core of what Gardner-Webb stands for," Burch

said. The ceremony will be short, sweet and sincere, according to Burch.

After a few words from Campbell and Board of Trustee Chairman Neil Alexander, a ceremonial ribbon will be cut, Burch said.

Minister to the University Tracy Jessup

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