

CAMPUS NEWS

Young president leads GWC

Amanda Wood
Pilot copy editor

When Bruce Capps thinks of his days at Gardner-Webb College, he remembers hanging out below the cafeteria and eating ice cream.

"It's just really changed since I was there," the 1990 GWC graduate said. "It was a college then and not a university."

Capps, a pitcher and outfielder for the Diamond 'Dogs, also remembers spending spring break on campus for training.

"When everybody's at home, we're playing ball," Capps said.

Emphasis on new programs

While Capps was busy with baseball practice, GWC President Craven Williams worked to create new and better programs for the college, according to Gardner-Webb University Historian Lansford Jolley.

"When he became president he had the position that the school really did not need a whole lot of new buildings," Jolley said. "The concentration on programs rather than buildings was significant."

During Williams' tenure, GWC added the beginnings of the NOEL Program, the GOAL Program, the Broyhill Academy for the Study of Independent Concepts and the "Big Brother" and "Big Sister" mentoring programs.

GWC began its program for the deaf and blind in the fall of 1977, in conjunction with the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. The school began an interpreter-training program in 1984.

Roasting the president

According to Jolley, Williams showed an interest in academics and sports, as well.

"Dr. Williams was the type of president that wanted to know what was going on in academics," Jolley said.

Williams also related well to faculty members, according to Jolley.

He even joined faculty members in tubing down the Broad River, Jolley said.

To recognize Williams' support of athletics, GWC Athletic Director Hank Garrity decided to "roast" Williams during the spring of 1985.

Williams' wife, Beth Williams, and Charlotte Hornet's owner George Shinn joined Garrity and GWC students in teasing, mocking and harassing Williams.

"I wasn't there that night, but it was good-natured roasting, I'm sure," Jolley said.

During his time as president, Williams also relaxed the strict dress code rules, according to Jolley.

"Dr. Williams eased up on those strict rules on dress," Jolley said. "But part of it was, the mood of



photo courtesy of University Archives

Two unidentified students participate in an egg race on the quad during the late '70s.

the country had changed by the mid-'70s."

Student life

As for Capps, life at GWC settled into a routine.

"There was a lot of baseball and a lot of practice," Capps said. "You really didn't have a lot of time to goof off."

When he did get a break, the physical education major spent time with his friends.

"We'd go to the game room," Capps said. "We played a lot of cards. We had a lot of good times and such."

Capps said his time at GWC impacted the rest of his life.

"I think it had a big effect on me," Capps said. "The job that I have now I couldn't have without a college education. It's been a good experience, and it has prepared me."

FACT BOX

- Craven Williams served as president of GWC from 1976 to 1986.
- Officials named the Craven E. Williams Observatory after Williams.
- In September 1978, GWC kicked off its campaign to construct a special events building – the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center.
- In 1984, GWC decided to renovate the church annex and name the building Elliott Hall, in honor of GWJC President P. L. Elliott.

Source: *Daring, Dreaming, Doing* by Lansford Jolley

Business school receives honors

Jennifer Menster
Pilot editor-in-chief

The awards and money just keep rolling in for Gardner-Webb University's School of Business.

On April 4, a team of nine Students In Free Enterprise members won top honors at the regional SIFE competition.

The students included Adam Fisher, Jeff Davis, Ryan Steins, Ruth Evangelista, Coreen Razem, Emily Burrus, Lauren Bateman, Abby Moore and Phillip White.

The students trained,

researched and prepared for case presentations, which were judged by local businessmen in Charlotte during the competition, said Anthony Negbenebor, dean of the School of Business.

The team won the national business ethics competition, national market economics competition and the overall competition. Other schools participating in the event included Western Carolina, USC, Greensboro College and Southern Wesleyan University.

"These kids were just awesome," Negbenebor said. "These are the best

kids I've worked with in the SIFE program. They really made Gardner-Webb proud."

In other business news, the GEM program received a \$3,000 gift from the Walmart Corporation on April 1. Negbenebor accepted the four-foot-long check at the store's grand re-opening.

"We are very, very honored," Negbenebor said. "This shows exactly the importance the GEM is to the school of business."

According to Charles Tichenor, founder of the GEM program, the money will be awarded to GWU

over the next three years in the amount of \$1,000. The money will go toward scholarships and funding of future programs.

GEM is a business program, started four years ago and taught by former CEOs, business executives and judges. The students must be a business major or minor, have a 3.0 GPA or higher and pay a GEM tuition fee. The students attend annual retreats in Charlotte to meet businessmen and Switzerland to take international business classes. Currently, about 30 students participate in the program.

News in Brief

2005 declared Year of the Languages

This year officially is named the Year of the Languages.

According to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the title is intended to promote multilingualism and cultural understanding in the United States, to provide information about the teaching and learning of foreign languages and to support the lifelong learning of languages.

The Year of Languages was declared by ACTFL, the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives. In February, Governor Mike Easley declared the resolution for North Carolina, and in March, Gardner-Webb University President Frank Campbell announced GWU's participation in the event.

Tamara Cox, associate professor of French and second language education program coordinator, said the department of world language, literatures and cultures at GWU is gearing up to support the project.

On March 13, her department held a foreign language ambush on campus. The ambush consisted of teams of students. Each team spoke a different designated language and asked individuals passing by basic questions in their assigned language. The teams recorded the number of people who were able to respond to their questions against the number of people who were not able to respond.

The department will analyze these numbers and give the school a grade. Cox also planned an "ambush" for Shelby this past week.

"The Southern Conference of Language teachers, of which I am part, did this in Charlotte," said Cox. "Charlotte got a 'C.' I wonder how we'll fair here."

The department of world language, literatures and cultures, in conjunction with The Year of the Languages, is showing

Students spend weekend learning other cultures

—Shauna Porter

Students spend weekend learning other cultures

Several Gardner-Webb University students spent this past weekend in Caswell at a spiritual retreat for international students.

"It was a retreat for the purpose of bringing students together from different universities and different backgrounds to share their faith in Christ," said Milton Chicas, a graduate student from Nicaragua studying international business.

The conference was attended by students from schools all over North Carolina and represented 40 countries across the world. GWU's International Student's Club made up the largest group at the event.

Students enjoyed volleyball, soccer, singing and dancing as they used the activities to share their culture and backgrounds.

"Volleyball—that was a lot of fun," said RJ Dowden, a freshman English and communications major. "We were up real late almost every night, at like four in the morning, singing on the beach."

The event included a day cruise and a cultural hour, where students shared specific practices from their cultures.

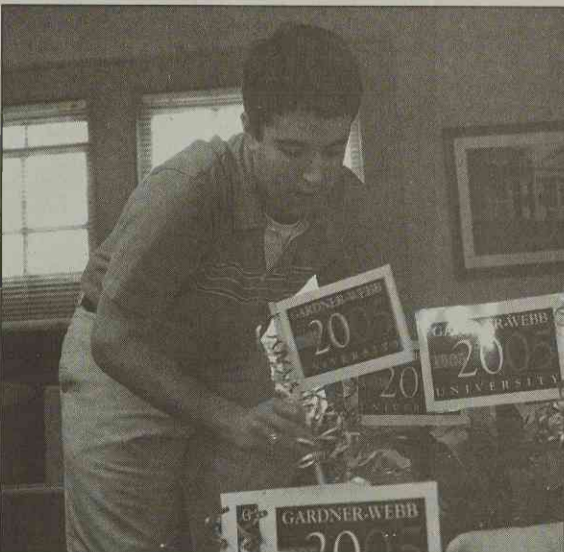
It also was a time for spiritual growth. Andy Byers gave a message about Unity during the closing service on Sunday morning just before the group took the four-hour drive home.

"We got exposure to the beliefs of many people," Chicas said. "You realize that even though everyone approaches the topic of Christianity from different perspectives, we all end up at the same place."

—Stephanie Faile

Alumni Series: Part 2 of 3

Former students now employees at GWU



Jeff Porter, a 2003 alumnus of GWU, prepares for Centennial Weekend. Porter works on campus as the alumni communications coordinator.

a salute to alumni

part 2 of 3



Sarah James
Pilot web editor

According to graduates who have stayed and now work at Gardner-Webb University, they enjoy their jobs and have gained new perspectives on the university and how it operates.

Laurie Pinkert, admissions counselor, sees her time working at GWU as a chance to serve GWU and plans one day to teach at the college level.

Walter Miller is the president's assistant and can now see the university at a different angle from the other side.

Miller loves the people here at GWU, and that is one reason he stayed. He believes the people make the university. "The relationships really make the

campus special," Miller said.

Noel Manning agrees.

"I love every aspect of the Gardner-Webb vibe," said Manning, who currently works as director of university and media relations.

He said he met lifelong friends at GWU, and the relationships he made are important.

"[It is] pretty awesome to work at a place I love so much," Manning said.

According to the office of alumni relations, 92 people who work at GWU graduated from the university. Fifteen to 20 of those are faculty with the rest being members of the GWU staff.

Most of the graduates from GWU who went straight from student to employee believed they have not missed out on real-world experience.

Terri Hassell, a health and wellness professor, likes the fact that she can bring real-world experience into the classroom after leaving GWU and coming back. She worked in

the professional field then came to GWU to teach.

Miller believes he has gained a new perspective on GWU by working with the president.

Pinkert also said that she has gained a new appreciation for GWU. She believes the place is unique because of the people, and that is what originally drew her to GWU as a student. Pinkert has fallen more in love with the school since becoming part of the staff, she said.

Some graduates believed the decision to stay at GWU must be made on a person-to-person basis.

They would recommend it, the alumni said, if it was right for the person and what the Lord wanted them to do. They have enjoyed their time here at GWU and wouldn't trade it for the world.

Each graduate liked GWU for a different reason, but all believe the campus is a place of loving, caring, friendly people.

"GWU is a great place, a special place to take full advantage of every day," Miller said.