



The Pilot

Gardner-Webb University



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Serving students at Gardner-Webb University for more than 60 years.

Professor captures 100 years of university history

GWU Professor Barry Hambright released his fifth book, a history of GWU, in July. The book features 100 years of photos.

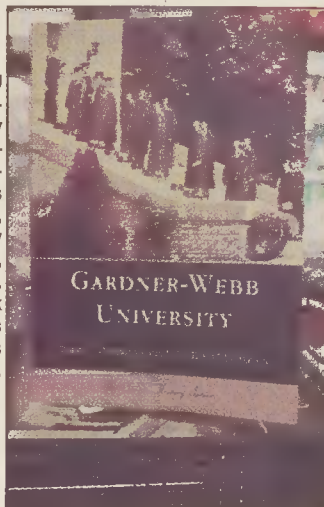


photo by Kaylin Bowers

Amanda Wood
Editor-in-chief

Gardner-Webb University Professor Barry Hambright and co-author U.L. "Rusty" Patterson recently completed a pictorial history of the school. The 128-page book documents Gardner-Webb's history from its beginnings as a boarding high school in the foothills of North Carolina to its celebration of 100 years as a leader in Christian higher education. "I enjoyed it because I've been here 37 years," said Barry Hambright, professor of history and political science

at Gardner-Webb University. "Plus I was a student here. I know these people. I'm at home with these things."

"Gardner-Webb University" showcases photographs from throughout the university's 100-year history, including pictures of North Carolina Governor O. Max Gardner, Gardner-Webb presidents, professors, staff members, students and campus life. "We tried to feature people," Hambright said. "We tried to pick the people who were memorable."

"Gardner-Webb University" marks Hambright's fifth book with Arcadia Publishing. According to Hambright, the

book at about Gardner-Webb was the easiest to finish because the photographs were readily available in the university's archives. "I think finding great old pictures was the most fun part," Hambright said. "There were a lot more that we might have liked to use if we had had them."

Hambright earned his associate's degree from Gardner-Webb when the school was still a junior college, and he holds a doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina. His interests are American government, Southern politics, the judiciary, Major League Baseball and trips to New York City.

Scholarship honors leaders from university's past

Amanda Wood
Editor-in-chief

A new scholarship was established over the summer in honor of two historical figures from Gardner-Webb's past, J. D. Huggins and O. P. Hamrick. As his first official act in office, Gardner-Webb University President A. Frank Bonner presided over the official establishment of the Huggins-Hamrick Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund on July 1. The scholarship was created by Boiling Springs residents James R. "Sonny" Huggins and his wife, Teresa Hamrick Huggins, in honor of their grandparents.

"I think the historical connection is significant here," said David Boan, assistant vice president for development at Gardner-Webb University. "It plays on the concept of firsts."

Sonny Huggins said Gardner-Webb's centennial anniversary inspired him and his wife to honor his grandfather with a memorial scholarship fund. "Since our families are tied together it's just something that we've always wanted to do," he said. "Since my grandfather gave his life to the college."

"The Hamricks and the Huggins and Gardner-Webb are just so intertwined," Boan said. "They're history. From our inception till today we have had a continual relationship with the Huggins and Hamrick families. So I think it's appropriate that they should be the first among many scholarships to be signed under Dr. Bonner's leadership as president."

J. D. Huggins served as the first principal of Boiling Springs High School, and Hamrick was

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Photo by Chris Breedlove

GWU President Frank Bonner signed the Huggins-Hamrick Scholarship as his first official presidential act on July 1.

WELCOME BACK 2005

CAN COLLEGE REALLY BE HERE?



photo by Kaylin Bowers

Sophomore Sara Burroughs watches junior Dru Holdren as they demonstrate one of the games Big Brothers and Sisters can play with their groups during Orientation. The Big Brothers and Sisters train for two days before Freshmen arrive.

Students arrive today; Classes begin Aug. 24

Amanda Wood
Editor-in-chief

Gardner-Webb University welcomed more than 500 new students to campus Aug. 19.

But according to Karissa Weir, director of student activities and leadership development at GWU, preparations for the weekend's orientation events have been underway since the spring.

"Spring is when we start fleshing things out," Weir said. "It's fun to see the different groups graduate and move on. So we get to see them from beginning to end as they develop as a student and mature."

This year's orientation theme, "under construction," centers around that development, according to Weir. "New students will be coming here to gain the tools they need to build on their foundation," she said.

During the first day of orientation on Aug. 19, GWU President Frank Bonner and Student Government Association President

Anya Huneycutt will welcome students to GWU. Students will also meet with Bonner and his family later that night in Bost Gym.

"Bulldog Madness," when new students compete for Bulldog Madness Awards, takes place Aug. 21 at 6:30 p.m. on the athletic fields near the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center.

Elections for first-year SGA offices take place at 9:30 a.m. in Dover Theatre Aug. 23.

"Try not to be overwhelmed at the beginning, which is difficult," Weir said. Take time to get involved in at least one extracurricular activity."

Other upcoming events for new and returning students include "The Longest Yard" on the quad Aug. 26, the Encore Dance Showcase in Blanton Auditorium at 7 p.m. Aug. 27, and a Lip Sync event in Dover Theatre at 7 p.m. Aug. 28.

Fall convocation, the official opening of the academic year, takes place Aug. 30 during Dimensions.

Gardner-Webb names new associate provost

Amanda Wood
Editor-in-chief

"I think he'll be a really great fit in the university community," said Dr. Darlene Gravett, Gardner-Webb's associate provost for schools. "I think he brings the kind of personal and professional qualities that we need."

Gravett's comments refer to the new associate provost for arts and sciences, James R. Dire.

Dire, former chair of the physics department at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, comes to Gardner-Webb with 20 years experience in higher education. Dire earned his doctorate from The Johns Hopkins University and has served as a military officer for more than 23 years, first in the Navy and then in the Coast Guard.

"We're just looking forward to having him on board," said Gravett, who chaired the search committee that chose Dire. She said the search committee was impressed with Dire's credentials, experience and personal characteristics. "He seems to have a strong ability to work with people," Gravett said.

While at the Coast Guard Academy, Dire served as director of the astronomical observatory. He spearheaded the hiring of women and minority faculty members, making the physics department the most diverse faculty at the Coast Guard Academy.

Dire also served as assistant

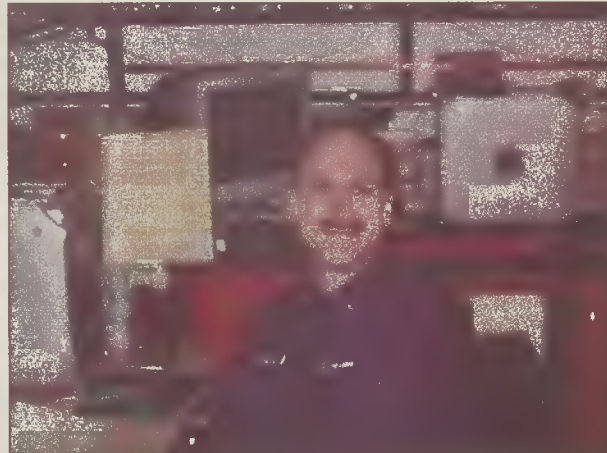
dean of academics at the Academy before being named chair of the physics department. He was also a NASA Summer Faculty Fellow in 2003 and is a life member of the American Geophysical Union. Dire served with the Naval Academy faculty in Annapolis prior to transferring to the Coast Guard in 1991.

As associate provost for arts and sciences at Gardner-Webb, Dire's duties will include supervising chairs of departments and directors of academic support programs, overseeing teaching schedules, faculty loads, release time, and other related academic matters, and hiring faculty members based on recommendations from the search committee and approval from the Provost.

"I'm honored to get the job," Dire said. "I'm very much looking forward to starting."

Dire said he is excited about the change of pace from military to civilian life. "I'm looking forward to getting to decide what to wear to work everyday instead of a uniform," Dire said.

Dire decided to work at Gardner-Webb because of the university's size, location and purpose. "The thing that appeals to me about Gardner-Webb is its mission to educate young men and women in a Christian setting," Dire said. "To me I think it's interesting how God opens certain doors and only certain doors, and that's how you know that it truly is a calling."



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