

News



photo by Kevin Banks

Craig Hall offers accessibility with its wheelchair ramp.

GWU working on being accessible

Rebecca Clark
Pilot staff writer

For some, the simple act of opening a door or walking up the stairs is a thoughtless one. For others it might not be so easy.

Gardner Webb University currently has 112 disabled students enrolled, which includes students with "invisible" disabilities that are not readily obvious, as well as the blind or those in wheelchairs.

In the past couple of years, efforts have been made to provide better access to buildings around campus.

Cheryl Potter, Director of the Noel Program, said that doors have been widened, ramps installed, and water fountains made more reachable.

As a part of Potter's job, she ensures accessibility to all educational programs, which allows disabled students access to an equal education.

She said that if there is a classroom that is inaccessible to a student, they would relocate to another place.

Also, each building has a Building Manager who is responsible for looking for difficulties or problems that need to be addressed.

Scott White, Director of Human Resources, pointed out some of the changes undertaken in the recent past. The new football stadium is one of those changes.

Unlike the old stadium, everything is accessible, such as rest rooms and

viewing places, and there are more accommodations for people in wheelchairs.

However, in spite of these renovations, there are still improvements that could be made.

Kenny Queen, a religion sophomore from Kings Mountain with cerebral palsy, said that the biggest improvement they could make would be access to the science labs at the top floor of the Math and Science Building.

There is currently no elevator and no way for disabled students to reach the lab. Though an alternative lab in another classroom is offered, it is still an inconvenience.

Another point that Kenny addressed was the cross walk.

During busy times of the day when traffic is heavy, it can be difficult to cross the street to get to the Communications buildings. It is particularly difficult for blind students due to street parking which muffles the sound of cars coming.

However, there are plans to remedy the situation.

Both White and Potter said that Boiling Springs has requested a Pedestrian Grant to install a new cross walk that would possibly have voice commands.

Town Manager Zach Trogon said that there is a plan in the making that "addresses the needs of disabled or impaired students to move around

town."

He said that this plan takes a holistic approach to attempt to find ways to decrease or slow traffic on the roads.

They are also considering measures such as additional signage or signals.

Currently, the plan is still being drafted and revisions will be made as needed.

According to Jacob Conley, an English major from Henrietta, the main thing he looked for in his search for a college was handicap accessibility.

Though GWU was not the most accessible university he found, it has made some changes since his arrival.

Because of a personal request, the speed bumps around campus have been cut back.

Also, the Noel door has been widened to allow easier access, which has been an important improvement.

Conley also brought up the inaccessible science lab, which he said was big point of contention.

When asked what the number one change he wanted to see happen, Conley said that more accessible doors would be at the top of his list.

Some of the doors, such as the one to Craig, is heavy and not very wide, making it difficult to open as well as get through.

"[GWU] does great in most areas," Conley said. "They are willing to work with you, but a couple of things keep cropping up."

Facebook keeps students in touch

from page 1

friends from home. This way I can write them a quick message and they can just get back to me when they have time. It's just easier than trying to talk on the phone all the time."

As happy as they are with the new distraction Facebook provides, students need to remember to be careful.

Countless number of predators are lurking on the Internet looking for your personal and private information. According to an article in the Desert Sun a Palm Springs, Ca. newspaper Social Web sites are where most online predators look for their next victims, according to the paper's Web site.

Internet safety tips suggest limiting the information that you put out for the public to see, and to be careful who you add as a friends.

Students seem to think that the benefits outweigh the hassles that come along with Facebook.

"If you're smart about it you'll be fine using it," said Small. "Just about everything is a threat today so you can't worry about it. Just watch what you do and it shouldn't be a problem."

Break provides a chance to relax

from page 1

deal on a hotel and other things," said Greene. "We were originally planning on going somewhere in California, but a Fairfield rep suggested Vegas. I can't wait to go."

If Sin City isn't your ideal destination for a vacation why not try a classic spring break vacation and visit the beach.

"My family has a house on Ocean Isle Beach, so we're going to hang out and have some much needed chill time," said Haley Scism a sophomore business administration major from Charlotte. "It's nice to not have to worry about booking a hotel or a flight, and it's always nice to save a little money."

As long as the weather agrees with you spend your time in the sun and on the sand and catch up on all the sleep you've been missing because of tests and homework. If you're lucky and have a free place to stay then the extra cash will come in handy to hit up some clubs or a nice restaurant.

If you're feeling a little homesick then spring break is the perfect time to head home and catch up with family and old friends.

"I'm going home," said Amy Gilligan a freshmen from Cambridge, Va. "It feels like I haven't been home in forever; so, I'm going to go hang out with my friends from high school. Plus, it's free."

Whatever your planning for this break make sure you schedule in time to kick back and get revitalized to finish out the rest of the semester.

"I'm just looking forward to having some time off to spend doing nothing. Spring break doesn't mean I have to have a whole bunch of plans," said Scism. "As long as I'm not in class or doing homework I'll be having a great time."

www.gwupilot.com

A&E

Getting married: Here come the bills

Minta Stacy
Pilot staff writer

'Tis the season to... get married?

It appears that lately everyone at Gardner-Webb has become engaged.

Of course, they're only a few of the estimated 2.3 million couples that will get married this year.

What is the current average cost of a wedding?

The average price for the wedding dress alone is running right around seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars.

According to Conde Nast Bridal Infobank, the current average wedding price is more than \$22,000. And that doesn't include the engagement ring, which, by the way, averages at about \$3,000 - \$4,500.

The most expensive part of the wedding, however, appears to be the reception; weighing in at approximately \$8,000.

Of course, the choices you make will affect these numbers greatly. When and where are two very key factors in the cost.

For example, the average wedding in the South only averages about \$18,500. In contrast, an average wedding in New York City averages about \$35,000.

Other key factors include what you choose to serve at the reception, music (D.J., soloists, pianist, etc.), flowers (averaging at about nine hundred and sixty-seven dollars),

lighting, and decorations.

The best way to cut your cost?

Decide what's most important to you and go from there. If you are more concerned about your reception than the ceremony, form your budget around the reception and skimp a little on the actual ceremony itself.

If music is more important to you than decorations, decorate in a tasteful, simple way that will still look elegant, but will not cost as much, and spend the money you save on music.

Of course, there are ways to have an amazing wedding, and still save a ton of money.

Making your own decorations, using family members and friends for wedding planning, reception servers, cooking, decorating, singing, piano playing, etc., not catering the rehearsal dinner, and cutting the amount of bridesmaids (dresses averaging at about seven hundred and fifty dollars) will cut your costs by approximately anywhere from \$1,000 - \$5,000; more or less depending.

Furthermore, you can find amazing prices on wedding apparel.

David's Bridal has a wonderful selection of beautiful wedding dresses starting at \$99; bridesmaids' dresses starting at the same.

Bridesave.com has a wonderful selection of apparel for all, as well as excellent pricing on veils, tiaras, and other accessories.

Beyonce accused of murder by activists

Minta Stacy
Pilot Staff Writer

Last year, singer sensation Beyonce Knowles launched her own fashion line, House of Dereon.

The line features sportswear and denim, as well as a complete ready-to-wear collection - with accessories.

Many, however, are not pleased with the House of Dereon line.

Animal rights activists everywhere are angry at Beyonce for opting to use real instead of faux fur in her label.

Beyonce further incited activists by wearing pink mink to the recent premiere of her new movie, "The Pink Panther."

A record company source told the "Daily Express" that activists have threatened to dump carcasses at the

label's offices or Beyonce's home.

We've had a huge amount of post complaining, and our receptionists have taken some pretty unpleasant phone calls, the source said.

Beyonce launched the label as 'affordable couture' with the aim to 'fuse celebrity power and design artistry into a brand of global importance.'

Most Activists have started referring to Beyonce as a murderer.

'Floating World' offers a glimpse into a new land

Aaron Wilkinson
Special to the Pilot

Anathallo is a word that means to renew, cause to grow, or bloom again. Over the last five years these Michigan natives have independently released four CD's, and on each one they "renew, grow, and bloom again."

As you listen to the latest album, "Floating World," you feel as if a friend has taken you by the hand and is leading you through a new land.

It is tough to describe the sound of Floating World. It opens with a drone and clanging drum sticks, letting you know you are in for a wild ride.

The CD swells and changes constantly from slow guitar picking and soft falsetto voices to huge, powerful drums accompanied by full bass and filling horns.

A single song may change mood and pace three or four times.

To keep this constant change, Anathallo uses a large variety of instruments. In addition to obvious instruments, they also use shakers, metal chains, xylophones, accordions, hand claps, extra bass drums and more.

At certain points I heard wood blocks, an alarm clock, Velcro, and even a socket wrench implored to create the desired sound.

Not only do they have an enormous variety of instruments, but Anathallo uses the vocal chords of each member.

Lyricaly, five of the songs revolve around a Japanese folk tale called Hanasakajiji that comes with the CD. On the CD, this story begins at the end and then Tarantino's its way back.

Throughout the album themes of growth, death, love, and renewal are evident.

The album "Floating World" is like a great story; when it's over you want to hear it again.

If you want to pick up the album visit www.anathallo.com or come see Anathallo rock the stage of the Millennium Playhouse on March 22