



THE PILOT

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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This Edition News

Tips for study abroad

With many students going on trips to other countries over the summer it seems necessary to discuss ways to make sure you are traveling safely.

According to the "International Travel Safety Information for Students" administered by the U.S. Department of State in March 2006, every year more than 2,500 American citizens are arrested overseas, almost half because of narcotics.

See *International*, page 3

Opinion

Apathy about SGA

I am surprised by the seeming lack of interest, except from Student Government Association members themselves, in the *Pilot's* coverage of the 2006 SGA elections.

Pilot reporters hit the streets to gauge student reaction and came back to the newsroom with a depressing report of apathy. Students, one journalist reported, just don't care what the SGA does or doesn't do.

See *Student*, page 2

A&E

Baby a success

Gardner-Webb University's Department of Theater and Fine Arts put its talents to work creating a memorable performance of the musical "Baby".

Directed by Scot Lahaie, "Baby" is the story of three young couples experiencing the challenges of impending parenthood, and takes a humorous look at childbirth.

See *Baby*, page 3

Photos

Springs Alive

See page 4

In memory of student

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Inauguration week

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Weekend

Weather

Saturday	Sunday
April 8	April 9
64/46	63/38
Tstms	Sunny

Source: NOAA

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Online



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photo by Kaylin Bowers

Franklin Beam, chairman of GWU's Board of Trustees, shakes A. Frank Bonner's hand as Bonner is inaugurated president. "Dr. Bonner, the board of trustees has chosen you as president," Beam said. "And it is my honor to install you formally."

It's official for Bonner

Amanda Wood
Pilot editor-in-chief

A. Frank Bonner made the grade and Thursday became the official 12th president of Gardner-Webb University, after serving in that position since July 1.

Speaking during the inauguration at the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center, Kent Blevins, professor of religion at GWU, said a student had asked why the university planned to hold Bonner's inauguration more than nine months after he started the job. Before Blevins could reply, another student answered that GWU was making sure Bonner didn't flunk out as president.

Bonner passed with flying colors, according to Blevins, and has been allowed to "enroll for another year."

"I've had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Bonner these last months, and I have great confidence in Dr. Bonner's leadership of this school," Blevins said. "Dr. Bonner listens, and beyond listening, he hears. He is trustworthy. He is humble, yet confident."

Anya Huneycutt, president of the Student Government Association, spoke about working with Bonner from a student's perspective.

"During this year, I have enjoyed working with Dr. Bonner, and I have learned that he does have great things in mind for our university," Huneycutt said. "I believe that being supportive of students is a quality presidents should have. Dr. Bonner has these qualities."

Austin Campbell, a junior religious studies major

See *Bonner* page 3

New provost a 'great fit' for GWU

Sarah James
Pilot Web Editor

Frank Bonner, president of Gardner-Webb University, announced Tuesday that Ben Leslie is the new provost and senior vice president.

"The new provost is the strong recommendation of the search committee," Bonner said. Feedback received by the committee, as well as my own impressions, indicate that he was extremely well received on this campus. He is, of course, my choice as well."

Interim Provost Earl Leininger was chairman of the search committee and had a strong feeling about Leslie from the start of the process.

"The committee was very impressed with him from the beginning," said Leininger.

Leininger and Bonner both agree that Leslie has the knowledge and experience needed for this job.

Leininger said, "He has a superb academic background. He has both the organizational and personal skills. I think he is a great

fit for this office and the university."

Bonner said, "Dr. Leslie's academic credentials, scholarship, and administrative experience are superb, and he has pastoral experience as well. He has the personality, experience, and skills necessary to provide outstanding leadership to the academic program."

Anya Huneycutt, SGA president and a senior from Albemarle, N.C., majoring in political science, agrees with the opinion of

See *Provost* page 3

It's alive!

Spring festival fun for GWU community

Ronda Carpenter
Pilot Staff Writer

"I woke up that morning and looked out the window of my dorm, and all I saw was a gazillion people on the quad," said sophomore Susan James. "That festival was definitely 'alive!'"

Gardner-Webb University held its first annual Springs Alive Festival last weekend, and the turnout was tremendous.

Saturday's festivities on the quad had everything that any child (or even grown-up) would enjoy, including inflatables, carriage rides, carnival games, balloon making, football tosses, storytelling, train rides, field games, face painting, climbing walls, Kid ID's, bake sales, arts, crafts, food and more. Several different singing groups and bands also came out to perform for the crowd.

"I came out here with my kids and ended up having just as good of a time as they did," said John Miller from Shelby. "There was just so much to see and do."

Crest Middle School student Matthew Humphries also came out Saturday and helped his grandfather with his ice cream stand.

"I've enjoyed my Paw Paw's ice cream and I had a good time out here," said Humphries. "It was really fun."

Candace McNealy, 8, agrees that she also enjoyed herself.

"I liked all the painting stuff and balloons," said McNealy. "I got to jump on the bouncy thing and even ride on a train!"

The cluster of events that took place on the quad was just a fraction of the activities that were planned for the busy weekend.

The dedication and ribbon cutting of the new boiling spring took place on Saturday. The spring was refurbished in memory of Pamela Darnell, who died June 12, 2005.

"We had a great turnout for the ribbon cutting and dedication of the spring," said LouAnn Gilliam, director of alumni relations. "It was a great way to start off the day. There were possibly over 150 people there for the dedication."

The Tour de Springs bike ride, which gave cyclists the option to ride a 30- or 60- mile course, started at 8 a.m. at the GWU Football Center. It took the cyclists through towns including Lattimore, Polkville, Fallston and Kings Mountain.

Katy Peterson, a GWU swimmer and psychology major from Danville, Ky., helped with the cycling events.

"I thought the turnout for the event was really good," said Peterson. "85 people took part in the bike race, which was amazing to me. I had fun because I got to help people during the race, and give them food."

Peterson and other members of the swim team assisted cyclists at a rest stop 37 miles out from GWU.

"People that were on the 60-mile ride stopped at our rest stop. We got to meet a whole lot of people. One of the swimmers was even riding in it, and so was our coach."

Broyhill adventure course was open for thrill seekers to come and test their climbing abilities. The YMCA had a Healthy Kids Fun Run for students from kinder-

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