

News

BRCC's open mic night beckons creative souls

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Step into the low lights and the babble of conversations, frothy lattes being mixed and perhaps the tuning of guitar strings.

Monday nights are a good time to visit Broad River Coffee Co. as open mic night is held each week between 8 and 11 p.m.

Performers can stop in and play an instrument, recite a poem, do a comedy act or display some other talent.

Jared Mauldin, who has been working for the shop since July, said it is like a

talent show. He said it is a good opportunity for anyone interested in putting on a performance, or if you are the audience, to just sit back and listen.

Mauldin said when someone steps up on stage and sits at the stool placed in the center, people line their chairs up and give their full attention to the performer. Some even take audience requests.

Mauldin said the majority of artists are students from Gardner-Webb University, but there are also community members who come in to share their various talents, such as local

chiropractor Ezra Edgerton, who plays the fiddle.

Seth Stevens, manager of BRCC, said the tradition of open mic night started immediately after the coffee shop opened.

He said it was always the goal to have a performance night because it was the "natural coffeehouse thing to do."

He said they offer open mic year round, although things slow down during the summer months when there aren't as many students in town. On an average night, you can expect to see five to seven performers.

"You never know what

you're gonna get," Stevens said. "They can be as creative as they want."

Stevens said they see a lot of bluegrass performers, as well as covers of U2, Johnny Cash and other popular music.

"You see a lot of Top 40 type of stuff," he said.

Sometimes, they have guests who are out of the ordinary. One of the more unusual guests was a writer from "The Simpsons." Stevens said he doesn't remember the man's name, but he did a comedy and music routine with his wife.

So if Monday night rolls around and the urge to per-



Photo by Ashley Carter

Megan Woriel, left, and Thomas Luptom sing a duet at the Broad river coffee shop. Every Monday night the coffee shop has an open mic night, where any one in the community can show off their talents.

form comes over you, or if you want to sit back and witness a performance, stop by the Broad River Coffee Co., sip on a latte, and pull up a chair.

YouTube series is gaining fame with fans during each Webisode

By Karina Martinez-Carter
Daily Northwestern (Northwestern U.)

(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill. - If NBC has its way, soon a lot of people may be watching "Nobody's Watching."

The viewers, however, may be sitting in front of their laptops rather than a plasma TV.

This is the second time those involved with "Nobody's Watching" have peered at prospective small-screen fame. The WB picked up the show in 2005, only to scrap it from the lineup before it aired. At that point, in the days before the Internet video phenomenon, the funeral service would have commenced.

But someone got his hands on the abandoned pilot, divided it up into three, nine-to-10-minute segments and posted it on YouTube. After some positive feedback and a little promotional nudge from YouTube, people were watching "Nobody's Watching."

The first part of the pilot introduces the two main characters, Derrick and Will, best friends and die-hard television sitcom fans aspiring to have their own show. It's been viewed more than 600,000 times on YouTube.

In July, NBC purchased six scripts of the show, written by "Scrubs" writers Bill Lawrence, as well as Neil Goldman and Garret Donovan, who also wrote for "Family Guy."

The network says it intends to order episodes for primetime later in the season, but in the meantime they have forked over some money to the writers to produce a set of "Webisodes." They've also signed deals for the two stars, Taran Killam and Paul Campbell, who play Derrick and Will.

For the past year and a half they have clutched onto their prime-time dreams, making a number of short videos chronicling their characters' boredom. They've filmed multiple candy and beverage experiments (dropping Mentos into milk and being teleported) and have taped their attempts to make it on the small screen -- like posing as valets on the Emmy red carpet. Thus, when their pilot gained notable popularity, they were prepared with an arsenal of footage to feed their growing online audience.

The actors now have an official Web site (www.nobodyswatching.tv), in addition to a MySpace (www.myspace.com/derrickandwill), where they've posted their videos and continue to add new ones.

The Webisodes cater to

the core that made their second chance possible -- the Internet viewers. They have forums and a "backlash" section for viewer feedback, continually update their blog with "Nobody's Watching" happenings and, in the introductory video on their homepage, even post a functioning cell phone number to contact "Derrick."

"The site is a great idea because these two guys are the best part of the show," she says. "The little gags in short videos on their site are a lot funnier than their actual pilot."

The down-to-earth appearance of the show's site and the actors' consistent commitment to their characters -- a la Stephen Colbert -- has confused some viewers and fans, though.

"Derrick and Will don't exist," one registered user posted on the discussion board. "They're actors -- Taran and Paul." To which 60 people responded, "Duh."

This confusion about the show and its characters has happened before. Some say that "the show about a show" plot confused test audiences, and is a potential reason for its WB demise.

The show focuses on Derrick and Will's efforts to make a popular sitcom. The pilot begins in their hometown of Union, Ohio, where, after receiving a video from the pair, some WB execs whisk them off to Hollywood. A WB executive informs them that they will be given the resources to create their own sitcom, including TV sets and a studio audience.

The completely scripted show is essentially the child of a sitcom and a reality show. It parodies pillars of the two genres, as well as TV as a whole. They even make fun of the "Real World" style of one-on-one discussions with the camera.

Should "Nobody's Watching" make it to TV, it will be the first time a show has essentially circumvented the system; a head honcho's write-off was not the be all, end all. In a time of increased audience participation while network stations struggle to lure in viewers, could the destiny of "Nobody's Watching" be an indication of how shows will develop in the future?

It could also be a tricky balancing act, according to Bill Lawrence. "The problem is that it's got to retain some edginess. If it becomes a homogenized corporate product -- which anything that goes through the network system does -- we're doomed."

For now, though, Killam and Campbell will keep weaving their stories on the Web.

Pact with local doctor negates need for campus infirmary

By Ali Cunningham
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Parents of some first-year students may have been surprised to find on move-in weekend that Gardner-Webb University has no campus infirmary.

Students do not even have an on-campus facility to get ice for a sprain or an aspirin for pain. However, GWU President Frank Bonner says there is a simple reason for that.

"Primarily, the thing is, there is a doctor's office close to campus without being on campus and we have an agreement with them," said Bonner. "It might be beneficial to have a nurse

on campus, but it is better to have a real doctor."

The agreement Bonner referred to is with Boiling Springs Medical Associates, P.A., at 305 W. College Avenue. The practice offers the services of two doctors and an advanced practice registered nurse.

Associates at BSMA are family doctors that will see patients for "just about anything," according to a nurse at the office.

"Appointments are appreciated, but we understand that something just comes up, and walk-ins are welcome too," she said.

BSMA is not on campus, but it is

closer to half the residence halls and the apartments than some buildings on campus. The office is easy to find. Students will tell you to go past the apartments and keep going. It will be on the left -- and it's in walking distance.

To get non-emergency treatment as a GWU student, you have to fill out the paperwork to become a patient. But, even if you are not a registered patient you can still receive treatment for a small injury such as a sprained ankle.

Office hours for Boiling Springs Medical Associates are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday.



Photo by Rachel Tucker

Dimensions this week was on alcohol awareness. Several students participated in a drama of a young woman who was killed by a drunken driver.

Dimensions program uses deadly 'reality' to raise students' alcohol awareness

By Ciara Lilly
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As students walked inside the LYCC Tuesday morning, their attention fell on the brown casket, and the wreath on top of it, which stood prominently on stage. Silence filled the room as the presentation began.

A slideshow appeared on the screen, flashing pictures of a well-known Gardner-Webb student portraying a young woman named Alison.

There were photos of Alison with her friends, her boyfriend and members of her family. She narrated the story that went along with the pictures of her life, a narrative that lead up to her death in a drunken driving accident.

Alison was an innocent victim who lost her life because someone else made the bad decision to drink and drive.

The narrative included commentary from her boyfriend and mother, and from the paramedic who took care of Alison at the scene. GWU University Police Capt. Da-

"It was more effective because it used students' names and pictures, instead of giving a statistic."

Meredith White,
GWU student

vid Wacaster played the part of the officer at the scene of the accident.

Thankfully, the story was fictional, created as part of Campus Ministries' participation in Alcohol Awareness week at GWU.

If it all seemed quite real, it was supposed to in order to bring home the point that drinking and driving can have real consequences for real people. Fatal ones. Most people understand the possible consequences that come along with drinking alcohol, but this presentation brought them as close to reality as most students had ever been.

"It was more effective because it used students' names and pictures, instead of giving a statistic," said Meredith White, a sophomore English major from Statesville.

Correction:

The photo on page one of the Oct. 6 issue of The Pilot was not of the Duke Power Cliffside Plant. The photo was of Cone Mill in Cliffside, N.C.

Graham an approachable man

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want to do, that you're not being pressured into it.

"I don't want to say that he wasn't unsupportive. He wanted to be supportive. He wanted to make sure I was doing it for the right reasons and that the Lord was leading me and not because of six letters."

Those six letters being G-R-A-H-A-M.

The similarities between Graham and his grandfather cannot go unnoticed. Both have similar features and a characteristic accent.

"I think it's one of the greatest honors to be compared to a man that you love so much, who means so much to other people," he said. "There are a lot of similarities between my granddaddy and I."

Will says his influence from his granddaddy was more indirect (through Franklin) because he was preaching and traveling during most of Will's childhood.

Will graduated from Liberty University in 1997 and then earned his masters of

divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2001. He worked at Wakefield Baptist Church in Wake Forest, N.C. for seven and a half years, and has been leading Billy Graham Evangelistic Association events internationally since October 2004.

His recent crusade in Gastonia marked his first ever three-day celebration on U.S. soil.

Pastors in the Gaston County area saw a need for revival. Austin Rammell, Will's former classmate at Liberty University and now pastor at Hardin Baptist Church, asked Will to come to Gastonia. They saw teenagers without purpose and families dealing with hardships. The world seems to be changing for the worse and many Christians say the family unit is disintegrating.

But, for the Graham family, one thing remains the same - it will leave a legacy and keep preaching the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Student interviews. Graham

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through the day to the midterm I was supposed to take at 10:25, and to the other classes I had to attend. I rushed toward the Communications building. Dr. Carey was getting everything together just as I walked in the door. He had called my professor to let him know I could not be in class to take the exam.

We headed toward Charlotte, brainstorming and finalizing interview questions on the way.

About halfway there it hit me. What am I doing? Will Graham, Billy Graham's grandson? Yeah, I've written stories before, but I've always just had to talk to the average Susan or Bob out on the street -- never someone famous

like Will Graham! Nevertheless, I remained calm and kept my composure. On the outside, at least.

It felt like a whirlwind as I walked into the building, passed through security and entered the office where Will sat. After a little small talk about this and that, we started in on the questions.

As I sat listening to what seemed like Billy Graham in the 1970s or '80s, I realized that this really was a moment to remember. Time passes, people grow older and new generations come. I was seeing that in action.

Many thanks to Dr. Carey and Erik Ogren for making this great experience possible.