



THE PILOT

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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This Edition

— In campus news —

Students returned from winter break to find a lot of changes in the caf. To find out why and how they happened, see the Front Page Story.

Dr. Judge and his environmental science students received a car donation for the "veggie vehicle" project. See Page 2 for an update on this story.

The Communication Studies department has hired a new professor. See Page 2 to find out more about him.

— In community news —

University Tanning prepares to open soon in the old Boiling Springs Post Office building on Main Street. See Page 2 for more information.

— Opinion/editorial —

Jacob Conley discusses his wishes for 2007 in his "Wisdom on Wheels" column. See Page 3.

The Pilot is interesting in beginning a new feedback function. The new piece would allow you to voice your opinions in brief. See Page 3 for more details.

— In sports —

GWU basketball season is in full swing. Find out how the teams are faring, including a look at the men's team matchups against A-Sun favorites Belmont and Lipscomb. See Page 4.

We've got updates on the wrestling and swimming seasons. Check out the details on Page 4.

Weekend Weather

Saturday	Sunday
Jan. 27	Jan. 28
50/30	52/28
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny

Source: NOAA

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Online



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Photo by: Katie Bryant

Students dine in the caf, which was renovated over Christmas break. The cafeteria has new carpet, tables, chairs and salad bar, along with a collection of flat-screen televisions.

Caf facelift a post-holiday surprise

By Karl Kakadelis
Pilot Staff Writer
and Nancy-Pat Dire
Pilot advisor

Students were surprised to walk into a newly renovated caf after Christmas break -- and the surprise was deliberate, according to Mike Hardin, vice president for business and finance.

"Really, it was just time to make changes and upgrades," Hardin said. "It had been six or eight years since the last time any renovations had been done. We want to provide modern facilities for our students to dine in."

The work was done during Christmas break because it allowed uninterrupted time to get all the work done, Hardin said. Students could get the full effect of the changes, rather than watching them take place in a piecemeal fashion during the semester.

Some of the changes include

a new salad bar, new display area signs, flat-screen TVs upstairs and downstairs, and smaller tables and chairs.

Food stations now have names with university tie-ins, according to Wayne Johnson, associate vice president for operations. Bulldog Bistro, Mack's Pizza and Lulu's Deli are all obvious connections, he said.

Johnson said that the new caf design was a collaborative effort between students and staff.

"First off, we had several meetings with student groups," he said. "I spent a lot of time with Suzanne (Glasscock), the caf manager, and Jerry (Painter), our executive chef."

"I also visited several other campuses, and looked at what is trendy in restaurants," said Johnson. "The final result really is a collaborative effort."

Glasscock is pleased with the caf's new look.

"I love it. I think it makes it

look like a restaurant," she said.

Johnson said that although the renovations started with a plan in mind, it changed as the process moved along.

"Since it was done in such a short period of time, it was like a work of art," he said.

The renovations cost between \$140,000 and \$150,000, said Hardin. According to Dr. Bonner's office, the renovations were financed from a number of sources, so the cost was not borne solely by GWU.

Johnson credits Executive Chef Jerry Painter with the market decor of the new food station in the center of the dining area.

Johnson wanted to give the caf a restaurant feel, according to Painter.

The caf's new setup allows the cooks to prepare food in front of students so it is as hot and fresh as possible, he said.

Painter and Johnson both give

credit to the university employees who did the renovations, making it largely an in-house project.

"Most of the people that clean the dorms and help make sure the school functions properly helped build and complete the renovations in the caf," said Painter.

Johnson wanted to be sure that these dedicated employees get the recognition due to them. Some put in 12-16 hour days, and some all-nighters, to get the work done on time, he said.

Some took only Christmas and New Year's days off.

"There were a lot of Gardner-Webb employees who worked countless hours over the break to pull this together. It would not have been possible without the dedication of the Operations employees," said Johnson.

Hardin said the renovations weren't done just for the students.

"It is an enhancement for the students and the campus community," he said.

Final semester emotional time for seniors

By Matt Tessnear
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Chris Holloman has a recipe for how he feels about graduation. Holloman, a sociology major from Belmont, is one of many seniors who began their last semester at Gardner-Webb University Jan. 10.

With less than four months until May 12 commencement ceremonies, he said he feels a mixture of emotions.

"As much as I love the people at Gardner-Webb, and as much as I am going to miss many of them like crazy, I am excited about what is to come," said Holloman. "If you put excited, scared, anxious and unsure into a recipe, I'm sure you would cook out what I'm feeling."

Roberto Vasques also has a mixture of feelings about graduation. As a GWU tennis player, he's dealing with more than just the end of classes.

"I'm excited about graduating, but at the same time kind of scared about what can happen," said Vasques, an international business major from Sao Paulo, Brazil. "I'm focusing on enjoying as much as I can this last semester,

not just with my friends but also with tennis. I really hope to have a good season and, of course, get ready to start working."

Laura Chan is getting a taste of post-graduation life this semester. Champion, an elementary education major from Kings Mountain, is student teaching this spring.

"I guess, it is just becoming very surreal to me," said Champion, who began student teaching Jan. 2. "At times it is very scary and overwhelming, but I know I can do it. I look forward to starting my career and becoming one of those great teachers that you hear so much about."

Vanessa Hodge said she also has mixed emotions about leaving Gardner-Webb, but said she is ready for the challenges of the working world, and the chance to accomplish more of her goals.

"Knowing that I have less than four months left here at GWU makes me both excited and a little nervous," said Hodge. "I will definitely miss this beautiful campus and the wonderful people I have met here. I notice myself savoring my experiences here as 'lasts.' For example, the last time I will see the leaves turn colors at GWU or

the last time I will go to the Festival of Lights."

Hodge, an American Sign Language major, was recently accepted to grad school in North Dakota. She will enter the Summer Signed Language Linguistics Program.

Kaylan Bifaro, a nursing major from Lawrenceville, Ga., plans to get a job as a registered nurse in the Atlanta area. She said she also plans to volunteer at her church, learn how to cook, and become involved with passion ministries. Bifaro said she'll miss friends, teachers and other things indigenous to college life.

"My time here at GWU has gone by very fast and I have had a lot of good experiences, and learned a lot of life lessons since I have been here," said Bifaro. "I will definitely miss the innocent days of college, canceled classes, sleeping in and still receiving some monetary support from the parents."

For Holloman, it'll be difficult to part ways with good friends. However, he said he realizes that new ones are waiting somewhere else.

"I love the people here a whole lot and hope to stay in contact with them for the rest of my life," he

said. "As for leaving, all I can say is an amazing chapter of my life is ending, and I believe more amazing things are coming soon."

Hodge agrees with Holloman.

"I will miss the people of GWU most," she said. "Both in teachers and students, I have found many incredible friends and role models. I am so glad that I have been able to come here to GWU and that these people are part of my life."

"I will definitely be back to visit and I will not only make a point to see the people I know, but will also take another walk around the lake."

Things to remember:

* Graduation applications can still be submitted until May 19; however, a \$50 late fee will be charged to your account.

* You will need to order your own cap and gown from Jostens, including the hood appropriate for your degree.

* Graduation takes place May 12. Undergraduates will have a ceremony at 10 a.m., while graduate students will have a ceremony at 3 p.m.

* Visit www.gardner-webb.edu/academics/registrar, or call 704-406-4260, for more information concerning graduation.