



THE PILOT

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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This Edition

In campus news

Dr. Gayle Price will assume the position of associate provost of schools in June. What will the current provost, Dr. Darlene Gravett, be doing? See the story on Page 2.

Dr. Bob Carey had a chance to photograph the Super Bowl for a second straight year. See how his trip to Miami went on Page 2.

Technology services recently tested a new spam-blocking program for the GWU Internet network. See details on Page 2.

In community news

GWU is recycling for the Community Alternatives of North Carolina. See more on Page 2.

Opinion/editorial

Matt's found inspiration in the little things lately. See his editor's column on Page 3.

What should you avoid doing on Valentine's Day? Jacob Conley has suggestions in his "Wisdom on Wheels" column on Page 3.

Guest writer Sheyahshe Little-dave is a big fan of musicals. See what she thought of "Dream Girls" on Page 3.

In sports

We've got a preview of the baseball and softball seasons, which start today. See the front page story, which continues on Page 4.

Senior Terra Wilson has recently set records in the pool, but she'll also have a chance to attend Olympic qualifying. See the story in Sports.

How did the men's basketball team fare in Johnson City, Tenn.? Check on the team in Sports.

Weekend Weather

Saturday Feb. 10 49/23 Mostly Sunny	Sunday Feb. 11 48/26 Mostly Sunny
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Source: NOAA

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Online



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Photo by: Rachel Lloyd

Butts will be a thing of the past when the Gardner-Webb campus implements its tobacco-free policy. So will chewing tobacco, dip and pipes, all in an effort to promote greater health.

GWU Going Tobacco-Free

First university in state to do so; policy goes into effect Aug. 6

By Matt Tessnear
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A new policy prohibiting tobacco use on campus grounds will make Gardner-Webb University the first university in North Carolina to be smoke free. The policy, which applies to students, faculty, staff and visitors, will take effect Aug. 6.

Some students are displeased with the decision to ban tobacco use for the entire campus.

"I don't mind if they want to limit where we smoke, but to outlaw it altogether seems pretty ridiculous," said Andrew Zawierucha, a junior religious studies major from Cary. "Some of my best memories of this place have been smoking a pipe with my friends or sitting alone somewhere, smoking a pipe and thinking. These points in time have been influential to my development as a person. I will be sad to take that part away."

Additionally, Zawierucha says that students should be allowed to make their own choices about things like tobacco use.

"As far as students' rights, you're going to have to exercise responsibility sometime," he said. "College is a great place to start to develop your personality and lifestyle in a relatively safe environment. How long can someone hold your hand through life?"

Sydney Beam, a freshman ASL major, doesn't use tobacco and says the policy is what's best for students.

"It's a good policy because

smoking is bad for you," said Beam, adding that she does think the university will have a tough time enforcing the policy. "Whoever does smoke would have to go to the trouble of going off campus just to smoke all the time and that's just stupid."

GWU will become the first school in the state to be endorsed by the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund, which is an organization designed to promote tobacco-free environments and encourage cessation among college-aged tobacco users.

For several months, a university task force has been studying the possibility of a 100 percent tobacco-free campus with the assistance of the Health and Wellness Fund.

According to the GWU Task Force on Tobacco, "Gardner-Webb's decision to move to a 100 percent tobacco free campus was based on several months of study, including medical research and general on-campus surveys. Key nationwide trends relating to tobacco-free environments for workers and visitors to business and educational facilities, also played a role in the decision for Gardner-Webb to go 100 percent tobacco free."

The task force distributed a tobacco survey to faculty, staff and students in April 2006. There were 810 total respondents, composed of 145 staff members, 95 faculty members and 576 students.

The survey results do not appear to show an overwhelming

problem with tobacco use.

According to the survey, 3 percent of faculty, 10.3 percent of staff and 17.6 percent of students use at least one form of tobacco.

Survey respondents were asked what best described their feelings about tobacco use on campus. Only 29.5 percent of faculty members responding said that the GWU campus should be tobacco-free for staff, faculty and students, including use in vehicles. The highest number of surveyed students, 30.9 percent, said that there should be designated areas only for tobacco use. The majority of those surveyed did say they would prefer higher tobacco policies on campus for health reasons.

GWU President Dr. A. Frank Bonner could not be reached for comment concerning the surveys or the tobacco-free policy.

The new policy will also prohibit tobacco use in university-owned or leased vehicles.

Tobacco products affected by the university policy include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes and smokeless tobacco. Signs will be posted on campus and the university plans to create brochures, posters and banners to promote the policy. Potential students, faculty and staff will also be made aware of the policy before becoming a member of the Gardner-Webb family.

Presentations and educational forums on the new policy will be held over the next several months, see Tobacco page 2

Knowledge trip GWU Quiz Bowl team ties UNCA in 2nd spot at conference tourney

By Matt Tessnear
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Gardner-Webb University's five-student quiz bowl team traveled to Radford University in Virginia on Feb. 2 with the simple goals of beating Liberty University, the defending Big South Quiz Bowl champion, and keeping the competition close. The team's performance on Feb. 3, which led to a 2nd-place finish, far exceeded those simple goals.

GWU won five out of its seven games, which tied the team with UNC Asheville in the eight-team competition. Liberty University won the event for the second straight year, going 6-1. GWU placed Liberty tough, losing that match up by a 180-120 score.

Junior Seth Huber led the Bulldogs with 230 overall points. His average of 32.86 points per game placed him second individually in that statistical category.

"I knew I answered a lot of questions, but after seeing the table of who won last year and competing against them, I didn't think it would matter," said Huber, adding that the first match and the match against defending champion Liberty were somewhat intimidating. "I didn't think I answered enough questions to place in the top 10, much less number two."

Junior Megan Looper finished 16th with 12.86 points per game, while Senior Michael Mitterer came in tied for 18th with 11.43 points per game. For the second straight year, a Radford University student led the competition in scoring.

GWU opened the day with an impressive victory over Charleston Southern by a score of 150-40. The team followed that up with a five-point win over Radford, the host school. GWU then dropped two of its next three games, with close losses to VMI and Liberty, sandwiched by a 155-125 victory over UNC Asheville. The loss to Liberty would be the last of the day, as GWU destroyed High Point University, 230-45, and took care of Winthrop to round out a solid performance.

"I was surprised because I didn't think we'd do that well," said Huber. "Winning five games was more than we expected obviously. It was a last minute thing. We didn't really practice except for picking the team."

A solid performance at Rad-see Quiz Bowl page 2

Diamond 'Dogs are ready to play ball!

GWU coaches expect promising seasons from talented and youthful rosters

By Matt Tessnear
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Spring classes have been in session for a month, but Gardner-Webb University baseball and softball players will hit the field today for their first taste of 2007 competition.

Rusty Stroupe, GWU head baseball coach, will manage a youthful roster this season, with only five seniors in the lineup.

"We have a young team again this year, with a number of sophomores who will make up the bulk of our starting lineup and pitching staff," said Stroupe, whose team includes 21 freshmen or sophomores.

The 'Dogs open the season against Creighton University at 12:30 p.m. today in Rock Hill,

S.C. It is the first of three games for GWU in Rock Hill this weekend.

Atlantic Sun Conference coaches picked GWU to finish 9th in the 10-team league. Jacksonville was the regular season favorite, while Stetson was picked to win the conference tournament. Redshirt sophomore Jay McConnell, a sociology major from Mt. Holly, made the preseason all-conference team as a designated hitter.

McConnell, who redshirted in 2006 for medical reasons, hit .345 with 5 home runs and 39 RBI in 2005, his freshman season.

Stroupe's Bulldogs will open up the home schedule on Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. against Appalachian State.

"We also have the toughest

schedule we have ever played, including 10 games against ACC and SEC schools," said Stroupe. "This could affect our overall record, but should prepare us well for the Atlantic Sun competition against teams such as Stetson, Jacksonville, North Florida and East Tennessee."

Things to watch for this season:

Key players: Nate MacDonald, RHP, Sr.; Jay McConnell, C/DH, So.; Joey Testa, OF, Sr.; Matt Taffazoli, RHP, Sr.; Jonathan Ban, RHP, So.; Daniel Cooke, OF, So.

Key newcomers: Jeremiah Lokken, 1B, Jr., Jacksonville, Fla. (FCCJ); Jamaal Kinard, OF, Jr.,

see Diamond 'Dogs page 4



Photo by: Ashley Carter

Junior pitcher Wes Cogdill pitches to his fellow team mate during a scrimmage last Tuesday. The team is practicing for its season-opener today in Rock Hill.