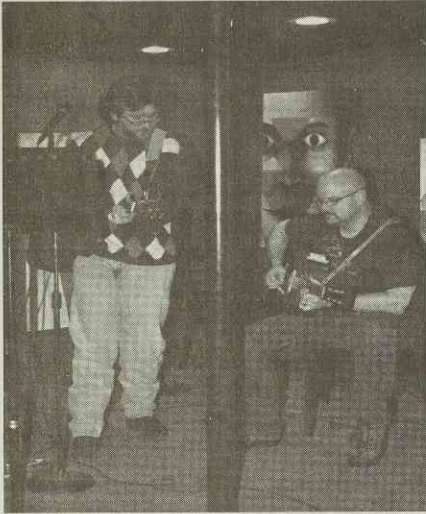
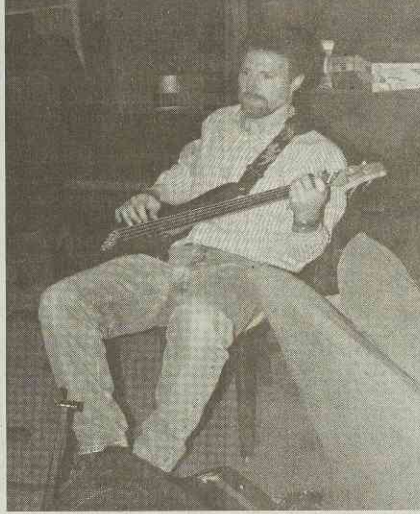


News



Several GWU teachers play every Monday night at Broad River Coffee shop during open mic night. Here, Dr. Blevins plays his bass. Dr. English and Dr. Parker play weekly during open mic night at BRCC.



Photos by: Rachel Lloyd

Professors string together off the clock

By Ashley Chatham
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Visit the Broad River Coffee Company on a Monday night and you might here bluegrass and acoustic sounds. You might even see a familiar Gardner-Webb University professor.

Open mic night at The BRCC has frequently attracted GWU professors, such as Dr. James English, Dr. David Parker, Dr. Don Olive and Dr. Kent Blevins. Playing the acoustic guitar, the bass guitar and the bongo, these professors have also attracted many students with their rhythmic sequence of sounds.

"Having open mic night is good for the community, good for Boiling Springs

and good to have a venue that people can invest themselves in," said English. "I like having this venue and, to me, it's community service."

English originally spoke with Seth Stevens, BRCC's owner, for approval of an open mic night.

"(Stevens) lets us do this at his own risk and (he) and his crew should get a lot of the credit for letting us use the facility," said English.

Three people, who have never sang in public before, have sang at the BRCC in the last month. One student read a personal essay and another read poetry.

"It is really expanding and we hope to continue getting a variety of talents, such as a drummer and a bass player, and open the

stage up to rock also," said English.

Equipment is supplied for those interested; however, individuals can bring their own equipment to feel more comfortable.

English says he would like to find a student to organize the activity, but a faculty member is more permanent and the organizing position wouldn't change hands with graduations.

There's been enough interest that the professors have to monitor time now to keep music flowing.

"Do people want the mic to themselves, do they want back up instruments, or do they just want to sit in and jam with us?" said English.

"We have to keep the music moving and make it consistent each week, but that all

depends on the number of people wanting to play.

English has worked with various open mic nights in other cities and, while each is organized differently, he's excited about facilitating this one. He's even developed the idea of having a coffee shop located under the café to create a similar atmosphere with more variety.

"It is healthy for students (to feel confident and express themselves)," said English, "whether by music, reading poetry or doing an interpretive dance."

The audience increases each week, and so does the number of participants, which range from high school students to community members.

Library survey reveals need to explain available services

In spring 2006, the library distributed user-satisfaction surveys, querying students and faculty on the main campus and at remote centers. Many of the responses were well thought out and useful to us, and we have already implemented some changes based on the input. In a later issue, we will address some of these responses.

There were some misconceptions that left us scratching our heads. A few of these questions or comments are below. These, too, serve a purpose, because the misconceptions mean that we have to work harder to get the word out about our resources and services.

Comment: I've never been sure about why the religion department was separated from non-fiction...

Response: Well, it isn't. We use the Library of Congress classification system, and fiction and nonfiction are not separated. The grouping is by subject, with letters of the alphabet representing different subjects. We can't fit the entire Main collection on one floor, so we have A-F on the third floor and G-Z on the first floor. Other collections are on the main (second) floor: reference, non-print, children's literature, etc.

Comment: Needs to be open 24 hours. All other schools are!! (and similar comments)

Response: Not exactly. In the last comprehensive survey on this topic, conducted in 2004, data was gathered from all 3,700 academic libraries in the United States. Of the 3,700, only 24 were open 24/7.

Our 2006 survey of a group of peer institutions showed that we are right in the middle in terms of the hours we are open.

Comment: Put the library online!

Response: We first thought that students who made this request meant we should have a Web site (which we do) or an online catalog (ditto). Then we realized that they think we should digitize the text of all our books and have it online. Oh, my. We would have to hire people to do the digitizing, purchase multiple sets of expensive digitizing equipment, find a place for them to set up and do it, and pay staggering fees to the copyright holders of this material - otherwise it's illegal. We have about 220,000 volumes. Even if we had the money, and even if we chose only the most recently published 25,000 volumes, it would take years and just wouldn't be practical. In theory, though, it's a great idea.

Comment: Let students check out movies. Not have to drive back just to watch it on campus.

Response: Students can check out our non-print materials. One exception is when a professor has put an item on reserve for a class, and that's the professor's call.

Comment: The library access is not an issue, but the GWU site is not accessible by most libraries. I have borrowed computers that could not access the GWU site.

Response: This one throws me completely. Any suggestions?

Technology makes psychology comfortable

Cleveland County patients benefit from telecommunications

By Karl Kakadellis
Pilot Staff Writer

A technological improvement for the psychological community has made its way to counseling centers in Cleveland County and could eventually benefit students at Gardner-Webb University.

Telemental Health, a new psychological therapy, provides mental health services via telecommunications systems. This enables two-way interactive and "real time," communication between a patient and the provider.

The form of therapy is

becoming very popular. Some experts in the field believe teletherapy is preferable to the current in-person format. For the client, this new form is more relaxing and relieves stress without a trip to a counseling center. Telemental Health helps eliminate travel for clients and travel time for counselors.

"This great possibility of therapy would be a benefit for the students and the counseling community," said Dr. Jim Whitlow, who counsels students at Gardner-Webb University.

The software would also allow the counselor or therapist to document the

same information, such as body temperature change, dilation of the pupils and perspiration, as if they were sitting right in front of the client.

A therapist could also document this in group therapy.

The benefit of this type of study, and the use of Telemental Health, is increasing rapidly.

It could eventually benefit those in the business and education industries as well. The idea of not having to be physically at a location in order to complete work is an amazing possibility; one that is now available for the public.

Alexander to run again for Shelby mayor seat; Incumbent says GWU vital to city and county

By Matt Tessnear
mattew1984@earthlink.net

Ted Alexander feels his term as Shelby's mayor has been so successful that he's going to run for re-election on Oct. 9.

Alexander announced his intentions for re-election Feb. 5. Prayer and the encouragement of residents aided the decision to run for another term, he said.

"I really do feel as if God leads you to do something as it's a calling," said Alexander. "I think public service and public office are callings. (Running again) was also affirmed by the response I got from individuals."

Alexander said that the city of Shelby has an important relationship with Gardner-Webb University, and can improve that by providing more student internships with different committees and task forces.

"Gardner-Webb is such an asset for the entire coun-

ty, Shelby in particular," said Alexander. "One of the things that I'm really trying to do and hope to increase in the next few years is to involve Gardner-Webb and its students in Shelby. With our 'Weed and Seed' program, we've partnered with the divinity school. The Historic Shelby Foundation has bought a house in one of our neglected neighborhoods. Hopefully, by the end of the month, we're going to have two divinity students move into the (renovated) house and be missionaries to that community."

Four major obstacles now face Shelby, according to Alexander: the lack of available, developable land and buildings; the need to pursue different facets of economic development such as heritage tourism; the loss of more than \$300 million in retail leakage; and the continuing need for community development. Steps have been taken over the last three years to address

these issues, he said.

During Alexander's three years in office, the violent crime rate in Shelby has decreased by 30 percent, and the crime index is the lowest it has been in 15 years, according to a letter from Alexander to The Pilot.

"I believe I have earned the trust of the people of Shelby to do the right things necessary to move us forward together as a community," Alexander said in the letter. "I continue to see serving as mayor of Shelby as just that - service, and my leadership style reflects my philosophy of engaging, empowering and assisting others as we strive together to improve our city."

Alexander can file papers to run for re-election July 6. No others have announced they will run at this time.

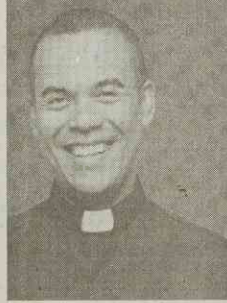
Alexander welcomes ideas and suggestions. He can be reached at 704-481-1272.

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