



# THE PILOT

## GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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Serving the Gardner-Webb University community for more than 60 years

### This Edition

Daylight-saving time is Sunday at 2 a.m. Don't forget to move your clocks one hour ahead!



#### - In campus news -

The GWU Choir is going on a mission trip over Spring Break. Also, what are other students planning for the break? See the Front Page story and Page 4 for more.

#### - In community news -

The community approves of GWU's new tobacco-free policy and Dr. Bonner is hearing about it. See more on Page 2.

What is the Cleveland County Shrinkdown and how is it affecting Gardner-Webb? See the story on Page 2.

A lunar eclipse graced Boiling Springs on Saturday night. See Page 2 for a report.

#### - Opinion/editorial -

Matt recently saw a movie that made him think about race relations in Boiling Springs. See his column on Page 3 for more.

Jacob Conley shares his thoughts on the NCAA tournament in his Wisdom on Wheels column on Page 3.

#### - In sports -

The men's basketball team competed in the 2007 General Shale Brick A-Sun tournament in Johnson City, Tenn. last weekend. Chris Gash played his last game as a Bulldog. See more on Page 5.

The track and field team competed at the conference tournament. See a report on Page 5.

### Weekend Weather

Saturday March 10	Sunday March 11
58/42	62/43
Chance of showers	Chance of showers

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### Online



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Artist rendering by: Holland Hamrick & Patterson Architects, P.A.

This building will house the Noel program and provide additional office space on campus. It will be built in location where the old boiler plant now stands.

## Noel program will have a new home

Building made possible by donation from trustee; will create office, classroom space

By Matt Tessnear  
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Gardner-Webb University's Noel Program for the Disabled will soon have a new home, thanks to a gift from former GWU Trustee Frank Nanney and contributions from other donors.

Frank R. Nanney Hall, a proposed 12,000-square-foot facility, will house the Noel Program on the first floor and have additional space for classrooms and offices on the basement level, according to Steve Varley, GWU vice president for development.

"What we're proposing to do is to construct a new building where the old boiler plant is located," said Varley, adding that the boiler plant stack will be removed.

"It's going to have a nice view from where it sits overlooking the lake. We kind of refer to that now as 'Nanney Valley' because there will be several Nanney buildings there."

Nanney Hall, a male dorm constructed in 1967 and named

in memory of C.P. and Gene B. Nanney, is located next to the proposed site. C.P. Nanney was Frank Nanney's uncle.

The Noel Program, which has provided services to students with disabilities for more than 25 years, is currently located in the Noel House, which is located in front of Dover Memorial Library on West Branch Avenue. The program currently serves more than 100 GWU students and needs more space.

The new facility will provide about 6,000 square feet of space for the Noel Program, according to Cheryl Potter, the program's director.

"We look forward to having a building that is totally accessible to all our students and being able to have our production facilities centralized in one location," said Potter. "The staff will have individual offices to assure the privacy of the students while we're meeting with them. Accessibility is a key element to the new building."

Potter also said the university will benefit from the space

downstairs in the new facility, and by the space in the Noel House, which will be used by another department after the move.

"It's good news and we're very excited about it," said Dr. Ben Leslie, GWU provost and senior vice president. "We need that extra room. We also need the classroom and office space on campus and this will help."

A letter was sent Feb. 26 to students in the Noel Program. The letter informed participants of the new facility.

A groundbreaking for the facility is tentatively scheduled for March 22 at 10 a.m. The event is open to the campus.

"There's going to be some dirt turned over," said Varley, in reference to the groundbreaking. "You'll see construction going on very soon."

Mike Hardin, vice president for finance, said the building should be ready for use in early to mid summer 2008.

Nanney presented the gift a little more than one year ago and

was interested in doing something good for the campus, said Varley.

"I got interested in the Noel Program because I was on campus one day and I saw a young lady who was blind," said Nanney, who just rotated off the board after serving as a trustee for four years.

"She was going into one of the buildings there and that just made me think I'd like to help that program. It should give them more space for their administration and for their projects to help the people who have disadvantages. (The Noel Program) can help them to a better life. It will make it a greater university."

Many people have been involved in the project and a lot of fundraising and gifts for the building have also been made, said Varley.

"It's good news and we're very excited about it," said Dr. Ben Leslie, GWU provost and senior vice president. "We need that extra room. We also need the classroom and office space on campus and this will help."

## RAs punished for participation in Facebook group; 3 terminated

By Matt Tessnear  
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Trae Vickers plans to graduate from Gardner-Webb University on May 12, but he had to move out of his room in Apartment A of the University Commons complex on Sunday.

Vickers, a GWU resident advisor and senior psychology major from Winchester, Va., was one of three students terminated from RA positions with the Gardner-Webb University Department of Housing and Residence Education.

The terminations came after Vickers, along with several other GWU students, joined a Facebook.com group named "My RA sucks," he said.

Housing department officials found out about the group and took action, he said.

"They told me, based on a previous incident where I did not support a housing department staff member and (this incident), that those were grounds for my termination of RA in building A," Vickers said.

Vickers moved into Apartment F on Sunday.

He received a letter informing him of his termination on Monday

night. He said he joined the group, "My RA sucks," in an effort to see why students were complaining and assist problems.

"Facebook is a great socialization/communication tool for college students; however, when residence life finds out about a group and they check to see if members of their staff are part of a group that doesn't support residence life and their staff members are called in and penalized for being part of that group, where do they draw the line?"

Kyle Lanning, a freshman from Asheville, created the Facebook group "My RA sucks," and said he didn't mean for the group to get anyone in trouble.

"I didn't want this to get out of hand," said Lanning. "I really didn't."

Vickers said four students were kept after the housing department meeting on Feb. 23 and told about the group.

Vickers said he individually met with housing department officials and his graduate resident director on Feb. 26.

At that time, Vickers was given six days to move from his apartment.

Vickers said another student,

James Kernicky, a junior mathematics major from Shelby, was terminated from his RA position and one more RA has been placed on probation; however, those students could not be reached for comment and the housing department could not substantiate their status.

Vickers said GWU Dean of Students Bruce Moore told him he cannot appeal the termination because it is being treated as a personnel case.

Sherry Ingram took over as GWU director of the housing department on March 1.

In a phone interview, she told The Pilot she met with Vickers and told him to tell the truth about the incident.

"Obviously we are dealing with sensitive personnel matters right now," said Ingram. "I would love to tell you everything that happened, but I can't because of FERPA issues. But if they told you they were terminated, then that's probably true."

Ingram said that students should approach her with issues concerning living conditions on campus, including anything deal-

see RAs, page 2

## Florida at top of list for spring break destinations

By Karl Kakadelis  
Pilot Staff Writer

Spring break starts for Gardner-Webb University students after classes today. As midterms end and the vacation begins, some students will trade Boiling Springs for sunny beaches, while others will use the break for family time, rest and job searches.

Freshman Kyle Webber said that Florida will be the hot spot.

For many GWU students, Panama City, Fla., appears to be a popular destination, because of scuba diving and fishing opportunities. Daytona Beach; South Padre Island, Texas; Lake Havansu, Ariz.; and Key West are also popular destinations this year.

While some students are soaking up rays at the beach, Caleb Moore said he will spend the time with his parents.

Some students just need time to catch their breath.

"These five days will be a well-deserved break," said fresh-

see Break, page 2