

News

Samba Fall's former boss? Pamela Anderson

By Ashley Chatham
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Gardner-Webb University student Samba Fall never imagined that his basketball skills would lead him to actress Pamela Anderson's front door. Yes, that's the Pamela Anderson of "Baywatch" and rock 'n' roll husband fame.

Almost three years ago, recruiters came from Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif., to Fall's home in Senegal, Africa, to offer him a scholarship and a position on the basketball team.

Fall, then in his senior year of high school, began planning his trip from Africa to Malibu.

"It was definitely a culture clash, but I think I handled it very well," said Fall.

For the first couple of months at Pepperdine, Fall played basketball with scriptwriter Gary Horn's son.

In November of that year, Horn introduced Fall to Pamela Anderson, who was looking for a basketball coach for her two sons.

Fall coached Anderson's sons every Sunday morning for the year he attended Pepperdine.

"She is a really nice lady and always welcomed me into her home," said Fall.

Fall was also invited to two of her parties, a Halloween party and her oldest son's birthday party.

"During one of the parties I had a chance to meet NBA player John Salley and a baseball Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson," said Fall. "At that time, Pam was dating a baseball player on the Los Angeles Dodgers."

During Fall's first year at Pepperdine, he did not play during any regular season games, but instead, trained to get ready for the upcoming year.

"The coach said I was not ready, but he did not see it the same way as I did, so at the end of the year, I transferred to a school where I could play," said Fall, who attended Pepperdine from August 2004 to June 2005.

In August 2005, Fall transferred to Daytona Beach Community College in Florida.

"When I got to DBCC, the basketball team did not even rank on the charts, but by December, we were number six in the nation and beat Chipola College in Marianna, Fla., who was

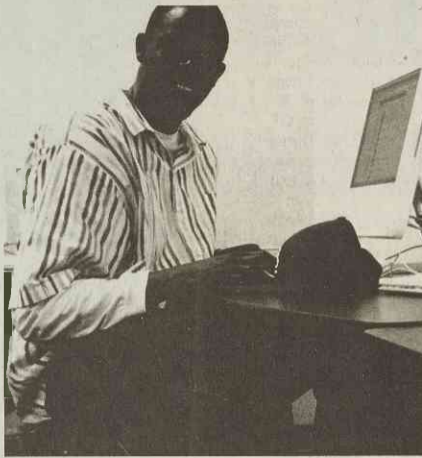


Photo by: Ashley Chatham

Samba Fall sits in the Mac Lab in the Communication Studies Hall. He's made several drastic changes in setting between Senegal and Boiling Springs.

said Fall. "Our team ended the season 25-5 and overall it was a wonderful year for me."

After the school year in Daytona, Fall graduated with an associates in liberal arts and did not have a desire to stay another year just to play basketball. That's when GWU basketball coaches went to Daytona to

mate.

Sadly for Fall, his roommate made the decision to move to Utah to attend college there. Fall moved to Boiling Springs in August 2006 and is majoring in public relations.

"Gardner-Webb is a much smaller school than what I'm used to, but I have a better chance to be closer

to people and socialize with people," says Fall.

Fall said that at Pepperdine, Los Angeles was only 45 minutes away and at Daytona, the beach was just five minutes away.

"I quickly realized that big schools and big cities have a lot of distractions. There were always clubs to go to and bands to watch that happened to be so close to the school that they became distractions after classes and on the weekends."

He certainly doesn't regret his time at the other schools.

"I got to experience many new things in California as well as Daytona," said Fall. "I got a chance to work for the NASCAR race, the Daytona 500, helping with parking and directing traffic."

"When I first came here I had never heard of NASCAR. It was very, very loud and you could hear it from everywhere."

Despite Fall's U.S. adventures, he misses his family and friends very much. He has not seen his family in almost three years. He's never met his baby brother Abdou.

Fall says that his family

does not know very much about America, but they want what is best for him.

Fall said that there are many differences in our culture and his. For instance, his father has two wives. In Senegal, the men are allowed to have up to four wives.

In his case, each wife lives in her own home with her children and about every three days his father travels back and forth between the two homes. He has three brothers and eight sisters. Fall is the oldest son.

"I am very close to all my siblings and I miss them all very much," said Fall. "Several times a year, the entire family gathers together for a Muslim party and at the end of the party we get all get together and have one huge feast."

Fall is enjoying his stay in Boiling Springs, but says it's not his first school choice.

"If I could, I would definitely choose to go back to Pepperdine."

That's understandable. Samba, we won't hold it against you. Among other reasons, working for Ms. Anderson sounds like a good deal.

Enjoy laughs courtesy of the theater department

By Karl Kakadelis
Pilot Staff Writer

If you like short plays, but missed the Gardner-Webb University theater department's last installment of "24 Hours," you have another chance to take in a series of one-act pieces.

The department will present "All in the Timing," a series of five two-minute plays, from Tuesday

through April 28.

Each performance will be in the Millennium Playhouse, which is located behind the Communication Studies Hall on Main Street.

The plays are all comedies and the entire show should last about 10-15 minutes each night.

Caleb Moore, a junior theater major, will perform in "Sure Thing."

"They are funny and quirky and should be fun to be there and watch," said Moore, adding that students should take advantage of the entertainment opportunity.

"Any time someone can sit there and relax during a stressful week, such as the week before exams, they should."

Scot Lahaie, director of theater, will oversee the production.

The plays are also congruent with "24 Hours," a twice-annual short plays production at GWU. Students design and direct each performance, said Lahaie.

Heather Bartlett, a junior theater major, said she hopes the student body and public enjoy the performance.

"It is a great time to be out laughing and relaxing with some comedy," added Moore.

There's more to a film score than meets the ears

By Seth Huber
Special to The Pilot

Film music is a very slippery subject. It is usually perceived subconsciously, if at all, yet it can have as great an impact on a motion picture as scripting, acting or directing.

It is a very esoteric topic that I am well aware is not of general interest. If at this point you are still reading, don't stop. Bear with me as I educate and open minds about a subject that I am deeply interested in and moved by.

Music used in films can be of three basic categories — an original score composed especially for the film in question, popular or period songs, or a mixture of both. All three approaches have been used very successfully.

In my mind, one of the

greatest successes of purely original scoring is John Williams' work on "Raiders of the Lost Ark," the first film of the "Indiana Jones" trilogy.

Williams' score fits the film in a truly stunning, almost organic way. Not a note is out of place, and Williams somehow managed to strike the perfect balance between the many elements of the film — adventure, mystery, romance, fistfights and even the supernatural aspects concerning the Ark of the Covenant.

George Lucas' 1973 film "American Graffiti" is a classic example of a film scored purely with period songs. The songs chosen by Lucas were not used for their popularity. They are used to set the tone of the picture, which is a semi-autobiographical story set in 1962 California.

Each song is very wisely chosen, helping the viewer emotionally connect with the characters.

A great example of the final category is "October Sky." This film mixes period songs from the 1950s and a score by composer Mark Isham. The songs are very wisely used as background music for montages or as part of the setting (playing "It's All in the Game" in a dance hall, for instance).

Isham's score is the main vehicle for dramatic tension and influencing the audience emotionally. It is a score that also builds through the course of the film. The first cue of the score is primarily a violin solo, and the weight of the full orchestra is reserved for the end of the film, when the futures of the main characters are revealed and the credits begin to roll.

A word about songs as used in film: While they can have a great impact on a picture and be used very effectively, there is always the danger that the audience will disconnect from the picture and be caught up in the things they associate with the song in question.

A good example is something as iconic as Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Free Bird," used so effectively in the film "Forrest Gump."

Next time, I'll discuss the role of film music. What should it do? How should it interact with the film? Come back to learn more about the music of the movies.

The seed for this column was planted in a conversation with Pilot Editor-in-Chief Matt Tessner. Seth Huber is a junior music composition major from Newton, N.C. He can be reached at sethcomposer@gmail.com.

Spring Formal nears

By Karl Kakadelis
Pilot Staff Writer

The plans are finalized and Gardner-Webb University will hold its annual Spring Formal April 28 at 8 p.m. in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center.

The theme for this year's event, which is sponsored by the Student Entertainment Association, is "Night Life."

"Everyone should come out and support Gardner-Webb," said Daniel Carby, the student who is the director of the event.

"We don't get many chances to have an organized party. Spring Formal is the one thing everyone looks forward to. Come out

and enjoy the event."

Karissa Weir, director of Student Leadership and Activities, and Annette Simmons, office manager for student activities, are also providing assistance for the event's development and operation.

Students are also helping out. M'liissa Lawrence, senior director of the Student Entertainment Association, and sophomore December Jones are also helping to organize the formal.

For the student body, this is one of the most anticipated events annually.

"I will not miss this for anything," said junior Jessie Earls.

"I love the Spring Formal."

Snack Shop owners hope to open new eatery in May

By Rachel Lloyd
Pilot Photo Editor

The brothers who own the Snack Shop on Main Street in Boiling Springs and Don's Italian Restaurant in Shelby are taking on a new venture.

Ilias "Louie" Tsambounieris and his brother Ioannis — "John" — are turning the former Uptown Café into a restaurant called Georges, to provide Boiling Springs with another dining option.

The restaurant will serve a tasty variety of Mediterranean-Greek-Italian cuisine, Louie Tsambounieris said.

At first, George's was going to be another Don's Italian Restaurant, but he decided to do the mixed cui-

sine and name it in memory of his late father, George.

According to Tsambounieris, George used to sit on the bench at the corner on Main Street. George took an interest in the corner and suggested the idea of opening another restaurant there.

There is no definite opening day because of material and construction delays, but the restaurant should open around the latter part of May and no later than June, Tsambounieris said.

When asked about meal pricing, he commented on the ever-changing costs in the food market. From Tsambounieris' descriptions, items and prices on the menu will be similar to choices at Olive Garden.

Church and state topic of inaugural Brown lecture

By Rebecca Clark
Special to The Pilot

The Joyce Compton Brown lecture series will be presenting Dr. James Milton Dunn as its speaker next Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Dover Theater at Gardner-Webb University.

Currently a professor at Wake Forest University Divinity School, Dunn will be discussing the issues of church and state.

Dr. Matt Theado, chair of the Joyce Compton Brown committee, which chooses the speakers, said Dunn is a nationally known figure.

"I think it will be edgy, controversial and fun," Theado said.

Dunn was chosen because "he is steeped in Baptist tradition and is an engaging speaker. We thought he'd be perfect for us."

Dunn served for 20 years as executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The Baptist Joint Committee, with offices in Wash-



Dunn

ington, D.C., deals with issues of religious liberty, and separation of church and state, for 14 Baptist conventions and conferences in the United States.

He frequently testifies before congressional committees.

In addition to receiving various awards and recognitions, Dunn has appeared on major network television news programs, including "Crossfire," "The Today Show," and "Nightline."

Janet Land, head of the English department said the series was set up in honor of Joyce Compton Brown.

According to Theado, the lecture series is just getting underway this year.

"She [Brown] went to great lengths to establish LOTS, 'Life of the Scholar' program. When she retired last year it was set up in her honor."

He said the goal is to have two speakers per semester.

So far there are already three lined up for next year. The series for next year is titled "A Glimpse of a New World."

All faculty and students are welcome to attend the lecture. There will be a reception afterwards.