

## Sports



Photo by Ashley Carter

Denaj Seymour swims the butterfly in the Gardner-Webb men's swim team's first meet ever. They lost 184 - 190 against Limestone.

## Mermen do well in inaugural meet

By Lanny Newton  
Special to The Pilot

The Gardner-Webb men's swim team participated in its first meet ever Oct. 12 as it traveled with the women's team to take on Limestone. The men battled throughout but lost in the last race of the meet for a final score of 190-184.

The team picked up its first dual-meet win Friday by defeating VMI 119-90 in Radford, Va.

"[The men's swim team] really gained some experience... the first part of the year we concentrate on improvement, improving strength, improving technique, and I saw some really good signs of that," said Coach Mike Simpson.

"Once you get into competitive experience you don't know what's going to happen, but they proved they had a toughness to them, which is great."

The men's program

sports 11 freshmen in the 13-man inaugural team. At Limestone, the young team was facing a 12-point deficit with three events remaining, but executed a furious comeback.

By the time the team went into the final event the score was tied at 168. It was for naught, as GWU finished second in the 400 freestyle relay.

The team won against VMI 154-54 in Saturday's meet.

## Bulldogs Top VMI for Key Big South Win

By Jacob Conley  
Pilot sports editor

For Gardner-Webb football Coach Steve Patton, beginning the conference schedule is like the start of a new season. If that is the case, the Bulldogs began the second season in style by posting a 36-22 come-from-behind win over VMI.

"Any time you can get a conference win on the road, that's a big thing," said Patton, who garnered the 100th victory of his career with the win.

"And every time you win it makes the next game even bigger."

The win seemed to be a sure thing early in the game as GWU (3-4, 1-0 Big South) scored two quick touchdowns in the first quarter.

The first of these scores came via the defense as Quan Jackson picked off a pass and returned it to the end zone for the early 7-0 lead. The 'Dog defense bent but did not break against the Keydet option attack. This allowed GWU to score its second touchdown of the quarter on David Montgomery's 19-yard run.

VMI (2-5, 0-1 Big South) posted a furious comeback in

the second quarter, scoring 15 unanswered points.

"We're going to have to play better," said Patton. "But credit VMI with a good effort."

The first three came off the foot of The VMI kicker. Then Keydet quarterback Kyle Hughes executed a sneak from a yard out.

However, the extra point was missed, allowing GWU to maintain a 14 -9 lead. The final score of the quarter came on a 16-yard run by Howard Abegesah.

The ensuing 2-point conversion failed, leaving GWU trailing 15-14 at halftime.

The Bulldogs wasted little time taking the lead in second half as Devin Campbell connected with Dobson Collins from 45 yards out to give GWU a 6-point lead at 21-15. VMI then turned to its ground attack into a 90-yard drive.

The final play of the drive came on another quarterback option run, this time from 18 yards out, to give the Keydets the lead at 22-21 with just under 12 minutes left in the contest.

GWU's offense could do little on its next possession, giving VMI the ball back with a chance to run out the

clock. But a bad option pitch on the GWU 16-yard line gave the 'Dogs new life and GWU's air attack took advantage of the turnover.

Stan Doolittle's 61-yard bomb to Duvaughn Flagler gave GWU the lead for good at 27-22 with five minutes left in the game. The Bulldogs then went for 2 and converted it out of the power I for a 7-point lead, 29-22.

With just under five minutes left, the GWU defense had to stop VMI to preserve the victory, and the team did so emphatically when national Player of the Year candidate Brian Johnston delivered a bone-crushing hit on a fake punt.

The Bulldog offense then capped off the scoring on the day with two minutes left on Montgomery's second touchdown of the day, providing the final margin of 36-22.

With the win GWU sits tied atop the Big South standings with Liberty, and hopes to claim the top spot outright next week when the team faces the Bucs of Charleston Southern.

The game will be at 6:30 p.m. in order to accommodate a national TV audience and can be seen on Sports South (channel 60 on campus).

## Lady Bulldogs dine on Dolphins

By Lanny Newton  
Special to The Pilot

The Gardner-Webb University women's soccer team took on Jacksonville University on Senior Day Saturday. On a day when seven players were honored for their tenure and the field was dedicated, the Lady Bulldogs defeated the Jacksonville Dolphins 1-0. Appropriately enough the lone goal of the match was scored by a senior, Elicia Morris.

"You couldn't ask for a better scenario as far as the seniors stepping up and having a game-winner in a big game we needed to help us get into the conference [tournament]," said Coach Kevin Mounce.

"The defense played well today, we're getting better each and every game. Probably one of the best forwards in the league right now is Keri Zwickler from Jacksonville. I thought our defense did a great job shutting her down."

GWU kept possession of the ball for most of the first half as the team outshot Jacksonville 12 to 3 and led in shots on goal 7 to 1. Senior forwards Lindsay Gladhill and Britney Woods had excellent chances in the first half, but opposing keeper Rebecca Stott made two amazing saves to keep the game scoreless at

*"The defense played well today, we're getting better each and every game."*

Coach Kevin Mounce

the half.

In the 74th minute the home team was finally able to get on the board as Sarah Keyser rifled a corner kick towards the far post, where it was headed home by Morris. It was the first goal of the season for Morris and could not have come at a more opportune time as it would prove the difference-maker.

The win it provided moved Gardner-Webb to 4-4 in conference play and 6-9 overall. The win moved Gardner-Webb into fourth place in the league heading into the last 10 days of the season. Only six teams make the league tournament.

Gardner-Webb's next game is on the road at Mercer Thursday. The Bulldogs will return home for one final game on Oct. 31.

Mounce encourages all students to come out and support their Lady Bulldogs as they take on Campbell in their final regular-season game.

## Bulldog mermaids keep on winning

By Lanny Newton  
Special to The Pilot

The Bulldog women's swim team continued its winning ways in the opener against Limestone Oct. 12, carrying over from their fourth straight conference title, and taking home a 220-136 victory, taking first in all but one event.

Gardner-Webb moved into the Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association this year and started conference play at Radford and VMI versus VMI, James Madison and Radford Friday and Saturday. The new conference, which includes such teams

as Florida Gulf Coast and Davidson will provide new challenges for the Lady Bulldogs, who are trying to take a fifth straight title.

They will have to rely on their traditional strengths of chemistry and teamwork to prevail in this new year, as they lost three key seniors, including All-American Terra Wilson, and gained 13 new freshmen this year.

"Limestone's girls were nowhere near as good as their guys ... so our girls quite honestly were, except in one or two events, competing against themselves," said Coach Mike Simpson. "[This year in the new con-

ference] it's going to be very different. This conference has a lot more depth. It's got to be a lot tougher to win, so just like what we always talked about in the past, our main focus is being concerned about ourselves and not really concerned about other teams."

The squad downed Radford by a score of 167-30 while edging JMU, 122-108.

Friday the team knocked off the VMI Keydets by a score of 171-4. There is only one swimmer on that school's women's swim team.

The team won Saturday over Radford 155-47 over VMI 180-5

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## Van Graham's been there, done that

By Rebecca Clark  
Pilot editor

Dr. Van Graham might appear to be unassuming and ordinary, but a few minutes spent talking with this professor in the Gardner-Webb University School of Business will reveal that he is anything but ordinary.

Graham can explain an algebra equation, the process of starting a school, all about law, and also about intelligence work in the military.

His past has included a variety of jobs whose locations spanned the United States.

Born and raised in California, he joined the United States Air Force, where he worked in intelligence gathering for the National Security Agency.

After leaving the military, he went to Asbury College in Kentucky, a "little bitty school in a little bitty town - kind of like Gardner-Webb," he described it.

At Asbury he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and began teaching high school math.

"The first year I taught was in Indiana," he said.

Shortly afterwards he and his family moved to Tyler, Texas.

Once in Texas, Graham helped a church start a private school grades kindergarten

through 12. It ended up being a 10-year project, he said.

One of his grandsons graduated last year from the school.

After that, he moved on once again, this time to further his education. He went to law school at Baylor University in Texas, and practiced law in Wyoming after graduating.

In Wyoming he served as a deputy prosecutor for seven years.

It was in 1999 that Graham ended up at GWU.

"I'd always intended to get back to teaching at some point," he said, "and then I saw this opening at GWU, which I had never heard of before, and found out it was a Christian university. I sent in my information and was offered a job."

Graham now teaches business law. He said his favorite part about teaching is the interaction with students.

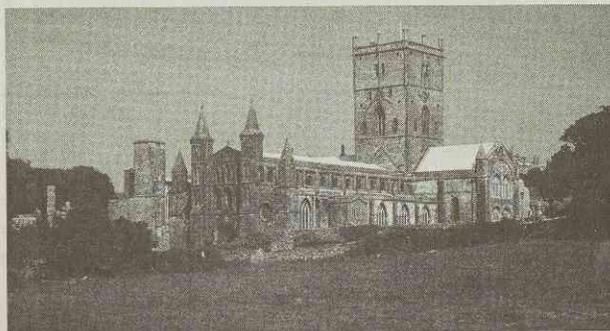
"I just love the contact with the students and having the opportunity to not only teach, but help people."

He said it is rewarding to be able to work in a Christian environment and to be free to incorporate biblical principles.

"In other places you can't teach biblical principles in something like ethics," he said.

Van Graham lives in Boiling Springs with his wife, Pat.

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