



THE PILOT

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY



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This Edition

— In campus news —

Dr. Doug Bryan is taking a new post at Gardner-Webb. See page 2.

The primaries are here and North Carolinians can finally make a difference. See page 2.

See an eclipse in a far-off land with others from GWU. See page 2.

The 'Bald Soprano' cast gets kudos. See page 2.

— Opinion/editorial —

Editor Rebecca Clark says farewell to life as a GWU student. See page 3.

Jacob Conley writes his last Wisdom on Wheels column and shares lessons learned at GWU. See page 3.

— In sports —

An unofficial GWU softball team takes second place at a Wake Forest tournament. See page 4.

It was a good season for the men's tennis team, and the fall season looks promising. See page 4.

Lanny Newton prognosticates about the autumn sports. Page 4.

You win some, you lose some, as the Lady Bulldogs found out. Page 3.

Weather

Today	Thursday
April 30	May 1
73/48	81/56
Sunny	Sunny

Source:
Weather
Channel

Index

News	page 2
Op/Ed	page 3
Sports	page 3
Photo	page 4

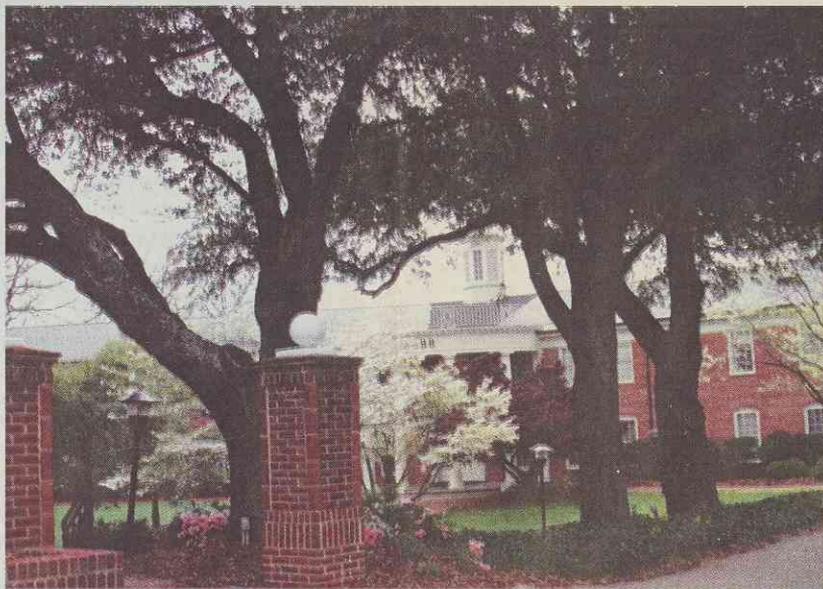


Photo by Pilot photo staff

Some of these trees in front of Webb Hall may be cut down.

Webb Hall trees may face ax

By Christopher Shaver
Pilot staff writer

Gardner-Webb University President Dr. A. Frank Bonner has expressed interest in cutting down two or three trees that hover over the GWU sign in front of Webb Hall.

"They've gotten so big, through the way they've grown together, that they just block the view," Bonner said.

He added that the roots have made the sidewalk pavement and bricks behind the sign uneven, consequently making them into a tripping hazard.

He said he would like sod put in and the area landscaped.

However, Bonner said he didn't want to decrease the total number of trees at GWU.

"I don't want to lose trees for environmental issues," he said.

"I want to plant at least one tree somewhere else on campus for however many we cut down. If anything, I hope we can have a net gain of trees on campus."

However, not everyone is happy with this plan. Senior Renardo Kennedy said that if the trees aren't dying then GWU should keep them.

"Trees are living, breathing

things," Kennedy said. "Unless there is a possibility of seriously hurting someone with a falling branch, then I think they should work around them."

Junior, Jessica Jones, said GWU officials are trying too hard to make the school look better.

"Yes, it's important to be appealing to the eye, but when do we say enough?" she said. "They're important for the environment and for life."

Bonner said he has talked with a few people about the issue and said they were in favor of cutting the trees down.

Conley takes 3rd in video game contest

By Kory McNair
Pilot staff writer

Saturday, Jacob Conley took place in the 2008 Big South Conference Video Game Tournament in Charlotte and took home third place.

"It was really fun," said Conley, who took home a complete E.A. Sports package for the Xbox 360 (a total of six games) for finishing third in the tournament.

Seven participants showed off their skills at NCAA '08 Basketball for the Xbox 360.

Each participant had to play with his own school during the course of the tournament.

A student from Winthrop won the event.

"I had never played a Xbox 360 before, so to finish third was a good accomplishment," said Conley when asked how the video game experience was for him.

"It was definitely a good experience. Six video games is a pretty good deal for third place," said Conley.

The only problem with winning the six video games, according to Conley is that he doesn't have an Xbox 360.

"I'm trying to figure out what to do with them," said Conley about his prize.

When it comes to going green, GWU a tiny bud

By Lauren Taylor
Pilot staff writer

The green movement in the U.S. has grown like kudzu. However, one would hardly know it looking around Gardner-Webb and its environment.

Students living on campus would rather drive their cars to class than walk 10 minutes or ride a bike. Lamps light rooms where no eye is reading, and sinks stream water where no hands are washing. TVs glow and radios play in empty dorm rooms while class is in session, and students seem to think it's alright.

Since the original Earth Day in 1970, student bodies at many conservative colleges have equated environmental conservation with liberalism and radical, left-wing thinking. Though this view is softening, the movement has not yet reached Boiling Springs in full force.

An article in Christianity Today, "Christian Colleges' Green Revolution," said that students at Christian schools are waking up to the relation of stewardship and sustainability to the environment. Instead of shying away from environmentalism, students are beginning to embrace it as part of their faith.

"According to Paul Cortis, president of the interdenominational Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, about 40 of 105 North American member schools have adopted significant green initiatives," wrote Cindy Crosby, author of the article.

Integrating faith and earth stewardship is still a fledgling idea here, one that needs nurturing by the entire student population.

Dr. James English, a GWU biology professor who yearns to see students impassioned for the planet they inhabit, wonders why there isn't a greater outcry for change.

"It's not about faculty or administrators," English said, "it's about the community, which is the students."

See EARTH page 2

Relaxation on students' summer agendas

By Patrice Blackmon
Pilot staff writer

Students at Gardner-Webb University students are finishing up the semester and preparing for the summer. Most students are looking forward to relaxing and chilling with their friends, spending time with their families and being home. Many will be working or doing an internship.

Jennette Simpson, a sophomore majoring in communications, said, "This summer I plan on relaxing and sleeping in. I am so tired of homework that I am ready to relax and do nothing."

"This semester has been challenging for me and there have been many ups and downs that I have had to overcome this year. But luckily I have made it almost through, and I am so proud of myself. I want to be able to face next semester with a good and positive attitude."

Latasha Smith's plans are similar. "This summer I plan on keep-

ing active, having fun, and helping out with my family," the sociology major said. "I would like to start a work out plan over the summer so that I may stay in shape and keep maintaining my lovely body."

"I am also going to help out with my brothers and sister. I will help out with babysitting and watching them over the summer."

While Simpson and Smith have relaxation at the top of their plans, some students have other ideas for their time away from Gardner-Webb.

"This summer I have a lot of plans in mind," said Larry Johnson, a freshman.

"I would like to get a summer job so that I may save up money to go to Australia in October. It will not be cheap nor easy raising the money, but if I work a lot then I will be able to go on my trip and have fun."

"I also plan on visiting my grandmother in Florida if I get the chance. I love it when she makes

her famous blueberry pancakes. This summer I just want to relax a little and just enjoy life."

Alicia Baxter, a freshman majoring in physiology, said, "This summer I plan on getting an internship. I do not know yet what I would like to do, but getting an internship sounds like a good plan to me. If that does not work out, I guess I will be sleeping a lot and hang out with my friends from back home."

For some, this summer with be their first after as a GWU graduate.

"I am so glad to graduating this year, I don't know what to do," said Gerry Hollis, a senior religion major. "These four years have been a long journey for me and I am so glad for it to be finally over with. My dream has always been to be a youth pastor and missionary across seas, so that I may be able to minister the word of God to people."

"I believe that I will be prosperous in all that I do, and I also believe that I will have pleasant summer."

Johnston ready to wow Kansas City Chiefs

By Jacob Conley
Pilot sports editor

For the most part, Brian Johnston likes roller coasters, but the GWU senior defensive end would have preferred not to be on one during the last day of the NFL draft.

"It was the best day of my life, then the worst day, and then the best day again," said Johnston, who was selected in the seventh round Sunday. He was the 210th overall pick, and is now a member of the Kansas City Chiefs.

"I was expecting to go in the third or fourth rounds. When I fell all the way to the seventh, I was nervous and had to readjust my thinking."

Aside from being drafted, John-

ston had another goal that day: to avoid the dubious distinction of being "Mr. Irrelevant," as the last pick in the draft is known.

"Oh my gosh, I was so worried," said Johnston. "My friends would have given me so much grief. It would have been unbearable."

As for his new employers, Johnston had mixed feelings.

"Honestly, I was not all that impressed with Kansas City itself, but once I met with the coaches, who are great people, I realized that this was the best place for me and now I can't wait to get there."

Johnston is hopeful that draft day success will bring attention to GWU as he takes the lessons he learned on Saturdays in Boiling

Springs and applies them on Sundays in the NFL.

"The coaches here were great," said Johnston. "I learned so much from them. Hopefully, my being drafted will let people see that there is high quality football played at GWU and other FCS (I-AA) schools."

Johnston is the first Bulldog to be drafted since Terry Guess in 1996, and will join former teammate Jim Maxwell in the NFL ranks. Johnston is ready to make an impression once he reports to camp.

"I will make sure I perform every time I step on the field—whether that's in practice or on Sundays," said Johnston.

"I can promise you I'm going to work my tail off."