

## News

## Frank Nanney Hall up and running

Shauntel Greene  
Pilot Staff Writer

Community members and donors joined Gardner-Webb University personnel for the ribbon cutting Aug. 20 that officially opened Frank Nanney Hall.

The building includes eight individual testing rooms — two that are wheelchair accessible, classrooms with low distraction and privacy, better quality alternative text, a resource room which allows students and staff to have access to material all in one place, and reader appliances.

The Noel Program is the primary beneficiary of the new facility, which replaces its cramped offices in a converted house across from Dover Library.

The Noel Program, which assists students with disabilities

and was established since the 1950s has embraced its new surroundings.

Cheryl Potter, program director, spoke of the many changes that have occurred since the opening of the new building.

"Students are proud of the building and appreciate the support from administration and privacy is no longer an issue," she said.

Potter also said that students and staff no longer have to seek out private settings, but now have offices for disability specialists, which creates a better environment for Noel Program students.

"It's nice because the Noel Program needed a better facility to serve and accommodate its students and it reflects how nice the Noel Program really is," said student Brandi Knight.

Students are not the only ones enjoying the new building.

The social sciences department now has space on the bottom level of the new building.

"I love the new building, and out of my 42 years teaching at Gardner-Webb this is my second-best office," said Dr. Anthony Eastman, a social sciences professor.

His former office was in the bottom of Dover Chapel.

"Rooms are larger and airy-light feeling which is a huge difference from the cramped classrooms of Dover Chapel," said Dr. Donna Ellington, also a social sciences professor.

"The only drawback is that I feel like we are now removed from main business, and less students and faculty drop by and check in."

The foreign language department has moved, too, now that Frank Nanney Hall is done. It's now located in the former

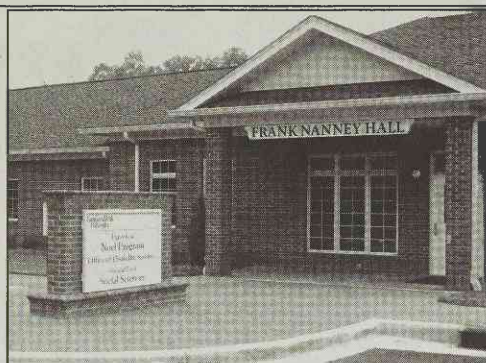


Photo by Tyler Kucifer

Frank Nanney Hall provides the Noel Program with long-needed space and facilities. Other departments share the largess by having office and classroom spaces.

Noel House, which has been renovated.

"It's a new experience being united for those of us that have been here through the years, and it's really refreshing," said Dr. Charles Moore, Spanish professor.

Many of the foreign language

professors now have more office space and easier parking.

This is just the beginning for the Noel Program.

It has goals to increase the number of academic support groups and workshops, and offer more enrichment activities, now that space is available.

## Brad Lail studies ceramic methods in China

By Andrew Veeder  
Pilot staff writer

Brad Lail has been crafting clay into beautiful vases, jugs, bowls and other shapes since he was 16. Now the junior at Gardner-Webb is in Jingdezhen, China, studying traditional pottery methods until mid-December.

He is there as part of a decade-old program sponsored by West Virginia University. Only a few students from across the nation are selected to participate.

Lail, who left Sept. 7, only recently declared art as his major.

"I realized this summer how passionate I was about pottery and art, and that's when I decided to be an art major," he said. "It's not too often a guy gets an opportunity to make a career out of something that he loves to do all day long."

His studies in China will earn Lail 12 hours of credit in various courses. Those courses include ceramics, art history and Chinese history.

Lail knows exactly what he wants to bring back most from this trip.

"Glazed chemistry knowledge, getting people to know my name, and different kiln building techniques," he said.

"I really need to grow on the glazed chemistry aspect of pottery, and building kilns especially. It's said that because of the clay sources in China and the easy access that they have to it, China is close to 1,000 years ahead in pottery."

"We as the U.S. are

very influenced by China. I'm really looking forward to learning about, and bringing back, new methods to the U.S."

Lail will achieve his goal of getting his name out there without much difficulty.

"In October, there is going to be a huge ceramic conference that the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts is hosting," Lail said.

The conference, which is being held in China, will be a superb time for Lail to begin networking.

## Freedom pushes homesickness away

By Shauntel Greene  
Pilot staff writer

Each year brings a whole new group of fresh faces to campus, from all over the country and the state.

As the freshman journeyed into Boiling Springs on Aug. 15, they were greeted by the brassy noise of cowbells, cheers, and welcoming signs.

The class of 2012 came in with a record number of first-time freshmen -- 443.

After last year's big win against Kentucky, many more prospective students were drawn to becoming a part of Gardner-Webb.

Freshmen Josh Spence said, "Gardner-Webb was my first choice because you guys beat Kentucky, and I'm also a die hard basketball fan of Ayrin McMillan."

The transition from living at home to living at the university can cause homesickness.

Despite that, many freshmen seem to be adjusting just fine. Many students enjoy the free-

dom of making their own decisions and not having a curfew.

Some who grew up in big cities, like Jinel Syfox from New York City, are having trouble becoming acclimated with the slow-paced life at Gardner-Webb compared to the upbeat pace of city life.

"Having time in between classes is an adjustment and is really different," said Syfox.

Karla Cruz, who is also a New York native said, "Although I was homesick the first couple of days in new surroundings, by the third day here I was having too much fun to even think about home."

Students from nearby feel the same way.

"I'm not homesick at all! I haven't been home since school started and I live an hour and 45 minutes away," said freshmen Lindsey Krauss.

Although many freshmen are enjoying the easy pace of classes and the absence of parents, some miss certain aspects of home like "being away from my home church" said Eric Hussey.

## Theater awards elude GWU nominees

By Molly Phipps  
Pilot staff writer

Gardner-Webb didn't bring home any awards from the fifth annual Metrolina Theatre Association Awards Sunday night in Charlotte, but winning isn't the reason for competing.

Professor Scot Lahaie, head of the university's theater section, said the point of participating in the competition is to acknowledge the students' work, and allow them to interact with their peers.

MTA hosts a show every year to recognize extraordinary achievements by theaters in and around Charlotte-Mecklenberg and the Metrolina region. Gardner-Webb University is included in the latter, and was up against such schools as Catawba College, Davidson College and UNC Charlotte.

Gardner-Webb garnered a total of seven nominations in six categories. Erin Mann for outstanding costume design for "MARTYR!"; Christopher Keene, outstanding set

design for "MARTYR!"; Caleb Moore, outstanding performance by a supporting actor-male in "Gloria Dei" and "MARTYR!"; Heather Lauren Bartlett, outstanding performance by a lead actor-female in "MARTYR!"; Scot Lahaie, outstanding direction for "MARTYR!"; and outstanding production for the college and university category for "MARTYR!"

No awards came home with the GWU students and faculty, but what did was the fun of

Being chauffeured in stretch limos and walking the red carpet at the McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square.

Food was the night's first act. The awards ceremony, act two, was punctuated by performances of musical numbers and samples from nominated plays.

The GWU contingent attended the after-party at Brixx's Pizza Uptown and discussed plans for the department, which wants to bring back awards from the sixth MTAs.

## Grits finds consistency is the way to success in changing hip-hop scene

By Diana Palka  
Pilot staff writer

Christian hip-hop artists Grits played an exceptional concert for the Gardner-Webb community Saturday night in Bost Gym. The duo consists of Stacy "Coffee" Jones and Teron "Bonafide" Carter. A post-concert interview with Carter gives fans a deeper look into the ideologies of the group.

Pilot: As the face/sound of hip-hop and rap is changing from people like Sugar Hill Gang and Run DMC to people like Kanye

West and Li'l Wayne, what have you guys done to keep up and/or make a difference?

Carter: By us continuing to be consistent, that's how we're changing. We're still Grits. We've been consistent and we have our own identity. That's why we named our new album "Reiterate."

Pilot: What have you done in the past and/or are you doing now to be innovators in the industry of Christian music?

Carter: By being one of the first really young labels right now with RevolutionArt, we're

like the only black label out doing what we do. We're the only hip-hop group on the label and we're able to present other genres.

We're really treading innovative waters. We're getting behind artists like Jade and The Scientists. When we did the record that's what we wanted to do, bring people out of their element and it worked. We're not too hip-hop, not too rock, it meets right in the middle.

When we collaborated with Third Day, Jars of Clay and Toby Mac, we wrote everything, even

their parts. We challenged them musically, we want to take them too another level. We're trying to be peoples' friends ... we're trying to spread out.

Pilot: Has there even been a time in your career that you'd considered moving toward a more secular feel?

Carter: We always do. But I think people get it mixed up. What others call "crossing over," we call success. How am I supposed to reach the world if I'm only marketing myself to 50,000 people? That's not the world. That's a small city in

Georgia.

We are a part of the most powerful outlet of communication of all time -- music. It never dies, and it was obviously important to God. It's the biggest tool we've got and most of the time, we hold ourselves back.

We have to stay at the level of humanity, it humbles you and then you always seek God. Once you get past it, why do you need God? We're happy to stay at that level of humanity.

Pilot: When did you arrive at the conclusion that this is

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The ROCK Fest 2008 will be featuring all both regional and national Christian Rock bands!

Bands include Laura Kaufman, Jason Sweet, Exit 95, and Decyfer Down

October 5th

Doors Open at 3:30 pm

Gardner-Webb University at the Lutz Yelton Convocation Center

110 S Main St Boiling Springs, NC 28017

To purchase tickets and more information visit our sponsor [www.RamofGod.com](http://www.RamofGod.com) or [www.TheROCKFest.info](http://www.TheROCKFest.info)  
Raising money for a Recreational & Therapeutic Playground for children with disabilities at HarvestWorks, Inc