

News

Prof hopes lecture series inspires students

By Christopher Shaver
Pilot staff reporter

The annual Joyce Compton Brown Lecture Series began Tuesday night with a presentation by Dr. Jim Lawrence, a communications professor, about church-state relationships and the Constitution.

The lecture was titled "Jefferson Died for Our Sins: Rediscovering the Writings of Thomas Jefferson as a Counter to the Myth of the Christian Nation."

"I'm using Jefferson as an example to show that the Constitution was a secular document and it only mentions God in one place—and that's a prohibition that you're not supposed

to consider someone's religious beliefs to hold public office," Lawrence said.

"I'm just trying to puncture a lot of the common misconceptions about the way the country was founded."

Although Lawrence knew the material could be controversial, he said he felt like he needed to dispel misconceptions of America being a "Christian nation." He provided part of the lecture at the Oxford Roundtable at Oxford University in 2007.

Dr. Matt Theado, English professor and lecture-series organizer, said the lineup of speakers for the five-part series will challenge students to think

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Dr. Matt Theado

outside the box and hear another point of view.

"One reason I was interested in this was because when I was a college student, I attended hundreds of class sessions and a few lectures," Theado said. "I remember all the lectures."

Theado said the lectures are critical in students' lives because they allow students to hear people outside of the classroom.

"I think what will stick with you and inspire is going to hear

some smart people that have been doing some good work outside of what you just hear in the classroom," Theado said.

"We try to have a wide variety of topics that will inspire. Not just the topic will inspire though. The fact that it's a scholar doing good sharp work should inspire."

"The intent is not to be edgy or controversial, but opening up students' minds to more complex ways of thinking through various perspectives," Theado said.

"We're hoping to develop an atmosphere of exciting thinking at Gardner-Webb."

Former English professor Dr. Joyce Compton Brown

started the lecture series in the 1990s. After she retired in 2005, colleagues continued her legacy and named the series after her.

Other lecturers this spring include GWU's Dr. Don Berry, Dale Koontz, Thomas Raine Crowe and Sheri Reynolds. The topics will range from "Health and Wellness from a Muslim Perspective" to Reynolds' book, "The Rapture of Canaan."

"The whole thing shouldn't last more than an hour," Theado said. "We want to have a nice introduction, an intriguing presentation and then questions and answers."

"We have a little reception, too. Any students that come get free food."

Quiz Bowl team graciously lets UNC-A win

By Michelle Alwerdt
Pilot staff writer

The Gardner-Webb team competed against those from six different schools at the Big South Quiz Bowl Conference Tournament Feb. 7, finishing in fourth place.

The Gardner Webb Quiz Bowl team consisted of Philip Barringer, Steven Miller, James Withrow, Lanny Newton and captain Megan Looper. Dr. Thomas Jones, a science professor, was the faculty advisor.

"It's like the college version of 'Jeopardy,'" said Withrow.

The day began at 8 a.m. with registration in the Hamrick building. The matches began at 9 and lasted until about 3 p.m. with a lunch break. There was an awards ceremony after the competi-

tion ended.

The Big South Conference play consisted of six match periods each 18 minutes long with nine-minute halves. Three matches took place during each of the six periods.

Two schools with four-member teams competed in each match.

Dr. Matt Theado of the GWU English department, served as moderator for the competition.

The Gardner-Webb team began preparing for this event during the fall semester, with open meetings where interested students would play rounds and learn the format.

The students who attended regularly then voted on whom should be on the final team.

"We made sure to vote for people with different strengths. That way each subject area was covered,"

said Withrow.

Barringer believed that goal was accomplished.

"It was a well-balanced team; we definitely got a long very well," said Barringer.

Beginning this semester, the group met every Tuesday and Thursday to prepare.

"We were definitely ready. We could have practiced more but it wouldn't have really made a difference; its about being familiar with the format," said Barringer.

While there wasn't a lot of time to interact with the other schools, the team expressed its like of the University of North Carolina in Asheville team, which won first place.

"They were really nice and cool," said Barringer.

Said Withrow, "Even though they beat us they were still our favorite

team." Although the Gardner-Webb team placed fourth, the members were content with the experience.

"I'm not disappointed, but I'm not really happy either. It was a good experience, competitive and fun," said Barringer.

Withrow said, "It was great. I hope to do it in the future."

While the students are done practicing this year, they are already planning for the next competition.

"We are looking for a math and science person for next year," said Withrow.

Some of the matches were taped and can be seen on bigsouthsports.com.

Choose the "leadership academics" bar on the menu, and then follow the links for Big South EDGE.



Photo by Casey Caldwell

Miss GWU, Rachel Goans, happily wears her crown at the pageant Jan. 30. With her are runners up Stacie Worrell and Kalyn Kramer.

Miss GWU winner after entering first pageant

By Jessica Mobley
Pilot staff writer

Rachel Goans was crowned Miss GWU at the fifth annual pageant Jan. 30 in Dover Theater.

In addition to the crown and title, Goans received a bouquet of flowers and a check that she said she'll use to pay for school.

It was Goans' first foray into the world of beauty pageants, although the contest was judged based on personal presentation, maturity, poise and public speaking.

"It was my very first pageant. I and a few other contestants thought it would be nice to go out for it; for me it was a new step into getting out of my shyness."

The senior Spanish major from Greensboro performed a hip-hop dance for the talent portion of the contest.

This year, for the first time, a former Miss GWU helped judge the pageant. It was Amy Elliot, the winner of the 2008 contest.

The top five contestants were Stacie Worrell, Kalyn Kramer, Goans, Rebecca Webb and Whitney Stroup.

Worrell was named first runner-up, and Kramer was second runner-up. Stroup was selected a most photogenic.

The crown and check weren't the only things that Goans gained from the pageant.

"What I will take away with this experience is that God always has your back."

"Even when I messed up in the past, he says that he will never leave me nor forsake me."

The contest is sponsored by the Office of Student Activities.

Sports

Bulldogs faltering down the stretch

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

In the long awaited return of sharpshooter Grayson Flittner, the Runnin' Bulldogs fell to High Point University 61-57 Saturday night.

Gardner-Webb entered the game in fifth place in Big South standings and needing a win at home to gain some momentum. Unfortunately, the Bulldogs could find very little offense from its stars.

Senior Aaron Linn led the way for Gardner-Webb with 21 points, making him the only Bulldog who hit double digits in the scoring column.

The first half saw Gardner-Webb passing the ball to High Point more than anything, coughing up the ball 11 times in the first half, while having only three assists.

Along with giving up

possessions, the Bulldogs also passed up free points from the charity stripe as the team went just 7-of-14 from the free-throw line in the first half.

Flittner was visibly favoring his right knee, which had kept him out the previous four games. In a very surprising move by the Gardner-Webb coaching staff, Flittner not only played, but started.

It became obvious, though, that the Flittner on the court was not the Flittner that all Bulldog fans have come to know.

He went 0-for-7 from the field, and just 2-of-4 from the free throw line, unable to create any lift off of that injured knee.

Flittner's inability to jump was seen especially on a fast break layup that was easily blocked from behind by a High Point player, as Flittner did not even leave the floor on the

shot.

Gardner-Webb got a break in the waning moments of the game as High Point missed three shots from the free throw line. Linn hit a three to pull the Dawgs' within one point, 57-56, with just over 17 seconds left in the game.

The Bulldogs fouled High Point player Joseph Appiah, who missed the second of two free throws allowing Gardner-Webb to tie up the game or take the lead.

Flittner found himself with the ball and drove down the lane, almost hitting an acrobatic shot, but earned two free throws nonetheless.

After making the first, the second free throw from the Indian native was off the mark, and Gardner-Webb lost its last chance at a win.

Other than Linn, there were very few bright spots

for Gardner-Webb. Joshua Henley had just six points but pulled down 14 rebounds.

The loss is the third in a row for Gardner-Webb and brings them to 11-14 (7-8 Big South) on the season, and drops them to sixth place in the conference.

The Bulldogs will host Winthrop at home tonight needing a win to stay ahead of the Eagles in the standings. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

Track & field continues successful season

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

Participating in the Tiger Paw Invitational at Clemson University Friday and Saturday, Gardner-Webb's track and field team turned in several impressive performances.

For the men, newcomer Jason Wenzel cruised in the 800 meter run, finishing in a personal best 1:55.36, which put him in fourth-place.

Wenzel, a transfer from Indiana-Wesleyan, topped his sixth place performance from GWU's

last meet, has been showing improvement in every race in his first season at the Division One level.

Another top 10 performance by the men was put in the books by junior Paul Steinke in the 400 meter dash. Steinke strolled across the line in a time of 50.56, a personal best, and good enough for ninth place.

Johnathan Rucker, a sophomore, is another Bulldog who has consistently improved in every meet this season. This time, Rucker set a new personal best in the 60

meter hurdles, finishing in a time of 8.48.

On the women's side, Caryn Daane turned in a sixth-place performance in the shot put. Daane's toss of 12.64 meters is a new personal best.

Other notable finishes were Dina Nshisso's 400 meter dash time of 1:05.97, also a personal best, and Elisabeth Sawyer's personal best 2:29.97 in the 800 meter run.

Gardner-Webb's next meet will be the Big South Conference Championship at Clemson from Feb. 26-27.

Don't forget, the Metro-
lina Career Fair is Feb. 26
at the Charlotte Conven-
tion Center. The event runs
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Approximately 75 organi-
zations will be there.
Contact Career Service in
Washburn Hall for more
information.

Look familiar?

Psoriasis often strikes
between the ages of 15 and 25.



1. Guttate psoriasis on chest
2. Inverse psoriasis in armpit
3. Psoriasis of the nails

