

Our Ed. Policy

The necessity for a statement of editorial policy has become evident during the past few weeks and although no formal requests have been made, I would like to clear up some misunderstandings.

From the beginning of the school term, an apparent lack of interest in the student body has been noted (in fact, two editorials and a letter to the editor in the last issue of the *Guilfordian* concerned themselves with precisely this topic). However, the editorial staff has recognized no real efforts on the part of any school organization to reduce this lackadaisical atmosphere.

As the main communicative organ of the college the *Guilfordian* felt that something had to be done and decided to tackle the problem.

In an effort to produce some sort of controversy we took specific stands on subjects which should have been of the utmost importance to students of this school. Realizing full well that our views did not necessarily represent those of the entire student body, we invited comments, articles, and letters.

It was of course hoped that the response would have been favorable, in support of the manner in which the *Guilfordian* handled the issues. However, this was not always the case. Still, we feel that negative response is far better than none at all, for it stimulated the students and faculty to look at the issues thoughtfully, even to the point of taking stands in direct opposition to the ones which we had made.

This we consider to be a healthy attitude. For there is a small indistinct line which separates the action of a group against a disliked cause and the positive action taken in favor of something else.

We are extremely pleased to see so many students concerned about their school, for this is certainly as it should be. Yet we feel that we have been perhaps overly criticized for our policy which has been carried out with all good intentions.

The articles had been written with the knowledge that many would be displeased, yet we are reminded of a note from Aesop's Fables . . . "Please all and you will please none." Hoping that more will be pleased with our future writings, we intend to continue our policy of printing controversial articles as well as all letters written and signed by Guilford College students or faculty members.

If you've got something to say, and don't want to write a letter to the editor, send it to Traxy, Box 8543, G. C., N. C., and if its worthwhile, Traxy will see it through. No names necessary.



Comments

By Traxy

The female population of Guilford has won a new first. Smoking is now allowed not only in the Student Union but also in the basement of Founders. But why is the privilege of smoking limited at all? Surely the American woman of today does not look odd with a cigarette in her mouth. All will agree that smoking is now an accepted habit. Why then must Guilford College women retreat to certain reservations simply to partake of a cigarette? Curfews and roomchecks for these unlucky ladies are understandable if unfavorable, but smoking limitations for Guilford's other half just reflects on the poor faculty-student empathy that today exists at our college.

To The Executive Council: Why not appoint a committee headed by Alan Mabe to look into the problem of running a school radio station, on the condition that he does not comment further on this problem in his column. If old Mabe is really concerned with this problem, he will be more than glad to comply. And maybe Mabe will really accomplish the job!

With all the money being spent for new buildings and improvements at Guilford, why doesn't the school pay a few pennies extra and buy a better grade of bathroom tissue?

It is a great thrill to see the spirit of Guilford College awake from its dormancy at least for a while, during the events of the past week, in the form of an effigy hung outside King Hall. To those of you who put it up. . . Thanks.

The *Guilfordian* has been called a sad edition of *Mad Magazine*. How would our readers prefer it? Funny or serious? a public opinion paper or more on the non-conformist side? We don't know unless you let us know. Drop your opinion at the *Guilfordian* office any time. (Just stick it in one of those little slats).

Yours Occasionally,
TRAXY

Lots and Lots of Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

This is in appreciation of your "Letters to the Editor" section of the *Guilfordian*.

Also, we wish to record our surprise at one missile signed by two students, criticizing selection of the date for 1962 Homecoming festivities. Frankly, we make many mistakes, but we didn't expect to be called on the carpet for this selection.

We would like to state the following in explanation.

1. We would expect suggestions and criticisms to come to us directly, before they are aired in public forum—this would eliminate time and embarrassment.
2. Our Homecoming dates have been carefully selected, taking into consideration all factors possible.
3. Our response to the October dates of the past two years has been excellent as has been the response to our "Founders Day — Homecoming," weekend event.
4. Our dates are selected with the knowledge that an earlier date falls too soon after school opens, a later date increases the danger of bad weather.
5. The Alumni office successfully arranged for reservations for visitors as late as Friday before Homecoming Day on Saturday, so it is not correct to say that local housing was impossible. We will render such service in the future when requested.
6. Homecoming Day dates are selected before High Point furniture market dates are selected—or announced.
7. Our dates are published and announced in various media. Make your plans now for Homecoming Day to be held on one of the latter Saturdays in October, 1963. We don't think you will be pre-empted by the furniture market if you do.
8. We are in contact with 6,500 Guilfordians and parents. We fail to see that more than a handful were affected by the enterprise in High Point. One complaint in two years is a good record, we believe.

As to the "Homegoing, a Guilford first" we probably would enjoy taking part enthusiastically—except for the fact that a very important element is ignored—that is, the visiting alumni and parents. The occasion is designed for faculty and students to serve as hosts for our visitors one day a year. We can't figure a place for them in "Homegoing." There is a feeling apparent nowadays that there is too much "Homegoing" already. Do away with Saturday classes, introduce "Homegoing." Enlarge Christmas vacations, Thanksgiving, Easter, etc., and we might just as well stay at home.

THE ALUMNI OFFICE

Dear Alumni Office:

I am extremely sorry if I have offended your staff by my recent letter-to-the-editor in the *Guilfordian*. Yes, I realize that you may have made accommodations for alumni as late as Friday before Homecoming day, for the local motels and hotels did have last-minute cancellations; however, one does not plan a six hundred mile trip on the chance of having a place to stay for the night. If you do not believe my statement that local public housing was impossible, I can only ask you to contact any motel or hotel in Greensboro, Winston-Salem, or High Point and ask its owner to verify my statement. Also, I am surprised that you view the *Guilfordian* as a public media; I see it as a communication among the members of the Guilford College Family.

ASSOC. ED.

Dear Alumni Office:

My article on "Homecoming" was written with the intention that upon reading the article the reader would fall to the ground and laugh continuously for hours or at least chuckle for from one to four minutes. Therefore I am left in a state of confusion as to the conclusions of the alumni office. How did you come up with the idea that the article was intended to show prejudice against the Alumni and the parents of students? As for too many students going home on the weekend I am sure you are right, but what do you have to offer that will eliminate the desire of many students to be elsewhere on the weekend? The suggestion on enlarging vacations will be well received throughout the campus. This has been in the mind of many students and they will be ready to act now that they are aware of Alumni support of the issue. If you want to try we are right behind you.

HUM. ED.

To the editor:

Freedom of the press has been ingrained within the American milieu for over two hundred years. *The Guilfordian* recognizes this liberty as axiomatic, but fails to recognize that the responsibilities of a free press are a prerequisite to freedom.

The "working press" has come a long way since the distorted scandal sheets issued by Hearst and Pulitzer over sixty years ago. Unfortunately the editor of *The Guilfordian* seems unaware of this transformation.

Criticism on a college newspaper can serve a useful purpose, especially when it is intended to serve as a tool for growth, responsibility, and knowledge. Thereby it can serve a positive, and use-

ful purpose, for the desired end is one of development, continuity, and balance. Irresponsible and distorted criticism is seldom included in the same category.

The editor of a college newspaper has a responsibility and obligation to the students, faculty, and administration. Negative views in editorials, honestly presented, based on substance and fact, could become useful aids for corrective measures, especially when meaningful alternatives are suggested. Editorials which are purposely distorted, based on selectively ordered and sometimes erroneous facts designed to placate one's personal friends, intended to deceive rather than to illuminate the student body, exaggerates the traditional concept of freedom to a preposterous degree and is an insult to the college community.

A. D. AVERBACH

Mr. Averbach:

We could not agree with you more. That is why the editorial staff has come all in its power to present to the students of Guilford the facts as they really are, and not as various members of the college community would have them appear.

ED.

To The Editor of the *Guilfordian*

In the November 2 issue of the *Guilfordian*, there was a brief passage commenting on the inefficiency of the Slater System. Were the author of this cutting (and, I might add, rather inaccurate) statement to bring himself to work in the cafeteria for a week or so, he would find that, contrary to his unfounded beliefs, those who work there do their best to bring food to you quickly and efficiently.

As far as waiting in line for a half hour to 45 minutes (as stated in the last issue of the paper), anyone who has the good sense to take the tremendous effort necessary to glance at a watch will find that the usual wait for lunch is less than ten minutes. Even when the line is out past the doors the wait is little more than 15 minutes. (Seventeen minutes by my stopwatch.) Occasionally there is a holdup in the kitchen due to a miscalculation concerning the number of people who eat there. But, who could possibly accurately predict the number of people to expect when the attendance at the meals is so spasmodic and inconsistent.

The waiting in line at breakfast could be eliminated if you would come earlier than two minutes before closing time. Every morning (except Sunday, when everyone sleeps) people drift in all morning from 7:00 until about 7:57. Then a mob comes in and wonders why they have to wait in line. They are indignant because we don't want to serve until 8:20. Just remember, people, that we are only supposed to serve until 8:00, and then clean up. Then, after we finish this, we get to eat—and you wonder why we get peeved when you drift in late! Remember, we have classes to get to, too. Why should the waitresses and waiters be gripped at because of the stupidity and carelessness of the people we serve. Also, do you guys find it necessary to leave the tables covered with food at night? None of the girls' tables are that way, but about nine-tenths of the men's are. I really don't see how anyone who considers himself a human being could leave a mess like that. You do this, as well as come late, after the food is out, and expect us to be nice to you, and do you favors.

You people who are so quick to blame should think where the blame really lies.

MIKE HOLT

Mr. Holt:

I am afraid that you have misunderstood the point. Granted that the workers are doing their best to bring the food efficiently and quickly, but the mere fact that they are trying does not in any way tend to ease one's hunger pains. Also, I have serious reason to doubt the use of the word "efficiency" when two huge lines of students are held up because there is only one tray of spaghetti sauce to serve them both.

Sorry about my miscalculations concerning the wait in line (23 minutes by my self-winding Swiss import) but I was trying to make a point, not clock a sprint.

Assuming that the "you" in the third paragraph refers to the person to whom the letter was addressed, I cannot agree with you more fully, for not once this year have I ever gone to breakfast earlier than two minutes before closing time. However, I hasten to add that I do not understand your point, for, not having gone to breakfast once all year, I cannot comprehend how my not being in the dining hall has caused so much trouble. In order to correct this problem, when I don't come to breakfast in the future, I will not come at 7:00 so that you will have plenty of time to prepare.

ED.

To the Editor of the *Guilfordian*:

There are two things that upset me in the issue of the *Guilfordian* which came out November 2.

One of them is not having excellent articles—like "Guilford vs. Gov. Barnett"—signed. Who did write it?

My principal objection, however, concerns the editorial section, "On the Guilford Scene." The third paragraph is the one I am particularly concerned

with. Perhaps it is unwise for the editor to take a stand on a case that was brought up before the MSC, especially if he presented the facts very poorly. The editor describes certain students who were reprimanded for "foolishly thinking that they were living in a men's dormitory instead of a monastery" and had the "unheard of audacity to have a shaving cream fight and water battle . . . all in the same evening."

Wondering what those three innocuous little dots stood for, I decided to try to find out—and I did. I agree with our editor for not bothering to describe the whole situation; it really is unimportant. It is only that the abbot of our monastery, living on the first floor, in a sound-proofed room, at one o'clock in the morning, had his meditations interrupted by the noises of the over-exuberant clerics on the third floor. The mess made by the group was so bad that the janitor almost quit in disgust. But yes, I agree, this was too trivial to mention.

There is one good thing that still stands firm, however—the appeals board. Despite the malicious persecution of these students by the vengeful MSC, the appeals board staunchly refused to uphold their decision.

We suggest, however, that the action of the appeals board was based more on inadequate presentation of the evidence rather than poor consideration.

Our editor suggests that the MSC is "virtually powerless on campus." Perhaps it is this sort of blatant disregard of the MSC's important and meaningful role in the student government that helps lead to such an unfortunate situation.

Sincerely yours,
Dennis Guttman

P.S. This letter is intended for publication. In accordance with your recent promise on such letters, I expect to see it appear in the near future.

Mr. Guttman:

Sorry about the article "Guilford vs. Gov. Barnett." We fully intended to give Ted Buddine a byline but it was left out due to an oversight. No excuses.

It is nice to know that at least one student at Guilford does not accept statements at face value, and is willing to extend himself to the point of getting to the crux of the matter. However, in your search for the truth, you stopped halfway and are unaware of a number of important facts.

First of all, the mere statement that noise was present on the third floor in no way indicates that the six boys in question were either the only ones involved, or the primary cause of the disturbance. Secondly, you will notice that the editorial dealt with the underhanded method used by the MSC in handling the case. The six boys appeared of their own free will to clarify the problem after having been informed that they were definitely not on trial. It was after this session that the MSC, without full knowledge of the circumstances went ahead and made a decision. If their judgment had been valid, if it had been based on sound reasoning, if it had been intended to improve the situation, there is little doubt that the Appeals Board would have upheld it.

I certainly agree that the MSC has an "important and meaningful role in the student government" but its misuse of this role causes me to wonder.

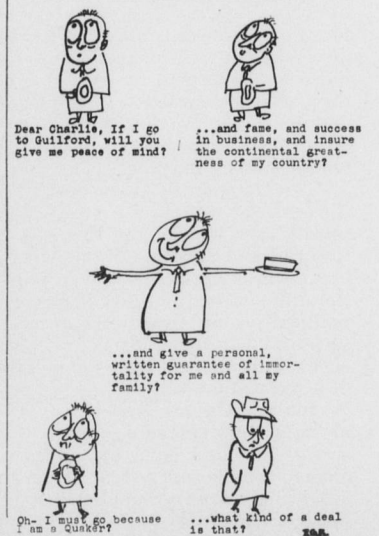
ED.

To The Editor: Don't Cook My Goose

The recent inquiry by the student legislature into the writings of the *Guilfordian* brought up a matter which necessitates clarification.

Involved in the discussion was the relevance of an article entitled "How to Shoot a Goose" to the life of the campus community. I can see where this is a very pressing problem especially since goose hunting is not allowed on campus. Now if there is any possibility of changing campus game laws two problems could be solved. The campus sportsmen could hunt geese and my staff could write about goose hunting without raising the problem of relevance. Maybe this could be discussed in the

(Continued on page 3)



The Guilfordian

Second-class postage paid at Greensboro, N. C.

Published bi-weekly except during vacation and examination periods by the students of Guilford College.

Editor Howard Krakow	News Editor Richard Jones
Assoc. Editor Don Smith	Feature Editor Dianne Stuckey
Photos Mike Holt	Mng. Editor Karen Baldwin
	Exchange Mgr. Penny Smith
Sports Editor Bud King	Humor Editor Dick King
Business Mgr. Linda James	Circulation Pat Mallard
Cartoons Pete Rickards	Layout Harriet Huber

STAFF REPORTERS

Willice Bivens	Richard Golby	Kay Riley
Ted Buddine	David Green	Steve Silbert
Gordon Compton	Jimmy Hill	Beth Taylor
Judy Connor	Judy Jones	Harvey Tohn
Ward Cross	Alan Mabe	Eric Ullman
Judy Day	Martha Pierce	Sally Ann Wyatt