

The Guilfordian

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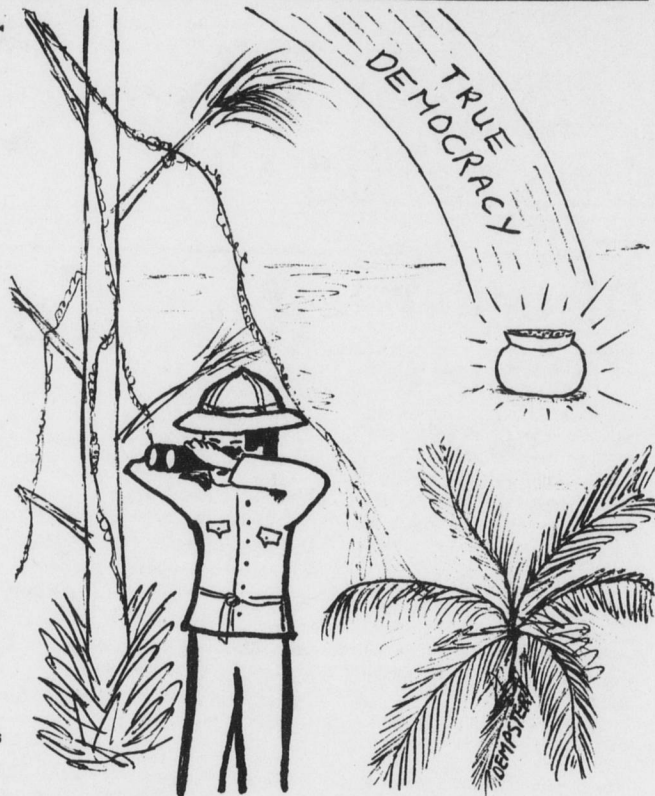
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Democracy At Guilford

The Student Legislature should be commended for finally repealing its required convo edict. For the first time in several years the students held their legislature accountable for its actions.

The fact that the students exerted pressure to make the legislature responsive to their wishes contradicts the widely circulated myth that students are an apathetic lot.

And while it is admirable that the legislature finally did yield to student pressure, the fact that it took so long and was such a hard battle is an indication of the faultiness of the present system of student government.

Certainly it is reasonable to expect the government of a country the size of the United States to use a complicated and often confusing system of political pressure, feed-

back from citizens, lobbying, and other "behind the scenes" activities in its system of government.

However, it seems unnecessary for a school like Guilford with only one thousand students to model its system of student government after the United States Congress.

We rather, believe a true democracy, inestimably more responsive to the wishes of the governed than the indirect type, would work well at Guilford.

Under the system, every student at Guilford who chose to attend the scheduled meetings would be allowed to vote and present issues.

The Student Legislature should find ways to increase student participation in government. We believe that a pure democracy is the best way to achieve this important objective.

Students And Alcohol

The inability of the students at last weekends leadership retreat to adequately control their consumption of alcoholic beverages created a contemptible and hypocritical situation.

We believe that the episode was contemptible since it denied the retreaters the opportunity to interact with one another in a sensible manner.

Moreover the distrust and resentment which the actions of the Guilford students elicited from the high school group using the retreat facilities was particularly unfortunate.

In addition we consider it hypocritical that some of the same students who are so vocal in maintaining that they are responsible enough to deserve the right to consume alcoholic beverages on cam-

pus either became intoxicated themselves or encouraged others to do so.

Unfortunately the events of last weekend are not isolated. Rowdiness and intoxication by a relatively small segment of Guilford's student body, both on and off campus, have long detracted from the image of the college.

In light of the influence of this segment we doubt if Guilford Students, without the presence of enforceable restrictions on their behavior, are sophisticated enough to accept the responsibilities that accompany the right to consume alcoholic beverages.

We urge those in favor of legalizing drinking on campus to come to grips with this problem and propose a reasonable set of restrictions to insure the orderly and sensible use of alcoholic beverages.

"IF I LOOK HARD ENOUGH, SOMEDAY, I'LL FIND A BETTER SYSTEM OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT."

Scott Ponders Draft Notice

By Douglas Scott

At 2:35 p.m., Friday, September 26, I was informed that I became 1-A, according to local board No. 80, Rockingham County, North Carolina (Mrs. Charles H. Folly, Clerk) of the United States Selective Service Agency, Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, commanding. When so told I calmly bit through my pencil and poured coffee on my chin. I was a bit upset.

Now I'm sure that neither Lt. General Hershey nor Mrs. Folly (How about that for symbolic?) have anything against me. They couldn't. I've never exhibited traits warlike enough for "Them" to go to such great lengths to get ahold of my body. Maybe I have killer psych test

scores. What would good old (55? 60? 70?) Mrs. Folly do with my person; it's flattering though. Oh, I did go to the Vietnam Moratorium (Oct. 15) meeting. Maybe the General thinks I want to check the deal out first hand, or read the releases as "mobilization." All I did was ask for General Hershey's picture when I registered. (Do you think they saw me carve my name on the table?) Maybe they really want my old man, or my mother, or sister?

Why me? The Registrar says everything will be alright but if this is any indication you can see me off at the boat. See the world. Berlin. Dominican Republic. Korea. Vietnam. Selma. Oxford. Chicago. When are we going to have that war with the Eskimos? Kill!

Poets' Corner

By B.A. Steegmuller

Reach out my child and see a rich new world. Be free. Don't hide beneath a mask. Awareness is not a task. "Impossible" you say? It happens every day.

It's hard at first, that's true. Sincerely just be you. Social conditioning's bad. To play a role is sad. Express yourself—be real. Act as you deeply feel.

Don't think about yourself. Put inhibitions on the shelf. Be sensitive to others' needs. True joy grows from this seed. Toward others is the route. So, my child, reach out.

By Michael Joe Leach

One thousand moved

on sin-parched fields

where earth and sky

has kneaded men

into each others

hated selves—

where tempered steel

has torn the sores

of battle's woes

through every heart

who took a part,

who built the wall

of man—toy whims—

of arms and life—

of death and compunction.