

"The Guilfordian is not an official publication of Guilford College."

The Guilfordian is much too stiff to be used to wipe your behind and it really isn't ideal for catching urine in your pet's cage. Neither should it continue to be an extremely expensive bulletin board — in more cases than not printing news fed to us by the administration.

This is supposedly a student paper — but where the hell have the students been? Are you really content to sit back and read "straight-laced" news releases every Friday? The Guilfordian is more than a weekly bulletin — it takes no special talent to express yourself in the paper — if you've got something to say, then use the paper and say it. If you don't have enough courage to write a story on an issue that concerns you, at least come to staff meetings and make your concerns known. Writing copy is only half the work — if you can't write, then come by on Wednesdays and Thursdays to help with the technical shit. This is your paper and it's only going to get out if YOU are here helping put it out.

On Sunday evening, Sept. 24, a Guilford College student was lying unattended in the Infirmary. The exact details of what happened are unclear, but judging from the accounts of the students who eventually went to his aid, he appears to have suffered a reaction to his medication which involved vomiting and breathing difficulty. He was alone. Guilford College does not have a night nurse on weekends. He was unable to phone for help, Guilford College keeps the only phone in the infirmary locked in another room so that patients can't use it on weekends. The patient managed to fall down three flights of stairs and attract the attention of other students who happened to be passing by. They had to then find a resident to call the nurse for them. Ron Cruickshank was not in. Finally they located another resident. Twenty-three minutes later the nurse on call arrived. After a cursory examination of the patient she called Dean Gottschall. Only then did she call Dr. Johnson. Approximately an hour later he arrived. Fortunately this story had a happy ending. The patient recovered with no permanent physical damage. It should be obvious that the happy ending was not the result of Guilford College's efficient system of obtaining emergency medical attention on a weekend. If the reaction had been more severe, the student could have died, alone, unable to summons help.



The official response to this incident was to close the infirmary at night on weekends. In the future a student must either remain in his room or be hospitalized. Although an improvement over the past policy, The Guilethargy feels that this is a totally inadequate response. It ignores the fact that medical cases, like the case in point, sometimes fall in between these two extremes. It ignores the fact that often times these cases occur at inconvenient times, like weekends. Had this patient been lying unattended in his room rather than in the infirmary, the only possible advantage would have been that it might have been easier to summon assistance. And that is not even an established fact. Roommates go away for the weekends, suitemates get drunk or go out on dates. There is no guarantee that a student suffering similar symptoms could obtain assistance in his room. Yet, on the other hand, prior to his reaction there was no real reason to hospitalize him. He was not sick enough to justify the added expense.

On Thursday, Sept. 28, a student was mugged near the circle in front of English. When he was taken to the infirmary, he received immediate medical assistance.

The Guilethargy urges the college to reconsider its policy and its priorities. We believe quality medical assistance is important enough to be available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. There is no excuse for discriminating between the student who is conveniently beaten during infirmary hours and the student who is inconveniently taken ill on the weekend.

The system whereby a student who is in need of emergency medical attention must first find an available head resident and then wait for the nurse to arrive is unrealistic. Emergencies don't work that way or they would not be emergencies. Medical emergencies by their very nature make it difficult for the student to discharge his responsibility of locating a head resident, and make it imperative at times for there to be no delay in treatment. Such delay is built into our present system.



N.R.O.T.C. recruits on campus this past Wednesday. Mike Wagner silently demonstrates student sentiment.

photo by Lechleider

Letters to the Editors

Listen a minute ... "The dogs are our friends, companions, antidepressants, and of intangible value not only to their owner but to a large number of students here." (from a pros and cons paper distributed in the cafeteria) Did you hear that? I hear someone screaming out a desperate human need. Guilford College must be failing the students in what they need most — love and companionship. I think this says something for our human condition. We are so separate from other people we don't allow them to touch us for fear of opening up vulnerable spots and being hurt. Someone once said: "I am most alone in a crowd of people." Isn't that what many of Guilford's students are trying to say? A dog can be a companion but won't get his feelings hurt when you leave him. A dog can be an anti-depressant and won't hurt you with what you open up to him. Dogs are good things, but shouldn't we search to fulfill these needs in our fellow students? Many people are crying out in unison with this need. They should look into one another and into themselves; a human being has more to offer because there is response: intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual.

Now, let's listen again ... "Dogs have been found to be a nuisance because of excrement found in buildings and on the grounds, noise due to barking, fleas in dormitories, and danger to people." (Same pros and cons paper). Did you hear that? I hear someone screaming out 'doesn't anyone care about these animals?' For something of such great 'intangible value,' it sure has been mistreated. The dogs here are not well or kept clean and some are not fed properly. This is inhumane treatment of our "friends." I think these people are crying out for someone to care about these animals. If dogs are to remain on campus they must be respected and taken care of.

I have been in the midstream of this struggle since school began. It is a sensitive subject and a difficult one to work with. It has caused me a great deal of anguish and all I know is that something must be done. The students want pets but the students don't take care of their pets. They say they will take care of their pets but if they had

taken care of them in the past this controversy would never have come up. Because dogs are allowed on campus and all the administration asks is that they be taken care of and kept under some controls. Is that too much to ask?

Take time to listen. People are walking around half informed and screaming. No one is being too unreasonable — both demands are valid. If we take a little time to listen we might get somewhere.

(Name Withheld By Request)

The question of claiming responsibility for one's actions is always an issue. Who is responsible for Viet Nam, the Olympic murders, Belfast? Coming into Guilford, the cocoon which we live in, students live not very well in brotherhood. Who is responsible for developing a sense of community.

Why is it when someone buys a six pack of beer or a package of chewing gum, as long as the package is full, it is coveted; but when empty, it is cast aside with reckless abandon? Who is responsible for trash thrown on campus?

Who is responsible for the cokes thrown from the 3rd floor Milner? What is that person doing to promote some sense of community at Guilford? What about the people on 3rd floor Milner who throw water on unsuspecting people? To your contributions I scrape the controversial dog feces off my shoes.

Let's not forget the souls who smashed the hornet's nest in the

pinetree, they will fit right into the "establishment" that destroys what they can not understand or enjoy. What a piece of beauty that cannot be rivaled or replaced by man. Whoever they are, may they go above the category of Seymour Fisher, the man that took a hammer to the Pieta in the Vatican last spring.

But I do not forget that I am a part of you, every man is united therefore I understand myself a little better through your actions. If we get upset when someone abuses our rights, but we don't consider other people's rights, it is time we take a responsible look at our life style.

Unfortunately, we're not kidding and winter's coming.

Charlie Sewell
John Margenot

After attending the Guilfordian staff meeting Sunday, I was somewhat startled by the lack of attendance. It seems a shame that the Guilfordian can only produce a four page edition, while having the potential for a good eight page paper. The editors and the staff have their hands full in meeting deadlines and cannot be faulted in their efforts. It's discouraging to have a newspaper, which is surely the most effective vehicle of expression on the campus, that too few are willing to put more time and effort in to improve. Has the apathy plague struck Guilford once more?

Jamie Davis

The Guilethargy cannot express its gratitude in print to the Guilford College Business Office for the expediency in which they audited our books.

The Guilfordian

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