

Socol Describes His Dorm Eviction, Reinstatement

by Scott Socol

On Tuesday night, March 27, a party was held in my suite, A-32, in Bryan Hall. Unfortunately, I happen to be located directly above the resident coordinator, Ron Cruickshank. The party proceeded smoothly and everyone was enjoying themselves immensely. Things began to quiet down somewhat around 11:00 but there were still people partying and the music continued playing. Then at approximately 12:00 our friend Ron came upstairs reporting complaints, of which I had gotten none from anyone living around me, and he proceeded to request that the music be turned way down. When questioned as to why by an innocent partier other than myself, he replied he had gotten two calls complaining about the noise. The partier then replied, "Oh really, two whole calls," to which Ron responded in his finesse manner, "Shove it up your ass." After that confrontation Ron left and within 15 minutes the music was dispensed with and the party ended. It

should be noted here that in the past on a few occasions similar confrontations had occurred, and the music had to be turned down at what seemed to me and many others a rather early hour for a weekend night.

The next morning, Wednesday, at approximately 8:00 a.m., I was awakened by a pounding on my door. I opened it, and Ron Cruickshank and Ken Schwab were standing there. They informed me that I had to be moved out of the dormitory by Friday and at the time I was half asleep and just asked them to leave and I would discuss the matter later. Of course, I was too pissed off to go back to sleep and I was racking my brain as to what to do. To tell you the truth, I was baffled and in a state of disbelief. I ran around trying to figure out how to straighten out the situation.

I found out that the final authority which had had me expelled was Andy Gottschall, so I proceeded to visit his office. I calmly and collectedly gave a detailed analysis of

what had occurred, and included my complete amazement at being kicked out of the dorm without any warning and never having had any previous charges brought against me. The only response I got from Andy was that the Administration reserved the right to do what they did, and that his decision held: I must move out.

I left his office even more pissed off than when I entered and began searching for another way to fight the action. I spoke with Bill Fleming, the president of the Senate, Bill Edelblut, president of the dorm, Jane Matteson, and Moulton Avery, all of whom showed deep concern for the manner in which things were handled.

First Bill Fleming spoke with Andy and was told what I had been told, that the decision would stand. Bill explained the ramifications the case could involve due to student concern, and finally set up an agreement for the House Council to meet with those involved, merely to determine whether the action taken was

proper. We then decided this would have no effect on the final outcome, and therefore would be unnecessary. What was needed was for the problem to be worked out according to the process outlined in the Pathfinder, which involved the due process of law which many students had worked hard at having established. Bill, Jane, and Moulton met with Andy again and explained our position. It was then decided that he would speak with Ron and give him 3 alternatives: continue to demand that I be removed, drop the demand completely, or drop the demand and press charges, as is the customary process by the rules set out in the Pathfinder. Andy spoke with Ron Wednesday night and called me into his office Thursday morning. At this

time he said that he realized the course of action taken had been hasty and wrong, and he extended a full apology to me. He said he hoped it had not inconvenienced me too greatly, and that he was willing to accept full blame for the actions which had occurred. He did say that Ron still had the option of bringing charges against me. So far I have not heard anything further, but I do expect to soon.

I feel that this whole confrontation brought out the position between students and administration, and I can't say how thankful I am for the manner in which the student body stood up and fought for me. I feel that now the administration may realize that students feel that they have worked too hard for fair treatment of the student body to allow the administration to throw it all out the window.

COMMENT On Socol: Student Rights

By Moulton Avery

Last Wednesday morning at approximately 8:00 A.M. Andrew Gottschall, Guilford's Dean of Students was presented with information which prompted him to take, within the following 30 minutes, a course of action which violated every concept of due process of law on campus.

The decision, which he described as an "administrative" one, involved a complaint by Ron Cruickshank against Scott Socol, a resident of Bryan Hall. Mr. Cruickshank's contention was that Socol constituted a continuing nuisance to the dormitory and that he should therefore be evicted. Mr. Socol's alleged nuisance is not the issue here. What is at issue is the slipshod procedure used in this case. What is at stake is the system of justice we have worked hard to preserve on campus.

There exists within Bryan Hall a duly constituted judicial system for dealing with intra-dormitory problems. This structure, which Mr. Gottschall has relied on extensively in the past, was completely by-passed in the heat of an emotional decision.

There exists as well a series of appellate judicial bodies instituted to insure fairness and fundamental due process on campus. These were ignored.

The defendant may or may not be a nuisance to the hall, but that decision and any punishment resulting

from it should not be made by the office of Student Personnel or the Dean of Students in a half hour, the night after a particularly emotional incident.

The decision to evict Socol without a fair trial has been reversed by Dean Gottschall under pressure from elected Student Senate members but the fact remains that there are at present no safeguards to insure that this sort of arbitrary violation of student rights does not occur again.

Before this case fades from view, we must take steps to insure that this sort of arbitrary action is not repeated. The Student Senate is being urged to draw up a set of standards strictly delimiting the cases in which "administrative" decisions may be made outside of the established judicial process.

Under the present system a student could be removed arbitrarily without charges ever being brought against him. This deficiency must be corrected if due process and justice are to continue at Guilford.

This is not a straw-dog issue. It strikes at the heart of the concept of student rights. The fact that the Dean chose to ignore established channels of due process cannot be quickly explained away, and it is my sincere hope that the matter will not soon be laid to rest.

Touching Thanks From Thieu To Nixon

On January 27, 1973, on the occasion of the signing of the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam, President Nguyen Van Thieu sent to President Richard Nixon the following letter, expressing the sincere gratitude of the Republic of Vietnam to the government and people of the United States. (For your edification, amusement, and/or indignation, we reprint it here.)

Dear Mr. President,

On this historic day when our two governments side by side have just concluded an agreement for the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam, in the name of the government and people of the Republic of Vietnam, I am writing to express to you, and through you to all the American people, our heartfelt gratitude for the great sacrifice that the United States had made throughout so many years to help us defend our freedom and our right of self-determination.

nation.

We are aware, through past experiences, that an agreement on ending the war can be only a first important step towards the elaboration of durable peace. It is nevertheless encouraging that after many long years of fighting, the killings and destructions are to stop at last, opening a new era in which all the human and natural resources of all the parties concerned can be devoted to more constructive purposes.

We know that the building of a genuine and lasting peace will require much vigilance and persevering efforts. In these endeavors, we value very highly the continuing support of the United States towards our common goals of peace in reconciliation and in freedom.

On this day, my thoughts go to all those who have suffered and have given their lives in order to uphold the ideals which our two nations

hold dear, in particular to the brave young men of the valiant United States Armed Forces who crossed the ocean to fight at our side in various parts of Vietnam and whose sacrifices have stemmed the tide of invasion.

Our affectionate thoughts go also to those of the soldiers of our two nations who have fallen into the hands of the aggressors and had to spend a part of their lives in dreary captivity. I am profoundly rejoiced that as the hostilities are ending, their ordeals and the long vigil of their loved ones will be over soon.

To all these brave men and their families, the people of the Republic of Vietnam extend their warmest thanks.

Sincerely,
Nguyen Van Thieu
President of the Republic of Vietnam

OF INTEREST

There will be a required meeting for all present recipients of the N.C. Prospective Teachers' Scholarship Loan on April 11 at 1:00 in Room 211, Duke Memorial Hall.

Any new students who plan to teach in N.C., and are recipients of this program, are invited to attend.

Students in Sociology and other related fields interested in the study of Appalachia are invited to meet with Bob Johnson and Andy Gottschall to plan an off-campus seminar for the Fall of 1973, on Tuesday, April 17, at 12:00 noon.

Areas of study already considered as possibilities are those that deal with the human and environmental effects of strip mining, the nature of the institutions of the region which encompass the family, religion, education, social services, health, economics and politics.

This first meeting will be to identify interested students and to establish a planning structure.



AFS/RIGHTS RESERVED

The Guilfordian

- Editor K. Rice
- Managing Editor L. Swan
- Business R. Gelman
- Sports J. Shields
- Photography P. Geraty, C. Fenske, R. Cstoe
- Staff D. Baynham, K. Dempster, D. Hornbeck, K. Sloan, L. Lathrop, S. Meeker, K. Reddick
- Contributors B. Shelton, S. Schedin, K. Dempster, M. Neuhauser, L. McDaniel
- Advisors D. Owens, L. Swofford

The Guilfordian is published weekly except for examination periods and vacations. The Guilfordian is not an official publication of Guilford College, and the opinions expressed herein are solely those of the authors and editors. Office: Room 223, Cox Old North, Phone: 292-8709. Mailing address: Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410. Subscription rates: \$4.00 per year, \$2.50 per semester, distributed free of charge on the Guilford College campus.