

Recreation

The Union recreation committee is presently recruiting people that are interested in contributing new ideas for recreational activities and organizing and leading them. Practically any activity that is fun and will serve the majority of the student body can be held. Last year, we sponsored a bowling party, ice-skating, and a sailing outing. There are many responsibilities for the things we can do this year.

People are needed to improve and supervise the "rec" room in Founders. Students are also needed to organize game nights which will make available to everyone games like backgammon, chess, and checkers.

Organizing and leading recreation can be an excellent opportunity to improve your leadership and management abilities. Come to the committee's organizational meeting on September 14, Wednesday, at 1:00 p.m. in the student offices suite (2nd floor, Founders). Get involved!



Panama, the Continuing Armageddon

The United States intervened in the Panama Canal Zone in 1902 under the guise of Teddy Roosevelt's "Big Stick" foreign policy and rarely since the Rough Rider's time in the Oval Office have we been introspective of nationalism and the consequences it can bring.

Currently debate on the "Panama Canal Issue" focuses on the absolute sovereignty of the Panamanian people and their right to control a strip of land in the middle of their country. By modern post-Vietnam standards it is easy to say that the U.S. erred at the dawn of a new century by intervening in Panama's revolution against the Colombian government. As Samuel Elliot Morrison notes, the treaty which saw us gain dominate power in Panama gave the lease to the United States in "perpetuity." But it is not fair to condemn our past actions in modern times. A budding world power often stretches its muscles and in the case of the U.S. philosophic isolationism would die out as the consequences of world leadership thrust greater responsibility

on our government.

Presently, scholars and critics tend to place blame on the U.S. for being an "imperialist power" which hoped merely to exploit other nations and spread its own ideals across the world map. This argument came to a head in Vietnam where the U.S. withdrew and an age of protracted conflict was erased along with another "imperialist" strong hold, so the liberals felt.

With regards to the proposed Panama treaty, both liberals and conservatives see it as a fulcrum. The former groups feels that by signing the treaty another wrong will have been corrected and their quotient of justice will have been fulfilled, while the latter see it as another bail-out by the U.S. as it continues to shirk world responsibility. The arguments advanced by both sides fail to realize that the treaty is a middle of the road compromise which is hard for soothsayers of principle to swallow, right or left.

Although the treaty has not been released for public inspection, the skeletal blurbs that have appeared in the media confirm that the

United States "will have primary responsibility - with increasing Panama participation - for administration of the Canal until 1990 when the roles reverse. Even then the U.S. will continue to be involved," according to National Review. NR also states that "Panama will receive 40 to 50 million annually from canal revenues and 10 million for the canal's operation. Panama will also receive some 300 million in aid credits."

Aid and eventual divestiture seem appropriate in an age that sees both east and west vying for power. The Treaty is a sensible one based on freedom for Panama and a clear clause that permits U.S. defense of the canal. About 23 years will pass before Panama is totally on their own in operating the canal and the fine print of the treaty has yet to be read. Close scrutiny of the treaty must still be exercised and after careful examination by the Senate, no flaws are found, a diplomatic victory will have been scored and Panama can possibly start on a road to greater freedom from both their own leaders and the U.S. government.

B.W.

La Maison Francaise

Last Spring, in an attempt to expand its housing facilities for students, Guilford asked the student body for proposals on how best to take advantage of the satellite housing. Two of these proposals have found a home this year, La Maison Francaise in Dana House No. 1 and the Economics House in the old infirmary.

In accordance with their proposal, La Maison Francaise is busily planning French cultural activities involving the Guilford College Community. On Monday nights, French dinners are being prepared by the women living in the house to serve to invited guests. Each Wednesday morning the residents make a simple French petit dejeuner and discuss their activities of the week. Also in the works is a plan to open a casual French Cafe on the terrace outside the Dana lounge in Founders. In order to defray the cost of these activities, money making events such as a car wash, hair cutting at a minimal cost and perhaps a laundry service are planned.

The main activity going on in the house is the speaking of French as much as possible. The hope is to be able to communicate totally in French at some point in the near future. All interested persons are welcome to come by and visit La Maison Francaise. For anyone having unneeded items such as curtains, lamps, or rugs, donations will be readily received by the residents.

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competition, Dr. Hobbs pointed out.

"Particularly important" he said, "it will provide complete locker, dressing and training rooms for both men's and women's sports."

Several major renovations have been completed in the gym, including additional offices and teaching stations. The basement area, to be remodeled, will include physical therapy facilities, whirlpool bath and equipment storage. Lighting and climate control will be improved.

The field house will contain a one-twelfth mile running track, portable seating for 2,500 for varsity basketball and courts for volleyball, tennis, intramural basketball and badminton, racquet ball and handball.

Is Tai-chi Chuan for You?

Kim Ragland, a 1976 graduate of Guilford, became interested in the art of Tai-chi when it was taught in a workshop on the Guilford campus. She continued her study with Alan Levy, a master of Tai-chi, and has been teaching classes since May. And what exactly is Tai-chi?

Tai-chi is a system of physical exercise which, in Kim's words, "is a mind-body discipline exercising all the muscles evenly and directing the individual to self-knowledge by making him more sensitive to his surroundings."

Tai-chi is a personal art form. The form, consisting of thirty-seven movements performed consecutively, is what Kim Ragland will be teaching in her Tai-chi classes beginning Tuesday, September 13.

Rather than concentrating on the self-defense aspect of Tai-chi Chuan (chuan meaning fist in Chinese), Kim will be devoting most of the class time to primary form. Even so, she explains that through the basic form, Tai-

chi is a method of non-violent self-defense. In the philosophy of Tai-chi there is no value in disciplining the mind and body for physical violence of any kind. At the same time, there are basic elementary principles of self-defense that are useful in evading or nullifying an attack, should it be necessary.

The techniques of Tai-chi need to be practiced thoroughly to be directly useful. The three main factors surrounding Tai-chi are correct teaching, perseverance, and natural talent. Of these correct teaching is the most important.

Tai-chi classes will be offered by Kim Ragland on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. beginning with a free demonstration class this Tuesday, September 13. The price will range between \$3.00 and \$4.00 for each one hour lesson, depending on the size of the class. Classes will be held at Tall Oaks Apartments and Kim is willing to pick up interested students who cannot find transportation to class. For more information call Kim at 274-6857 in the evening.

Summers Abroad

The faculty of Guilford's Summer Schools Abroad is spreading information about the 1978 schools this week. Schools are planned for England, France, Greece, Spain, Germany and a school on Reading Problems in Education that will visit several European countries. The Guilford faculty who are leading the 1978 summer schools are Cyrus Johnson, Sociology; Hiram Hilty, Language; Rex Adelberger, Physics; Mary Feagins, German; and Patricia Daniels, Education. During the coming week, these and other faculty members will inform students in their departments and throughout the campus about the educational opportunities which each school provides.

Each school is six weeks in length and provides eight

hours of credit. The cost for credit abroad is approximately the same as that for the same number of credit hours would cost on the Guilford campus. The education received will be many times greater because students will see and experience outside of class the places and events they will be studying and reading about in class. In addition to the learning in classes, students will be able to pursue their own special interests on weekends and during the three weeks of independent study and travels which follows the six weeks of formal classwork.

Students who are interested may receive information from the above faculty members, or at the Center for Off Campus Education, located in Frazier Apartment 21.

