Guest Editorial

Don't panic, think

By Heidi E. Hirschman

Just yesterday, I wrote a scathing editorial about the security problem. I think it might have reflected the views of a lot of people on campus. I also think it was a good editorial. I thought I made a valid point, but now I think only part of that piece was really worthwhile and it was buried under a pile of well-expressed anger.

The administration isn't really out to get us as I thought just yesterday. Bob White, Dick Dyer, Ken Schwab and Dan Fredericks have all taken shifts on security. They do care. They are concerned. They are doing all they can with the resources they have.

With the anger trimmed away, what I wanted to say is I think we, the students, need to do two things if we want to protect ourselves. First, we need to do everything exactly as we are instructed. The doors are locked at 9 p.m. for a reason. Don't prop them open, so your friend can get in late at night. That's not the only person who can get in. Keep your rooms locked. Keep an eye out for suspicious people in the dorm. Don't be afraid to say something about these people. If they are not going to be a problem they most likely will not be offended by your concern. Not only will these actions keep your rooms and dorms safer if an incident does occur, they will act as a deterrent against future invasions of the dorm. We need to make it as difficult as possible for the intruder. Right now we're just asking for trouble when we don't take precautions.

Our second possible action is to help raise money for Security. If your parents donate money to the school, ask them to donate with the stipulation that a portion of the money goes strictly to Security. We could ask the bigger contributors to do the same. I don't want to take too much money away from other important programs, but Security merits top priority status in my opinion. I think the most important task for the Administration is to restore our faith in Security. I think Bob White is beginning to resemble an irresponsible, unsympathestic version of the creature from "Alien" in the campus' eyes.

After talking to Dick Dyer and Ken Schwab, I realized that Bob White is doing all he can do with his resources. He is taking all the punches. I think we need to recognize the work he is doing for us. We need to cooperate with him and he will probably, mysteriously, become less of a monster than he has appeared to be. Also our cooperation will make his action more effective. If we fail to keep our doors locked, he can't succeed in keeping the intruders out.

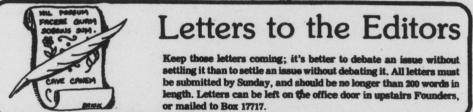
Most of all, everyone needs to take this whole situation more seriously. Without panicking. It is very important to grant this situation all the importance it deserves. After all, even if no one has been seriously hurt, people have been scared, things have been stolen, and there will always be the possibility that next time an incident occurs, someone will be seriously hurt.

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The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit all articles, letters, and artwork for taste, varacity, and length. The deadline for all copy is 6:30 p.m. on Sunday preceeding the Thursday of publication. Material may be left on the office door in upstairs Founders, or mailed to Box 17717. the opinions expressed by the staff are their own and not necessarily those of the paper or of Guilford College.

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Security guard responds

Dear Editors,

It happened again. At first I was going to let it die a slow, quiet death, but it popped up again in the Letters to the Editor department of our sacred newspaper. I'm referring to the issue of Guilco. Security, but to be more precise on the statement of "she probably deserved it."

The Guilfordian has accomplished, or more accurately Roger Lifson, the sensationalism and controversy they intended to bring you, the reader. I am not upset that the Guilfordian wants to do this, but am upset at the "National Enquirer" type technique they used. Everyone who is upset by the statement, "she probably deserved it," has a right to be, but the statement should never have been printed without all of the facts leading up to it. So, here goes. It was Tuesday, the day after the incident, 12:45 p.m. to be exact. At that time I was approached by a "friend", Roger Lifson. He asked me if I worked last night (Monday). I told him yes, from 5:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. He proceeded by asking what happened and where was I when a girl got jumped. I laughed, thinking he was fooling around.

My reason for laughing was simple. For one I thought he was joking around; being a student security guard, I am always being joked about such matters.

It was just par for the course that someone else should kid me about my job. So, when Roger asked me about this incident, I reacted in the way I do to all jokes-I joked back. In a joking manner I said, "She probably deserved it." This was intended to end this kind of joking that I am bored of. At that point Roger was furious, and I knew right then that he was serious. He kept asking me what happened, and I told him nothing happened on my shift; if anything had I would have known about it.

The last question Roger asked was, again, what time did I work. I replied "5:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m." Roger apologized and told me it happened after 12:00-after my shift. That Tuesday late afternoon I found out exactly what had happened. On Wednesday night I heard that that statement was being printed, that it reflected the attitude of security in general, and that it was necessary for the article. The statement was obviously twisted to fit the "National Enquirer" style of writing that was done on

this article. With all of the facts printed about how the statement came about, it would have been useless. I would not have cared if the statement was printed along with all of the facts. If Roger had told me that he was interviewing me and that he was a reporter, which I didn't know until later that afternoon, such a statement would never have left my mouth.

I do not feel or think that way at all about women. They are as equal as men in my book. Maybe the joke was in poor taste, but Fred, is wanting to take over the world really that funny?

Sincerely yours, Kevin Marcus

Shore security unsure

Dear Editors,

It was a normal Saturday night; or so it seemed. The campus lights had long since flickered out, as the merriment of the students was willingly overcome by a blissful slumber. It was 3 o'clock in the morning. The radiator had been working overtime to make the room torrid; just the way I like it. But even with the warmth of my room, I still felt an eerie chill running through me.

My roommate had gone camping with friends, and she would not be back until Sunday night. Not being accustomed to staving in the room alone. I could not fall asleep. I thought it might help me to relax if I ate something. So I headed towards the dorm kitchen to get some milk for my Apple Jacks. On the way to the kitchen I passed a security guard, who was checking to see that all the co-eds were safely locked in for the night. But anyone who says that the Guilford College campus is safe, is making a few presumptions.

On the way back from the kitchen, I was practically run over by this guy. Already I was scared, because there is really no way that anyone can enter Shore dormitory after 1:00 a.m., unless they have a key. But as it turned out, both the security guard and myself had forgotten about the windows.

These windows are well known to the girls in the dorm as being easily accessible when the door key is not. After 1:00 a.m. the