

Editorials other views

Friendly Talk

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By Joe Albright
Editorial Editor

Friendly Talk is written by the persons on Guilford campus. I think up the questions and compile the responses, selecting those which are representative and interesting. The questions are meant to bring forth ideas and feelings to help make the Guilford Community better and the persons in the community closer. Some questions are practical. Some are fun. Some are pointed. Respondents are asked to respond however they feel is appropriate.

To meet the ends of this column I feel it is important that the respondent's true name be given and printed. This is not done to embarrass or intimidate anyone, instead, to make this a column in which persons can honestly express themselves. For my part, when a response cannot be printed in its entirety, I promise not to alter the spirit of the remark.

Apologies for printing errors. The following are the correct names of last weeks respondents. Jessica Liebmann, John Whisnant, Virginia L. Gill, Liane Jacobs, Jessie Marlin, Elke Wafenschmidt, C. Nieu Kirk. It was

Bill Wilder who went to Europe. A lot of people also answered "Yes" or "Yes!" to the SWAT question. The response to the SWAT question by E. W. should have read "Derek from Barbados."

If ever you catch a mistake, feel I have misrepresented a respondent, are angered or amused by this column write me c-o The Guilfordian, Box 17717.

HOW IS GUILFORD HOME TO YOU?

Chris Davey: Some of the greatest people I know and my closest friends live here and hangout around Guilford.

Bryan Wilson: Many of my family are graduates of Guilford. This is my second year and I feel like a part of the school. Tough question to answer.

Neil Davis: Guilford is the home base for my future career. As a starting point for my life, I feel that its special to me. Guilford is very receptive to all people so it seems natural to feel at "home" here, especially on Homecoming.

William Mead: Guilford provides the roots of knowledge and can remove the plague of ignorance.

Cindy Sears: I love the place -- the campus is beautiful and the people are great.

Allan Kiser: It isn't. Home to me is a place that embraces me, and thus far Guilford hasn't embraced me in any way.

IS YOUR INTERN SOMEONE YOU CAN TALK TO AS A SISTER-BROTHER?

Mark R. Wagner: B. H. is my intern, and in my opinion he is the greatest intern to ever step foot in Guilford College. He is kind and caring and there is not one thing he would not do for you. A big brother of the best kind.

Neil Davis: My "big brother," I suppose, to some people is a great influence (to his particular clique). As of yet I don't feel the closeness of a brother. Perhaps in the future there will be a change. Chris Davey: I live off campus but my housemates take care of me and don't let me get too wierd. Cindy Sears: She is now - the interns I've had in the two previous years were total strangers to me.

Brenda Esch: I live in a house with eight other women who are

all great. We can all talk really easily together.

Daryl Law: No way.

Bryan Wilson: Yes. M.O.

Becky Spencer: I feel I could always talk to K. if the need arose. She gives the impression that she's always "there."

Denise Davis: No. She lives at the other end of the wing and I never see her.

Yousef Elias: My big sister goes to Guilford so I talk to her if I need to have a "man to man" talk with someone.

Cristianity in Question

By Laurie Scoll
Special Writer

I spent this summer in Europe - not only as a tourist or a language student, but as a missionary. If you had suggested such a thing to me five years ago, I would have laughed in your face. I've changed a great deal since then, and the changes took me to the streets of Amsterdam, Paris, Belfast-not to push my ideas, but mostly to ask questions. I learned a great deal about people, myself, and Christianity. I spent time with students at the University of France, Trinity College, in the streets of Florence, and I was relieved to find that they approached God and the world around them with difficult and intense questioning; I was relieved to encounter that determined will to know.

I have struggled for years with a "blind faith" mentality. I cringe when people answer questions with a pat-on-the-back-from-the-Sunday-school-teacher attitude. If Christianity is going to be my way of living, if God is real, then it has to be relevant and applicable. Many others share this feeling. I am surprised to find a growing number of students participating in bible studies this semester, but I'm not surprised by their main question - What does it mean to be a Christian on Guilford College Campus today?

It means a great deal in an age when people have become numb to the words which

ourselves in a language when words like "redemption" and "salvation" have become practically meaningless? How does Christianity stand up to philosophy, anthropology, sociology? What does it mean to one's career, relationships, goals?

According to II Timothy 3:16 all scripture is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, and for correction." We aren't asked to believe blindly, instead, to look closely. In the book of Acts, Paul spent three weeks arguing, explaining, and proving the identity of Jesus Christ to the Thessalonians, to keep them from believing blindly (Acts 17:2). Today at Guilford, we share in this struggle to know God and understand.

I met a man in Maine last month, an active Christian, who had been involved with international students at California universities during the seventies. He had dealt with many tough questions from students of all walks of life. I asked him why he was a Christian. "Because it's the truth for me. If I ever stopped believing it is the truth, I'd leave it. But I know it is, and I'd be living a lie to deny it," he said. His feelings matched my own. We've begun a correspondence in which we discuss our questions.

I am a Christian. I know God is real, I believe in Christ and the reality of Christianity, but I have not stopped questioning. I doubt that I will for a long, long time.

Letters to the Editor

"Hi" A Way Of Life

Dear Editor,

"Hi" has become a platitude. Nothing is meant by it any more. I disagree.

With that simple "Hi" the speaker acknowledges another's existence; he is aware of the other's presence. What is the choice? To walk by and say nothing? I prefer to let the other know he is alive. Saying hello means infinitely more than saying nothing at all. And it's simple to do.

Sincerely,
Stephen Hobbs

Do Unto Others

Dear Editor,

This is a letter, more of outrage, than of anything else. I am angry because Jeane Heard, our new head of PIRG, views Guilford, not as the open and friendly school it was in years past, but more as a hostile and unfriendly place to work. Somehow, her description of Guilford does not jive with my feelings and perceptions of this school. It seems, that at the beginning of this semester, Jeane placed posters around campus announcing PIRG's first meeting for the Fall semester and someone systematically tore each poster off the walls. This was certainly a disheartening way to start out work at a new school. The next incident occurred last week, when the phone "disappeared" from PIRG's

locked office. Someone, had evidently unlocked the office, removed the phone and then relocked the door. We have progressed from ripping down posters to stealing phones. A nice welcome! What makes me angry is that Jeane perceives this type of activity as indicative of Guilford as a whole. This type of thing wasn't typical in the past, and I hope it isn't today. If it isn't an indication of things to come, then the big question is "Why would anyone launch such an unfriendly program to welcome the new head of PIRG?"

Signed,
Megan A. Fitzgerald

Congratulations

Dear Editor

I wanted you and your staff to know what a fine job you all did on your first issue of the Guilfordian. I know how important doing quality work is to all of you, and I also know how much time it takes to complete such a product (I should know, my roommate, your academics editor, came in at 4:00 in the morning and woke me up the night before the paper came out!)

Please accept this letter as you would a bottle of champagne (or a case of beer) and keep up the good work.

Much thanks.

Roger C. Pettingell
President, Community Senate.

Pass the Couch

Dear Editor:

I'd like to think I could trust any of Guilford's staff; however when acts of duplicity are conducted by some of the colleges "Directors" I become a bit more critical than my normal cynicism usually permits. Last semester (Spring) I received permission from Bob White to store my couch in the old housing office for the summer. when I returned, my couch was ornamenting a suite in Bryan Hall. When asked, Bob White replied that maintenance must have moved it without asking him and suggested I talk to Bill Scott and have him move it for me. Bill Scott, also dodging culpability explained in great detail how he had placed the furniture (with no couch) in that suite the day before the students arrived. He added that when he returned 2 days later the couch was there and - he concluded - the boys in the suite must have taken it and therefore he'd have to charge me to move it. I accepted that and moved it myself. However, 2 days later Bob White confronted me and asked about the couch. When I explained the circumstances he

No Bubble

By Bob White
Director of Housing

Crime on America's college campuses is increasing rapidly. In fact it is increasing at a rate that surpasses the crime rate for the nation as a whole. The reasons for this growth are many and varied, certainly the sad state of the economy with its high rate of unemployment is one variable. Another has to do with the cutbacks in many federally funded social programs. Since this is not a treatise on the causality of crime, let it suffice to say the crime rate is increasing and that affects all of us here at Guilford College.

In an academic building for example a major theft was ac-

complished because someone had propped open a door for ventilation and failed to lock it when they left. Security does check buildings and lock windows and doors, however we do need your help! The following basic suggestions will help us protect you and your property.

1. Always lock your room even if you're just next door, and especially if you're going to bed.

2. When walking on campus after dark, go in pairs and try to stick to areas that have the best lighting.

3. Check the windows in your classroom or office when leaving to make sure they are locked.

4. If you see someone behaving in a suspicious manner contact security immediately.

5. Inscribe all your valuables with your social security number and maintain a list of serial numbers as well.

6. Report any incident immediately.

Please help us help you!

Signed,
Alice George