

The **FORUM**

# Focus needs to turn 'outside the hedges'

Some 1100 students flocked back to Guilford late last month. For many, it was a return to their second, or perhaps their first, home. And for others—they were deciding just how to make Guilford a home of their own.

Certainly, Guilford provides an atmosphere that, for most, is extremely comfortable and easy to get used to. Perhaps too comfortable.

The Inquiring Photographer we ran on page 2 was a bitter example of this. The opinions printed weren't the problem. However, we do feel that the 20-plus people we asked who had no idea that our military operations in Iraq last week even happened showcases a problem on this campus that is inexcusable.

The growing sentiment around the

country is college campuses are apathetic. Gone are the days of Vietnam and the alienated 60's "counterculture"—and seemingly, the fierce world awareness that accompanied it.

Perhaps those troubled times gave college campuses more incentive to be aware of the world around them. But lack of major world war or extreme civil unrest is not a permission slip for ignorance.

Look around. War in Iraq. War in Bosnia. War in Chechnya. Massive urban homelessness. Continued racial tensions. Escalating national debt. All of these directly affect this country and our lives every day.

And no matter how comfortable our lives at Guilford are right now, we stand to inherit these problems

the day we leave. And going out into the world as "Joe Schmoe—uninformed citizen," is perhaps the biggest disservice we can give our country.

*The Guilfordian* is trying to attack this. In a few weeks, we will debut the World section, where we will focus on national and international events, and how they affect us—right here on our little plot of suburbia.

From there, however, we implore you to take action. Read newspapers. Watch the news. *Vote*. There are plenty of organizations on campus, such as Project Community, Amnesty International, and GLBA, that are anxiously looking for help and are wholly geared towards improving the world around them.

Your world.

**editorial board**

- Keir Bickerstaffe
- Lindsay Oldenski
- Courtney Christian
- Ben Thorne

**statement of purpose**

The Forum exists to facilitate dialogue and expression on matters of importance to Guilford College and its mission. Toward this end, active community participation in these pages is vital.

**editorial policy**

Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials, cartoons and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no more than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit submissions for grammatical correctness and brevity.

## The Inquiring Photographer

What do you think about cafeteria food?  
How would you like it to be better?



**Sarah Donnelly (first year)-**  
I think it sucks. They're in cahoots with Papa John's; when we order from them the cafeteria gets a cut. They feed us too early, later we're hungry. That's where Papa John's comes in.



**Emily Dinges (Junior)-**  
It's hard to say. The cafe is pretty poor, but I've had some good stuff. Desserts are good. Food at Mary Hobbs has been really good.



**Melissa Salzman (sophomore)-**  
Uhh... well, if you like indigestion it's okay. It's lacking. Cook the vegetables so that they're not squishy.



**Maggie Blair (first year)-**  
I think the vegetables need to be prepared better. I've lost weight here because of the food.



**Josh Feldstein (first year)-**  
They can improve. You're a Fabio Wannabe. No more cabbage mold.



**Nate Fuller (first year)-**  
I don't think it's that great but the ice cream is a big bonus.

PHOTOS BY ISAAC PALANT