



THE GUILFORDIAN

Greensboro, NC

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Graduation: 78 days away

By Peter Morscheck
STAFF WRITER

"The 3,500 chairs placed annually on Founders' lawn take two full days to set up."

This was one of many observations made by Director of Student Activities Dawn Watkins when asked the particulars of the biggest college event of the year. Welcome to Commencement.

That's right, seniors: Have you submitted your yearbook photo and quote yet? Have you sent invitations out to your extended family? Have you made sure Joyce Eaton knows how to pronounce your name properly? Here's a friendly reminder: graduation's a mere 78 days away.

This year's commencement ceremonies will begin with an off-campus senior picnic on the afternoon of Thursday, May 4th. The mandatory rehearsal starts Friday the 5th at 2:00 p.m.. Baccalaureate follows that night at 6:00 p.m. in Dana auditorium. Graduates, families, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to attend. There will be a reception at Ragsdale house beginning at 7:00p.m..

Then comes the big event. The processional itself will begin outside Founders at 10:30 a.m. Saturday the 6th. Seniors should try to hold their Friday night partying to a minimum, however, as the mandatory line-up for processional begins at an ungodly 9:00 a.m. that morning. Free coffee and juice will be provided, however.

December 1999 as well as May 2000 graduates are eligible to walk the stage that day, be it the usual set-up on the lawn, or the rain-contingency, Ragan-Brown fieldhouse. Professional photographers will be on hand for both personalized photos and videos, although personalized videos must be ordered in advance.

Preliminary choices for student speakers were selected by vote early last fall, with results compiled by senior senator Eric Kaplan. Seniors then chose among the finalists last Tuesday during

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Student elections approach

Second Union ticket entered and approved despite lack of Steering Committee experience.

By Karie Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Despite an extended deadline, only one ticket meeting the requirements is campaigning for Senate. It is Jamie Clark's ticket, and they are not happy about the lack of competition. The lack of interest that students demonstrate in Senate is a major concern for them.

The candidates are: Jamie Clark for president, Brian Dumas for vice president, Rebecca Wiggers for treasurer, and Cynthia McKay for secretary.

They have developed a rough plan to address students' disinterest in student government. As Clark stated, they are interested in "as many people as possible getting involved in Senate." They'd like to "tactfully" (Dumas' word) get people truly involved in campus issues and not, as McKay put it, "just whining in their dorms." Another idea the ticket has is to extend open invitations to Senate meetings for trustees so they do not just feel "the backlash of angry students" and can have more open lines of communication with the community.

The ticket would also like to address the atmosphere surrounding Senate. They do not feel that Boren lounge's closed doors enable the campus to feel included or that the space's stiff environment enables good communication. A more entertaining environment might do a lot to establish Senate as something other than, what McKay dis-



AARON THOMPSON

Senate frontrunners promise to hold office with dignity and poise.

likes being referred to as: "those type of people."

Clark would like to see Senate relax with more fun but no dumb games. Instead of anything silly, he'd like Senate to "play freeze tag all over Founders." Dumas, on the other hand would just like to see people comfortable knowing that "Senate is not a popularity contest" and nobody is going to judge anyone too harshly. McKay had an idea that one Friday night Senate could be held in Dana at midnight and they could try to find the ghost while discussing politics.

Wiggers wants to get students involved with Senate who would never attend any of the meetings. She would like to make senators more available to the students they are representing. She wants to have senators sitting at tables in Founders lobby during lunch in case someone has a voice that might not otherwise be heard. McKay agreed and would like to see more emphasis on senators bringing in ideas from students outside of Senate.

Clark mentioned something about a bullhorn announcing the minutes but quickly got

shot down amid a lot of laughter.

As a group of senators, this ticket is interested in more than just getting people involved in Senate. They are working on several things that they would like to see come to fruition while in office. For instance, Dumas would love to see as many things moved from the basement of Founders to King as possible, such as the Career Development Center, and have a game room/student lounge put in their place in Founders. McKay wanted to add that if any one wants, they can conference on Lotus about King. They are also interested in there being space in King for photography and art.

In order to prevent getting sick of each other, as Wiggers joked they already are, they plan on "talking about politics Jerry Springer-Style" with "senate wrestling matches" to get people to agree. If it takes being closed in with cigarette smoke from Clark and McKay in order to reach some resolutions, Dumas is willing to die of lung cancer for the greater good of

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Charles Schultz
--the creator of **Peanuts**--died of colon cancer on Saturday night upon finishing last Sunday's comic.



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