



# THE GUILFORDIAN

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## Beschloss speaks; Bryan Series concludes

Becca Spence

Staff Writer

Michael Beschloss, called "the nation's leading presidential historian" by *Newsweek*, visited Guilford on Feb. 10 as the concluding event in the 2004-05 Bryan Speaker Series, themed "Challenges Facing Democracy."

Beschloss began his activities at Guilford with a student semi-

nar held in Founders Gallery.

Students and professors from Guilford and UNCG attended the seminar, during which Beschloss and the attendees discussed the role of the Internet in news, how people get their news now compared with 30 years ago, how George W. Bush will be viewed in history, and other issues.

When Beschloss asked at the

seminar how those who attended primarily get their news, almost everyone cited the Internet as their main source. Beschloss praised this advancement in the way people become informed, and said, "The best thing younger people can do ... is to get access to as many sources of information as you can."

Beschloss said that how the public views presidents depends largely on the results of their actions rather than the actions themselves. For example, people 20 years from now will view Bush very differently depending how the situation in Iraq turns out.

Beschloss also discussed his own life at the seminar. "I'm a historian," he said. "I've wanted to be that, grimly enough, since I was about 10 years old."

After the seminar, The Guilfordian had the opportunity to ask Beschloss questions.

When asked if he finds it diffi-

cult to be objective and keep his own political views out of his history, Beschloss responded that he is "not by nature partisan," and that we "have to always assume events will look very different 30 years from now" and that this knowledge makes him more careful not to rush to judgment.

When asked if he thinks the media is harmful or helpful to presidential elections, Beschloss said, "The media just reacts to the system that exists," and said the biggest problem is the presidential nomination process. He pointed out that the process used to last six months, and that this allowed for better candidates to be nominated.

Beschloss's evening presentation began at 8 p.m. in Dana auditorium. After an introduction by college president Kent Chabotar, he began his speech by praising Guilford. Beschloss, who attended Williams College,

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JULIE KNIGHT/SPECIAL TO GUILFORDIAN

Historian Michael Beschloss speaks at Dana on Feb. 10

## Chabotar outlines SLRP for Community Senate

Kyle West

Staff Writer

Amidst partially consumed food and passed proposals, President Kent Chabotar visited the Feb. 9 Community Senate meeting ready to face tough opposition. By the end, students were more receptive and tolerant than he had expected.

Chabotar began his hour-long discussion talking about the lack of previous plans for the college.

"This college made deals, signed initiatives... without even budgeting it," Chabotar said. "When I got here, they hadn't even budgeted for my inauguration."

"Don't worry, I think balancing a budget is critical," said Chabotar leading into the need for a balanced budget. According to Chabotar, the Strategic Long Range Plan

(SLRP), which took two years to produce, is the first long range plan in the College's history that is paid for in advance.

Chabotar moved on to the five major parts of the plan, going over each one in detail. Beginning with what he called transformational education, Chabotar stressed that principled problem solving was to be a central tenet of the academic programs at the College. He also explained the "Guilford Challenge:" a plan to integrate co-curricular activities into a student's final transcript.

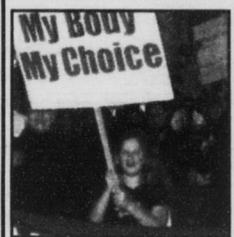
Chabotar explained that although the college is looking to expand its alliances with other colleges, Guilford will remain an undergraduate school. However, depending on the programs, some students would be able to do four years at the college and one year at UNCG for a cooperative graduate degree.

He also talked about the steep growth the college has seen in the past year in terms of enrollment. In 2003, the first-year class was only 298 students. By 2004, the number leapt to 440, instead of the budgeted 328. The quality was not lost, according to Chabotar, as 19 percent of the class arriving in 2004 was in the top 10 percent of their class in high school, whereas only 10 percent of the class that arrived in 2003 were in the top 10 percent in high school.

Chabotar said that the plan intends to slow the increase of the school, enough so that by 2010, the enrollment will total 3,300: 1,500 traditional students, 1,700 CCE students, and 100 Early College students.

He also stressed the need for expanding on Guilford's Quaker heritage. "We need to get serious about this," Chabotar said, as

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Anit-abortion sentiment increasing Page 5



Guilford celebrates Mardi Gras

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Daze of Campus Life

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Jordan Snipes

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