



THE GUILFORDIAN

Greensboro, N.C.

Volume 92, Issue 9
www.guilfordian.com

November 11, 2005

Archbishop Desmond Tutu connects with audience at Bryan Series

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Staff Writer

Desmond Tutu - Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, South Africa, Chancellor of the University of the Western Cape, and one of the most inspirational and honored people in the world today - gave his only media interaction while in Greensboro at the Odean Theater at the Greensboro Coliseum on Nov. 3.

After the press conference at 8 p.m., Tutu gave a speech in War Memorial Auditorium for the Guilford community. Kent Chabotar, President of Guilford College, opened the lecture with a brief history and introduction to Desmond Tutu's lecture. He described the Archbishop as "an indispensable ally."

Eric Mortensen, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, agrees that Tutu is an amazing human being and describes him as "one of the rare humans who can speak about hope with the confidence of experience."

The Archbishop spoke about an array of topics including his Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC), the essence of being human, and the Apartheid in South Africa and its effects on

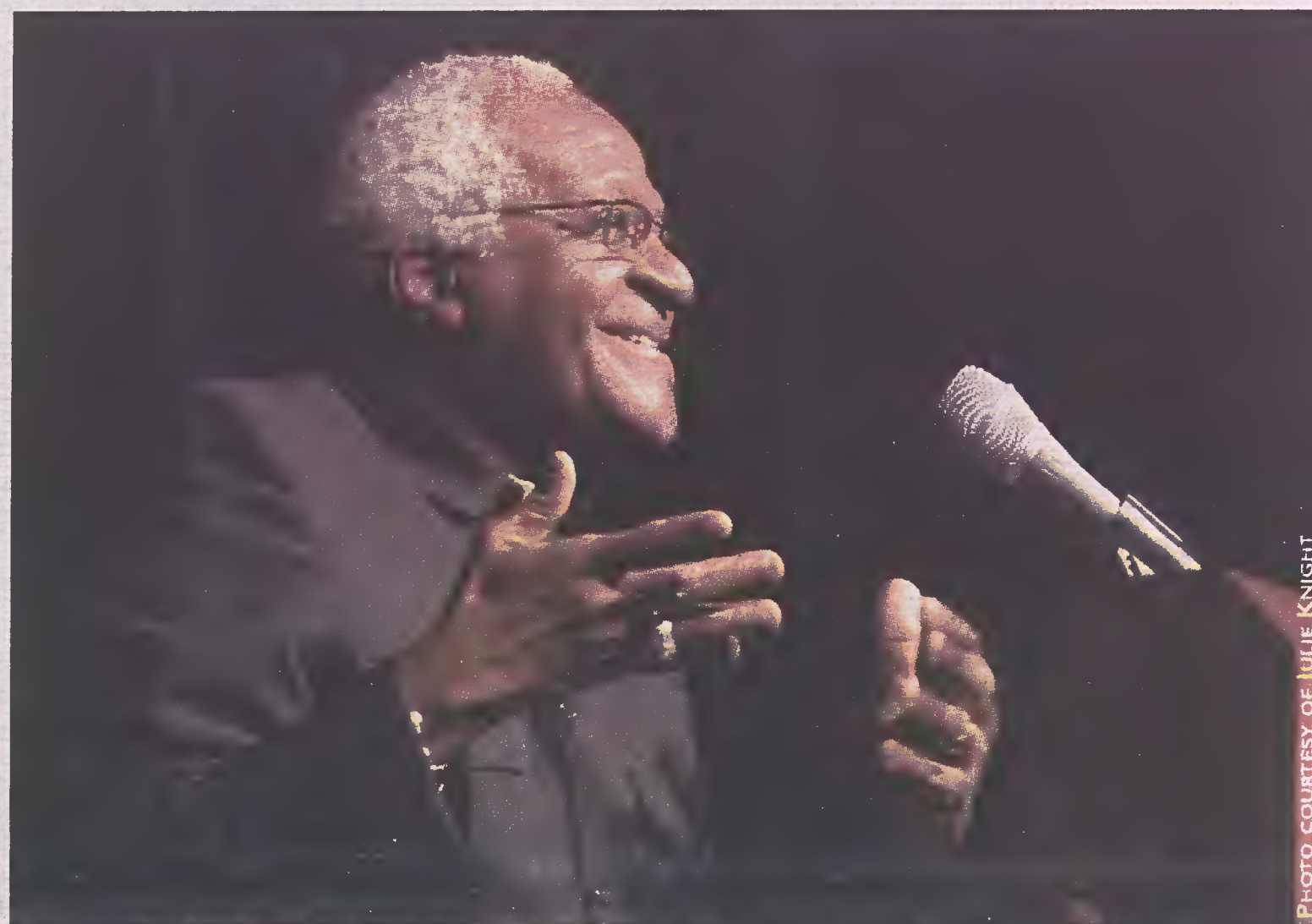


PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIE KNIGHT

Archbishop Desmond Tutu spoke to a packed auditorium

the country's people and the world.

"He brought the topic of Apartheid closer to home," said first-year Jordan Miller.

Tutu used the South African

saying "Ubuntu" to describe the essence of being human. He defined Ubuntu as an African world-view, or philosophy of life, that incorporates the values of personhood, humaneness, morali-

ty, honesty, and concern for the social good. Human beings can only truly be alive through other human beings, according to Tutu.

The Archbishop Tutu described it as "I am because you

are." He spoke fondly of this South African saying, its use in the South African community, and how it can be influential to others.

"He reminded us of that which we, as Americans, often so conveniently forget: that forgiveness can come through understanding, and that if we fail to attempt to understand those who have harmed us, we are doomed to perpetuate a circle of hurt," said Mortensen about the Ubuntu theory and Tutu's TRC.

Tutu eloquently captivated and connected with his audience. Throughout his entire lecture, he used comedy and the short timeframe of the lecture to his advantage. At one point, the Archbishop briefly converted the entire audience into South Africans to bring them out of their timidity, allowing them to applaud for themselves as he thanked Americans for aiding the cause in South Africa.

"I speak on behalf of millions when I say 'thank you for your support,'" said Tutu. And with yet another wave of the wand, the audience reverted back to Americans. This was just one of many ways Tutu connected with

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1,118 applicants for Fall 2006

Jabari Sellers

Staff Writer

With less than 3,000 students enrolled, Guilford is known for being a small campus with a loud voice. Judging by the number of applications already submitted for next fall, that voice is being heard.

Guilford is receiving applications for the 2006 fall semester at a record rate - 1,118 applications as of Nov. 1. This is double the number of applications for the two previous years: 529 and 563.

"Though I'd like to think that it is something the admissions department has done, it is plain to see that the word of mouth at Guilford is very strong," said Randy Doss, Vice President for Enrollment and Campus Life. "That is the power of satisfied students and parents."

Doss explained how student and faculty appreciation has helped application numbers. "The most important thing is satisfying customers," said Doss. "Like a restaurant, when you like the food you ate there, you suggest it to your friends; I believe that Guilford has satisfied enough students that our popularity has grown tremendously."

"By providing students with quality



PHOTO BY KATE TALBOT

As of Nov. 1, 1,118 applications were sent

assistance, we can help ensure their satisfaction," explained Tania Johnson, Associate Director of Admissions. "We can only hope that our satisfied students share their experiences with friends and family choosing their college; I believe that has already happened."

Johnson explained how Guilford's reputation has developed out of unchanging principles. "This campus and its students pride themselves in staying active within

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Senate approves gender-blind housing

Pascale Vallee

Staff Writer

There has been one question on Anya Benson's and David Norton's minds: "Why can't I room with my best friend?" They both have unpaid single dorm rooms and need to find roommates, but they cannot room with each other because of their genders. Thus birthed their proposal for gender-blind housing, passed by Senate on Nov. 11. The proposal still needs approval from Campus Life and President Chabotar.

In the gender-blind proposal, it is suggested that students of any gender may share a dorm room. While the new apartments allow people of any sex or gender to room together, the price of living in the apartments is unattractive to many students. The only residence halls that would be affected by this proposal, should it be approved, are those that are already co-ed. However, when asked about gender-blind housing in Bryan hall, Aaron Fetrow, Dean for Campus Life, shook his head and said, "That won't happen."

Benson and Norton hope that the proposal will provide options for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and inter-sex stu-

dents who feel uneasy with the current arrangement. The petition calls the same-sex living arrangements on campus "heterosexist" and claims that same-sex housing encourages heteronormative thought. The petition cites Guilford College's Strategic Long Range Plan, which "expresses the need for more diverse housing options on page 96."

One of the major concerns Campus Life has with this idea is the possibility that heterosexual couples may room together, break up, and cause trouble mid-semester in the residence halls. But with living arrangements the way they are now, proponents argue that same-sex couples may room together and present the same problems.

"It's ironic that now straight people are oppressed, because I could live with my boyfriend but a heterosexual couple couldn't," said first-year Joe Pelcher. "This new arrangement wouldn't be creating a new situation, just opening it up to everyone."

Another major concern is the issue of sexual assault. There is an opinion that if there is mixed-sex housing, the chance of

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