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HORDES DESCEND ON GUILFORD'S ANNUAL 'GEEKEND'

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Bryan Series' Salman Rushdie speaks on politics and literature

By Mary Bubar
STAFF WRITER

"Here I am risking my life, and not for the first time," said Sir Salman Rushdie to a sold-out crowd at the War Memorial auditorium on February 10. In his Bryan Series speech, the celebrated author referred to the Ayatollah Khomeini's 1989 issuance of a fatwa in response to his novel "The Satanic Verses."

"One of us is dead," said Rushdie about Khomeini, as he explained that the pen is mightier than the sword. "Don't mess with the novelists."

Rushdie conveyed his unique perspective on life as well as literature's relation to world events with a warm and witty sense of humor, which belied his controversial statements at the end of the evening.

Rushdie often touched on the role of the writer as celebrity, "It was never my intention to be a religious or political writer," said Rushdie to a gathering of students in the Community Room prior

to the evening event, "The space between public and private life has closed completely."

Rushdie spent ten years in hiding, living with armed guards, constantly on the move while evading Khomeini's death threat.

"What happened to me was an odd and exceptional event, that now, fits right in with the larger events that followed it," Rushdie told The Guilfordian, "Someone compared me to the canary in a coal mine, and I quite agree with that."

Being thrust onto the front pages impinged on Rushdie's career as a writer.

"It's difficult to be an observer," said Rushdie to the Bryan Series audience, "when you are the one being observed ... that's the job of the writer."

Despite his years in seclusion, he continued to write award-winning books while defending his voice as an artist.

"In any open society the argument over the story is the story," said Rushdie referring to history as

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Senate tries to rid 'piggy bank' requests

By Jasmine Ashton
STAFF WRITER

At Guilford, each traditional student pays \$165 a semester in student activity fees. This year student activity fees amounted to \$100,000, making up Community Senate's budget.

At the end of each year, Senate allocates some of their budget towards Guilford's 41 clubs. The rest of the money is allotted for projects that students propose throughout the year, usually for service trips and on-campus

events.

These proposals are generally debated for two weeks, allowing time for representatives to talk with their constituencies and develop an idea of whether or not students support the projects being funded with their money.

"It is the duty of all senators to represent the views of their constituents," said Senate Vice President Dana Ayed. "It is the job of all senators to carry this on their shoulders. Everyone is entitled to know where their money

is going."

However, there has been some debate within Senate regarding how to best represent the interests of the entire student body when voting on proposals.

Former CAB Representative Trevor Corning proposed the passage of a Senator Responsibility Act to hold senators accountable for talking to their constituents. This act would force 10 percent of each representative's constituency to sign an agreement saying they were informed—

regardless of whether their constituency is a small club or Milner dorm.

When Corning brought his proposal before the steering committee, it was put aside.

Most representatives said they talk to their constituencies about the more contentious issues, but overall felt that most students do not care about the day-to-day proposals addressed on Wednesday nights.

Some stressed the

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Competition revs recycling efforts

By Peter Kostin
STAFF WRITER

During the next 10 weeks, Guilford will be participating in a huge national college recycling competition dubbed Recyclemania.

Leading the charge on behalf of Guilford is sustainability coordinator Jim Dees and his assistant, senior Gabriella Spang. The pair will attempt to boost recycling quotas by exploiting the epic rivalry between Milner and Binford halls into a heated "recycle-off."

In the national competition Guilford is up against huge schools like Stanford and Harvard, so efforts cannot stop there. There will also be an educational "dumpster dump" on the both Feb. 25 and March 25 at 1:30 p.m., which is aimed at

radically promoting good waste habits. A dumpster from campus will be completely emptied onto ground near Founders Hall. The heaps of trash will be sorted into a visual aid that shows how many recyclable products students throw into the wrong bin.

however, there is the possibility that the message could be mistaken for a piece of modern art from Hege-Cox building.

This is Guilford's first year of Recyclemania. The school just hired Dees as its first full-time sustainability coordinator last

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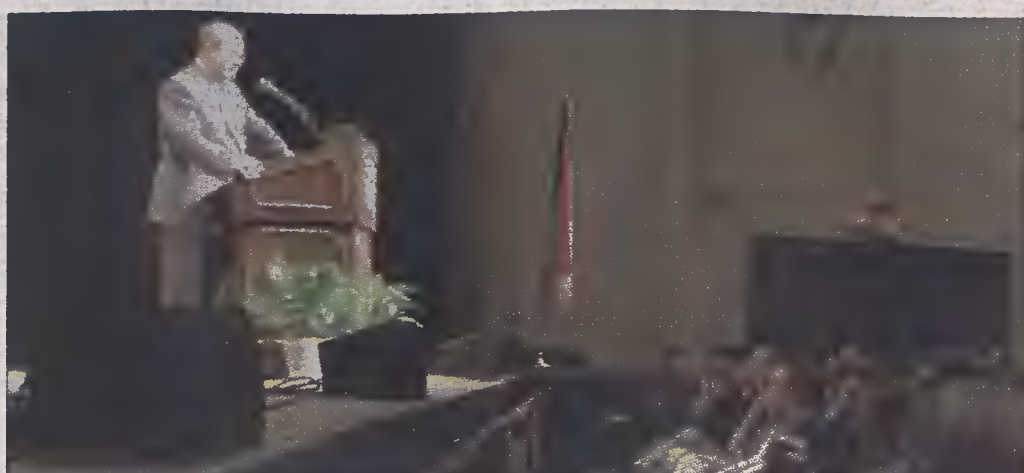
Gabriella Spang, senior

"We have never done anything like this before," said Spang. "But unfortunately for thrill seekers I haven't been hopping into dumpsters as much as I've just been peeking in them."

In this unorthodox effort,

year. Dees has put Guilford at odds with 500 other schools to compile the least amount of trash and most recyclables over 10 weeks.

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CLOUD GAMBLE/GUILFORDIAN

Famed novelist, short story writer, and gossip column constant Sir Salman Rushdie speaks to a sold-out crowd in the War Memorial auditorium as part of the Bryan Series on Feb. 10.