

# THE GUILFORDIAN

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**FORUM**

## Diversity Plan needed to tackle institutional oppression of Black male athletes



CLOUD GAMBLE/GUILFORDIAN

Today at Guilford, the Black male athlete is oppressed, silenced, and isolated in ways that go against the spirit of our community. Our community's actions should reflect all of our core values, especially diversity.

Oppression within the athletic department, specifically within the football program, is accepted. From African-Americans being told to "back their Black asses up" on the field, to verbally degrading women and dropping homophobic slurs in the locker room, many overtly oppressive actions go and remain unaddressed.

In addition to these explicit forms of oppression, there are many covert forms of oppression that take place. This covert oppression may or may not be deliberate and is hard to recognize and sufficiently record. Both forms of oppression need to be addressed.

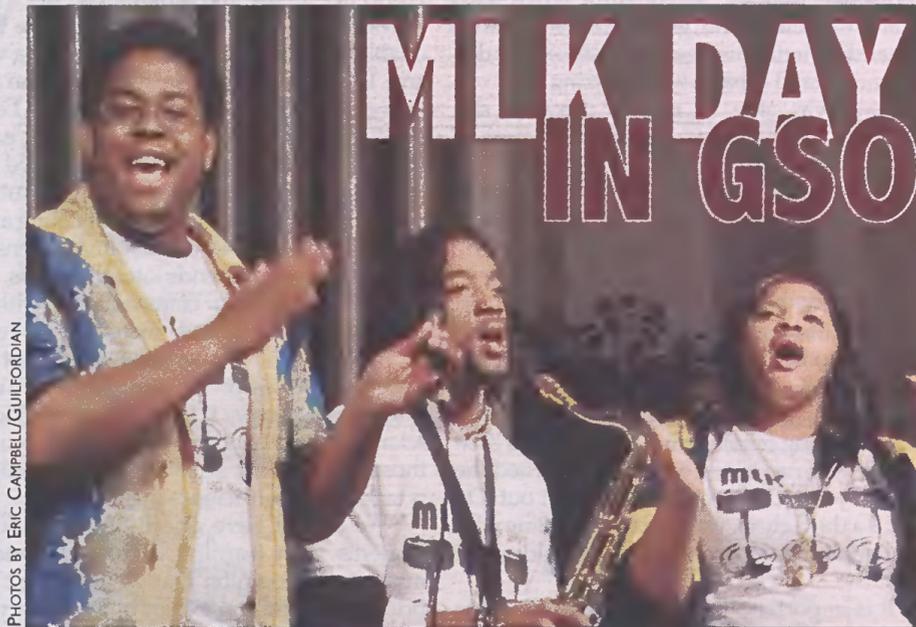
As a Black male playing for the football team, I was subjected to racism — many other Black males on the team were, too. Many Black males are here at Guilford because the football program recruited them. A lot of the Black males on the team were told the same things while being recruited.

Black recruits are commonly told things like: "You will have an opportunity to play early (when talking about playing time)," "Let me make a call to the Vice-President, Randy Doss (when talking about the tuition)," and "You're going to be the next Sleep (former All-American Black wide receiver)."

Although seemingly motivational, these recruiting techniques come with sets of player-coach expectations. These expectations are the beginning of a coercive relationship between the coaches and the Black male player. This coercive relationship manifests itself in many different ways over the course of an athlete's career.

Many coaches treat Black players as if they owe something in return for the opportunity to be great at football — an opportunity they

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PHOTOS BY ERIC CAMPBELL/GUILFORDIAN

(Counter-clockwise from top) Greensboro College Gospel Choir performs on Jan. 18 at Greensboro College after the march. A statue of MLK stands in the sun downtown. Participants in the Jan. 18 teach-in hold up their newly made sign.



## EVENTS COMMEMORATE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER, CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

By Holli McClean  
STAFF WRITER

"Many people believe that MLK Day is a day on, not off. That needs to become Guilford's mantra," said Africana Community Coordinator Jada Drew, director of the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. commemorative events. Her words set the tone for a week of teach-ins, marches, candlelight vigils, and thoughtful reflections.

The events began at 10 a.m. Jan. 18 in Dana Auditorium. James Shields, director of community learning, kicked off a two-hour teach-in with a speech on activism and achieving dreams.

Jubilant cries could be heard from Dana as the modest but energetic group of attendees cheered the speaker. Adults then joined small groups to discuss little-known civil rights activists, while children were divided into age groups and given short lessons on the significance of the day.

Including children in the Monday morning teach-ins personified the atmosphere of the

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**NEWS**

## New housing lottery hopes to lessen confusion

By Rebecca Gibian  
STAFF WRITER

Due to unhappy responses from students on an October survey, the Campus Life staff has been working to make changes to the housing lottery. A major complaint was that students said they had no information about the housing process and that no one was available to help.

Suggestions included allowing eight students to apply for a suite in Bryan Hall, instead of only four, and saving rooms in Mary Hobbs Hall and English Hall for upperclassmen. According to Associate Dean for Campus Life Jen Agor changes have

**"If you do not know about the (housing) lottery this year, you've been living under a rock, or really just do not understand the process."**

Jen Agor, associate dean for campus life

been implemented to address these complaints and to make the housing lottery run smoothly this year.

"Since they hardly had room in housing for first-years this semester, I am glad to see some changes happening, although they may not all work," said first-year Sam Huff.

To fix last year's problems, Agor said that Campus Life is becoming more accessible before and during the application process.

"We are going to be upfront and obnoxious to make sure everyone knows what is going on," said Agor; continuing, "there will be posters in Founders Hall, along with an e-mail announcement with a link to the Web page. There will also be a Buzz announcement and table tents."

For first-years, there will be staff members, armed with computers, in the Milner and Binford lobbies for on-the-spot application submissions. Students will be able to apply via these computers in Milner at 7:30 p.m. on March 2 and March 16. For students in Binford, staff members will be there on March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

For all other year levels, there will

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**SPORTS**



## Fight, Fight Inner Light!

## The Top 10 Quaker games coming up this semester

By Patrick Childs  
SPORTS EDITOR

In the final stretch of the winter sports season and the spring season right around the corner, The Guilfordian highlights and ranks the top ten games, matches and events to look forward to in the upcoming semester.

**1. Men's basketball v. Eastern Mennonite**  
Tip-off: Wed. Feb. 10, 7 p.m.  
Location: Ragan-Brown Field House

Guilford would like to welcome the Mennonite Royals to the top of the ODAC. The Royals have climbed the ODAC ladder in the last three years, finishing no better than fifth. In 2010, the Royals are unbeaten in conference play, and stand in the way between the Quakers and first place. The Quakers (6-1 in ODAC), will look to knock the Royals down the ODAC ladder.

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**Greensboro's best kept secrets**  
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