

## RENOVATIONS

## Changes come to Guilford campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Shore Hall. School officials hope a bicycle repair and rental shop will bring Guilford one step closer to becoming a carbon-neutral campus.

Jim Dees, environmental sustainability coordinator, said the shop will be popular with students and staff alike.

"We already have a big bicycling community here," Dees said. "There are even a lot of faculty that ride to work."

The shop will offer rental bikes and free tune-ups to anyone with a Quaker Card, Dees said.

Guilford sophomore Tom Clement is looking forward to the shop's opening.

"I'll definitely be using it," said Clement, who bicycled across the country with friends last summer. "A lot of other students will too."

## Sprucing up the lake

Guilford College Lake is undergoing a makeover, too. Workers spent the summer planting 17 October Glory Maples — fast-growing trees known for their intense red foliage come fall — along either side of Nathan Hunt Road.

Workers also removed the gravel road that led to a fire pit popular with students on weekends. Relax, a new pit was built closer to the lake's shoreline.

The changes, said Landscape and Grounds Manager David Petree, are two-fold: leaders have wanted to spruce up the lake and the surrounding woods for years and are trying to keep unwanted visitors out of the area.

Both the lake and nearby woods have become an increasingly popular weekend hangout for teenagers who are not part of the college community, said Petree.

"The area got a reputation among a good

number of high school students who would show up there on weekends and, well, do what kids of that age do," said Petree. "Our improvements will hopefully curb their presence."

School officials haven't gone so far as to ban outsiders from the area. In fact, many folks from the surrounding neighborhoods still hike through the woods or fish from the lake's shore line.

Robert Lambert, who lives off of College Road, spent a recent Thursday morning casting his rod from under a shady cluster of cedars.

"No fish, but you can't beat the view," Lambert said.



George Hendrix (left), working for Triad Sheet Metal, and Jay Fletcher, with Frank L. Blum Construction, work in the pizzeria kitchen.

## Pizza anyone?

Guilford already has an award-winning dining hall and grill on its menu. The school is hoping the latest addition will be just as popular with students.

The Quakeria pizzeria is set to open in the middle of September next to the Grill in Founders Hall. "The Q," as it has already been anointed by students, will serve pizzas and appetizers. The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to midnight seven days a week during the school year.

The Quakeria is Guilford's latest effort to overhaul the traditional college dining experience of years' past. School officials want the latest eatery, furnished with chic bar tables, to be yet another recruiting tool, luring potential students and their tuition dollars with the promise of healthy eating.

"Guilford is anything but institutional in its dining choices," said Leslie Phillips, director of business development at Meriwether Godsey, the Virginia-based dining service company that already runs Guilford's dining hall and The Grill. "The Q is just an extension of that."

## WiFi campus

Guilford decided to invest in a new campus-wide wireless installation, largely in response to the financial contributions of the student-led Community Senate.

Why did Guilford choose to go ahead with this project? Vice President for Administration Jon Varnell put it simply: "Wireless fits the culture of Guilford."

We have many beautiful outdoor spaces on campus which are now covered by the new wireless including the quad, lake area, athletic facilities, and all the residence halls. This gives students ample space to sprawl in the sun, socialize, and enjoy the weather while getting

their online homework done.

Varnell hopes that wireless will help create freedom not only in the way Guilford students study but also in the way Guilford professors teach.

As for any technical difficulties, don't worry — IT&S has been working around the clock to get the wireless up and running and will continue to provide technical support for students and faculty as the semester progresses.

## Clearing the air

Over the summer, Guilford's senior administrators and the board of trustees drafted a revised smoking policy.

According to Dean of Students Aaron Fetrow, this change came in response to the "numerous complaints from students, faculty and staff who simply could not tolerate walking through the clouds of smoke at building entrances."

Although this change has generated some controversy among smokers who feel restricted by the new policy, it appears that others believe that the community as a whole will benefit.

"Although as a smoker I'm inconvenienced by the new policy, I know that it benefits more people than it hurts," said junior Yahya Alazrak.

Still, many smokers are concerned that they are missing out on the social interaction smoking used to provide and are concerned about the harsher weather to come.

Campus Life is ordering materials and planning construction for small smoking shelters around campus. The college is looking for student input on the best locations for these shelters.

Overall this change is intended as a positive step towards the health and wellness of the entire community.

## A fistful of coins: "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World"

By Nick Bunitsky  
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STAFF WRITER

Synchronized flaming katanas fights, a literal battle of the bands, constantly flowing video game references and a dash of teenage romance? Color me interested. "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" is an ode to the do-nothing attitude of today's twenty-some-things.

The movie takes place in the far away land of Toronto, Canada where Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera) falls in love with the mysterious Ramona Flowers (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) — a delivery girl who just moved from New York City to get away from her past. After a brief but triumphant stalking/courting period, Scott gets up close and personal with Ramona's past in the form of her seven evil exes.

Both the movie and the Brian Lee O'Malley graphic novel that inspired it rely heavily on pop culture references, specifically those involving video

games such as "Street Fighter," "Final Fantasy II," "Rock Band" and more.

Pilgrim's world runs based on video game logic — 1-Ups revive people, levels of daily comfort are measured in bars, and villains explode into (Canadian) coins. However, the references do not dominate the film. The video game aesthetic is worked into the dialogue, visuals, and jokes in a way that can appeal to anyone.

"They struck a good balance," said Alan Rhodes '08, a devotee of the comic series. "(The video game aesthetic) was well integrated and added some wonderful kinetic energy to the fight scenes."

Even if the visuals and sight gags don't appeal to you, the acting and writing are worthy in their own right. While neither deep nor complex, both serve to tell a surprisingly enjoyable story.

"I started with high hopes but low expectations, especially after hearing that Michael

Cera was chosen to play Scott Pilgrim," said Rhodes. "Despite my initial misgivings, Michael made a perfect Scott."

Many fans held the same expectations due to Cera's consistent typecasting as an awkward, socially inept teen. However, with a heaping helping of narcissism, Scott was brought to the screen. Instead of pitying Cera (as in his previous roles) the viewer can both despise and relate to his character.

Unfortunately, the relatable nature of Scott's character is expressed in some rather generic teen-drama-styled moments. These scenes water down the film between action sequences, which makes the relationships feel like shoddy transitions between fights. No amount of Michael Cera getting beaten up can make up for lifeless love.

"The fight scenes got old because he just kept winning," junior Elijah Dacosta said. "Over time, it boiled down to another teenage romance

where the main character gets the girl."

"The women of the movie are thrown in to further the story, rather than build actual relationships. Even though the movie revolves around Ramona's past, we don't actually learn much about her," senior and fan of the comics Olivia Richardson said.

In their own way, these trite moments can work to the advantage of the film, as a self-aware acknowledgement of how uncomplicated the story is — similar to Edgar Wright's other films ("Shaun of the Dead" and "Hot Fuzz.")

"It was a very straightforward, casual, fun summer film that delivers on its promises and then some," Rhodes said.

Ultimately, the flawed characters and amazing visuals serve to refresh anyone tired of capes and spandex. Groundbreaking may not be the word to use for this movie, but cute, funny, exciting, and awesome-as-hell all fit the bill.

