

## Guilford's top 16 teams # 2: 1981 women's tennis

By Ryan Gordy  
STAFF WRITER

This week we are closing in on the number one team on the countdown. Before we get there, let's take a look at the number two team: the 1981 women's tennis team: Shirley Dunn '81. Sue Ireton '81. Leesa Shapiro '82. Kerry Kennedy '82. Lili Carpenter '83. Tammy Strickland '84.

This was head coach Gayle Currie's dominant lineup for the 1981 tennis season. At the close of the season, four Quakers brought home All-American honors — Dunn, Shapiro, Ireton, and Kennedy. Also, first-year Strickland earned honorable mention All-American.

The tennis team also won the National

Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Championship.

The team gained momentum from beating its arch rival, High Point, for the District 26 title. With the win, the Quakers were poised to make a stand at the NAIA championships. However, Currie was just focused on how well the team performed under pressure.

"I'm just as proud as I can be with the girls," said Currie. "When it came down to the tiebreakers, we maintained our poise and handled pressure very well. It was a matter of who would gut it out in the end and I couldn't be prouder with our performance."

During the championships, Dunn was dominant by claiming the singles title and doubles title with Shapiro at the tournament. Strickland stepped in and won a big match

for the Quakers in a tiebreaker in the third set. Guilford won the tournament with 19 points and Currie was named District 26 Coach of the Year.

At the NAIA National Tennis Championships, the Quakers continued their dominance.

By the end of the quarterfinals, all of Guilford's players had been ousted except Dunn and Shapiro, but the team had accumulated 27 points. This feat was enough to finish no lower than a tie for first place in the tournament.

The big question entering the tournament for Guilford was how it was going to fare against teams from 25 different states and some international teams. However, it wasn't hard to see that the Quakers were going to

finish strong.

All of Guilford's singles players made it through the first round of three, picking up a lot of points. Then Dunn, Shapiro, Kennedy, and Ireton advanced through the quarterfinals. They got three through the third round until Dunn and Shapiro lost in the semifinals.

This effort would be enough to share the National Title with Grand Canyon College.

"They were so thrilled that a banner proclaiming a national championship in women's sports can take its place in the field house. What a way for our seniors, Sue and Shirley, to go out!" said Currie.

Currie also went out of the 1981 tennis season with a bang. She was named co-NAIA National Coach of the Year with Grand Canyon's coach.

## Breaking down the student-athlete divide

By Emily Cooper & Julia Solheim  
STAFF WRITER

At 1,450 students, Guilford traditional student body is smaller than that of many public high schools. Yet still there are the jocks and the stoners, the cheerleaders and the art students. When you have a bunch of young adults living and learning together in a relatively small community, there will be rifts and cliques.

There has been a lot of talk among students here about one particular rift — the student-athlete divide.

If you were to walk around campus and ask members of the Guilford community to describe the type of students we have, you are probably going to hear categories like hipsters, hippies, and athletes.

Cliques are not necessarily the ultimate evil, but when is it that they become an issue?

"I think there are definitely a lot of different groups," said sophomore Geoff Merwin. "When I came to Guilford my freshman year I noticed that there was this kind of sense of the 'traditional' Guilford student — hippy — something kind of along those lines."

This divide does not appear to be intentional — it seems to just form on its own. With that being said, it is hard to define what the divide between Guilford students and student athletes actually is.

People hang out with those with whom they have common interests, so naturally athletes are going to hang out with their team members — and there is nothing wrong with that.

It becomes an issue, however, when the different cliques are not interacting. That is, where the divide comes into the picture.

"I think anytime there is separation between two different parties is when there is a misunderstanding between each

other," said Sports Information Director/Assistant Director of Athletics Dave Walters. "A way to breach this gap is to share experience."

Getting past the mentality "you're just a dumb jock" or "you're just a dirty hippy" is hard. Not to say that everyone thinks this way or that it strongly affects the social dynamics, but the divide does linger among peoples' mentality of who their friends are and whom they spend their time with.

### "A way to breach this gap is to share experience."

Dave Walters, sports information director/assistant director of athletics

An issue arises when the mentality becomes "us vs. them."

If you wanted to witness an example of the divide firsthand all you would have to do is look around the cafeteria. You will see many different groups scattered about — identifiable groups that generally sit together.

The divide is hard to define, yet it is definitely prevalent on campus. People seem reluctant to talk about it when asked formally. However, in everyday conversation the topic does come up.

"I haven't noticed anything too bad — like a huge divide," said sophomore rugby player Nelson Rubal. Other students give similar responses that leave something to

be desired: the truth, maybe? Why do people feel the need to censor their responses?

"I don't think it's something that can be easily changed," said sophomore Marissa Bowers. "There is a spectrum to where athletes and non-athletes mingle, but primarily there is still that group difference and people will naturally flock together whether it is on purpose or not."

Certain students have experienced this first hand, such as sophomore lacrosse player Rebecca Marasco. "When I was a first-year last year there was like a different dynamic — we were more in the athletic side of things and felt excluded," said Marasco.

Some student athletes feel unaccepted when sporting their athletic attire, such as sophomore basketball-player Shelly Barker. "If I'm dressed in normal clothes I feel more accepted and that people are more willing to listen to what I have to say," said Barker.

Do we need to bridge the gap? The general response has been yes. But the real question remains: how?

"At an event last night, there were groups of athletes and non-athletes that seemed to be pretty happily interacting ... via beverage," joked Bowers.

There are more values-based ways to interact; the community should support them

"Guilford is one big community, we shouldn't necessarily be one way or another," said Merwin. "(But) we do have some core ideologies that students should always strive for, no matter what their other groups say and their interests are."

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### What's Going On in Guilford Sports...

#### LAST WEEK'S GAMES AND MATCHES

##### BASEBALL

MARCH 21 GUILFORD 1 TUFTS 8

##### MEN'S LACROSSE

MARCH 19 GUILFORD 14 RANDOLPH 8\*

##### MEN'S TENNIS

MARCH 19 GUILFORD 9 RANDOLPH 0\*

##### WOMEN'S TENNIS

MARCH 19 GUILFORD 6 RANDOLPH 3\*

##### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

MARCH 19 GUILFORD 18 BRIDGEWATER 6

##### SOFTBALL

MARCH 20 GUILFORD 2 BRIDGEWATER 8\*

GUILFORD 4 BRIDGEWATER 11\*

KEY- \* = ODAC GAME ! = DOUBLE HEADER HOME TEAM IN CAPS

#### UPCOMING GAMES AND MATCHES

##### BASEBALL

MARCH 26 GUILFORD v EASTERN MENNONITE\*!

##### GOLF

MARCH 25 40<sup>TH</sup> CAMP LEJEUNE INTERCOLLEGIATE

##### MEN'S LACROSSE

MARCH 26 GUILFORD v VIRGINIA WESLEYAN\*

##### MEN'S TENNIS

MARCH 28 GUILFORD v HAMPDEN-SYDNEY \*

##### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

MARCH 25 RALEIGH RELAYS

##### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

MARCH 26 GUILFORD v VIRGINIA WESLEYAN\*

##### SOFTBALL

MARCH 26 GUILFORD v SWEET BRIAR\*!

##### WOMEN'S TENNIS

APRIL 1 GUILFORD v SWEET BRIAR\*