

SOUP
BOWL

FOOTBALL TEAM LOSES SOUP BOWL, WINS SOUP BOWL TROPHY

FOOTBALL AND FOOD,
WHAT COULD BE BETTER?

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This year's installment was key for the Quakers.

"Last year was about gaining experience," said head football coach Chris Rusiewicz.

"Last year we had a lot of players playing their first game ever in collegiate football. This year was about proving all that hard work paid off. We hope to take it to a new level this year."

The quest for a new level of competition began with a great performance in the Soup Bowl.

"Winning is a Guilford

Senior **Julian Stewart** cheers on the Quakers through a megaphone at the Soup Bowl. The crowd was excited not only about the game, but about donating food to a good cause.

tradition," said co-captain of the football team Faris El-Ali in an email interview. "As a team captain, I hope to see us dominate Greensboro in every aspect of the game. I know we will dominate on defense, special teams, and in rushing the football."

Tyler Fearrington, a sophomore football player at Greensboro College, also saw the game's importance in setting the tone for the season.

"The Soup Bowl is a game between cross-town rivals, arguably the biggest game of both teams' schedules," he said.

Fearrington believes the game is a good time to settle the rivalry on the field while helping the community.

Although the game is important in its own right, the food drive is equally important for the Greensboro community.

"Last year, Guilford College and Greensboro College collected over 10,000 cans for local food banks," said Director of Community Learning James Shields. "Both schools understand that helping the food banks is more important than

the bragging rights."

Chelsey Wilson, Bonner Center hunger fellow, believes in taking action.

"Bringing as many cans as you can is a great first step, but it would be great if students became involved more than once a year," Wilson said.

One way to get involved is the Community Kitchen.

"Our site is an on-campus group called Community Kitchen's Project," Wilson said. "We cook every Tuesday and Saturday in the basement of Mary Hobbs. On average we make 50 meals to bring on the streets of downtown Greensboro."

The game's impact lasts more than a day. Associate Professor of Sports Studies Bob Malekoff believes the Soup Bowl raises awareness of the hunger challenges faced by our community, hopefully motivating people to take action.

"Food pantries are struggling to meet the needs of people who will go hungry without their assistance," Malekoff continued. "No one should go hungry."

- This was the 16th annual Soup Bowl versus Greensboro
- Over 10,000 cans collected for local food banks
- Guilford: 5,249 cans
- Final: 14-13, Greensboro

Men's golf looking forward to strongest team in recent memory

BY THOMAS DEANE
STAFF WRITER

"Tweet, tweet. I want my birdies all day long."

Words of wisdom delivered to us courtesy of the Professional Golfer's Association of America's exclusive boy band, the Golf Boys. The Guilford men's golf team is looking for their birdies all day long as well.

Unlike most sports on campus, there really is no true offseason for the golfers of Guilford College. Members of the team hone their skills over the summer by playing in tournaments throughout the country against some of the top amateur golfers.

Entering his third season, Head Golf Coach Corey Maggard knows the importance of the summer months, and what the time off can do for a team.

"It is a long time to try and keep a group of guys focused," said Maggard. "But just from a time-management standpoint, it allows us to really put a lot of work in."

These summer tournaments are vital for players who hope to compete against top golfers on the collegiate level. With the way college golf is structured, it is imperative to develop a "golf resume."

"You compile a resume and then you send it in to tournaments and hope they send you an invite," said Maggard.

Recently, the Quakers were ranked fifth in the preseason national poll. Indeed, there is a lot to be excited about, like the return of senior and Division III National Golfer of the Year, Noah Ratner. Although Ratner is the lone senior, the other three statistically best players, sophomores Drew Thompson, Mitch Robinette and junior Alex Wise all return. Robinette

and Thompson received All-Conference accolades last year.

With so much power returning to one team, national title talks are not out of the question. First-year Ben Pinkleton competed all summer long, hoping to add even more depth to the team.

"Starting in about April, I played in about five or six tournaments," said Pinkleton. "I think we've got a group of guys who can compete for a title."

The talent on the team is clearly visible, however the intangibles that make a close-knit team may not be seen by the average observer. On an average day in the cafeteria, the golf team can always be seen sharing a laugh over lunch.

"We have great team chemistry and this could be the strongest team we've had since I've been here, on and off the course," said Ratner.

Maggard will be the first to admit that his team "devotes all of their time to golf" and getting better. This hard-work mentality will be what gets them through the grueling golf season, including two tournaments in which they are the lone Division III institution.

Performing well in those tournaments will surely bolster the team and their hopes of winning a national championship.

"If you win some big tourneys, you get a higher ranking, then you get a chance to get an at-large bid at the end of the year if you didn't get the automatic bid," added Maggard.

"You can't just want it; you have to work hard," said Ratner.

That is what the team has been doing all summer, and will continue to do for the following months. "We're always looking forward to the national championship," said Maggard.

Team bonding: the fine line between camaraderie and hazing

BY MALIKAH FRENCH
STAFF WRITER

The college experience is comprised of prominent memories, responsibilities and interactions. For a select group of students, these components revolve around their dedication to engage in intercollegiate sports.

The media has recently covered national concerns regarding team bonding and its borderlines, which may be vital to reiterate. In Guilford College's all-athlete meeting this fall, team image, twitter posts and appropriate types of online communication were all discussed with substantial rigidity regarding appropriateness.

The question students, coaches and athletic directors are all struggling with is: When is the line crossed between substantial team bonding and inappropriate group behavior?

Head volleyball coach Emily Gann noted that team bonding is a vital component of the intercollegiate athlete experience.

"Teams have to get along to play well together," said Gann.

Although she could not recall any acts of hazing or publicly-noted line crossing at Guilford, she did acknowledge the existence of such behavior, and the consequences it has for schools across the country.

"People on teams are together all the time and they want to hang out with each other," said junior lacrosse player Kyle Smith. "And it's hard for athletes — given all the time they spend practicing and being together — to make other friends and hang out with other people."

This excessive time commitment is a vital aspect of a team's ability to play cohesively and win conference games.

"If there's a grudge between two members on the team, the team is naturally going to pick a side and that could create a

separation," said senior football player Thor Pate. "If it's a small team, like the volleyball team, the separation could be a very negative thing."

"(Team bonding) is expressed on the court and shown in how well the team plays together," said sophomore volleyball player Morgan McKinnon.

"If the team doesn't get along, it's going to be tough to play well together because you need team chemistry to be able to play well," said Smith.

These opinions solidify the idea that the time teams spend together off the field is an important underlying factor for their overall success.

Bonding varies for each team based on general dynamics and size. Football bonding is "not a forced team bonding," explains Pate, but a result of seeing the same people from "eight in the morning until ten at night" during football camp.

However, he expressed that, due to the size of the program, it is difficult to thoroughly connect with everyone on the team.

"Some sports that have smaller units will probably bond more tightly than teams with large numbers," said Pate. "I don't think we have any forms of hazing, but there are certain teams where they are always together and don't branch out enough."

Team bonding is necessary to ensure success during a sports season, but it need not reach an inappropriate level. Guilford College athletes seem to uphold the opinion that each team is different in their approach to team bonding, but hazing has not made its way onto campus.

To ensure that this line is never crossed, it may be crucial to consistently reassess which out-of-practice interactions are healthy for a cohesive team, and which steer too close to the borderline.