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# THE GUILFORDIAN

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COURTESY OF GUILFORD COLLEGE OUTDOORS CLUB

## NEWS

### Community commemorates 50th anniversary of integration

THE COMMEMORATION OF 50 YEARS OF INTEGRATION AT GUILFORD COLLEGE BEGAN SEPT. 25

BY ELLEN NICHOLAS  
NEWS EDITOR

A mere 50 years ago, Guilford became an integrated institution after existing only for white students for 125 years.

At the 50th Anniversary of Integration kick-off event on Sept. 25, community members celebrated trailblazing students like James McCorkle '66 and Minnette Coleman '73.

"The celebration will honor those students who were among the first to integrate Guilford College, and the community members — faculty, staff and administrators — who were involved in desegregating the college," said African Community Coordinator Jada Drew.

McCorkle enrolled in 1962, making him the first African-American student to attend Guilford, along with two Kenyan students who arrived later that year.

However, taking this monumental step was not an easy decision.

"It took some convincing from my counselors," said McCorkle. "I guess it came down to a couple of things. One, I felt like I sort of had to do it. I had to take advantage of the opportunity to be the first one."

Coleman, the first African-American resident advisor at Guilford, also spoke about her difficulties as one of only 36 black students at a college of over 1,200.

"I was given a D in American history for the semester. When I approached the professor (to ask) why, she told me because I went to an all-black high school,

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## FEATURES

### Rain or shine, Homecoming combines alum, family, food and fun



The farm lunch, held on Sept. 29, gathered people together despite the drizzle to enjoy delicious food from Guilford's farm. Students, relatives, friends and alum were able to experience the farm firsthand.

COURTESY OF GRACE KANOR

### RAIN DOES NOT DAMPEN HOMECOMING SPIRITS

BY EMILY CURRIE & KATE GIBSON  
STAFF WRITER AND FEATURES EDITOR

Food, music, sports games and chatter filled the campus Sept. 27 - 30, but all of the hubbub had one thing in common: community. This year, Homecoming and Family Weekend 2012 brought students, faculty, staff, alumni, families and the community together.

"I think that what the campus is trying to do, and what we're trying to do as a whole,

is to create that community aspect and really bring us all together," said Liz Hansen, associate director of annual giving for parent relations, who served on the Homecoming and Family Weekend planning committee.

This is only the second year that Homecoming and Family Weekend have been combined.

"Parents enjoy (the combination) because they get to see their kids and alumni coming back and celebrating their alma mater," said Hansen.

One classic way to kick off the homecoming celebration was with "The Element: Homecoming Edition" on Sept. 27. Students, alums and community members gathered

in the Community Center to hear comedy sets, songs and poetry readings. Senior Beau Young took the stage with several original songs, and junior Jodie Geddes performed three of her own spoken word pieces.

Senior Tim Leisman, Community Senate President, manned a table for voter registration throughout the evening.

"(The Element) was a great networking (event) for people that I knew before," Geddes said. "I got to know a lot more about them, and I appreciated that. I think it was a plus having voter registration in a space like this because that's not typically something

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WEB-EXCLUSIVE CONTENT:

VIDEO: Trouble at Hodgins

BY MALIKAH FRENCH

VIDEO: Steve Sapienza feature

BY TOM CLEMENT

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