

The Guilfordian

Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C.

November 8, 1974

SPACE STATION WQFS

by Bob Johnston

WQFS, 90.7 FM, is Guilford College's student radio station. It is run by students and financed entirely by students' activity fees, through the Senate. WQFS is not controlled by the college publications board; the station has a faculty advisor, necessary to approve requisitions for funds. WQFS has a non-profit, non-commercial educational license which allows it to transmit "educational, cultural, and entertainment programs to the public." Its license does not require that the station have a regular schedule, nor does it allow the broadcasting of commercials.

WQFS did not blossom overnight. Years were involved in just planning. In 1965, students interested in "radio communication, fine music, and the dissemination of educational programs" formed the Fine Music Broadcasting Society. The purpose of the Society, as stated in its constitution, is "to maintain and operate the FM radio station licensed to Guilford College..., to promote an interest among the student body in fine quality broadcasting as well as to make the students aware of its great potential as an educational medium; (and) to provide an educational service to the people of Greensboro and the surrounding areas, thus projecting the cultural image of Guilford College."

The Society was chartered in the fall of 1965. A year later, the Board of Trustees approved a request, submitted by interested staff members, to make an application to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to construct and operate an educational station.

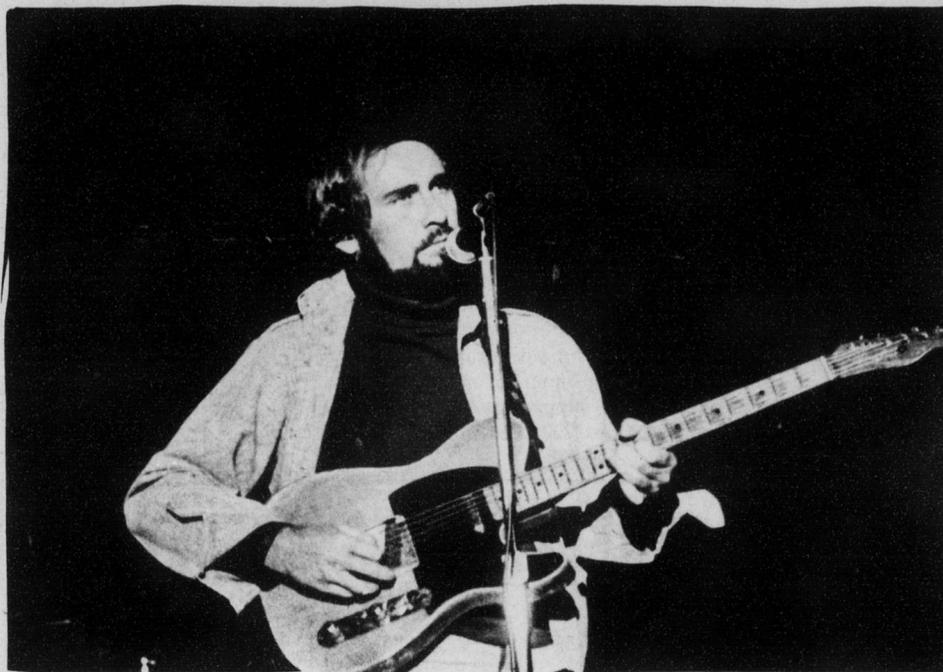
With these accomplishments, the students set out to put the station together. Through numerous contacts, they were able to obtain the necessary equipment to furnish the studio. Friends' friends, relatives, other radio

stations, and record distributors supplied WQFS with free or inexpensive, new and used materials. WQMG-"the stereo island"-provided WQFS with much needed engineering help and free equipment, and its vice-president, William Taylor, agreed to be the first class engineer on call, required for any station by the Federal Communications Commission.

On Monday, January 5, 1970, WQFS went on the air. It began as a station playing predominantly classical music, with some easy listening, jazz, country and western, and popular instrumental. WQFS was called "the golden voice of Guilford College."

In the fall of 1972, WQFS was changed from a monaural station to a stereo station. By this time, the station was well on its way to being the kind of station it is today. WQFS currently terms itself as a progressive music station. This is a vague concept, but it covers classical, rhythm and blues, jazz, country and western, folk, soul and rock.

The station is currently located in the basement of Duke Memorial Hall, but will be moving to new facilities above the kitchen in the near future. WQFS has an operating power of about ten watts. The studio recently acquired a brand new control board and a ten foot antenna extension, providing the station with a greater range. All those interested in participating in the station are welcome; announcers must have a Federal Communications Radiotelephone Third Class Operator Permit with the endorsement to operate broadcast radio stations, which is good for a lifetime on U.S. airwaves. A study guide for this permit is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for a price of \$5.55. Extremely thorough understanding of this guide is



Roy Buchanan performing in Dana Auditorium

Photo by Gearhart

HOMECOMING REVIEWED

by Jeffrey D. Martin

This year's Homecoming Week seemed to follow the trend of past years, being both exciting and disappointing. The lack of organization was evident. Let's review the events and point out the successes and failures of this year's Homecoming.

The two movies shown on Friday night were well received by Guilford students. Most people seemed to like *Slaughterhouse Five*, but many people did not stay to see *Pulp*. From the large number of people attending and the general satisfaction after the movies, I would say

necessary to pass the examinations.

The current management hopes to add fifteen new announcers and to have twenty-four hour broadcast by the spring of 1975; the current broadcast schedule appears on page . Suggestions are always welcome; the station's phone number is 294-0706, and its address is WQFS-FM, Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C. 27410.

the movies were a very successful event in the Homecoming Week.

On Saturday morning I noticed the number of empty flatbeds around the campus. Surely somebody must have started building their float before now, I thought to myself. Well, I soon found that a few of the dorms and clubs had done most of the work indoors and quickly assembled the float later Saturday morning. Later when I went down to Muirs Chapel Road to the starting point of the parade, I found real chaos. The organization of the parade was poor. Henry Hood led the parade playing his bagpipes. Unfortunately, he had to compete against the screaming siren and the blaring horn of the firetruck which followed him. (Who would put a firetruck behind a solo bagpiper, anyway?) Only three decorative floats were in the parade, which made it less colorful than it could have been. The crowd on the side of the road was sparse until the center of campus. The nine artists, the unicyclists, the marching band, Henry Hood, and especially the people who

built the floats for Binford Shore, and the International Relations Club should all be applauded for their efforts. It is the only parade of the year in these here parts and it seems like the Union could put more effort into the organization of a better parade.

The Roy Buchanan Concert was successful in spite of the opening band, Flavor. Many people left after hearing Flavor for a few minutes. Once the stage was being set for Buchanan people filtered back into Dana. There was a lot of excitement in the crowd as Buchanan stepped onto the stage and began to play. His music was good, though he does have a tendency to depart from the general movement of a song in order to show his excellent dexterity. The people around me were jumping up and screaming after every song and at the end of the concert, Buchanan came back for two encores. The concert was definitely a success.

This year's Homecoming had good times and bad. I hope next year we can correct some of the mistakes of this year and also repeat the successes.