## THE GUILFORDIAN

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## **Students Appeal**

For Dr. Bailey

by Lucy Swan

A petition requesting the rehiring of sociology professor Dr. Raleigh Bailey was presented to Academic Dean Cyril Harvey by David West, David Williams, and Thomas West last Friday. Eighty-five people signed the petition with every effort made to limit the signers to those people who had had a course with Dr. Bailey. Dr. Bailey's two one year contracts will expire at the end of the current academic year (1974-75).

The petition reads: "We the undersigned, having been made aware of the possibility of an administrative decision adversely affecting the rehiring of Dr. Raleigh Bailey in the Sociology Department, wish to express, by petition, strong and continued support for his employment at Guilford College."

"A personal interest in his students, his community and the traditions of free speech and independence of thought, with which this school has long identified itself, through a gentle reasonableness of method, are attributes which must commend themselves to this or any school. Therefore.

we the undersigned, respectfully request that the administration of Guilford College reconsider any decision to terminate Dr. Bailey."

David West, David Williams, and Tom West all Urban Campus students, feel strongly that Dr. Bailey has been an outstanding positive influence in their growth and education. David West once a business major decided to switch to sociology because of Dr. Bailey's influence.

Cyril Harvey received the students in his office for over an hour discussing various aspects of the decision and listening to the students reasons for concern. Dr. Harvey encouraged them

"to plug into the system" in their attempt to get Dr. Bailey rehired. This would mean again bringing up the issue to the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Committee for a change in its recommendation that Dr. Bailey not be rehired. President Hobbs would perhaps then be convinced to change his decision and renew the contract.

The decision not to rehire Dr. Bailey was not an economic one, but rather a



Columnist James Reston lectures in Dana Auditorium

## Jazz Concert Cancelled

The Weather Report concert set for February 8th has been cancelled. The percussionist Weather Report, a Brazilian, is having his visa reviewed by U.S. Immigration Department authorities. This process is expected to take several weeks and has caused the cancellation of the first part of the group's tour. The concert has not been rescheduled, and persons holding tickets may turn them in for a full refund at the College Union from 1-5 p.m. daily.

## James Reston on Amnesty has written several of his own, not a Lincoln

including The Amnesty of

John David Herndon.

Monday night, January 27, James Reston, Jr. spoke on the subject of amnesty to a modest audience in Dana Auditorium. Mr. Reston is a lecturer on creative writing in Chapel Hill, has co-authored a book on Richard Nixon and

somewhat complicated decision involving Dr. Bailey's teaching techniques and the areas of sociological strength in the department.

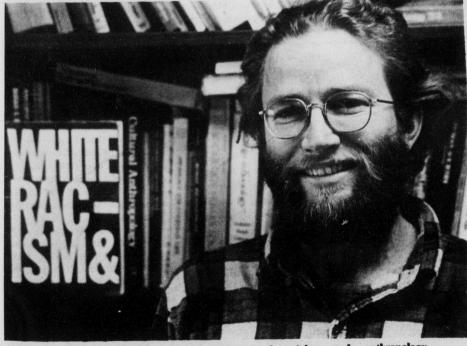
Reston began by questioning the validity of President Ford's amnesty program. The Defense Department has stated that of the 12,500 outstanding AWOLs only 3200 have returned and of the 12,000 known draft evaders only 250 have reported to a U.S. attorney as required. There are over 18,000 draft-dodgers and 20,000 AWOLs now in prison, but with 2500 out of both categories appealing to the program for clemency. Mr. Reston said these statistics, showing under 1% of those eligible taking advantage of the program, are proof of its ineffectiveness.

He stated that the present program was "neither humanitarian or reconciling" and that it didn't take into account the exiles' pride. The "Act of Contrition" required of all deserters to remain in the U.S. is asking them to refute the moral principles which prompted their actions. Rather, said Reston, we should realize the war is over, forgive the exiles and extend unconditional amnesty to all. He made a comparison to the Civil War saying that we need "a reconstruction of ideas" and agreed with the president's allegation that he is "a Ford not a Lincoln" in regard to forgiveness and reconciliation.

Mr. Reston went on to reject the myths now surrounding amnesty. He refuses to believe that the return of the exile would be a political liability, or that anyone is asking for "a hero's welcome" or "a governmental apology." These men simply want to come home without humiliation.

He also denounced the image of a typical exile as being a scruffy, long-haired insurgent, saying this is a ploy used by the press. He cited the cases of Eugene Debbs, a resistor of the first World War, and Muhammad Ali, who refused to serve in Vietnam, both to later visit the White Houe. Reston spoke of our present exiles, who aren't necessarily charming and influential like Debbs, and can't throw a great punch like Ali, and asked if "we can forgive someone like that."

Mr. Reston closed with a referral to Charles Colson who spoke of the deserter's "character deficiencies". This gentleman, after conviction in the Watergate trials, said his crime was one of unquestioningly supporting his superior, Mr. Nixon. Mr. Reston then declared the exiles only crime was in answering "an obligation to do more than simply obey the chief."



Dr. Raleigh Bailey, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology