



John A. Bell Comments

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter for two reasons: 1) by order of the Administrative Board as a redemptive measure for the acts of mine deemed "antisocial", and 2) because community life is an important topic that occupies my mind much of the time. The "antisocial" acts I committed were those of breaking the visitation rule, disorderly conduct, and the illegal use of another's personal property. Were these acts so awful? No, none of the parties involved thought so, including the individual pressing charges. For me they were simply spontaneous expressions of youthful exuberance, induced by alcoholic intoxication. Here the plot thickens, for they may have been indicative of an underlying problem in the community.

It was clear to all by this admission that the problem at hand was not my specific acts but rather the pervasive lack of true community spirit. This is the problem that I am addressing and it is a very real problem. Communal cohesion is not artificially coerced from its members, but a genuine organic form of cooperation and mutual consideration, which is the only viable kind. The lack of this cohesion provides a culture for irresponsible and destructive behavior.

We must keep in mind that this problem is not an isolated phenomenon particular to Guilford College; it is the same problem that we see in our urban waste lands which makes them almost unlivable. Our social life here behind the walls of academia is in many ways a microcosm of the larger society beyond the walls. It is past time that we grow to the realization that the quality of life we desire is one that we must work toward. It is an illusion to expect that our needs, much less our wants, will automatically be available as soon as we emerge from our secure embryonic state known as college. So what's wrong with living under this type of illusion? Simply this: here

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someone else is calling the shots.

Now, all of us abhor those individuals who, in a fit of moral zeal, harp on what they see as "apathy". I do not plan to join these people because 1) it is counter-productive simply to criticize, and 2) it is not apathy that has infected our community mind. I do not see apathy here, for apathy is defined as a lack of concern. There is present a great deal of concern and honest caring, but it has no direction. What I do see here as elsewhere is desperation, estrangement, and a lack of vision. Estrangement I consider to be the underlying tormenter. In the past it has been possible simply to ignore, run from, or at least write a check for the uncomfortable situations that we were faced with. This is no longer possible. The malignant social problems we tried sweeping under the carpet have reappeared; we ignore them now at the risk of having them snowball. If this is not already the case, these malignancies will deteriorate the fabric of our society to an irreparable point.

On our tiny spaceship Earth it is impossible to continue to consider one person's problem as his/her exclusively. The old philosophy of "do your own thing" was a liberting one at the time of Joseph McCarthy and the Red Scare, but that was 20 years ago and times have since changed. As is many times the case, the oppressed become the oppressors - and this I believe to be the case with the aforesaid anachronistic philosophy. When we needed individualistic thinkers to move us from the "apple pie/God and country" mentality it was well and good, but "do your own thing" is now the prevailing mentality and is equally as stifling as was the philosophy it replaced. It is now imperative that we analyze our social problems (as I have said, estrangement being one such fundamental problem) and begin looking for creative ways in which to deal effectively with them. It is not my proposal to return to the previous values but to strike

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How SAC Got Me

The first time one is tried for an offense, whether on the federal, state, country, city or institutional level, the occasion and it's subsequent anxieties are memorable. More important than this, however, is the lesson one learns from their trial or hearing. The true value of the proceedings to the individual are determined only by his attempt to draw upon this experience and to use it as a guide for future activities.

Aristotle declares that humans commit crimes for three reasons: lack of necessities, pleasure as a result of an unsatisfied desire, and pleasure and the creation of an unsatisfied desire. The largest portion of individuals fall into the second category. Indeed, the majority of offenses brought before the Guilford College Judicial Board and Student Affairs Committee are outcomes of this psychological condition.

As a general rule, one who has committed an offense needs and usually deserves to be punished. The individual has not abided by established regulations and no further warning should be required. These regulations are, in themselves, warnings. The offense is obviously a result of personal problems and/or anxieties and punishment for the offense may even result in the solution of these particulars.

The Guilford College Students Affairs Committee has a most effective manner of imposing a penalty. This work is not hard physical labor, it is in the form of an educational endeavor which stimulates the intellect of the individual. Speaking from personal experience, the individual, as he performs his specified tasks is inevitably made conscious of the essence of his offense. Certainly one who has consciously committed an offense merely for it's pleasure cannot be justified even unto himself. As a result, this individual implants his newly acquired value into his conscious mind and, if honest, will develop his ideals in accordance with this value.

The judicial proceedings themselves are rather informal and follow guidelines similar to those in higher courts. The defendants, com-

plaintants, witnesses, and members of the Board sit in a circle in the seat of their choice. However, the proceedings do not lack seriousness and, naturally, the defendants are not without some inner tension.

Such is the manner in which the Student Affairs Committee has influenced me. The only misfortune is that it was necessary for a board of this nature, which even includes fellow students, to bring me into a realistic method of thought. Fortunate will be those who can benefit from the experiences of others. Hopefully, this article will serve in a similar manner for others.



Failure to Rehire is Questioned

Dear Editor:

Most students in Guilford are aware of the presence of the Women's varsity program. This program includes a volleyball, tennis and basketball team as well as a softball club that started this year. Any programs' success and advancement has to do greatly with the type of coach in charge. I find it unbelievable that after winning the State Championship in volleyball this year (coming in second last year) ending in fourth place at the Division III State Basketball Tournament and working hard to better the women's varsity program, Gayle Currie the Women's Basketball, Volleyball and Softball Coach will not be hired for next year.

There are many things which make a coach. It is a person who knows the sport she coaches, a person who cares about each athlete as a person and a player and a person who is there when you need to talk to someone. There isn't anyone better who can wear the title "coach" except Gayle Currie.

There isn't anyone who I respect as much as a person

and a coach as I do Coach Currie. I have seen her many times stay over in conferences with players sometimes as much as two or three hours after practice finishes. For a person who was here only one hour before practice time, it seemed like she would always find the time to talk to you. The only thing a player needed to say was "coach I need to talk to you" and she would find the time. She has also stayed with injured or sick players to make sure they were okay. At times staying with a player meant getting home at 3:30 a.m. and be up by 7 a.m. to go to work. I don't think many people are honestly willing to do that, but she did.

Aside from being a coach, she was a friend.

As a coach, she worked hard to help each individual achieve her full potential and she was always patient.

This is the kind of person which has been here for two years. It doesn't make sense that she will not be back. Guilford will have so many more highly skilled women athletes who want a competitive program. In order to have that, you must have a coach who can afford to put all her attention to the profession of coaching. This is the type of coach Coach Currie is.

I'm sure others know the loss that Guilford and the women's program will suffer if Coach Currie does not come back. I know that for me it is a tremendous loss!

Sincerely,
Alina Lebrato



Student Asks that Chompers be Controlled

Dear Editor,

Habits are hard to break, mostly because a person is unaware that they have one or they aren't conscious of the habit when they are doing it. At any rate, habits are annoying, but the most offensive are the noisy ones. This letter is really aimed at

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