

Letters to the Editor. . .

Union Speaks

Dear Editor,

In the last two issues of the Guilfordian there have been editorials, letters, and editors reply concerning the College Union. I would like to add some thoughts as to the role of the College Union.

The Guilford College Union should be the community center of the college family, serving students, faculty, administration, alumni, and guests. The Guilford College Union is an organization and a program, and together they represent a well considered plan for community life of the college.

Through its various committees and staff, the Union provides a cultural, social, and recreational program, aiming to make free time activity a cooperative factor with studies.

In all its processes, it should encourage self-directed activity, giving maximum opportunity for self-realization and for growth in individual social competency and for group effectiveness.

The Union should serve as a unifying force in the life of the college.

In order to achieve the role the Guilford College Union should play at Guilford, it needs input and support from the entire College Community. We need you to serve on committees and to help out at Union events. There is something for everyone to do or explore by joining one or more of the committees the Union has.

We need your input, support, ideas, advice, and your presence at committee meetings and Union events to make next year the best year ever for everyone.

Eric F. Johnson
College Union President '79-'80

Shore unsafe

Dear Editor:

Two weeks ago in the Guilfordian Peter Reichard commented on the post-war look in the Library. I want to clarify that the Library is not the only building on campus sporting unusual architecture. The first floor bathroom in Shore has a rain forest setting.

There are long curly paint shavings winding down from the ceiling like vines; moist ground (in the form of puddles) beneath our feet; and continuous dripping from the ceiling on our heads like little rain droplets.

Now we can even see the evolution caused by continuous running water -- yellow lines down the wall. And once in a great while, if we are lucky, we get a waterfall by the tub. The only thing we are missing is an alligator.

Seriously, I hope the college will realize this summer that just repainting the ceiling does not get rid of the problem. Not only is the ceiling annoying to the residents, and unsightly to prospective students and their parents; but I can't help feeling

that paint chips on the shower floor are both unsanitary and unsafe.

Sincerely,

Lisa H. Rice

Facelift needed

This letter submitted April 13th

Dear Editor:

Why should "the traditions of Serendipity" be preserved? Brian Carey writes in his article of April 11, that Serendipity was "well-executed and well-received." I agree that this is generally true; however, Brian Carey does not discuss the problems that Serendipity has created and the reasons for not preserving it. I believe that Serendipity needs a facelift and a change of name.

Before this Serendipity weekend three members of the College Union went around asking assorted students what "Serendipity" means. The general response was "beer, pot, and bands." The intentions of Serendipity have been grossly misinterpreted! Serendipity is not intended to be a Guilford College spring rites festival.

The intention of Serendipity is to create a sense of community around a weekend of musical events. Understanding the term "Serendipity" in this light, I can only reach one conclusion: Serendipity was a dismal failure. There is no sense of community at a drunken debauch. Serendipity should be a community event which includes students, faculty, administration and their families.

The question arises as to why faculty and administration high-tail it for the hills around Serendipity? The answer is that Serendipity has nothing to offer faculty and administration. Serendipity should be a broad event which includes all members of the Guilford College community.

Brian Carey alludes to "The Johnny's Dance Band fiasco" in his article. This comment is totally unfounded. The Johnny's Dance Band concert was well produced. The only fiasco was the failure of the student body to try and enjoy a new form of musical entertainment. The only fiasco is that people are closed minded.

Brian Carey also states that "the selection of the band was mismanaged this year." BU-FALOCHIPS! Brian Carey did not choose to participate in the Union decision making process this past semester and therefore has no way of knowing whether or not the decision making process was in fact mismanaged. The reasons for Johnny's Dance Band being chosen are numerous.

For openers, the Union was left with a large debt this year and also was faced with internal mismanagement of funds. We began our decision making process with an anticipated \$7,000.00 after collected door receipts.

This figure would have allowed us to book one of the following bands: The Cars, Jerry Jeff Walker, Pure Prairie

League, Arlo Guthrie or Taj Mahal. All of these bands were within the \$7,000.00 price range. One must also remember that availability and routing cause problems.

The concert committee's spending money was then cut to \$3,500.00. At this point we made an offer on LeRoux. LeRoux decided not to take the date, which, as it worked out, was better for the Union because our funds were again cut by \$1,000.00.

So, being left with \$2,500.00 we had a choice between three bands (which the entire committee could agree upon): Michael Murphy, Johnny's Dance Band and Breakwater. Michael Murphy was our first choice and the date did not work out because he could not get his touring schedule together. Our next choice was Johnny's Dance Band. This concert, as you know, was booked.

The only mismanagement which took place was with funds, and these foulups were out of concert committee's hands.

To continue setting Mr. Carey straight: Serendipity was put on by a very small number of Guilford Students and one non-Guilford student. In fact seven people put on the entire weekend. That is downright sad.

The student body is happy to have Serendipity and happy to complain about it, but nobody, absolutely nobody, is willing to put any sweat into it, except a few dedicated students.

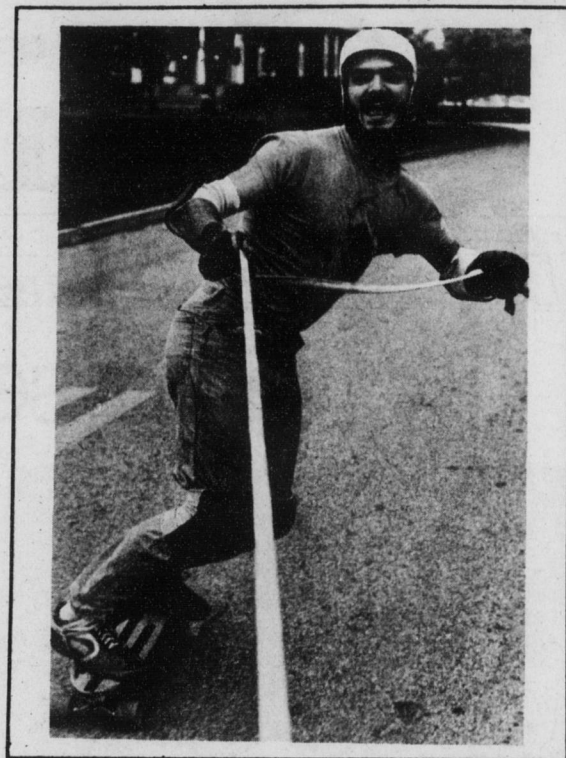
I would personally like to thank Juliana Pontone, Vista Thompson, Carla Kosonen, Oscar Newkirk, Richard Ashley and Andrew Applebaum (the non-Guilford helper) for putting on this weekend and for sweating a little bit.

Lawrence D. Rust

Theft continues

Dear Editor,

A small yet very disappointing incident occurred at the Placement Office the other day. For a number of years we have been the central location on campus of the listing of off-campus part-time jobs. Many students have used this service to obtain such jobs. Last week someone took the part-time job book from the Placement Library. The notebook can be replaced and new jobs will be telephoned to us. However, in the past few days a number of students have come to our office looking for the notebook and were disappointed. I am quite angry and disappointed because of the selfishness of this act by person or persons unknown against the community as a whole. Whether it is the part-time job book being taken, a mirror being broken in Founders or other acts of vandalism, it is ultimately the whole community that pays. In light of a whole series of events that have recently occurred, I hope we all consider both our rights and obligations as members of the college community as we look



toward the coming academic year.

Sincerely,
Dick Coe
Placement Director

Athletic funds

Dear Editor,

Several weeks ago, your editorial dealt with the inequities between athletic and academic scholarships. Your main point was that academic scholarships should have "equal time." That is a fair opinion. You should have stayed with your opinion.

Let me start from the beginning of your "debacle." First, you complain that Guilford awards \$150,000 in athletic scholarships and only \$75,000 for academic awards. Ignoring the fact that I have heard a smaller figure for athletics. Please realize that some athletic scholarships are funded by outside sources. A few departments at this school, including athletics, are energetic enough to work for their funds.

Editor, I have to thank you for part of your article. Your sentence, "Athletic awards can, and often do, run as high as \$4,280 . . ." has provided my friends and I with a great many laughs. A truer estimate would be five full rides. These go to several basketball players. Did you know that applications to Guilford went up 200% after our "overpaid" basketball team won the national championship? Did you know Guilford won a national championship? Can a price be put on the recognition that people like Lloyd Free, Michael Leon (M.L.) Carr, Bob Kaufman, etc. have brought to Guilford? I hope you do not really consider five scholarships as "often."

What is the situation now? The following may give an indication:

1) The football team once received 25 scholarships which they had to split up among 60 to 70 people. They now have to split up 15 scholarships. This is the lowest figure in N.C.

2) Two, maybe three, people on the entire lacrosse team receive any money at all.

3) In the beginning, a very few years ago, our golf team went two years without a win. When they were given one grant to split up among the players, they won twelve matches. At present, they split a grand total of two grants, and also have a legitimate shot at the national championship.

4) Women's athletics as a whole have been so engulfed in poverty in the past that I will not go into the gory details. Hopefully, Title IX will help to upgrade their programs.

5) Of all the money available for athletic scholarships, 78% if based on need.

I would like to elaborate on that last point. Editor, you claim that the "process of awarding scholarships should reflect this goal" of receiving a good education. Without the money received, I know many people who would be unable to attend Guilford. Many athletes could have attended other schools and received more money. However, they wanted to come to Guilford for some reason. Perhaps that reason is to receive a good education.

I can never understand why people at this school think that athletes are "put on a pedestal." Certainly they have received no special treatment by the yearbooks or newspapers recently. They surely don't have the quality or quantity of equipment received by other schools. Before you point to the new gym as "special equipment," please remember that the reason the Board of Trustees approved it was because of the multi-functional aspect which is valuable to all Guilfordians who are open-minded concerning physical fitness.

Editor, you further implied that the school requires "significantly less in the way of academic achievement from these athletes." Again you made a foolish statement. Perhaps they don't have to keep the same QPA as academic award

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