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Milner dormitory changes colors



From left to right are interns Kirk McDonald, Kevin Morley, R.J. Blincoe, Coordinator Dick Dyer, Lou Prentiss, Don Hemrick, and Brad Forrest.

What makes Dick tick?

By Roy Porter
Staff Writer

Recently, Milner Dormitory has stood out as the most talked about, the most publicized dormitory on campus. Much of its publicity can be contributed to its sudden shift. Which people and situations have led to the change in the dorm?

It was Burrhus Frederic Skinner who gave us the concept of positive reinforcement years ago (after WWII). Today, Skinner's concept of reinforcement is in application on the Guilford College Campus. It is a method of behavior modification that Richard Dyer has faith in.

Richard Dyer, called Dick by many who know him, is a recorded Friends minister. He resides on the campus as the new full-time coordinator of

Milner dorm. However, Dick chooses to refer to himself by another title than that of coordinator, a word often associated with a disciplinarian.

"I define myself more as a counsellor and a friend than as a disciplinarian," says Dyer. In relation to his position and the observable changes of Milner, Dyer has the following to report.

"If Milner has changed, it has changed for a number of reasons." He contributes very little praise to himself and a great deal of it to Milner interns and residents. Although Dyer works in the Housing Office, he considers Milner his first responsibility.

"I don't have to divide my time. I can devote as much time and energy to being a coordinator as necessary," he says. "Residents have been extremely cooperative. I can set out to change it and the interns can set out to change it, but, if the residents don't want to change it, it doesn't work."

For many years, Milner residents have been given negative recognition whenever recognition was given. Dyer contributes much of the change in the attitude of Milner residents to the positive recognition they have received as of late. "Everybody has a need for attention. If the residents of a dormitory are not given attention in a positive way, they will demand it in a negative way."

In as much as this is true,

Dyer seems to use it as a method of doing his job. He proclaims that it is the interns of Milner and he who attempt "to reinforce and encourage positive behavior and discredit negative behavior." He adds, "I try to set up direct connections between the student's behavior and the college's response."

In the past months, Milner has had its lounge remodeled, a new television set installed, and plans are being made to install new lounge furniture and new doors to replace old, dilapidated entrance doors.

Kevin Morley, an intern of Milner, sees much of Milner's recent progress as a result of Dyer's work in the Housing Office. "Because he works in the Housing Office, he can relate problems that occur here back to the Housing Office," he says.

"I am blessed with extraordinary interns," Dyer says. In Milner, interns, residents, and Dyer are all aware of the limits of permissiveness and the need for discretion. Dyer views this as a possible reason for the dorm's success. "Interns are doing a remarkable job in making sure no one exceeds the limits," he says.

The other side to this argument lies in the views of some residents. "He puts pressure on the interns, and they put it on us," says one resident. Kirk

See 'Dyer's' page six

Registration 'time bomb'

The Director of the Committee on Militarism in Education charged today that the Selective Service System's plan to establish registration centers in our nation's high schools and colleges is a "time bomb waiting to go off."

At a news conference, Dr. Robert I. Rhodes, director of the committee, expressed astonishment that the Selective Service System would even consider such a plan. Under existing legislation, the plan would be implemented if President Carter ordered a return to mandatory registration for the draft.

Dr. Rhodes went on to discuss in some detail the impact registration centers would have on our nation's schools. He predicted that if we become involved in another unpopular war, students will picket or sit-in at these centers. Since obstruction of the Selective Service is a felony and a federal offense, we would be exposing students to long jail sentences arising from nonviolent activities carried out in their own schools.

But he was even more concerned about the impact these centers would have on freedom of speech within our classrooms and school corridors. It would be easy, he suggested, for the F.B.I. to justify the use of student informers at school. Innocent students involved in the exercise of their first amendment rights to freedom of speech and to peaceably assemble could be charged under federal law with conspiracy to obstruct the Selective Service.

He pointed out that many

young people today see their schools as oppressive institutions and reject their teachers' authority, especially in high schools. The establishment of registration centers will make a bad situation much worse. "Why," he asked, "is the administrative convenience of the Selective Service considered to be more important than the integrity of our nation's schools and the rights of our students?"

Dr. Rhodes concluded his press conference with a request that the new Department of Education call on Congress to forbid the use of our high schools and colleges as registration centers.

Bodde to speak at symposium

By Paul Holcomb
News Editor

The China Symposium, a non-western studies program sponsored by Guilford College and UNC-G, will be held here this Friday and Saturday, February 15 and 16.

Keynote speaker for the program is Derk Bodde, Professor Emeritus of the University of Pennsylvania and widely recognized as one of the leading China scholars in this county. He lived in China for many years prior to the 1949 Revolution and has visited there since.

Professor Bodde will be speaking at 7:30 Friday night in Founders Gallery on, "Ideas and Institutions in China: Past and Present."

The two-day program, arranged by Dr. Dorothy Borci of

The press conference was held at Shadowcliff, the national headquarters of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The Fellowship, a pacifist organization, is the sponsor of the Committee on Militarism in Education. The Committee's mailing address is: Box 271, Nyack, New York 10960.

Future Soldiers

We are students opposed to registration and the draft. Please stop by our table during dinner on Wednesday or contact Isa Cheren (855-9772) if you're interested in helping us out.

Guilford College and Dr. James C. Cooley of UNC-G, features slide shows, films and lectures with open discussions.

Two sessions will be held Saturday, one at 9:15 and the other at 11:00 a.m. Topics for the first session are "Political Trends since Mao" and "Social and Cultural Change." The agenda for the second session features "Economic Prospects" and "Education in the Peoples Republic of China."

An exhibit of Chinese artifacts is currently on display in the library to correspond with the Symposium.

The program was funded by the Intercultural Studies Program of Guilford College and an International Studies Grant from the U.S. Office of Education to the Greensboro Consortium.



The China Symposium will be held at Guilford Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15-16, with Derk Bodde to speak at 7:30 p.m.