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Hobbs porch stripped

Porch issue not out front

A COMMENTARY
By Marie Branson
and Jim Henniger

Mary Hobbs is naked. Her exposure is part of a renovation plan adopted three years ago for the dorm which called for the installation of a new porch. The women presently living in Hobbs, however, are upset. They did not discover until the week before fall break that their front porch was about to undergo this last renovation.

Some women in Hobbs went to the administration to get information on the situation and found out the following details: 1) There needs to be a wheelchair ramp up to the porch and a railing around it; 2) The roof, the pillars, and the floor were rotting and therefore needed to be repaired; 3) The roof and the pillars will be reconstructed essentially as they were, but the floor is going to be replaced with cement rather than new wood.

The women were informed too late to voice their objection to a cement porch, or to offer constructive ideas.

The reason for making the porch cement is that there is a steam leak under the roof. This fact raises the question: "Why not fix the leak and make the porch wood again so that the building can maintain its original architecture which is loved by students, faculty, administration and alumni?"

One possible solution to this problem would be to pour the concrete to protect against the leak and put wood on top of the cement to preserve the architectural tradition of Mary Hobbs.

Tradition is important to the

women living in Mary Hobbs. It is a very special place, most commonly referred to as a home rather than a dorm because of its heritage, uniqueness, concern, and cooperation.

The residents of Hobbs, along with the Community Senate, wrote a letter to the administration stating their concern about the lack of communication between the administration and the student body. Communication problems are not restricted to the Mary Hobbs porch. The signs, chains, and fences along the side-walks on campus put up over spring break last year without students' views being considered is a previous example.

Such instances demonstrate poor planning, insensitivity, and short-sightedness on the part of the people making the decisions. None of these incidents are necessary, nor believed to be malicious. It often seems, however, that the administration and students are opposing each other when they should be working together towards the same goal.

A feeling of warmth, togetherness, and support are a part of having a sense of community. Yet, the lack of communication hurts the community. Part of the problem is the fact that there is no student representation on important faculty committees, such as the Facilities Committee and Student Affairs Committee.

Yet beyond student representation, sensitivity on the part of the administration to tradition and beauty on the campus and to students' feelings is needed. Such changes must take place if Guilford College is to live up to the community it claims to be.

Issues and evasions

By O.L. Backer

MODERATOR: Good evening, and welcome to Issues and Evasions. Tonight's topic is "Religion and Politics: Who's Doing What to Whom?" The guests we'll be grilling are the Reverend Coy Greenham of Moral Millions; Dr. Tanya Ashram of the American Civil Rights Association; and the Reverend Milton White of the National Council of Religious Bodies.

To start the questions, I'd like to ask you, Rev. Greenham, to explain how your organization claims the title "Moral Millions"?

column

GREENHAM: We call ourselves Moral Millions because people send us millions to enforce our morals. Heh-heh, that's a joke, son, you're supposed to laugh. No, we take our stands from the literal words of the Gospel. It informs us on things like the Equal Rights Amendment and giving away our Panama Canal.

ASHRAM: If I may interrupt, sir, I don't recall reading about

either of those in the New or Old Testaments.

GREENHAM: You have to kinda read between the lines. There's also abortion; you know -- "Thou shalt not kill."

MODERATOR: Hmm. Yes, Rev. White, you have a comment.

WHITE: I'd like to know where Rev. Greenham stood on killing during the Vietnam War.

GREENHAM: That was different. Those were godless Communists.

WHITE: I see. So the Commandments don't apply to them.

GREENHAM: Not exactly. But our national interest was at stake.

WHITE: Aren't you confusing nationalism with religion?

GREENHAM: Americans are God's chosen people and should be allowed to act like it. If we become overly enthusiastic once in a while, I'm sure God understands.

MODERATOR: Excuse me, but Vietnam brings up another interesting point. Rev. White, you and other liberal clergy have been active for years in political issues like that and civil

rights. Now that conservative clerics are beginning to do the same, however, many people are crying for separation of church and state. What's the difference?

WHITE: We were right, and they're not. Also, they do it better, with television and megabucks that we never had.

MODERATOR: Er, well, I appreciate a straightforward answer. (We get so few of them.) Yes, Dr. Ashram?

ASHRAM: I'd like to go back to the subject of abortion. Rev. Greenham, many religious bodies in our country differ with your stands on abortion. Why should your views be enforced on them?

GREENHAM: We're right and they're not.

ASHRAM: But don't you realize the hardship that unwanted children bring to many families, not to mention single women such as unwed teenagers?

GREENHAM: If they don't want children, they shouldn't have sex.

ASHRAM: Do you mean to say that you never had sex before marriage?

GREENHAM: That was different. I couldn't get pregnant.

MODERATOR: Heh-heh, that's very good, Rev. Greenham. Oh? It wasn't a joke? Um, ah, there's one other subject that I think we should get into before we take a break. That is tax-exempt status and the endorsement of political candidates.

ASHRAM: An excellent point. Many people don't realize that certain conservative pressure groups manage to issue de facto endorsements of candidates, while continuing to enjoy the advantages of tax-free status.

WHITE: In fairness, though,

I'd rather work on the Guilfordian

As we should know, we at the Guilfordian have been looking for writers, illustrators, photographers, copy editors, layout staff, and writers.

We know that you, the creative, the talented and literate, have many demands on your time. We suggest the following ways to find that extra time to work on the Guilfordian.

- 1) Skip church.
- 2) Give up jogging on the

track; track down news stories instead.

3) Pass that extra beer to a friend and say, "No thanks, I'd rather work on the Guilfordian."

4) Give up your love life. Realizing how willing students at Guilford are to sacrifice a little for the common good, we will be expecting you soon in the Guilfordian office. Oh alright, don't give up your love life, but the rest aren't unreasonable, are they?

you have to admit that there's a fine line between partisan and non-partisan politics. Some tax-free liberal groups get away with indirectly helping candidates they favor.

MODERATOR: What do you think, Rev. Greenham? Does the endorsement of political candidates by tax-free groups present a problem?

GREENHAM: It does if your candidates don't win.

MODERATOR: Hum. Well, we'll be back with more Issues and Evasions after this message from Born-Again Puppy Chow. Don't go 'way . . .

