# Never Forget the "Final Fifty"

### **BY JANSEN WANG**

The most significant effect upon my personal growth was my experience in the army in Taiwan. Because of the draft system there, I faced two choices, either going to college after joining the army or going to college first when I graduated from high school in 1976.

Knowing from hearsay that it would be a hard time in the army, I preferred to go to college first. However, my father asked me to join the army before going to college, since he felt it would be an experience good for me. According to Chinese tradition, which is that children should obey their parents, I didn't have any choice. In 1977, I went to the army unwillingly and fearfully, as if I had been sent to hell.

Needless to say, the training was severe and hard in the army, I lost almost twenty pounds during this period. However, it was just the beginning. In the winter of the next year, I got a mission called "Dead March" to mark 500 kilometers in two weeks with weapons and all my personal equipment which came to a total of fifty pounds. I felt I had received a death sentence when I was given this mission. I even wrote letters to my friends to say good-bye as if it were the end of the world.

The march started in a storm. I believe it was chosen on purpose. On the following days we marched in the rain without any hot food. Because of the cold and bad weather, as well as thin clothes, we walked all day long without any rest, so that we would not catch cold. The most difficult time was the last fifty kilometers. Not only was I extremely exhausted, but my back was also hurt by the heavy equipment. What was worse, I got over twenty blisters on my feet. This pain attacked me so strongly that I wondered whether I was dying. However, considering my company's honor,

which is regarded as one's second life, I just couldn't give up. With this in mind and with my friends' help, I finally struggled to get to the end of the march.

This experience was so painful and hard that I will never forget it. Everytime I have problems it always reminds me of what a difficult time I had before and I get over them. It encourages me to face these difficult things instead of escaping them, which I used to do. It was, so to speak, the turning point of my life. Above all, it made me realize that the key to success is to last the final "fifty kilometers". This is not to say this experience will make me a success, however it will make me survive any difficult time, and I should thank my father for it.

JANSEN WANG is from Chiayi, Taiwan. He has been in North Carolina for seven months. He plans to pursue a career in business administration.



**Co-ed dorms** 

By Marie Branson

Co-ed dorms at Guilford, rumor

or fact? It is a fact that the Stu-

dent Affairs Committee is

seriously discussing the possibili-

ty of creating new co-ed dorms at

Guilford. The rumor tends to lie

in the reasons. Our reasons for

thinking that co-ed dorms might

be a good change are not increas-

ed security or decreased noise.

Although these are a small part

of the end result they don't begin

to touch upon the real reasons

It is our belief that living only

around people of the same sex is

artificial and limiting and seems

more appropriate for grade school or high school. Co-ed

dorms create a more natural and

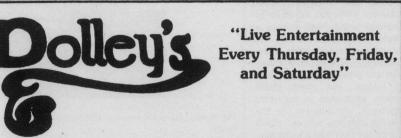
mature life style and you will

most likely be living this way the

behind it.

Milner may next year go co-ed. The idea is presently being reviewed by the Student Affairs Committee.

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rest of your life. You learn about each other as ordinary people under normal circumstances.

The present plan is to have a single sexed floor in one dorm and a wing or two in another dorm.

Of course, since each floor or wing is single sexed the bathrooms will be also so you don't need to worry about losing your sense of privacy, plus students will still have the option of living in a single sexed dorm. These plans are not definite

and even if approved the change won't take place for another 2 years.

The SAC is trying to make dorms a natural, rewarding environment and will be holding an open forum early in the fall to discuss this and other issues. Before we do anything we need to know if the students want this change.

### Women's Tennis

No one from Guilford even lost a set as the Lady Quakers crossed to a 9-0 win win over Concordia College from New York. In singles, Guilford never lost more than four games per match and most weren't even that close. Perhaps the closest match all day was the number one doubles when the Concordia team of Kreimer and Pinto came close to taking a set from Guilford's number one team. But they didn't even get that and Koho and Kennedy won the first set 7-5 and the second set 6-1.

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