

Drug Council Teaches the Ropes

by Emily Bonk
Staff Writer

After nearly two years of discussing, planning, cutting brush and developing, the dream of a Ropes Course has become a reality in the Guilford College woods adjacent to the lake.

At first glance, the course would appear to be something Marine recruits assault in basic training; a jungle obstacle course. Wires stretch high overhead connecting beams between trees. Ropes are set, for climbing purposes, above the ground, but the Ropes Course is much more than a random series of ropes, cables and beams. It was created with a definite purpose in mind.

About two years ago, Roy Rimmer, from the Greensboro Drug Action Council, approached the college with the idea of building the course on Guilford's land. The design was taken from a program called "Project Adventure," an off shoot of the Outward Bound programs. Similar courses are located in Fayetteville, in Table Rock at The Outward Bound School and in Chapel Hill.

Guilford leases the land to the Drug Action Council and maintains the Ropes Course. In return the college may use the course one fourth of the time while the remainder is divided between the Drug Action Council and the community.

The course's main function is providing an opportunity for personal growth through group cooperation. The course cannot be done alone. Upon completion of the course the group and the individuals gain a highlighted feeling of self-confidence. It is this new feeling of confidence that helps those with drug problems gain control of themselves. It gives them the feeling that they can be part of a group effort.

Similar feelings were expressed by an I.D.S class, led through "The Ropes" by assistant psychology professor, Kathy Adams.

"I learned I was more versatile and stronger than I thought," stated Jill Bradshaw a class member.

"You learn more about other people than about yourself," commented Loring Mortenson stressing the awareness of group cooperation.

And a third group member, freshmen Helen Norfleet said, "It brought our group closer together."

Although the low course, with twelve events is finished, there are plans to add more events to the five already existing high stations. It isn't really safe to attempt the Ropes Course without guidance, especially the high course. Psychology Professor, Jerry Goddard, Geology Professor, Jay Van Jassell, Dean of Students, Ken Schwab and Senate President, Roger Pettingell are all qualified instructors.

According to Kathy Adams most of the freshmen were emotionally as well as physically ready to attempt the Ropes Course. Top physical condition isn't necessary for completion of the course but can be helpful on some of the events. Persistence is more valuable than performance.

Those who would like the chance to participate in the course should sign up through Ken Schwab's office in Student Services on the second floor of Founders Hall.

Perhaps the most important statement on the course is one taken from the official course report.

"The Ropes Course presents a situation...in which individuals may learn to work with each other and develop compassion and respect for each other's strengths and weaknesses."



Update on Artists:

- Will Sgarlett is working as an apprentice to a pewtersmith in New England.
- Lisa Smith is absorbing the sights and sounds of Greensboro before returning to Baltimore.
- Ron Garrett will begin work as an illustrator for an Irish-goods magazine here in North Carolina.

Seniors Finish BFA's with Thesis

Printout: Artists Exhibit Work

By Joe Pardington
News Editor

In case you have not already heard, the Art Thesis Exhibit is appearing in the Passion Pit on the second floor of Founders. The works of Lisa Smith and William Sgarlat are in the lounge (the Pit) while Ron Garret's works are in the adjacent lecture room.

After talking to Adele Wayman, the chairman of the art department at Guilford College, I discovered the mentor of the three artists is Roy Nydorf. Roy, the print-making instructor, and advisor to Lisa, Will, and Ron deserves much credit for his support of the extremely talented young artists. Says Wayman, "Roy encouraged them to do very complex subject matter, using the human figure in a variety of situations with a lot of psychological impact."

Mrs. Wayman and I both agree that Lisa Smith's print "Bernadette and the Fat Women at the Laundrymat" exemplifies the psychology behind an artist's work. Mrs. Wayman describes the print as "convincingly portraying the grungy mood of the laundromat - - gives you a real feeling of being there." Mrs. Wayman also thinks Lisa's print entitled "Provoked" is an "extraordinarily powerful image." Another successful work by Lisa is the self-portrait sketch which looks like a photograph until you come within five feet of it.

Adele Wayman disagreed with me on the plastic figures done by Ron Garrett. She thought they were "funny, and original." I still do not know what to think of them, though I enjoyed them also. Her favorite prints by Ron were "There was a time when she had reached," and "Summerhead." Other noteworthy prints include "Emerging Sands" and "The Zombie Tree," which are breath-takingly melodramatic.

The two prints of Will Sgarlat's that Adele Wayman especially

liked are "Inscape" and "Interior of the Barn," which are both self-portraits of Will. Mrs. Wayman likes "Interior of the Barn" because "the quality of the light is soft, yet the objects are clear, and subtle."

Mrs. Wayman thinks the gradual progression of each artist is obvious. She says "the last works they did were more exciting, more technically skilled, and used more personal expression," than their earlier works. I agree. See the exhibit yourself, because it is worth the visit.

INSIDE

Quaker Concerns Group	Page 3
Friendly Talk	Page 5
Feature on Yellow House	Page 6
Crossword Puzzle	Page 7
Interview with Bill Brooks	Page 8
Velvin's View	Page 10