



GUILFORDIAN



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Guilford Divests From South Africa!!

by Holly Fairbairn

By now, it is old news that the Guilford College Board of Trustees has divested of holdings in corporations who do business in South Africa. The decision was made on Friday, the 25th of September,

To better understand how this and other decisions are made by the Trustees, it is important to know what the Board is, what responsibilities they have, and how they fit into the community.

In a graciously-granted

especially in relation to the recent divestment.

The Board of Trustees oversees the financial management of the College's endowment. They are legally and fiduciarily responsible for seeing that the most returns are made for Guilford's money. "They are liable for the financial management of the College's endowment and their duty is taken seriously," says Rogers. Because income from the endowment fund provides for about 10% of the college's operating budget each year, their job is an important one. (Think "tuition increase" and you will understand.) Since President Rogers has been at Guilford, the endowment has seen growth from 6 million to 20 million dollars. Their dedication shows in this and other ways.

Serious deliberations on our holdings in South

Africa began in September, 1985 when the Board of Finance created a subcommittee to check the moral and social responsibility of operations. In February, 1986, they approved a set of guidelines for taking a proactive role and maintaining investments in South Africa. This was based on the Sullivan Principles of Leon Sullivan, a pastor and member of the General Motors Board of Trustees. He set a two-year deadline for companies to take an active, positive role in the hiring, training, and designation of proper salary scales for Blacks. Guilford agreed to these guidelines and set to the task of monitoring the activities of the corporations in which we were invested. Five corporations were dropped from our portfolio immediately when they did not sign the Sullivan Principles. It was

also at this time that a scholarship was established for South African students to be able to study at Guilford.

Obviously, since that time, much has changed concerning South Africa. Most notably, Leon Sullivan retracted his own Principles in June, 1987. Many institutions like Guilford have divested. In South Africa, the political and economic situation further destabilized. The elections in May seemed to reinforce the Botha regime, which showed no real signs of gradually abolishing apartheid as had been promised. Violence intensified. Bishop Desmond Tutu and other respected Black leaders spoke out in favor of divestment.

It was a group of students—yes, students—who deliberately and seriously proposed

(Con't. on pg. 2)



A South African speaks out

following the Thursday night college-wide forum on Guilford's policy concerning South Africa.

Saturday morning interview, President Rogers explained some of the concerns of the Board,

Sesquicentennial Overview

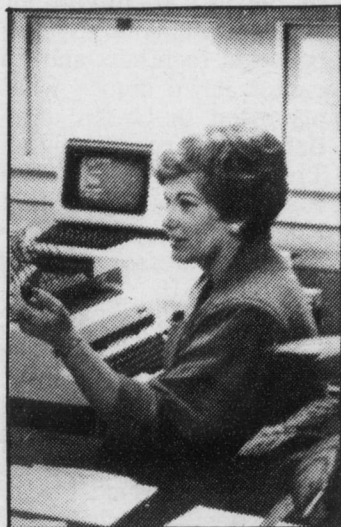
by Sarah Clymer

Sesquicentennial. Even if you can't pronounce it, you know that it's happening, and that it's important. What you may not know is how extensive the celebration of Guilford's 150th year is. The events planned span a 15-month period and are designed to reach several different groups of Guilford supporters, such as alumni, Quaker friends, students, and faculty.

To ensure its success, preparations were begun early. Two years ago, a group of over fifty people began brainstorming and planning for the event. They gathered early to answer three vital questions: first, whether or not they should celebrate the Sesquicentennial at all (they decided yes, by the

way), second, what the objectives of the celebration should be, and third, in what manner the celebration should be carried out.

In answering the second question, the committee



Clarajo Pleasants

Photo: Nicole Gaymon

came up with five objectives that they thought the Sesquicentennial should fulfill.

The first objective is to make the Sesquicentennial a celebration. Ms. Clarajo Pleasants, the dynamic event-planner whom the college has hired to organize the event, wants to uphold this objective. She says, "We want to make a to-do and have fanfare. We don't do as Quakers traditionally do and be very low-key, but we'll do it with excitement and enthusiasm."

The second objective is to reunite Guilford supporters nationwide. Ms. Pleasants points out that these supporters are "not just alums, but friends of Guilford (who) have

(Con't. on pg. 8)

Alcohol Forum

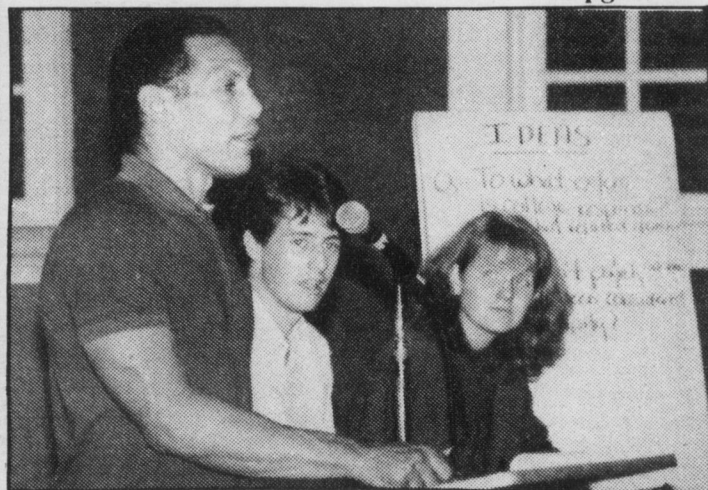
by M. Paige Long

There were two things that indicated that the editor of the *Guilfordian* was right about the need of another alcohol forum. One was the number of stuents, faculty, and administration that showed

up (there was about a hundred). The second was the emotion the students showed and the seriousness that was taken concerning the policy.

President Bill Rogers was the first of four

(Con't. on pg. 6)



Ernest McCoy responds to questions.

Photo: Eric Buck