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Dean regrets physical outburst

College officials work to resolve altercation aftermath

Peter Smith
News Editor

Guilford College officials have expressed regret over a recent incident involving a college official and a young student from the New Garden Friends School.

The incident, which occurred during the morning of November 20, involved a brief altercation between Sam Schuman, vice president of academic affairs and Rob Roach, an 11-year-old student at the New Garden Friends School.

"A serious and grave incident involving an overreactive outburst occurred," said Guilford College President William Rogers. "It is both regrettable and unfortunate, but efforts are being made to ameliorate the situation and reach a peaceful resolution."

According to both Guilford College and New Garden Friends School officials, the incident

occurred while Schuman was exercising on the Guilford College track that circles the college's football field.

Schuman, a marathon runner who often engages in solitary exercise on the Guilford campus, was running when he and a group of middle school students between the ages of 8 and 11 became involved in an altercation that has been reported to have included both physical and verbal abuse by Schuman toward the children.

Although it is unclear to what extent Schuman went to in confronting the students, both President Rogers and David Snyder, interim head of the New Garden Friends Middle School, have acknowledged that the incident involved both the pushing or shoving of 11-year-old Rob Roach and some profane swearing by Schuman.

Both Rogers and Snyder have indicated, however, that the boy was not physically injured.

Schuman declined to comment on the particular circumstances of the incident but expressed "both a strong concern and a deep regret that the incident occurred."

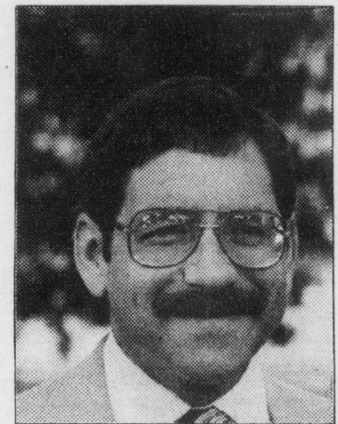
Schuman also acknowledged that he overreacted and took full responsibility for the incident.

"I will say, without hesitation,

that I overreacted," said Schuman. "I behaved in an inappropriate way which I deeply regret."

Schuman added, however, that he felt members of the Guilford

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Sam Schuman

Union reschedules Serendipity

Joyce Atkinson
Production Coordinator

Due to the controversy sparked by the scheduling of Serendipity during Easter weekend, College Union changed the weekend to March 30 through April 1.

The Union's decision to have Serendipity during the second week of April was primarily to lessen faculty and student concern about having the weekend

too close to finals week. Other reasons involved committing to a weekend that could be made permanent for upcoming years, one which would avoid other conflicts such as confirming suitable rain sites. The proposal of committing to this weekend was approved by the Guilford Administration, and it appeared to be finalized.

Many students had complained about the previous date because they felt it was disrespectful and unfair to choose between spending the weekend with family or spending it to "blow steam" at the college. Faculty members also expressed dismay over these issues.

The Union was able to successfully change the dates with the help of Nancy Cable-Wells, who was willing to support the prompt change. Charlie Beery, chairperson of the Serendipity committee said, "Nancy Cable-Wells has done a tremendous job in helping us with changing the date."

There were two possible weekends that Serendipity could have been held. The weekend of April 20 was being considered as one of the choices but it was decided that that weekend skirted too close to finals week. The weekend of March 30 was the third option and although it may seem early for our spring gathering, it

has been deemed most appropriate in the light of all the conflicts.

Beery raised the concern about the weather, "Yes, having an earlier date certainly raises the risk of a colder weekend, but during the springtime the weather is crazy; you just can't tell."

If the weather does take a turn for the worse, the rain site will be the Alumni Gym. Last year the rain site was Dana Auditorium and as a result the Union was charged with an estimated \$2000 in damages. Although the charge was for campus-wide damages, most was caused to the seats and floors of the auditorium.

The Union has taken the initiative to seek funds outside of the

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photo by Charles Almy

Senators listen during last Wednesday's meeting to discuss the upcoming tuition forum. Story on page 5.

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