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Ceremony Cancelled, Forum Held in Wake of Protests

Courtney T. Roberts
News Editor

In the fall of 1991 there will be six new apartment buildings on a five-acre plot north of Milner Hall. Each building will house four furnished apartments. Each apartment will contain four bedrooms, a kitchen, a dining room and a living room, according to members of the Residential Life staff.

The amount of money these apartments will rent for is still under review. For those with financial aid, rent will be included as part of the package.

Despite the fact that the addition of the new apartments will mean more student housing and evidence of Guilford's progress, the construction of these apartments has caused a great deal of controversy. The opposition toward the apartments resulted in the cancelling of the groundbreaking ceremony last Wednesday. When asked why the cancellation decision was made, Nancy Cable-Wells responded, "It would have been a false sense of community."

Questions students are asking include: Are these apartments necessary? Are they worth the destruction of part of Guilford's

woods and the removal of trees?

On Tuesday night a forum was held in the cafeteria allowing students to pose these and other questions asked about the apartments to a panel of administrators involved in the construction of the apartments.

Cable-Wells began the forum explaining the history of the plan for the apartments. "The loudest complaint Guilford was having was about residential life," she said. "Residential life has been identified as Guilford's top priority." Along with the improvements to the current residence halls, (which includes giving each hall an overall facelift, bringing bathrooms and lounges up to standard, making them energy efficient, reducing vandalism—as well as giving hall council more voice and improving the residence hall staff), the addition of the apartments to the campus will "contribute substantially to an improved quality of life for students," said President William Rogers.

Some students questioned the necessity of the apartments. They identified themselves as advocating the survival of trees, land, and ecosystems that may be sacrificed for the progress of the college. One student expressed concern because several

of those opposed the construction as seniors: "What will happen after we graduate... who will be concerned with preserving our woods after we graduate?"

Senior Elizabeth Burke, along with other

students, suggested that the college construct some type of written contract guaranteeing that parts of Guilford's woods

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Men's ensemble sings about the "Fatherhood Blues" in Guilford's Production of the Broadway musical *Baby*. Review on page 9 / photo by Charles Almy

Three Pipers Resign Over Rape Poem

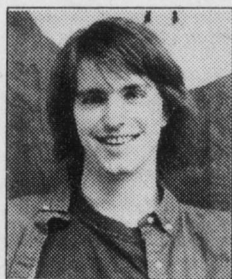
Peter Smith
Managing Editor

Three female members of the Piper literary magazine resigned last week in protest over a poem selected for publication in the fall issue of the Piper.

The poem, written by senior John Toivonen, is entitled "The Rapist," and describes an act of rape by comparing a rapist to a mosquito.

The three members, two of whom were members of the Piper editorial board, resigned after Toivonen refused to remove the poem from the magazine.

The Guilford College Publications Board convened last Monday to hear the concerns of the three members, and of other students in the community. The Board did not meet to consider censoring the poem, but only to hear the individuals' concerns



Toivonen

who had concerns thought the poem glorified rape and made it sensual. They are upset that it only represented a male point of view.

Toivonen said the issue was "definitely a case of censorship." He also said that the poem is strongly against acts of rape and that people who are opposed to his work do not understand its meaning. He indicated that the poem was misinterpreted, and that

over the issue.

"If a women's name had been on the poem, it would probably have been OK," said Toivonen, an English major from Glen Rock, New Jersey. "Those

the poem's imagery is so graphic and powerful that some people just didn't want to deal with it.

Said Toivonen, "I was told that I was an egotistical, chauvinistic, linear male because I wouldn't take the poem out. The people who opposed this put as much psychological pressure on me as possible to pull it from publication. If they had had the means to prevent it from being published they would have censored it."

"I think rape is an issue we should be talking about. This poem is a strong statement against rape. I guess there are always a small group of people who just don't know what you [as an artist] are doing."

The three members of the Piper staff who resigned are senior art major Elizabeth Mills, senior English major Emilie

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