

WQFS interferes all over campus

By Daphne Lewis
Staff Writer

They are coming in through the telephones. Through the tape recorders. Through the answering machines.

They whisper and mumble on tape recordings. The voices of WQFS are invading and infiltrating electronic devices all over campus.

More problems seem to occur at Mary Hobbs, where approximately 25 women signed a complaint. "People are getting the radio station in their phones, sometimes as loud as the person on the other line. Sometimes you can hear the radio station when the phone rings," said Calyta Hill, resident of Mary Hobbs.

But complaints come from all over campus.

In Bryan Hall, John Terry says that he can also hear WQFS on his telephone line, and that it "blasts" on messages on his answering machine. He says that when he re-plays a message, he hears two different songs from the radio station—one from when the message

was recorded, and one from the present broadcasting.

In Milner Hall, Jonathan Coulter says that he picks up WQFS on his recordings when he copies music from a CD to a tape.

WQFS can sometimes be picked up on battery-operated alarm clocks and radios.

According to several veteran students, these voices are not so new. "The voices have been here as long as I have," said senior Chris Hosford.

But where do these voices come from?

According to Telecommunications Manager Jim Luke, the voices may be the fault of the radio station broadcasting too loudly or out of Federal Communications



Doug Curl DJ's while interference disturbs the campus.

Commission (FCC) guidelines. "The first thing to check is the radio station itself. I asked WQFS to check out its transmitter and grand system by an engineer, to see if it fits in the FCC guidelines."

Nothing has been done about it yet because Luke claims that WQFS never gave him the results. "I asked them to give back to me a written statement from the engi-

neer that describes the tests that were run and that gives the results of those tests, but I never received a written statement."

to examine our equipment. They thought our transmitter was faulty and that our signal was wandering. Well, we hired an engineer to check it out and he said that everything was working as it should be. So our signal is not wandering; it is not WQFS's fault."

Lee says that the most-likely reason that WQFS is coming over electronic devices is simply that the campus is just too close to the tower. "The tower is located on top of Founders—in the middle of campus. The campus is just so small, and everything is so close together, that it just can not be avoided."

Lee stated that the radio station transmits 1900 watts, what he says is "significantly larger than most college radio stations."

But Lee says that the tower can not be moved. "We can not move it because it does not belong to us. It belongs to the HAM radio operators on campus. If this is the problem, then the only solution is to build another tower somewhere else on campus."

Lee also mentioned that the problem might stem from the electronic wiring in the dorms. He supports this theory by noting that Mary Hobbs, the dorm with the oldest wiring, is also the dorm with the most complaints.

Luke agrees that this could be a possible cause, and he said that when the dorms are rewired that they will find out whether or not wiring has anything to do with the transmission problem.

Right now, Luke says that Residential Life is running a questionnaire to see where on campus there are problems with the radio station transmission. "We are running the questionnaire so we can see if there is any pattern. After we get that information together, we will sit down and see how we can accommodate everyone, the solution that is most cost-efficient."



Photo by Eric Forman

Brooke Plotnick looks into a car totaled as the result of a drunk driving accident. The car is one of the educational tools of Alcohol Awareness Week.

ALCOHOL

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were awarded to the winners.

However, neither her nor Mulhern had a favorite event, and both expressed hope that all of the

programs would be well-attended.

"We try to provide a variety of activities to try to appeal to a broad...audience and raise their awareness of alcohol abuse," said Mulhern.

Mulhern commented that there are programs dealing with alcohol

awareness at other times during the year, saying Alcohol Awareness Week is "a jump start to get people thinking about it." She hopes for continued involvement from the community.

The organizing committee itself is open to anyone on campus.

INFLATION

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result in lower quality if we reduced costs."

Business Manager Dick Coe agreed. "We are tuition-driven and that's where the rub lies. If the tuition dependency goes down the student [financial] rate would go down....If you really start cutting corners in tuition, room, and board you start sacrificing the quality of education."

Another reason for Guilford's costliness is its relatively small endowment. Guilford's endowment market value currently stands at \$30 million. "Most schools that offer the quality of education Guilford does have larger endowments, five to ten times as large," Poteet said. He also stated that many Guilford alumni have chosen to enter into service-oriented professions, which normally pay less.

Poteet also discussed the benefits of living in residence halls as opposed to apartments. "Residence hall living at Guilford is more than a roof

over your head and walls and heat." Guilford provides "counseling, support and programming that an apartment complex cannot provide."

According to Larry West, director of admissions, Guilford is viewed as a good bargain to those families living out-of-state. 67% of Guilford's students live outside of North Carolina.

"In this neighborhood we are perceived to be outrageously priced and elsewhere we are seen as being competitively priced...students from the Northeast looking at institutions comparable to Guilford are looking at \$20,000-\$25,000 price tags," he said.

"Whether [a Guilford education] is worth it is what each individual must decide for themselves...you have an extraordinary opportunity to grow and find yourself...these are things you can't find anywhere else. We think something pretty special goes on here, and you can't put a price tag on that," Poteet said.