

# Athletes inquire about sports budget

Alex Murrow  
Guest Writer

Where does the money come from and how is it divided up among each team?

This is a common question that many athletes ask each other. They contend that every other sport is receiving more money and better equipment than they are. Very few athletes can deny that they have felt this way at one time or another.

Being an athlete I have felt this, especially about football. It seems to me that they are the preferred team at this school.



Photo by Krista Mitschele

Murrow

The reason for this is simple. Football has a field that is well cared for and quite appealing to the

eye. They charge for a multiple-page color program that includes photos of each player. No other team sells these programs. At each and every home game there is a band of some sort that performs both during the game and at half time.

Why? Why does football get all the extras? I took my questions and concerns to the person that would best be able to answer my questions. Gayle Currie is the athletic director here at Guilford and she is who I spoke with about my concerns. I asked where the money came from and why football seems to get all the attention around here.

Currie informed me that the Armfield family gives Guilford \$20,000 a year to go toward the football field, hence the name Armfield Stadium. It turns out that this family is not even alumni of the school. They simply enjoy football very much.

Okay, so she could legitimately answer that question. Now how about why they charge for tickets and programs?

Again Currie was able to answer those questions. Guilford charges an admittance fee for both football and basketball because they are the only sports that bring in enough fans to create a revenue. The elaborate programs that they sell at the football games are funded by businesses that advertise in the program. The money that the school makes from these two sales doesn't even go back to the athletic program, and if it did the football program surely would not see enough of it to make a difference.

I feel that it is the job of the school to inform the student body on what takes place in each of the areas that compose the school. We are totally uninformed about where money comes from and where it goes in the athletic department.

I was told by Currie when I commented on this that she openly answers questions that students bring to her. But why should every one of us have to go to her? Shouldn't she come to us with this information? After all we are the ones paying the tuition.

All that is needed is a newsletter of some sort or a posting in an accessible place. If the athletes at Guilford were informed somehow as to where the money went and came from, then maybe there would not be so much adversity among the teams.

As of now the school appears to be in violation of some equality laws and they are making no moves to change the appearance of the program. A newsletter of some sort would help out tremendously with this problem. There are people at this school who like to be informed and at the current time this is not taking place.



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## LETTERS

Cont. from page 5

chances for the hulk to show his power (better hit the books buddy). I can also tell you that I have never been so embarrassed to be a part of the organizing of such an event. It was very difficult for me to explain to the manager why this had happened, considering I, and probably 99% of the people there that night, would never even think of doing such an

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asinine thing.

To all those people who said, "there's always one person to ruin the fun for everyone," you have been at Guilford College for too long. Originally, I shared this thought also. However, when the manager was asked whether this was a common problem, she responded, "No, we have UNCG, A&T, Greensboro College, and numerous high schools here all the time, and Guilford College has been our only problem."

WHAT? This means that there is NOT always one person to ruin the fun for everyone. Guilford College has been singled out as the only college in the area with such destructive problems. This is unfortunate for the rest of the students who were there simply to have a good time. We were there to bowl, hence the name "Midnight BOWLING."

Only a few of us, you know who you are, were there to prove their strength by shot-putting bowling

balls, and tearing objects out of the walls. If we could single this small group out, we would do so immediately. This would be so ideal. Then we could simply pay someone to baby-sit them at each event. If they did something wrong, we could send them back to high school, or more preferably, the zoo.

Unfortunately, we did not see who did the vandalism, and it is all of us who will pay for it, since it will come directly from the Union account. On behalf of the Guilford College Student Union, I would like to give our thanks to all of you who were there to have a good time.

And for those others, I would like to thank you for the reputation we will all have to bear.

Union Vice President,  
Andy Swanson,  
with strong support of the  
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