

Binford has new substance-free wing

By Brian Schuh
STAFF WRITER

Deciding whether to drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes is not an option for 54 residents of Binford hall, due to the creation of the new substance-free wing. In contrast to the recent drinking-related problems at Bryan hall, alcohol problems on this hall are highly likely to be nonexistent.



Residents of the substance-free housing. AMY ROUSE

"The national trend to have substance-free housing, the focus of individual needs, whether it be personal morality or someone's own personal or family substance abuse problems and the leadership of Don McNemar, is why this wing was established," said Assistant Director of Residential Life George Segebade.

According to Residential Life Coordinator Tica Davis, last spring the Office of Residential Life listed the option of a substance-free hall for this year's housing sign-up sheets. Since the response was primarily co-ed, first-year students, the top of the T-wing on the second floor of Binford Hall was chosen to be the wing. "It's a healthier, cleaner environment and is work-inductive for study," said Davis,

"Residents can enjoy one another without being impaired." Researching substance-free housing at other universities such as Wake Forest, UNCG, and High Point, Davis formulated the housing contract.

Under the guidelines of the "Substance Free Housing Community Standards Agreement," residents and their guests are not al-

lowed at anytime to possess or consume alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, or not-prescribed prescription drugs while on the floor. If someone who lives on the substance-free hall wants to consume substances, "they are more than welcome to do so, just not on their floor, and they are not allowed to return to the floor intoxicated," said Davis.

"The wing is working very well," said Residential Advisor Tamara Mason. "Everybody wanted to be here and that is what contributes to the friendly atmosphere in the hall." The only negative thing about the wing, according to Mason, is that there are not enough spaces for everybody who wants to live there. Around ten people are on a waiting list to live in the wing.

Residents of the wing seem to

be enjoying their living arrangements. "It's awesome here because people are willing to take risks and be who they really are," said Clarissa Pungowiyi, a first-year student from Juneau, Alaska, "We have so much fun it would be scary to see us on drugs."

Since the college states that illegal substances are not permitted anywhere on campus, having a specific substance-free hall might seem unnecessary. However, Davis dis-

agrees, saying, "Illegal substances are not permitted anywhere on campus, but we are well aware that they are here."

The Office of Residential Life has future plans for substance-free housing.

Next year, they would like to include the entire T-wing on the second floor of Binford as substance free. Also they would like to see Binford one day become totally substance-free.

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actual school policy.

The incidents that prompted this change included "a medical crisis, a personal crisis, and an altercation," according to Olds. One student was taken to the emergency room in an ambulance as a consequence of alcohol poisoning.

These incidents were "a close call," and many administrators bring up comparisons to news headlines about alcohol-related deaths that have been plaguing American college campuses lately.

There seems to be a tendency for students, recently released from the control of their parents, to party a little harder than their bodies can handle. Fatalities at other schools often involved first-year students and too much alcohol. The steps being taken here are to try to avoid that kind of tragedy.

Reactions varied on campus, particularly in regards to what constitutes a "public area." The clarification from Olds that many 21-year old students will find comforting is that the Apartments common areas and balconies do

not count as public areas, unless a campus-wide event is being held there, as in the case of the party there on Friday night. The event was successful, with a strong security presence, students seemed obliged to drink inside, or not at all.

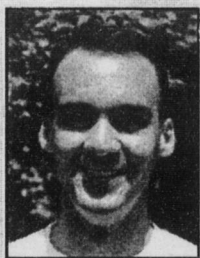
Senior Kendrick Collins replied to the new policies "The guilty parties should be punished, not everyone. It was not my fault that stuff happened, but now I'm getting punished for it; that hardly seems fair."

Other students, who have really had enough of this kind of behavior strongly support the new measures.

Many students can remember similar incidents in the past that did not result in such a crackdown. One such individual who was hospitalized her freshman year welcome weekend said, "Yeah, well, you learn from that type of thing."

Administrators are hoping Guilford can learn from this incident and are trying to move in a safe, positive direction, thankful that a real tragedy was avoided.

President's Corner



By Gary Young

Thank you to all who participated in the voting on Monday and a special thank you to the unfortunate souls who had to actually sit and man the table. I appreciate their dedication greatly. Congratulations to the new and re-elected senators and representatives.

They are: Senior rep- James Norton; Junior rep- Megan DiMaio; Sophomore rep- Kembra Bloodworth; First-year rep- Chris Babcock; Bryan hall rep- Rebecca Wiggers; Milner rep- Kareem Wali Muhammed; Alternative Housing reps- Cody Doran and Jill Reemsnyder; Shore rep- Katie Hunter; Binford reps- Ty Pender, Eva Shaw, and Tim LaFollette; and Mary Hobbs rep- Kalynn Ruth.

All of the applicants were (and still are) extremely

talented.

The execs and steering committee would like to remind all who did not win that there are still appointed positions within Senate and if interest was indicated, you will get an interview.

The appointed positions include athletic representative, academic senator, minority representative, and the GLBTA representative.

Each position holds different requirements, as they represent vastly different constituencies. However, each has the common need of voice, even if that voice may not be the most popular in the room. Consensus cannot work without the input of every member of Senate.

Again, remember Senate is not the end all be all, GuilCo has judicial board vacancies, Union would love to have more members, and we have over 50 clubs and organizations screaming for help.

Campus Ministries

College Meeting for Worship - Led by Deborah Saunders Sun., Sept. 14th from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Moon Room of Dana

Hillel Ice Cream Social- Mon., Sept. 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Hut.

GCRG meeting in the Peace Room, Mon., Sept. 14th at 6:30pm

InterVarsity Men's small group- Mondays at 8:30 p.m. in the Hut.

New Generations Ministries- Tues. 8:30 p.m. in Boren lounge.

Mid-Week Meeting for Worship - unprogrammed meeting for worship Wednesday evening 5:30-6:00pm in the Hut

InterVarsity- Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in Boren lounge.

Quaker Concerns- Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Hut, all are welcome.

InterVarsity Women's small group- Thursday and 8 p.m. in the basement of Mary Hobbs.

Morning Worship - Unprogrammed meeting for worship each weekday from 8:05-8:15am in the Hut