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# THE GUILFORDIAN

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## Hate crimes legislation considered

Marjorie Hall  
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Guilford community often talk about the "Guilford bubble," the shelter we have from the problems from the outside world. Over the past few years, though, the college community has learned that Guilford is not truly protected from the biases and hatreds of society.

The Hate/Bias-Based Sanction Policy, passed in Senate on Wednesday, March 3rd, is a response to those hatreds and biases that can affect the school. As the policy states, "This policy would provide a mechanism for the judicial system to enhance the sanction for a given act when the body discovers the act(s) to be motivated by some sort of animus and/or bias against a person based on perceived and/or real associations with a group."

Ian Watlington, chair of the judicial committee and author of the policy, believes the policy is important for the college. "In many ways, a policy like this one is even more necessary at a college like Guilford than it would be at other schools," Watlington said. "Because we have a reputation of being liberal, progressive, and Quaker, we need to send a message to both present and prospective students that says we will not tolerate hateful and biased actions. We need to stop just talking and get it written down."

If Guilford institutes this policy, it will be following a current trend among colleges. The state of North Carolina has also recently developed hate crime legislation.

The policy stresses the word sanction as opposed to

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## Vandals take toll on campus

By Audrey Ross  
STAFF WRITER

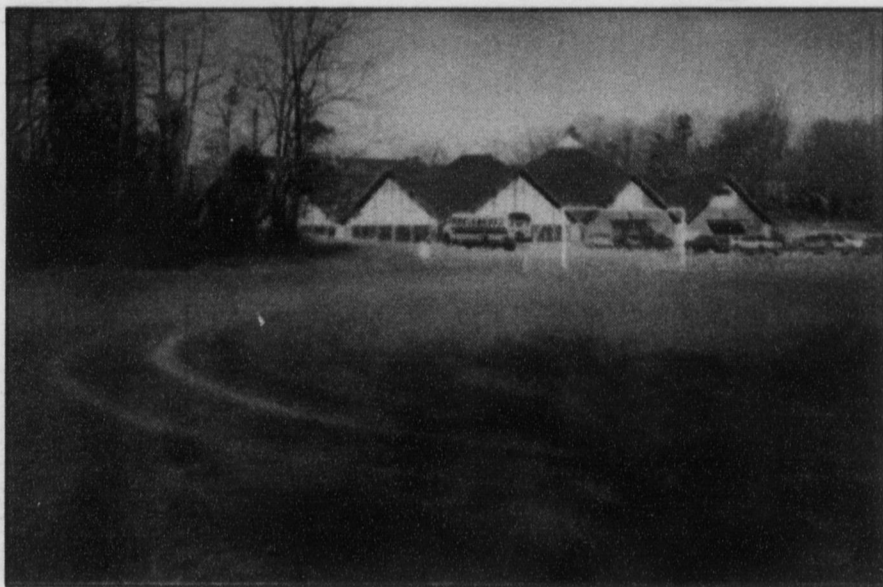
A rash of vandalism on campus before spring break left Guilford College Security and maintenance staff to deal with broken glass, muddy fields, and defaced property.

On one evening in particular, there were three different incidents. It began in Bryan when a Guilford College security officer responded to a pulled fire alarm.

While the officer responded to the fire alarm, someone threw a rock into a front first-story window in Mary Hobbs. These two incidents both happened within minutes of each other.

During the same evening, an officer found a wooden art project in the doorway of King Hall. "We think it is all related," said Sylvia Chillcott, the director of security. "It was awfully ironic that all that happened within minutes of each other."

Chillcott does not think that



COURTESY GUILFORD COLLEGE SECURITY

The practice football field was damaged by tire tracks before break.

the rock thrown into Mary Hobbs was directed towards those residents.

There seems to be a recurring problem in Milner Hall. The same window in the third floor stairwell has been knocked out at least three or four times. The RAs as well as the security department are collaborating to

solve this problem.

Broken windows come hand in hand with snowstorms. It is a tradition to have snowball fights but some get too carried away and end up causing damage to property here at Guilford.

The weekend before

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## Admission office battles bad press

◆ Numbers of applicants falls, but student credentials have improved

By Brian Schuh  
STAFF WRITER

Events that rocked the community last spring are just now haunting the admission office this spring.

Last year Guilford received a whopping 17% increase in the number of applications, but this year that number has so far slipped by 9%.

"There was a lot of pain in this community last spring and that was communicated to prospects during visits," said Director of Admission Al Newell.

It is projected that 1,227 students will apply to Guilford this year compared to 1,348 last year. Of the roughly 1200 applicants, 81% will likely be accepted with 31% applicants accepted enrolling. Last year only 76% of the applicants were accepted with 31% of them choosing Guilford.

Most of the class of '02 were aware of the events last

spring while considering Guilford.

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*"We were able to communicate directly to last year's prospect pool and were able to get timely and accurate information in their hands because we knew who they were. Last year's prospects respected that integrity."*

—Al Newell

pect pool and were able to get timely and accurate information in their hands because we knew who they were," said Newell. "Last year's prospects respected that integrity."

The statistics show that last spring did not turn away

students for this year's entering class. However, the admission office was not able to communicate to other prospect pools such as sophomores and juniors in high school regarding the events.

"We received fairly wide press coverage," Newell said. "Someone who received only a sound byte may have only gotten part of the story. There were lots of different interpretations by younger prospects since they may not have gotten the whole story."

Despite the decline in applications this year, the admission office is still striving to attract students with strong academic credentials. The office buys lists from the PSAT and the National Research Council of College Undergraduate Admission and begins reaching potential students as early as the sophomore year of high school.

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