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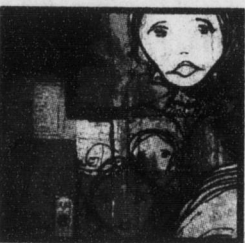
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Briggs: Working to Keep Women S.A.F.E.

Daisy Partington
Staff Writer

One in four college women have been raped or suffered attempted rape, the FBI reports.

"Even if the number is significantly less at Guilford, we still need to develop better programs and resources for students," said Cyndi Briggs, Guilford graduate and Guilford's first Director for Gender Issues and Retention.

Since 1999, Guilford College has reported zero incidents of forcible and non forcible sex offenses to the US Department of Education.

"To me, this points to the lack of support and structure that students need to come forward and report incidents if they are ready to," said Briggs.

Prior to the creation of Briggs' new role, students did not always know where to turn for help. "In the past, when a student was assaulted, they would usually confide in a professor or someone from the health center,"

said Briggs, "but there was no established, concrete support network for them to enter."

"The sexual assault piece is currently our main focus," Briggs said. However her role encompasses raising awareness about several other gender issues including those of sexual orientation, eating disorders, abusive relationships, and self-mutilation.

"Sexual assault, misunderstandings about gender, and homophobia are very serious problems plaguing college life in general. Guilford is no exception," said Gender Issues Advisory Council member and Guilford philosophy professor Nancy Daukas.

"Cyndi's position was created in

order to put an end to such violent and insulting behavior, to help survivors heal, and to provide educational

programs about gender issues in order to create a more respectful, supportive, and healthy community," said Daukas.

Although Guilford, like any college, is not immune to sexual assault, homophobia,

and other problems involving gender issues, we may have an advantage over other schools. "At Guilford, folks aren't afraid to get their hands dirty in these kinds of issues," Briggs said.

At Guilford, gender issues are incorporated into classes such as "Women, Body, Voice" taught by John and Carol Stoneburner. Student or-

ganizations such as P.R.I.D.E. and S.A.F.E. were created specifically to explore gender issues. Campus-sponsored events such as the Q.B.L.S.T. Poetry Slam and S.A.F.E.'s "Take Back the Night" are opportunities for students to get involved in facing these issues.

Despite great effort on the part of students like senior and S.A.F.E. president John Boyd and professors like Daukas and Stoneburner, problems surrounding gender issues are still quite present on campus.

"Like many small schools, we still struggle for a sense of community," Briggs said. "We need to make an effort to realize that we are all at different stages in personal growth. Only then can we work together."

Briggs looks forward to another year as faculty advisor to S.A.F.E. and working with the Sexual Assault Response Team

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Cyndi Briggs

Music, Meal, Merriment: Homecoming Weekend

Carra Woodham
Staff Writer

This year, with both a new president and the class of 2006 joining us, Guilford College decided to blend its annual Family Weekend and Homecoming festivities.

Boasting various open houses, a picnic-style dinner by the lake, and various sporting events, the weekend of Sept. 20-22, 2002, was a loaded one for our typically quiet campus.

President Kent Chabotar said

that, "Combining homecoming and family weekend gives students a chance to share experiences of Guilford College past and present. We have the campus to accommodate everyone."

Friday began with the 28th Annual Harvey Ljung Golf Classic where alumni, families and friends could show off on the Stoney Creek Golf Course.

There were also opportunities to sit-in on classes, take a historical campus tour or an art

gallery tour and take advantage of the open houses going on at offices like those of the Academic Skills Center and International Center.

The evening culminated with

"Music, Meal, and Merriment: Guilford Style," a dinner by the lake hosted by Chabotar with live music followed by an open-mic style coffeehouse.

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