The Guilfordian.com

December 9, 2002

Volume 89, Issue 11

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Multi-Talent Maxwell Receives Recognition:

Senior Named Most Valuable Staffer by Scripps-Howard for Work on 90.9 FM WQFS; Joins Sophomore Knight in Selection by Durham Art Guild for Show

Holly Butcher

Staff Writer

Meet Michela Maxwell, a Guilford senior and English major who will graduate this December.

Two major accomplishments separate Maxwell from your ordinary students: she was awarded the national Most Valuable Staffer Award for her work at WQFS, and her photograph, which placed first in the Guilford Student Art Show, was selected to be displayed in the Durham Art Guild's Annual Juried Show.,

along with a photograph by set. She is also bent over; sophomore Jamara Knight, it is a profile shot." Max-

"The Durham Art Guild is a yearly competition between visual artists in all media and was juried this year by world-renowned photographer Joyce Tennyson," said art professor Maia Dery.

"The photographs [accepted by the juried art show] were of student Hannah Elliot," said Maxwell. "She is sort of strapped in big, black rubber bands on her arms and legs and wearing a corset. She is also bent over; it is a profile shot." Maxwell said that her inspiration came from a photo she saw in an art gallery she visited a few years ago: "It was very angelic, and I decided to do a sort of twist on that."

"[Michela] is an extremely interesting person, an original thinker as well as a fine photographer," Dery said. "She

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Senior Michela Maxwell began working on WQFS her freshman year with promotions. By her junior year she was general manager.

Survey Says: Guilford Offers 'Enriching Educational Experience'

Cesar Weston

Guest Writer

Guilford students had something positive to say about their school. Their responses to the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), released Nov. 12, placed them in the top ten percent of the categories "enriching educational experiences" and "active and collaborative learning," and in the top 20 percent overall in "student interactions with faculty."

Rated by last year's seniors and first-years with qualitative responses, the school gained recognition in a field of 613 institutions.

This marked the first year of Guilford's participation of the now three-year-old survey conducted by Indiana University. When discussing the college's student ratings, Guilford students

cited their community projects and opportunities as well as inclass discussions for the collaborative learning category.

Students defined their interaction with faculty based on how they can comfortably discuss grades and career plans, as well as on associating with faculty outside of class. Students cited embracing campus diversity, internship opportunities, co-curricular activities and the use of technology as enriching educational experiences.

Rob Whitnell, Guilford's Director of Institutional Research, adds that given the 35 percent student participation, the results probably very strongly represent Guilford student sentiment.

"I don't know if I agree with that ranking," said Keenan O'Leary ('01), referring to the faculty-student relationship category. Having attended another small liberal arts college before coming to Guilford, she observed a greater degree of friendship between students and professors there.

According to O'Leary, the student commitment to social awareness and community are Guilford's most important strengths, and what she commented on when answering the survey. She came to Guilford because she felt "the student body had more to teach me" than student bodies at other schools.

"I'm gratified that our first-

year and senior students perceive that our academic program is as rigorous and as enriching as our admissions materials claim," said President Kent Chabotar.

The NSSE report supplies information to prospective students and their parents during their college search, and provides objective and accurate insight into the effectiveness of a school's teaching and student learning. According to Chabotar, the school will use the results of the survey in the future to help strengthen and reassess the school's core teaching and co-curricular functions.

