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Hip-Hop Artist Chuck D. Enlightens Guilford

Feky Eugene Staff Writer

In celebration of black history month, Guilford welcomed Chuck D, one of the most influential men in hip-hop, to speak his mind on the genre and where it's headed last Wednesday night in Dana Auditorium.

Chuck D discussed various issues concerning hip-hop and how it has branched off from its

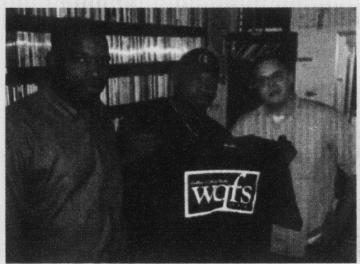
The art form founded itself on the musical expression of life in urban ghettos and communicates its messages through combinations of singing and speak-

Hip-hop originated as a way for the black community to define itself, but these days it is more of a marketing product than an art form.

Chuck D explained that hiphop has become an industry in which a largely white corporate world is making a profit at the expense of black people. He described it as a system that has become, in some ways, comparable to plantation systems.

Chuck D also spoke of the negative stereotypes that surround hip-hop culture. "Most people, when thinking about hiphop or rap music, associate it with the words gangster or thug," said Chuck D.

He pointed out that the representation of hip-hop in the media reflects negatively on the black community. Many people assume that to be black means you have to wear your clothes a certain way, talk a certain way, or even act a certain way. "It's this dumb-ass-ification of certain individuals. The idea that one



From left: Wesley Elam, Chuck D, and Dan Thigpen show support for WQFS.

ludicrous."

The popular use of the word 'nigger' or 'nigga' was another danger that Chuck D found in the evolution of hip-hop. "The word should never be used," said

needs to be a thug to succeed is Chuck D. "The word symbolizes death to the black community. Many individuals have died for that one word."

> Chuck D explained that the popularization of such a hateful

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Shots Called Slowly on Coble's Status

Casey Creel

Senior Correspondent

Senior Josh Neas handed President Kent Chabotar his petition with 284 signatures Wednesday, but the issue of U.S. Congressman Howard Coble's status as graduation speaker is anything but decided.

Chabotar said he spoke to Coble casually this week, and the topic of commencement came up during their short conversation about Coble's perspective on war against Iraq. Coble chairs the

House subcommittee on crime, terrorism, and homeland security.

"I'm not sure if he read the Guilfordian story; we didn't discuss it," Chabotar said. "We didn't set a timeline to address the situation: it was a friendly conversation."

Coble, Republican of Greensboro and Guilford graduate, is in Germany concerning homeland security, and could not be reached for comment.

One topic Neas emphasized was his dissatisfaction with student.

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Chabotar and Neas discuss Neas' petition against Rep. Coble

