

MERPEOPLE

Colony of vicious Merpeople threatens students' safety

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First and foremost, the Merpeople are tiny — no more than five inches long. The only thing that Disney got right was Ariel's red hair. The Merpeople in our lake have red hair and iridescent scales on their tails.

Their torsos are also covered in scales. The women do not wear revealing seashell bras and the men do not have the chiseled abs of a Greek god. Their arms have fins that give them fish-like agility in the water.

"The technical term for these creatures is *Aqua nympharum*, which translates from Latin to 'water fairy,'" said magical creature specialist Eleanor Branstone.

Branstone has seldom come across these creatures in her line of work.

"The only information we have about them is from eye witness accounts and folklore," said Branstone.

Greensboro local Otto Bagman has been coming to walk his dog around the Guilford woods and lake for years.

"Over the years I have seen some pretty

strange stuff around the lake," said Bagman. "One day I was walking my dog Bruno, when all of a sudden he ran up to edge of the lake and started to bark, and I saw three little people sunbathing on the turtles near the shore."

The Merpeople quickly dispersed and Bagman was left there in awe.

"I could not believe what I had just witnessed," said Bagman. "I thought I was losing my marbles."

Today, Bagman knows that what he saw was real. He has encountered these little Merpeople multiple times over the years.

These Merpeople may seem tiny and cute but they are vicious. One student has come out with his terrifying tale of the Merpeople's wrath.

"My friends dared me to swim to the middle of the lake and I foolishly accepted their challenge," said sophomore Kenneth Hastings.

"Then, disaster struck. I was attacked by a swarm of what I thought were small goldfish. All of a sudden, I was pulled under and started to feel sharp pains in my

leg and notice blood in the water. As I started to fend off the fish, I noticed they were not fish at all. They were tiny little fish-like people."

Hastings suffered minor injuries and made a quick recovery.

Was this vicious attack warranted? One student most certainly thinks so.

"No one wants intruders in their homes," said junior Karen Turner. "These Merpeople were clearly defending themselves against what could be considered an attack on their territory."

Turner feels that the Merpeople's rights are being overlooked. She plans on starting a student organization, Merpeople Rights and Protection, to insure the preservation of the Merpeople's habitat and safety.

"Merpeople have rights, too, and should be protected like any other living creature at Guilford," stated Turner.

Since the Guilford Lake is man-made, someone either transplanted the Merpeople there or they relocated there themselves.

"Much of the older folklore regarding

Aqua nympharum depicts them as capable of flying, which is where *nympharum* — fairy — comes from," said Branstone.

These Merpeople are clearly opposed to interaction with anyone outside of their colony; therefore collaboration with someone outside of their colony seems doubtful. Under these circumstances, should we continue to allow them to live in our lake?

Many students wish to clean up the lake so it is safe to swim in. But now with the knowledge of these creatures, how do we feel?

"These Merpeople are a danger to our students and community," said junior Austen Applegate. "I think action must be taken towards their removal. Some drunken idiot is going to jump in the lake one night and get brutally attacked."

"Ethnic cleansing, Merpeople and Guilford College — it might seem strange to have those words in the same sentence," said President and Professor of Political Science Kent Chabotar. "But for students' safety, the Merpeople must be eradicated."

Drink coffee, drunk students: Greenleaf makes additions to the menu

By Justyn Melrose
STAFF WRITER

"One Keg Standitar, coming up," said first-year Eric Chubb to a Greenleaf patron.

As he put together a concoction of espresso, steamed milk, caramel flavoring and vodka, Chubb explained the recent changes to the Greenleaf menu, which include various alcoholic brews.

"Maybe there are some issues with making it easier to get alcohol to Guilford students, but if there's something wrong with a warm caramel latte and booze, then I don't want to be right," said Chubb.

The Keg Standitar, described as a drink to "wipe the Smirnoff your face," is only one of the many new beverages added to Greenleaf's offerings.

"For the theatre major, there is the lovely David Hammered," said sophomore Greenleaf member Billy Millman. "Basically it's decaf, Kahlua and Everclear. It's dark, strong, and after a few, it is easier to work with other people. That's pretty much all you need in theatre. Well, that and the emotional capacity to take criticism in acting classes."

"We've also got the Frank Smashey," he continued. "That's lavender-flavored vodka, rosewater and club soda. It's kind of a favorite among the more ambitious of the Quaker crowd."

Fueled by the need for increased revenue, the controversial decision to welcome alcohol into the 'Leaf was not taken lightly; but, as is custom for the co-op shop, it was come to via consensus.

Turns out, the consensus was overwhelmingly in favor.

"I wasn't sure if everyone would be okay with having liquor in the Greenleaf, but once folks started firing off suggestions on snazzy drink recipes and names, everyone seemed to agree," said senior Community Senate President and Greenleaf co-op member Yahya Alazrak. "What it came down to was that we heard that students like to drink, so we put a drink in your drink, so you can drink while you drink coffee."

Even President and Professor of Political Science Kent Chabotar has voiced support for the new menu.

"Caffeine, alcohol and Guilford College — it might seem strange to have those words in the same sentence," said Chabotar. "Actually no, you would definitely hear those words in the same sentence. Carry on."

Chubb said, "We don't necessarily condone drinking alcohol, but the Greenleaf is an important part of our school. If we lose it just because some of us have issues with a PBR Cappuccino, we'd be sacrificing one of the things that makes our school great."

Despite the Greenleaf consensus and administrative approval, some students find issue with the new Greenleaf brews.

"I'm not going to lie and say that I've never tried a Keg Standitar before, but it's annoying walking into class and seeing everyone from seniors to Early College kids stumbling over themselves," said sophomore Lily Ozer. "My classes are starting to look and smell like a weekend in Milner."

Still, it seems that many professors and students of varying ages are taking pride — and shots — in our campus coffee and liquor shop.

More than ever, Guilford seems like a happy, fun-loving college that takes its studies as seriously as seriously as it takes its beverages.

"Really, I think that drinks like the Yahya Ontherocks help students build a stronger community," said Millman. "Alcohol makes people loosen up, right? If more people are drinking, more people are loosening up, more people are willing to talk and make connections. Granted, it probably wasn't a good idea to let Yahya make a drink — no one should put hot sauce in cake-flavored vodka — but it's the community that is truly important."



In an effort to strengthen their business, the Greenleaf has expanded their menu to include alcoholic offerings including the "David Hammered" and "Frank Smashey." Here, (from left) sophomore **Chloe Weiner** samples one of the 'Leaf's new specialties, cheered on by senior **Matt Putney** and sophomore **Kate Schwab**.

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