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# THE GUILFORDIA

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## Hodgins Retreat plans to rezone into wooded area

STUDENTS CRY **ENCROACHMENT AS HODGINS** PREPARES NEW DEVELOPMENT

BY RISHAB REVANKAR

On March 27, Hodgins Retreat developer Randall Dixon drafted a proposal to extend the apartment complex adjacent to campus.

Denied once by the Zoning Commission in December 2012, Dixon seeks to merge the Hodgins property with 2.89 acres of the neighboring private property. Partnering with Burkely Community president Sterling Kelly, Dixon plans to build 64 more apartment units on the rezoned land.

As a result, a rezoning battle is now underway

involving the wooded neighborhood.

"The plan itself looks like it's encroaching on our campus," said senior and Hodgins resident Austen Applegate. "That doesn't serve us well."

Director of Student Life Susanna Westburg agrees that development will impact Guilford's aesthetic value.

"Many in the Guilford community take pride in the green space surrounding our campus," said Westburg. "Additional construction would interfere with that atmosphere and campus feeling."

The proposed construction — five buildings and a parking lot — would occupy the wooded area bordering the baseball field and the Guilford College Lake.

"I really enjoy waking up, looking out my window and seeing woods," said Applegate. "Guilford is surrounded by woods, and this development would destroy that."

As discussion between Dixon and the Zoning Commission continues, some student residents do not recall being informed of the proposal.

"Development? They haven't even told us," said senior Akeem Porteous. "But I doubt this will ever go through. It's ridiculous."

SEE HODGINS | PAGE 2

### SPORTS



(Top): First-year Fernanda Gonzalez and sophomore Allison Hewitt play in a match against NC Wesleyan on March 13. (Bottom) The team honors senior players on Senior's Day.

Sunburned, tired but happy, the women's tennis team pulled off a close win against Randolph College in Virginia during their second match of the day. The first victory was hard-won against Old Dominion Athlete Conference rivals Lynchburg College. Now, we are all looking forward to a shower, some food and, most of all, sleep. Even though everyone is spent, we still find the energy to sing along to "The Lion King" played on the bus trip home.

It's been a season of ups and downs. Close, disappointing losses against schools like Randolph Macon and Virginia Wesleyan still linger in the backs of our minds. Looking back at what exactly went wrong, it comes down to a number of different factors.

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BY DANIEL GASKIN GUEST WRITER

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