Opinion



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Why I still can't stand the Dookies

always hated it when alumni came back and waxed rhapsodic about their undergrad "I know there were kegs in the dorms, there was free love outside Bingham Hall, everyone sung in harmony about a perfect world, blab blab blab." blah blah blah ...

So why listen to me, you might ask? Well, usually in this spot, the DTH runs an old chestnut I wrote about Why I Hate Dook. I had a Wednesday column back in the Bronze Age of 1990, and I told the story of how my high school visit to Durham turned into a flaming pyre of white-hot hostility.

When the piece ran, I thought my friends would disparage GUEST COLUMNIST

the obviousne of it - writing a column about hating Dook? Jesus, that's like shooting barrelfuls of cod! Instead the column ended up on refrigerators across the Piedmont, and it taught me two lessons. First, don't over think your duties; and second never underestimate the hatred for Durham Clown College.

A whole cottage industry has since grown out of the UNC-Dook rivalry; two big-selling books, endless coverage on ESPN and gigabytes of Photoshopped files featuring Mike Kryshwqhskdi. What used to be private disgust is now a public phenomenon, and it raises the question: Is Dook still

worth hating? I assumed, like everyone does, I'd mellow once I graduated. I'd gain a little perspective, and my passion for beating Dook would gradually drift away. I would grow hair on my ears and suddenly think sitcoms were funny. I'm here to tell you these things

don't necessarily happen. My eye-twitching contempt of Dook's basketball team grew even more intense. How couldn't it, when faced with such a consistent hoop ster jerk factory?

How can you watch any Koach K press conference and not feel this man is a modern-day Narcissus so fixated on success that he'd throw his own players under the bus? A tightly-wound mess of resentment and profanity, the toxic combination of a control freak with a thinly-veiled persecution complex? Yes, I was a psych major.

And believe me, I wouldn't bet three cups of snot there isn't some person just like me in the other camp, the Dook fan who has his own dime-store theories on why Carolina is a blight on the athletic world. But I wouldn't trade places if the Buddha himself showed up

wearing a navy blue unitard. I'll tell you why: I got to choose my church. Having grown up without an organized religion, I adopted the Carolina Way. I adhered to



BOE blues Punishments should be justified and clearly defined

ith student government elections coming up on Feb. 13, violations of the Student Code's Title VI General Election Laws are being heard with more frequency by the Board of Elections.

It worries us to see so many past candidates say they're confused by the rules and regulations and cite legitimate ambiguities in the Code. It might be impossible to clear up every ambiguity in the Code but there is still a lot of room for improvement.

"The Board of Elections' interpretations change year-to-year," Dustin Ingalls, speaker pro tem of Student Congress, told The Daily Tar Heel last month. This is hardly helpful to candidates who want to run a clean election but are left at the mercy of changing BOE leadership.

In Title VI, specific fines are levied for violations such as damage to University property by a campaign. The fine is \$5.00 plus the estimated cost of restoration. But other fines aren't equally specific, leaving more up to the interpretation of the BOE.

The lack of precedent in ssessing violations was evident during the current campaign. Eve Carson and Jon Kite both distributed their platforms prior to the date allowed, yet Kite received a harsher punishment.

A campaign worker for Kite accidentally distributed a partial platform attached to the back page of a petition for sig-natures in one biology class on January 18. The Kite campaign was subsequently fined \$25 and suspended from campaigning for a 24-hour period.

Carson distributed a copy of her complete platform to the co-chairwoman of an endorsing organization Jan. 21 and received only a \$25 fine. She won the endorsement.

Though Kite's violation came

before the campaign season officially began, we cannot shake the fact it was one of Kite's campaign workers that violated the rules, not the candidate himself.

True, campaign workers should know the rules and follow them, but there is a clear distinction between a mistake of a campaign worker and one by the candidate herself.

The harsher penalty should have befallen Carson. But since its up to the BOE to hand out punishments as they please, Kite was forced to stop campaigning for 24 hours, which is a lot considering the campaigning season is a mere 21 days.

It might not be the best idea to assign specific fines for all violations, so there should be a range of possibilities. And justification for the sentencing also should be given by the BOE.

After all, judgments that lack reasoning can lead to student elections that lack legitimacy.

Assault on the problem Sexual assault education should be increased at UNC

y the time you finish reading this editorial, another person in America will have become the victim of sexual assault. This statistic is horrific and unacceptable.

The UNC Greek System is taking a step toward reducing that rate by implementing a mandatory sexual assault education program for all new pledges

Whether fairly or not, there is a stigma attached to Greeks - that is fraternity members when it comes to sexual assault.

The program, dubbed Greeks for Greeks, will provide education for all new members of the Interfraternity Council starting this spring. At first, only fraternity members will go through the program. It will expand to the sororities next fall.

By educating both fraternities and sororities, the program should help to address sexual assault on both ends. It will educate guys on what is and is not considered assault as well as make sure girls understand what they can do to decrease their risk of becoming a victim.

The Greeks have set the precedent, now the rest of the University needs to follow suit. More comprehensive sexual assault education is vital to

stamping out this plague. A two-minute skit at C-TOPS, while an entertaining way of raising awareness, just isn't going to cut it. We need a whole activity devoted to educating incoming freshmen about the dangers of and the facts about sexual assault on college campuses. The fact of the matter is

that education does help. The rate of sexual assaults has dropped significantly since its peak in 1978, the same year that North Carolina began to receive federal money to help victims. This drop certainly has something to do with increased education and awareness in the last 30 years.

Unfortunately, many rapes go unreported -59 percent to be exact. This statistic is the others or don't want the public exposure, many victims don't feel comfortable reporting a rape. This needs to change.

Unfortunately, events such as the Duke lacrosse case do not help mitigate this problem. With the high-profile nature of the case, it might cause some to decide against reporting sexual assault for fear of media scrutiny. This is where implementing education programs becomes even more vital.

The statistics are pretty bleak on sexual assault. One in six American women will be victims at least once in their lives. As will one in 33 American men.

In 2004 and 2005, there was an average of just more than 200,000 people in the U.S. who were sexually assaulted. That is nearly four times the number of

residents in Chapel Hill. It is for this reason that xual assault education

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"I had a guy put a Duke bumper sticker on my truck before. It really made me mad."

TYLER HANSBROUGH, UNC SOPHOMORE FORWARD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Due to space constraints, letters are sometimes cut. Read the full-length versions or post your own response to a letter, editorial or story online VISIT www.dailytarheel.com/feedback

Carson explains reason for missing BSM forum

TO THE EDITOR:

As some of you may have heard, I will not be able to participate in the Black Student Movement forum tonight. While I could have quickly completed the brief pre-forum questionnaire, I wrote seven single-spaced pages of thoughtful responses. Unfortunately, I submitted it late. For this reason — one that I regret but understand — the BSM lead-

ers have decided that I should be ineligible to participate. I am deeply disappointed that I will not have the formal opportunity to share my ideas with and receive feedback from one of UNC's largest student organizations. However, I will not allow formalities to prevent such an integral part of campus from hearing and responding to the ideas that will greatly affect student life this coming year.

On Sunday Feb. 11 at 4 p.m. in Bingham 103, Bernard Holloway, an SBP candidate last year, will be moderating a forum which I invite all interested BSM students to attend. There will be no endorse ments, just ideas and dialogue.

While the forum will specifically address the questions and com-ments of BSM members, I openly invite all students to come hear what is to be said. The involvement of BSM and non-BSM students will, I hope, further our campaign's passionate pursuit of both community and diversity.

> Eve Carson Candidate Student Body President

Campaign defacer will not stop campaign's progress

TO THE EDITOR: I was saddened to learn that two of my campaign A-frames were completely dismantled over the weekend. I know it was a

deliberate act because I discovered one of the zip ties that held one of the signs together had been cut, and the support beams were lying by them completely ripped out from between the boards.

While our campaign was the only to suffer an act of deface-ment like this, I would be just as disheartened if it had happened

to any of my opponents. One of the hallmarks of being a student at UNC is the ability to share varying views and beliefs. The SBP election is a perfect example of this and based on my experiences with the other can-didates I am confident that they would all agree that the person responsible for this act has done great damage to the University.

The person who did this has every right to disagree and we encourage him or her to express that right by voting on Feb. 13. This person does not, however, have the right to damage the reputation of the election by offending what is supposed to be a clean,

Students should use care when jumping to defense

TO THE EDITOR:

The vigil held in the Pit on Friday afternoon in response to the incident at Guilford College was extremely misguided. While I am proud of the overall social activism of students at UNC, I am concerned that in this case it has gone overboard. I wholeheartedly agree that

hate crimes and hate speech are atrocious actions that should not be tolerated in our country. However, students should be more careful when pairing peo-ple's names with "hate crime."

The Greensboro police already declared that no evidence of a hate crime exists. For this reason, it is irresponsible of UNC students to continue smearing the names and reputations of these Guilford College football players.

It is my hope that students will remain at the forefront of socially ogressive movements. However, let's not jump the gun on issues or believe everything we see on TV. We are intelligent people, and we are better than that.

> **Rosanne Niforos** Sophomore Journalism

Letter was wrong to say religions are not violent

TO THE EDITOR:

TO THE EDITOR: In response to the Feb. 2 let-ter to the editor, "Violence is not the result of religion in particular," I agree that religion does not directly preach violence. However, the dominant ideology of all three major monotheistic religions, no matter what St. Paul wrote, is that their religion is the only true religion, and that any spread of that belief, violent or not, can be religiously justified.

The European explorers who conquered the America's felt no guilt in slaughtering thousands of natives simply because they believed they were doing some divine favor to God and the Pope. Now we might say that these were just power-hungry, evil men, but that is beside the point. The fact that they could easily justify their cruel actions with religion is not only scary but also commonly believed.

The people who committed the suicide bombings in London came from normal Muslim fami-lies, and had families and steady jobs. Yet they were willing to leave their families and kill innocent pedestrians all in the name

of their religion. We may call these people extremists, but the belief that violence can be religiously justified is not.

Also, the common argument that atheists like Stalin and Mao Zedong "killed more people than any religious group" is not only inaccurate, but holds no weight. These dictators did not kill in ne name of atheis not feel justified in their actions because they were atheist.

the Dean-Gut-Roy belief system. and incorporated it everywhere: doing things the right way; playing hard, smart and together; valuing your family above all.

We all burst from Chapel Hill in a plume of gorgeous blue smoke wafting to all corners of the globe where other like-minded souls await. The "sky-blue mafia" has beds for you in Manhattan, an internship in Hollywood, and we'll save your spot in line at the K&W in Rocky Mount. There is no old boy's network, no secret handshake. We just share our affection for a town on a hill, and this: When we see Dookies clogging our TV, our lips curl and we see the. Is Dook still worth hating? Take

a look at Sean Dockery slugging Tyler in the mouth. Find your-self in the midst of the Kameron Krazies, a numbnut group of ravenously twee dorks who shel-lac their nipples with blue food coloring, scream cruel epithets at opposing teams, then jump up and down with the mindless lockstep of the Communist military.

There's just so much to despise! Every religion must have its Devil and ours are Blue. Whether you're in an 8 a.m. Econ class trying to stay awake, or in your nursery try-ing to get your daughter to sleep, we're in it together. Break his ankles, Ty! Punch it home, Rev! God bless them Tar Heel boys!

most terrifying, and the one that will be easiest to do something about.

Whether they blame themselves, fear the judgment of continue to be expanded. The push has begun with the Greeks. We hope the University will implement a program of its own.

E.T. phone Homeland Security

Boston overreaction indicates disturbing culture of fear

resident Franklin D. Roosevelt once declared, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." He was speaking about overcoming the Great Depression, but his words are eerily applicable to the current war on terror.

Public safety officials in Boston shut down subways, bridges and roads last Wednesday because "suspicious devices" were found throughout the city. The devices turned out to be electronic signs depicting a cartoon alien, as a promotion-al stunt for Cartoon Network's "Aqua Teen Hunger Force."

It's unfortunate that our leaders can't seem to tell the difference between a credible threat and a Lite-Brite.

The incident made national

news and demonstrated how easy it is for people to overreact to the possibility of terrorism in a post-Sept. 11 society. After the fact, officials in Boston were defensive about their decision, saying that to act in any other way would have been negligent.

They declined to mention that the signs already had been on display in Boston for several weeks, as well as in nine other cities across the country. So why did the bosses of Bean-Town go into panic mode?

The public safety officials forgot FDR's message, letting their fear take over and brought the entire city to a grinding halt over an advertisement.

The U.S. fundamentally changed after Sept. 11 into a nation that has a difficult

time distinguishing perceived threats from real ones. A culture of fear, reminiscent of our fear of Soviet attacks during the Cold War, has taken hold.

But that's not to say real threats don't exist.

UNC experienced a real threat last March, when Mohammad Taheri-Azar intentionally drove a rental car into the Pit, striking nine students. But that incident has not prompted students to jump every time an engine revs. As long as the U.S. is a world superpower, there will be people

who hate us and will be willing to undertake extreme actions in order to harm us.

We must remain aware of the risks, but not jump at everything that seems amiss. Especially when it looks like a child's toy.

fair, and democratic process

A-frames can be replaced. What cannot be replaced is the integrity of the election process This act will not destroy the spirit of our campaign and we are committed now more than ever to focusing on one thing: the issues that this great University faces now and in the future.

> Caroline Spencer Candidate Student Body President

SPEAK OUT

WRITING GUIDELINES:

- Please type: Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
 Sign and date: No more than two people should sign letters.
 Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number. Edit: The DTH edits for space,
- clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

SUBMISSION:

- Drop-off: at our office at Suite 2409 in the Student Union.
 E-mail: to editdesk@unc.edu
- Send: to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515.

Carson Smith Junior Management and Society

The Daily Tar Heel

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