

Don't you guys have anything better to do?

The Baptist State Convention is wasting energy on Shorty's.

How appropriate that in the midst of the Year of Religion, the year set aside to examine our faiths, the North Carolina Baptist State Convention passes down their recent resolution condemning the sale of beer on campus. And, how fitting that they chose to exact their penalties on the Poteat scholars, the students who have a proven commitment to the

Joy Vermillion and Emily Brewer
GUEST COLUMNISTS

Baptist faith. Of course, when reviewed carefully, this university is a hedonistic society of individuals engaged in dangerous, and possibly thought-provoking, pagan activities and should rightly be shunned by the convention.

At the core of the school are the classes, those very bastions of free thought which will certainly open up students' minds to secular and immoral ideas.

Flipping through the newly-released Spring 1998 course catalog, we were utterly appalled at what we found offered by our dear *alma mater*.

The English department has the audacity to offer a course on the radical thoughts of writer James Joyce, whose liberal and explicit descriptions of sexuality should not be introduced to such young and impressionable minds.

And the psychology department! They are teaching young freshmen about Sigmund Freud and perhaps giving them strange complexes, familial and otherwise.

But perhaps the most shocking of all is the Social Dance class. Such blatant and clearly sinful relationships between the sexes should not be encouraged, let alone taught.

How dare we study the Bible, whose passages on adultery, prostitution, exploitation and inebriation will surely drive students in religion courses to run right out to the streets after dark for wild, bacchanalian feasts?

And to fulfill divisional requirements, students may take an introductory anthropology course on archeological and human evolution. Hmm. Reminds us of one William Louis Poteat, but we won't remind them that the very man for whom the scholarship is named was one who heralded free thought at this school and introduced the preposterous idea of evolution into our classrooms.

Then there are the student residences. Is it just us, or does it seem that they are increasingly going co-ed? In Huffman Residence Hall, word has it that guys and the girls live on the same hall (gasp).

Our service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, should surely be barred from campus for their clearly dangerous coed activities. The school has degenerated into a pool of sinners with serpentine philosophies, making Disney World seem like child's play.

But better than boycotting Shorty's, it really is best to withhold funds from the Poteat Scholars. After all, by supplying money to defray the cost of their tuition, the Baptists would in some way be supporting these evils.

Shorty's will be, after all, the greatest temptation that students will face during their years at Wake Forest.

If the university does not heed the warnings of the Baptist State Convention, however, it will simply have to find another way to fill the Poteat coffers. Perhaps they can sell enough beer at Shorty's this year to make up the \$28,000.

In fact, the only way we see to solve this dilemma is for every student (of age, of course) to flee to the bar after class each day and throw a couple back in the name of Poteat. It seems that the Baptists are inadvertently driving us to alcoholism with their resolution.

Or maybe, just maybe, they could find other outlets for their energies and stop punishing students for the "evils" they believe the school supports.



MIKE LUCKOVICH ATLANTA CONSTITUTION



'Wake!' 'Forest!' cheer just isn't cutting it anymore

Contrary to administrative opinion, Freakin' Deacons bring real spirit to games.

In their pretentious letter, "Students showed disrespect," in the Nov. 20 issue of the *Old Gold and Black*, Barbara Trautwein, the assistant director of the marching band, and Kenneth A. Zick, the vice president of Student Life and Instructional Resources, describe the embarrassment

Zach Everson

STUDENT COLUMNIST

that they felt due to a group of allegedly obnoxious fans at recent basketball games.

While I am sorry that Trautwein and Zick were embarrassed by the behavior of the self-proclaimed Freakin' Deacons, they perhaps should be more ashamed of their haughty letter.

In their declaration, the gruesome twosome demonstrated a complete lack of understanding about the atmosphere of a collegiate sporting event and also made several incorrect assertions.

Trautwein and Zick's recommendations would make sense if one were a spectator at the Shady Willows / Wispy Pines Nursing Home shuffleboard championship, but not at a basketball game featuring one of the top teams in the nation.

Duke fans, for example, get on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* for their shenanigans, while our fans (who behave much more civilly) get a scolding from Mommy Trautwein and Daddy Zick.

In their misguided manifesto, Trautwein and Zick complain that activities by a group of fans known as the Freakin' Deacons are not "in concert with the regularly organized activities led by the cheerleaders." They go on to say that they "totally ignore the prescribed efforts to bring together the cheering fans."

I was unaware that fans should not be creative, but instead that they must adhere to the guidelines set forth by the cheerleaders.

What's next? Is it going to be an honor code violation not to hold your fist in the air when a Deacon player shoots free throws?

Now that I have been enlightened as to "Barb and Ken's Book of Courtside Etiquette," however, I will restrict my support of the team to such uproari-

ously hysterical antics as: the spelling of "Deacons," singing along to Paul Simon's "You Can Call Me Al," dancing to really awful pieces of country music and chanting "Wake" while the other side of the coliseum responds "Forest" in a most ludicrous manner.

Actually, having been seated three rows behind the Freakin' Deacons at most of the games to date, I can testify that they most of the time they do join in with the cheerleaders' chants. So, not only were Trautwein and Zick's assertions asinine (at best), they were also wrong.

Perhaps Trautwein's disdain for the group lies not in their alleged crudeness, but in the fact that, as the assistant director of the marching band, she is concerned that the Freakin' Deacons are diverting attention away from the pep band.

The not-so-dynamic duo also express concern as to what visiting teams think of our school (and country, in the cases of international squads).

I'm sorry, but a stop at Lawrence Joel Veteran's Memorial Coliseum is not supposed to be the feel-good event of the year for visiting basketball teams.

Furthermore, I do not care what the Outback Team thinks about us when it

leaves. Quite frankly, after the game they should not have been thinking about the behavior of the fans. Instead, they should have focused on their own poor play after the shellacking they received.

It is a shame that Trautwein and Zick have such low self-esteem with regard to the university that they need a bunch of second-rate basketball hacks to like us in order to feel good.

In their sermon, Trautwein and Zick also described signs used during the Bulgarian game with what they call "offensive messages." As a news article in the same issue of the *OG&B* states ("Freakin' Deacons cause controversy at games"), the signs actually contained such risqué phrases as: "A hungry dog will eat dirty pudding." Though whether the sign is funny is debatable, it is certainly not offensive.

Not surprisingly, members of the school's upper echelon once again simply assumed the worst when it came to the students and took action accordingly. (If it looks like an administrator and sounds like an administrator, it's probably an ...)

The Deacons need more fans who are willing to make noise and get the rest of the crowd into the game. *Pro Deaconitate*, if you will.

MIKE LUCKOVICH ATLANTA CONSTITUTION



MORE LETTERS

Freakin' Deacons show disrespect

More students from New Jersey than from Virginia or South Carolina. Unconscionable tuition payments. Now, the Freakin' Deacons seek to contribute to the Duke-ification of our school through their boorish behavior at basketball games. Is this the image we wish Dear Old Wake Forest to project?

By all means, stand, cheer, and support the success of the Deacons, but do it with dignity. Durham is but a short drive away if you must quench your thirst for

unsportsmanlike conduct.

K. Carter Cook '94
Graduate student

Baptists are out of synch with students

My letter is to address the Nov. 13 article in the *Old Gold & Black* ("Baptists condemn beer at Shorty's").

This is 1997 at a national university that touts itself as a purveyor of liberal arts thought, right? I'm not mixing up my centuries, am I? The temperance movement began its crusade in the

1890s, right? Are any laws being broken here? No, not if the ID that you use to purchase alcohol at Shorty's is legit.

Shorty's is like any other bar in North Carolina; you have to be 21 years of age to be served alcoholic beverages. Plus, Shorty's is a refreshingly different environment in which students can enjoy a beer in an otherwise stale and mundane environment of fraternity parties. If it's the safety issue Mr. Ray Davis is so concerned with, take comfort in the fact that Shorty's is an environment where students' drinking can be monitored by the bartenders. Plus, it is unlikely that students will get into their cars to try and

find a place to drink when their parents' plastic allows them to do so at Shorty's for free. Thus, Davis' concern about wanting to avoid a similar accident (he cites the one last year on Polo Road that resulted in the deaths of three students) is refuted. In addition, it was the intoxicated man who wove into the wrong lane of traffic that caused this accident, and we know he was not drinking in Shorty's. So the comparison that Davis attempts to make is inappropriate.

Davis' position that we (Southern Baptists) don't want to encourage Christian students to go to the university if it sells beer is ridiculous. We do not live in a sheltered world where we are free from perceived or actual dangerous influences, as much as this university might make us forget that.

If Christian students are uncomfortable with the fact that Shorty's sells alcohol, than they don't have to go to the place. That's the great thing about free will. We have the capability to make decisions for ourselves. Allow Christian students to make that decision for themselves, rather than a group of Southern Baptists who are attempting to make it for them. Davis claims that alcohol is an evil that needs to be dealt with, and since he is free to stipulate that the money he gives to this university be contingent on whatever grounds he desires, I suppose he can advance any idea he wishes.

However, as a self-proclaimed supporter of the university, his words are inconsistent with his actions. If Davis and the Southern Baptists really supported the university as vigorously as they

claim, they would not make their funding contingent on whether the campus pub serves alcohol to students who are old enough to consume it at any other bar in this state.

Instead, it is clear that the Southern Baptists' position is one where they are fighting to preserve their involvement in the university and the social life of yesteryear. This is one area where they have chosen to voice their ideas again.

Yet, in doing so, they have made it clear to everyone why their influence in this school diminished in the first place: their ideas for what is appropriate for college students today is frighteningly out of synch with the ideas of a national liberal arts university.

Jeff Fahrenkrog
Senior