

# OPINION

This column represents the views of the Old Gold and Black Editorial Board.

## New ThinkPad policy beneficial for students

Originally, the Plan for the Class of 2000 stated that students would get to keep their ThinkPads but would do so without any of the software they previously had. In addition, students were not going to be able to upgrade their ThinkPads for new computers.

Now, however, thanks to the work of Student Government, which encouraged the university to change its original plan, students will be able to get a lot more than was once expected.

Students will have three options on what to do with their computers. They can simply take with them the computers they have now, software intact, with no additional expense.

Or they can exchange their current ThinkPad for a newer ThinkPad. Students will have to pay \$999 for a new 380XD model.

A new 390E model, which freshmen and juniors currently have, will cost \$1,250. Finally, students can keep the computer they currently own and also purchase a new 380XD or 390E model.

This option will cost them the prices listed above in addition to the trade-in price of the ThinkPad they currently own.

Although these added expenses may seem outrageous for seniors, especially considering that tuition has increased by roughly \$3,000 a year since the Plan for the Class of 2000 was implemented in 1996, the options SG has developed are beneficial when one considers what could have been.

For one, no matter what option students pick, the university will keep the majority of software on the ThinkPad, including the Microsoft Office Suite and Windows 95, software often used.

If seniors were able to take only their ThinkPad, without software, home after graduation, as was originally planned, they would have to pay a considerable amount to replace the software. Fortunately, now they will be able to keep software they will probably use on a daily basis free of cost.

Giving students the option to exchange their current ThinkPad, even though there is an expense, will also be beneficial. For all those with damaged computers, or even for those who want an upgarded model, now that choice is available.

Yes, they will have to pay for the upgrade, but the amount for the newer models is less expensive than that on the market.

## Athletics teams' success makes memorable fall

The fall sports season usually means football, football and more football on college campuses throughout the country.

At this university, this tradition usually holds true, as the Demon Deacons, successful or not, more than often overshadow the less popular sports such as soccer and field hockey.

This fall, however, has been quite different as these program have been gaining more attention, a fact even more impressive when one considers that the football team has a winning record midway through its season.

So why all the attention, you ask? Well, to get that answer all you have to do is look at the national polls in the respective sports.

Men's and women's soccer and field hockey are dominating the competition this fall.

The men's soccer team is currently undefeated with only two games remaining in its regular season schedule. In this week's National Soccer Coaches Association of America poll, the Deacs are ranked

fourth, tying its highest rating in its 19-year history.

The field hockey team, currently 14-2, is ranked fifth in this weekend's National Field Hockey Coaches Association poll.

And the women's soccer team, despite a loss to Maryland last week, is still 13th in the country according to this week's NSCAA poll.

With so much on-field success among these three programs, it's difficult to argue that there has ever been a more successful sports season, as a whole, at this university.

The hard work of all coaches and players should be commended.

With only a few weeks left in their seasons, hopefully all the teams will continue to do well come ACC and NCAA tournament time.

And if fans who have not had the chance to witness some of three of the best team's in the country in their respective sports, the next few weeks are perfect times to do so.

Kentner Stadium hosts the ACC Field Hockey Tournament Nov. 4-7. Spry Soccer Stadium hosts the men's ACC Soccer Tournament Nov. 11-14.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Trustees paid their own way to Flow House

A recent letter to the *Old Gold and Black* questioned the number of trustees present at the dedication of Flow House in Vienna and their travel expenses. There are 41 regular trustees, including the student trustee, and 17 life trustees. Life trustees are former members of the board who, because of their diligent service, have been elected to that honored status. Life trustees attend meetings but do not vote.

Trustees pay their own expenses to attend board meetings. Fourteen were present at the dedication of the Flow House, all at their own expense. The group included trustee Vic Flow and his wife, Roddy. Their gift made the house possible.

Leon H. Corbett Jr.  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

### Biblical quotes support both sides of any issue

Wow. So we have some so-called Christian Leviticus quoters among those who follow campus events. How cute – and I do mean that pejoratively.

Though I consider myself a Christian, I'm not learned in all aspects of the Bible or the Christian faith, but I seem to remember an essential part of the Bible in regard to Christianity that has been left out of the hateful and just plain dumb letters that have been sent over the past couple of weeks to the *Old Gold and Black*. That part of the Bible would be the New Testament, featuring that Jesus guy without whom we would not have the Christian faith. And you know what? I can quote Bible verses, too.

In Mark 12:31, Jesus, whom previous letter writers seemed to have forgotten about completely, said something about "love your neighbor as yourself." There is no fine print in the verse that says "love your neighbor as yourself, unless they're one of those dirty homosexuals, then be mean as hell."

In Luke 6:37, he says, "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned." Again, exceptions for sexual minorities are not included.

As I wrote before, I'm no scholar of Christianity, so Leviticus could supercede Jesus, but somehow I don't think so. After all, if we still followed all the rules of Leviticus, we'd spend half our lives making sure our food was clean. That would be asinine. Likewise, condemning homosexuals for their sexuality is also asinine.

Some might say, "Pollyanna, you're just a bleeding-heart liberal brainwashed by the vast gay conspiracy." Thanks to Jesus Christ, I learned about compassion and love, thank you very much. And, if I may quote Holmes, "it's time we Christians started living for Him and refuse to turn our heads and look the other way when controversial issues

such as this occur."

I'm pleased as punch that the Christians and non-Christians involved with the Student Association For Equality, the Gay-Straight Student Alliance and other organizations throughout this semester have not turned their heads and have faced the trustees and administration with intrepidity and compassion.

My theory surrounding this whole fiasco with the university is that too many people just forgot to look down at their cute, little bracelets and ask themselves "What would Jesus do?" That is the true abomination.

Pollyanna Rhee  
Junior

### Attendance at football games leaves some cold

There have been very disappointing small and quiet football crowds at recent games. It has been very embarrassing and has been noted in newspapers all over the state. This is your team and I strongly urge you to go to the games and make some noise for YOUR team!

Having a true home-field advantage requires atmosphere – that you the students set the tone. This atmosphere can really make a positive difference not just for the team but for the rest of the crowd. Yes, we have a small student body, and that makes it all that important that you be there.

Your team needs and deserves your support. They sacrifice greatly for the university by their rigorous practice, competing at the highest level in the Atlantic Coast Conference and handling the tough academic workload at the university. SUPPORT THEM!

Two big conference games are against Clemson on Oct. 30 and Georgia Tech on Nov. 20. Our team still has a good opportunity for a post season bowl game. BE THERE! BE LOUD!! SUPPORT YOUR PROGRAM AND THE UNIVERSITY!

Ashby M Cook Jr., '71  
Greensboro

### Literal interpretation of Bible excludes many

After reading Dan Holmes' Oct. 21 letter to the editor about the recent same-sex union controversy, I wonder who he would consider worthy enough to be part of the university family. Obviously, he wouldn't include gay and lesbians as part of that family.

Since he seems to see Christianity as the only religion worth recognizing, I guess the next people he would kick off are the Hindus, Muslims and Jews. Then I guess we would have to get rid of any religious denomination that didn't agree with his literal interpretation of the Bible. That would get rid of a large number of people from the Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran, United Church of Christ, United Methodist, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Presbyterian, Metropolitan Community Church and Unity Church of Christianity off our campus.

Then, if there was anyone remaining,

I suppose he would get rid of those who had committed adultery, which I am fairly sure would empty out a good proportion of students, faculty and administration. I only wonder that if Jesus Christ happened to be walking around our campus that day while Holmes was throwing his stones, if Holmes would throw one at him too.

Jeremy Bishop  
Senior

### Debate must focus on censorship, not morals

Is it just me, or has all of the controversy over the same sex union at Wait Chapel completely missed the point? The original issues were not about homosexuality, but about the university's blatant disregard for its own non-discrimination policy and the unconstitutional censorship of its National Public Radio affiliate station, WFDD. Before we pull out our Bible and prepare to blindly spout verse to compensate for our own insecurities, shouldn't we think first?

I guess not, because this issue has since been turned into a moral debate over homosexuality by those who have not taken their noses out of their scripture long enough to see the bigger picture.

Since it seems a bit more relevant to the topics of the narrow-minded editorials I have read over the past few weeks, why don't we argue about sexual preference and Christianity? I find it sad that many so-called "Christians" take such an active role in damning people to hell, when in fact they are far more bigoted and prejudiced than the people they are persecuting. I often wonder whether these "Christians" believe in God, or get more of a kick from pretending that they actually are God and handing out judgments left and right (that coincidentally never seem to pertain to them). Frankly, I am even embarrassed to call myself a Christian in the world today because of the kinds of ignorant, bigoted statements made by those in this "Christian" cult.

I don't get it. Are the concepts of free thought and equality not so well defined in the Bible? You are always using the words "understanding" and "merciful" to describe God – can you try putting those concepts to use? It seems to me that the only tool you people are not using to back up your ill-thought-out opinions is your mind.

Think, people. Just think.

Aaron Stoller  
Senior

### Our letters policy

We welcome letters. Send yours via e-mail to letters@ogb.wfu.edu, by campus mail to P.O. Box 7569, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27109, or deliver it to Benson 518. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. No anonymous letters will be printed.

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