bullsheet@denison.edu | denisonbullsheet.com | @DUBullsheet



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Edited last night by: @jaxiepad Delivered this morning by: @juck.may vol. LXIII/ no. 42/ October 31, 2019

IN DEFENSE OF THE BUZZARDS

This piece might come off as a joke, but it really isn't!

Yesterday (October 30th) the Denisonian ran an article on the buzzard "problem" at Denison. The piece centered around the property damage that buzzards inflict at Denison, and how Denison's attempts to get the buzzards to leave (effigies, fireworks, etc...) have been ineffective.

I am, to put my cards on the table, a buzzard fan. They add character to campus, serve as a reminder of our place in the natural order (future vulture food) and are some of the oddest creatures I've ever had the privilege of seeing. Also, fun fact: did you know that on hot days vultures pee on themselves to cool down? I had to learn that and now so do you.

This piece does, believe it or not, have an actual point. Namely, why are we trying to drive vultures away from campus? Presumably Denison admin would answer "the vultures cause close to 100,000 dollars in property damage per year! Of course the vultures have to go!"

This justification, I think, betrays a bizarrely anthropocentric bias. On this lens humans are the rightful inhabitants of our fair college on the hill, and vultures are barely tolerated invaders that, if they inconvenience the humans in any way, ought to be removed. Of course, when you write this explicitly it becomes clear how bizarre of a stance it is. Why do vultures have any less of a right to be here than we do? Surely the hill isn't a buzzard's paradise, I doubt they get a kick out of being woken up at 1 am by a boat-shoe-clad, white claw sipping jackass yelling about how hammered he is.

If the buzzards live here, just like us, we ought to have some substantive reason to remove them. The reason given by the Denison admin was property damage, so let's go with that. Presumably humans also cause property damage, but we don't remove them for doing so. Therefore, it's clear that, to the Denison admin, the sufficient conditions for being removed from Denison's grounds are:

- 1. Causing property damage
- 2. Being a buzzard.

The conjunction of (1) and (2) are grounds for removal, while merely (1) is not. Since (2) is a fact one has no control over (the buzzards did not choose to be buzzards!) these grounds for removal are unjust. They didn't choose to be buzzards rather than Denisonians!

So, in sum, the buzzards have a right to be here! They're not mere objects to be removed if they cause Denisonians any inconvenience, they're members of the hill's biosphere and shouldn't be subject to (in the words of Peter Singer) speciesist bias by Denison's administration. So stop trying to drive them away with fireworks and (frankly horrifying) effigies.

Also, if we stop setting off those fireworks I'll stop freaking out every single evening, so that's a plus!

- Paul Bass

Editor's Comment: Paul's article above brings up some interesting questions about how we interact with nature on our simi-rural campus. As Denison and Granville become more suburban how are we going to deal with the nature that sounds us? As we build new buildings are we going to replace those trees? Things to think about as Denison expands.

- Zach Correia, Head Writer

IN THE NEWS...

The Washington Nationals won the World Series beating the Huston Astros in Game 7. Proving that nothing, not even those beyond earth, can beat the power nationalism Southern California is suffering from a new batch of forest fires, giving new meaning to saying "California is lit af" The UK Parliament voted to hold new elections on December 12. They have held elections four times in the last five years, which is the same amount of times they have eaten any food with flavor.

BECOME ONE OF US

Do you want to be apart of Granville's largest daily publication? Do you want to be a foreign corespondent and report from such exotic lands such as Costa Rica, Ireland and Kenyon? Want to be part of something that is oh so fun to explain on resumes but make perfect life stories? JOIN THE BULLSHEET!

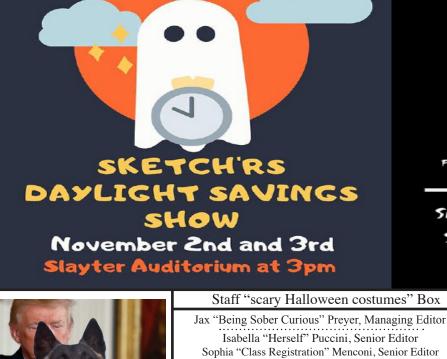
The Bullsheet is on the hunt for people looking to join our Mötley Crüe as writers and editors. So if you like writing and editing (but not in the way ya think!) please email bullsheet@denison.edu and let us know you would like an application. Then, you'll fill it out, give it back to us, we'll look it over, laugh uproariously, and the rest will be history. May the odds be ever in your favor.

GAME OF LIFE

Are you prepared for life after college? Come join us for The Game of Life event on Wednesday, November 13th 4-6pm on Slayter 3rd floor! It takes 30-40 minutes to complete. Start right after graduation with a job title of your choosing from the Career Center and work your way around the room to complete a month's budget. Budget is based on your choices like where you want to live, if you have school loans, housing, food, transportation and more. Thinking about being a pet owner? The Humane Society will be on site with pets to play with and importantly what it costs to own a pet. Food and Denison merch for every participant. Prizes awarded throughout the event.

> Thanks very much, Samantha Smith Financial Wellness Coordinator





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PICTURE SHOW

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2ND SLAYTER AUDITORIUM AT MIDNIGHT

