



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

The Bullsheet, a forum for news, humor, and community dialogue, is funded by DCGA and is printed each day that classes are in session. Submissions must be sent before our editors shamble into the office for next day submission via e-mail to:bullsheet@denison.edu. Submissions herein solely reflect the opinions of the authors.

Edited last night by: Jackson  
Delivered this morning by: Elizabeth  
vol. LXVII/ no. 26/September 28, 2020

## YOUTH-IN-ASIA

I've never really liked insects. Well, that's not entirely true because as a child I did like when I found a ladybug in the yard and as an adult, I've watched the insects that are badasses. Insects like the murder hornet are badass because they actually live up to their name, in the sense that they could murder humans and also murder hives of bees at a time. Praying Mantises are really badass too because the females sometimes kill the males after they mate just because they might be hungry or because the male might irritate the female. I think that's so badass even though it only happens like 13-28% of the time, but still that's so epic. So, I guess not all insects are bastards, but there are a select few who are and I definitely do not have biases against these insects, I believe this is objective.

These "Shithead" insects consist of: Bees, Wasps, Yellowjackets, and Hornets. "But Blythe," you might ask, "you said murder hornets were badass in the first paragraph of this essay, so why are they shithead insects?" Well that's simple, murder hornets are different because regular hornets a) cannot kill people with one sting b) do not wipe out entire hives of honeybees. Hornets are shitheads because their stings really hurt (or so I've heard) but also, they really fuck up the ground when they build their nests and I don't like watching landscape being destroyed. I've never been stung by a hornet, but I have been stung by the other 3, and as far as I know I'm allergic to all insect stings.

I was stung by a bee while playing outside around the age of 9-10. I was playing hide n seek and I went behind a bush or something and that shithead insect stung me on the knee. It left a swelling on my knee that resembled South America remarkably well, so the only logical thing to assume that the bee had flown all the way from South America with the sole purpose of stinging me, and therefore ending its own life. Next, I was stung by a yellowjacket a few years later when I was probably 12-13. This time, I was on my neighbor's balcony and the shithead insect just flew into my ear and stung me on the inside of my ear. I thought this was awfully rude, as I hadn't bothered the yellow jacket at all. Unlike the bee, the yellowjacket also gets unlimited stings during its life, so I knew it was not on a suicide mission like the South American bee. I was very upset with this yellowjacket, and this interaction has given me a very negative opinion of their species. The last insect I was stung by was a Wasp, and it happened over this summer. I

*Continued on back...*

# GO OFF BLYTHE

was at my job at a tennis court and I had to fix a broken sprinkler, which was a huge pain in the ass already because I had to dig up the clay court and clear it out of the way of the PVC so I didn't get clay in the pipes. After I finished digging the clay out of the way, I went inside to get the sprinkler head and another very rude insect decided to sting me on the same ear the yellowjacket had stung me. I'm like 80% sure this insect was a wasp because I saw wasps swarming a flower plant, and I just have to say that wasps are jerks. My ear was swollen to about twice its size and I looked like a lopsided dumbo for about a week.

I very much despise these insects that threaten my life every day with their very small stingers. The yellowjackets in particular have been terrorizing me while I've tried to enjoy my meals in appropriately social distanced settings outside and while I have been playing in bluegrass ensemble outside in those similar settings. I have to say, of all the insects in the world, I think that if the yellowjacket went extinct my life would be better. Now I'm sure some bug freak is going to tell me "Oh no, you can't kill off yellowjackets or you'll lose some type of flower," or some shit like that. To which I would reply that I am allergic to most of pollen produced by plants, so I really don't care.<sup>1</sup>

This evening, however, my hatred towards yellowjackets was put to the test as I went to the bathroom on the third floor of Crawford Hall. Behind the faucet of my usual sink, I saw one of my enemy insects, only this time I did not fear the yellowjacket. Instead, the yellowjacket was obviously writhing in pain of some sort and I started to feel empathy for the creature I have feared my entire life. I looked at it, moving its menacing stinger around as if it was trying to inflict some more pain onto the world while it was still alive. I considered granting the yellowjacket its wish of stinging one last thing, but then I remembered that I am not a masochist. I watched the yellowjacket, squirming as if it had been shot in the thorax by a rival hive in a fly by shooting, and I believed that the most humane thing to do would be to euthanize this insect. At this point, I questioned my lifelong hatred of yellowjackets. If I truly hated the insect, I would just let it die a slow, painful death and let it suffer for the times of torture the others of its species had done to me. But, unlike yellowjackets, I decided to take the high road and just crush its head and throw its dead body in the trash can. I hope that the yellowjackets who may have witnessed my act of euthanasia as an inspiration for their future as a species, where human-kind and insects can get along without dealing with the mild inconvenience of an insect sting... Oh who am I fucking kidding they'll never stop bothering me.

<sup>1</sup> Actually, I do care about the environment. The pain from seasonal allergies is a mild annoyance I could live with if we could actually save a lot of the ecosystem that is currently dying. This is just a satire essay.

- Blythe Dahlem, Sophomore Writer

**blond**



## Staff "Fraggle Rock Characters" Box

Charlie "Boober" Schweiger, Managing Editor  
James "King Gorgus the Great" Whitney, Junior Editor  
Jack "Gobo" May, Junior Editor  
Betsy "Rocket Sprocket" Wagner, Sophomore Editor  
Katie "Doozer" Kerrigan, Head Writer  
Elizabeth "Uncle Traveling Matt" Arterberry, Senior Writer  
Jo\$h "Side Bottom" P03, Senior Writer  
Maggie "Mokey" Bell, Junior Writer  
Blythe "Cantus" Dahlem, Sophomore Writer  
Ellie "Merple Merggle" Schrader, Sophomore Writer  
William "Junior Gorg" Kelsey, Sophomore Writer  
Emma "Wembley" Rutherford, Sophomore Writer



Still better  
than The  
Denisonian!