

Chris Frampton

Just like the Davidson of yore

Welcome to the Davidson College of yore. Beer on the decks. Beer on my floor. Beer in people's hair. This is what I remember, though only vaguely—it was a long time ago.

Man oh man, do I miss it. I wonder where it all went to. Actually, I know it went to my head, which has a lot to do with why I am still here. Unfortunately, I have a lot of experience with the parties of yore (I just love saying "yore"). And, based on that, I have to say you people's parties suck. Equally, unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be any blurry sun on the horizon. The moon has risen, and there is no music playing underneath it.

And whose fault is that? Well, I can't rightly say, but it isn't much fun getting angry with some stupid law makers and a general public obsessed with the idea of gaining riches through law suits. The people I can blame, however, are those who are yet to recognize the benefits of the "bring your own beer" party.

Why not make every non-host house member bring their own damn beer. Then we privileged few (I use the term privileged loosely) members of fraternities and the odd eating houses with

enough money left over from dinner to buy anything but a good desert—we few won't have to pay for everyone else's night out.

ents. After all, college is designed to prepare you for the future. God knows we spend enough time here studying things that have absolutely nothing to do with our future and deserve some sort of training. Buying beer, as Casey Hawthorne knows, can be an art, and an important one.

Besides, all the extra cash means that we would have enough money left over to pay those greedy little police officers unwilling to work past two unless they are paid enough to buy themselves three new cars every year.

And fraternities might actually buy some food you can eat instead of those oversized cheese puffs.

A light chicken in dijonnaise sauce goes well with any buzz. And I can hardly imagine anything better than a quick slurp of yellow jello between dances. But I digress.

Bring your own beer, damnit. I can assure you that the paltry ten dollars paid by independents this year makes no dent in the monstrous amounts of money spent buying you beer. And I know the SAEs hate buying the KAs anything. Besides, insurance costs are high now. Buy it, enjoy it. Just like the days of yore.

Why not make every non-host house member bring their own damn beer?

You can handle it. Trust me, in the real world there is no free beer. Unless, of course, you live at home and steal it from your par-

Cintra Pollack

When we outgrow traditions

A discussion of the church-school relationship at Davidson

Some traditions should be coveted. Traditions outline the blueprints of who we are and what is expected of us. Traditions mold our identities. But Davidson trustees, members of the administration, Dr. Kuykendall, hear my plea. Stop the inane tradition that all Davidson trustees have to be of a Christian faith.

I almost did not come here. One reason I feared this community was the rule that only Christians could be trustees. I am not Christian, and will never believe in what my religion views as the pleasant poetry of the New Testament. However, even though I do not follow all the Christian precepts, I am not empty or without the moral strength that religion often provides.

It disheartens me to think that I arrived on this campus with a disadvantage; I can never be a member of this community to the full extent.

Davidson was founded by Presbyterians, I know. Christian ethics imbue the social and moral

codes of this school with strength. I do not deny that. But the catalogue touts a diverse (growing more diverse) student body, which means more students are arriving from backgrounds other than Christian and from homes far from the Bible Belt. By excluding these students from ever becoming woven into the Davidson tradition beyond their graduation, you are robbing this community of the richness the admissions office toiled so long to establish.

What is it you fear by changing this statute? By keeping it, you stand only to lose. Davidson, you hail yourself to provide a strong liberal arts education. Without a board of trustees reflective of the many facets of this community, you sacrifice the school's new character; you inhibit your students from receiving a true, broad, liberal arts education.

Abandon this outdated tradition. Allow a board of trustees that celebrates the uniqueness and character each of us may provide, whether we be Christian or not.



Jerry S. Stockdale

Go ahead, make my day...

I have heard there will be letters to the editor in this issue asking where are the college directories, possibly in response to last week's call from "El Jefe" to "shoot the people in charge of the college directory." The answer: they are here and probably already distributed by the time this issue of *The Davidsonian* comes out. And they are right on schedule. Our job jacket files from the past four years show the following delivery dates: October 14, 1992; October 19, 1993; October 14, 1994; and October 19, 1995.

Why is this late date the expected delivery schedule? First, we cannot publish until we get all the information we need, including off-campus addresses and phone numbers for students and updated photos and information from faculty and staff. And we cannot get all the information we need and double-check it for accuracy until mid-to late-September every year. We do final layout and formatting and get the job to the printer every year around the first of October.

Second, the printer needs about two weeks (which is both standard and reasonable for a job of this scope), then the job is delivered and distributed around campus. I could save a few days by switching from plastic comb binding, which is more labor intensive and must be done one at a time, to saddle stitching, which is both cheaper and faster. But is that a

trade-off people would like? I'm not sure, but I may try that next year in an effort to pick up a little more time.

The directory is one out of more than 500 printing jobs we handle every year, and it comes toward the end of our busiest publishing season. Every year we look

information people want is available well before the official directory is published.

This year's directory is the most complete we have ever had: photos for all but two people out of 688 current faculty and staff listed, and for the first time ever, voice mail listings for students and e-mail addresses for faculty and staff. In addition, all photos are now scanned electronically (and photoshopped where needed), and as a result vastly improved over previous years. Just pick up a directory from two or three years ago to see the difference.

The next major evolution of the directory will come once the entire campus is networked with fiber optic cable. Then the directory can become a "living" electronic document available to everyone online 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. At that time, we may be able to eliminate a printed version entirely.

Until that day, however, we will make every effort to improve the printed publication and to speed up the process to get it delivered. But based on 10 years of experience publishing it, my best bet is that you will see next year's directory toward mid-October 1996.

And if this is not good enough, well then, go ahead and shoot me. Make my day.

Some times I think I would welcome the firing squad.

We will make every effort to improve the printed publication and to speed up the process to get it delivered. But based on 10 years of experience publishing it, my best bet is that you will see next year's directory toward mid-October 1996.

