

MoYO

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ON THE COVER

a picture of depravity: the wingless angels,
denison's secret society, have been
raising hell for almost a century

*the ideas expressed in this publication are
not necessarily those of Denison University*

EDITOR'S LETTER

Thanks to an ambitious and forward-thinking sophomore named John Boyden, just over a year ago 1,000 copies of *MoYO* (*Mind of Your Own*) hit Denison with an impact akin to a nuclear bomb. There are twice that many students here—not to mention faculty and staff—so the magazines disappeared faster than beer at a frat party. The entire issue fixated on one big subject: the Greek system. Though not all students belonged, every one of them had a very strong opinion.

Throughout the issue, those opinions—both positive and negative—were presented in candid personal essays. Because John's view of the Greek system was negative, and because he stated it in an extremely articulate and witty introduction on the first page, some Greeks were displeased, to say the least.

A few were so displeased that they left life-threatening messages in John's mailbox and on his answering machine. Although many other students were simply thrilled with the issue and expressed equally passionate, though considerably less intimidating responses, John still feared for his personal safety—or, more accurately, the safety of his beloved Volvo. Nonetheless, he was already brainstorming ideas for the next *MoYO*.

Sex. Another topic everyone feels strongly about. John planned, put together and put out the second issue only four months later. It was much improved: more style and much more substance. Students wrote about interracial sex, homosexuality, sexual fantasies, sexually transmitted diseases, sexism and rape. Massive controversy again erupted on campus, though this time, fortunately, it took the form of heated intellectual debates instead of death threats.

Currently John is studying at the University of London. Before leaving the country last summer, he asked me to take over the editorial helm of *MoYO*. I had just returned from a year in England myself: When not reading or raving, I worked as an editor for *ISIS*, the century-old student magazine of Oxford University. Unlike students who wrote for *MoYO*, the undergraduate staff of *ISIS* covered journalistic territory far removed from campus. My contributions, for instance, were interviews with actor/activist River Phoenix and pop gurus The Pet Shop Boys.

Thus I agreed with John, who liked the idea of making *MoYO* less Denison-centric. (Especially since it's so easy to forget about The Real World when tucked snugly inside of our idyllic ivory tower.) At the risk of sounding like Captain of the P.C. Police Squad, I must express my pleasure not only with the tough subjects my writers tackled but also with my writers themselves: Denison students past and present, female and male, black and white, gay and straight—whoops, I almost forgot, Greek and independent, too. This issue of the magazine exemplifies genuine progress at a school which for so long remained about as diverse as a loaf of Wonder bread. There's truly something for everyone on the following pages. While many of us often seek temporary thrills in mind-altering experiences (drugs like alcohol and TV) during our college years, I hope *MoYO* provides you with a mind-opening one.

James Herman
Editor-in-Chief