Creed Essay Contest

Please choose ONE of the two scenarios as the foundation for your essay. Essay must be typed, 12pt font. Double spaced. 300-500 words total. Essays are due October 30th by 5pm to the Office of Student Conduct via saosc@mailbox.sc.edu. Winning essays will blend the guidelines into thoughtful responses. College level work including content, proper grammar, correct spelling, sentence structure and cohesive organization of thought will be taken into account when reviewing all entries.

1. Consider this scenario: You and your friend Avery are attending the first home football game of the season. Before the game you meet up with other friends at an older hallmate’s tailgate where you both drink alcohol. Avery and some of your other friends also stash some mini bottles under their clothes for the game. You make it to Williams Brice and take your seats. While waiting for kickoff, another group of students, Mike, Faith, and Jordan take seats in front of you. Once the game starts, Avery and your other friends mix the alcohol into their sodas. As they drink they become very loud and belligerent-yelling obscenities whenever the opposing team scores. Later during Sandstorm, Avery accidentally spills a drink on Jordan. Jordan turns around and says, “Hey, watch what you’re doing or I’m going to call security over here.” Avery then calls Jordan a string of racial slurs including calling him an ‘ape’. Jordan then steps up onto Avery’s bleacher and gets near his face and says, “You better watch your mouth, cracker.”

Use the following questions as a guide for writing your response.

1. Were the actions in this scenario consistent with the values in the Carolinian Creed? Why or Why not?
2. As a bystander, what would you have done in this situation?
3. Why it important to think about how your actions affect others?
4. What role did alcohol play in this scenario?
5. Why does the University have the Carolinian Creed?

2. Consider this scenario: You are standing in line at the Colloquium and you run into an old friend from high school, Taylor. You decide to eat lunch together and catch up. You ask how classes are going and Taylor responds, “It’s going all right. My calculus class is really hard but I’m getting by. I really like my anthropology professor—he always lets class out early.” Then you ask if Taylor is living on campus. Taylor responds, “Yeah I live in Bates West. My roommates are okay I guess. I actually got my one roommate to let me copy last week’s chemistry lab homework. He’s from Japan or something and he doesn’t understand English really, so I was like ‘can you help me with this? Let me look at yours real quick.’ At first he wouldn’t give it to me, but I was like ‘It’s okay, you’re my roommate. We’re friends.’ Then he let me see it. I just needed the math part—I’m so bad at math and you know all Asians are good at math. I got an ‘A’ so I like having him around.”

Use the following questions as a guide for writing your response.

1. Were the actions in this scenario consistent with the values in the Carolinian Creed? Why or Why not?
2. As a bystander, what would you have done in this situation?
3. Why it important to think about how your actions affect others?
4. Why does the University have the Carolinian Creed?