

## This just in -- Jon Stewart's UD return a studied success

Comedian gives students plenty of political fun

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Jon Stewart, of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show," visits the Bob Carpenter Center at University of Delaware on Saturday.

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NEWARK -- Comedian [Jon Stewart](#), on "The Daily Show" and at his appearance Saturday at the University of Delaware, does his homework.

When Stewart took the stage to a standing ovation from a crowd of about 3,500 -- mostly UD students -- he announced it was mandatory diversity training -- a reference to the recent controversy at the school over a program that took fire from a free speech group.

"You are not oppressors," he told the crowd, "You are not even Division I."

Stewart then congratulated the school for its victory over the Panthers from Northern Iowa in the [NCAA](#) Division I-AA playoffs, but followed up with a long questioning of the wisdom of having a blue hen as the school's mascot. He wondered how sad the Panthers must be "to lose to a chicken."

It was a strong performance from Stewart that didn't disappoint his many fans in the audience. In addition to the riffs about [Delaware](#) and UD's mascot, Stewart provided plenty of topical political humor for those impatiently awaiting the return of writers' strike-darkened "Daily Show," as well as a solid stand-up set of just plain funny.

"I don't think [George Bush](#) is stupid," Stewart allowed, "Stupid is -- 'Oh, I just ate soap ... but I think he thinks we are retarded."

Then again, Stewart held out little hope that a UD alum -- Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del. -- would be following Bush into [the White House](#).

"Don't worry -- that ain't gonna happen," he said, adding that Delaware's three electoral votes won't be causing a rush to the Biden bandwagon. And while he praised Biden's [foreign policy](#) acumen, Stewart also said Biden seems like the kind of guy who might snap if you spilled gravy at the dinner party.

Stewart dismissed the field of [Republican candidates](#), all older white males led by Mitt "RomneyTron 3000," saying their televised debates reminded him of "a weird sales conference."

But Saturday wasn't just a live version of "The Daily Show." He had lengthy bits about fatherhood, frustration with computers, religion and drug use. He admitted he had smoked quite a bit of marijuana. "I quit because I got a ... job."

He said employers don't care for it when you show up three hours late because you thought for sure Gilligan was going to get off the island this time.

As for religion, Stewart said if God loves America so much, "Why did he put all our fuel under people who hate us?"

Saturday was a triumphant return of sorts for Stewart who played The Bob in 2000 to a crowd that was about half to one-third the size.

At that show seven years ago, Stewart was a little-known comedian who had just taken over "The Daily Show" from the fake news program's founding anchor Craig Kilborn.

After one joke bombed, a heckler shouted out that Kilborn was funnier, prompting chuckles from the crowd. There was no danger of that Saturday.

At the close of his Saturday show, Stewart fielded a few questions from the audience including one about when The Daily Show would return to the air.

"I don't know when the strike will end," he said, but he added that they are keeping in touch with all the writers. "We'll get through it." Stewart said he hopes it ends soon because, "I'm bored out of my [expletive] mind!"