

The Pendulum

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One of these days

We will probably be all dead and in our graves when the present student apathy on today's college campuses turns to student activism. More aptly put, will this year's student government elections be a repetition of last year's half-hearted effort? When will the students make an effort to back the student government to the point that they can cease being a second rate power on this campus and achieve those things that students want?

One solution to the apathy problem could be a total takeover by what is now the biggest power on campus, namely the Greeks. It is a very viable one, for the Greeks are the largest single organized body of students on campus which operates to a great extent for the betterment of student life on campus. This solution should not be taken lightly for one only has to look at the recent controversy between the town and college to see how much attention is afforded the Greeks.

This editorial is not intended to be pro-Greek, but seemingly an appeal to the students as a whole to lend a part of their valuable time to the effort. Then maybe students will have what they've always wanted. . .visitation.

More than just nightclubs

Now that the zoning controversy between the town of Elon College and the college has come to an out-of-court settlement, it is time for both these bodies to move together for the betterment of the community. It is obvious that the main asset of the town are its people, life-time residents and part-time alike. The town should now move to capitalize upon this asset by fully developing the college community.

Granted there are many lifetime residents of Elon who enjoy the village characteristics of the town and who are opposed to expansion. It is highly evident, however, that the town is moving away from the village atmosphere with the addition of such establishments as Hardee's, Pizza Hut, The Pantry, The Pub, Bill's Blue Room, The Lighthouse Tavern, Brown and Co., and Disc-n-Dat. What this represents is a recent effort to capitalize on, mainly the students of Elon, to offer them places to patronize rather than their traveling to Burlington and Greensboro. Furthermore, we have seen the effort to upgrade the cultural and aesthetic value of the downtown area through the addition of the Priestley Fine Art Gallery and the use of a federal grant in the renovations on Williamson Avenue.

What is needed now is for the town and the college to work together to bring more commerce into downtown Elon. The main opposition to this is the obvious shortage of land surrounding the downtown area which is primarily owned by the college. An effort must be made, therefore, by both town and the college in the handling of this land.

It is obvious that the students represent dollars which in turn represents revenue for the town. Also, if there are more places for entertainment and consumer establishments then there will be both a better student life and town residence life.

When will the town recognize their student asset is a question which remains unanswered?

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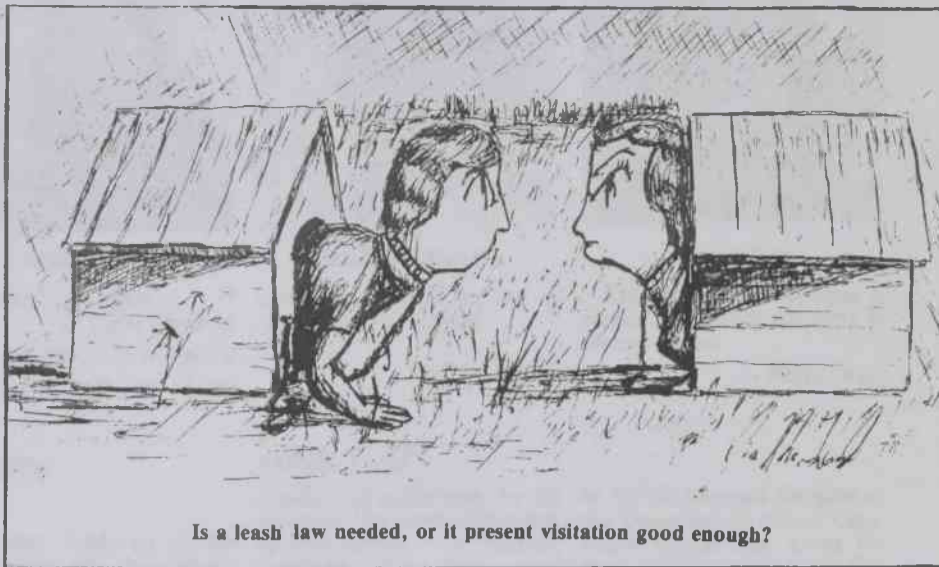
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Is a leash law needed, or is present visitation good enough?

Letters to the editor

Vandalism

To the Pendulum:

Until recently, one of Elon's distinguishing features has been its attractive campus, with its well-kept grounds and buildings. An increasing amount of student vandalism, however, such as the case of the broken doors and windows in Alamance Building, has defaced and scarred the campus. Nor is vandalism of buildings the only problem — theft and destruction of library books and student property are also on the rise.

A community cannot help but be judged by its moral climate and its respect for the rule of law. Unless Elon students decide that they will not tolerate such actions, the increase in theft and vandalism will reflect poorly on every single student on this campus. These are not actions to be smiled at or silently condoned. Now is there much hope of redress after the acts have been committed. The only real answer is prevention of theft and vandalism through increased vigilance and a willingness on students' part to intervene, for instance, to prevent such acts before they are done. Counseling is not the answer either.

Tender hearts and sympathetic listeners are complicit in the tacit encouragement of destructive or dishonest acts because such responses encourage the attitude that the perpetrator is suffering from some "adjustment problem" and is not really responsible for his behavior. Thus the circle of evasion and denial continues. Vandalism and theft demand a sterner response than that. After all, most creatures, even rats, do not foul their nests.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Faculty Member

Overloaded

To The Editor:

This letter is in reply to SGA president, Tim Moore's column in the Pendulum edition of March 2.

You are one of the several hundred students who has informed us of our "problems." However, we must take this opportunity to explain what the problem is.

Our problem is that the circuits for the telephone system have been overloaded. To remedy this situation, Southern Bell workmen have been in our equipment room for the past week installing new circuits. As well as relieving our problem this new equipment will allow for several new outside lines by adding to the 17 that we already have.

We do not mind answering over a thousand (1,000) calls a day and we do not mind looking up the same students' extension numbers a million (1,000,000) times, but we do not like NOT being appreciated for the work we do.

Sincerely yours,
Your Switchboard Operators
Mrs. Mary D. Thomas
Mrs. Jane M. Ferrell
Mrs. Nancy C. Moore
Ms. Arene Manuel
David Vaughan
Andy Scott

On the Greeks

Dear Editor:

Greek week is an annual event which brings together Greeks from the entire campus. This special occasion encompasses much more than

a playful time with beer blasts. The effects of Greek Week are felt by the entire college community. Administrators, professors, students and Greeks can be a viable part of a week which includes athletics, academics and team competition. All of these attributes contribute something much more to Greek Week than a social event; mainly a time to bring togetherness to each sorority or fraternity, to encourage a competitive attitude among the participants, and to include the principles under which each student enters an institution for higher learning.

The process of learning begins with the interaction between students, professors and also the administrators of any institution. The interaction should also include activities such as Greek Week. The encouragement and support of each student, professor and administrator is needed if Greek Week is to keep providing an atmosphere of homogeneous college life. Greek Week is becoming an event which utilizes the talents of every individual. The profes-

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From the desk of the prez

by Tim Moore

As spring approaches, everyone's mind turns toward different things. Many of us are thinking about warmer days, spring sports, beer blasts, spring break in Florida, and a variety of things. One event that always seems to get overlooked in the general celebration of spring is the election for student government officers and senators.

Last year, elections for campus leaders were a total disaster. Less than one quarter of the student body voted and many of the candidates ran unopposed. This is not only a sad situation for a college to be caught up in but it could be downright dangerous. The decisions of both policy and economics of student government should not lie in the hands of people who run unopposed and are only supported by a quarter of the student body.



Tim Moore

Surely there were all kinds of reasons for what many of the candidates experienced last year, but I don't feel that any of them are excusable.

This year, Charlie Hopkins, president of the senior class and chairman of the board of elections, has gone above and probably beyond the call of duty to arrange for the student government elections to be held on a week when no other

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