

The

## Pendulum

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## Behind the times

North Carolina is being pulled, kicking and screaming, into the 20th century. The noise is heard across this country and around the world, and it isn't doing North Carolina any good. Witness the third defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment, the long and costly stance of the UNC Board of Governors against HEW regarding facilities, duplications and rights in the 16-campus system, the scrapping of a proposed labor center by the UNC planning committee, the aggressiveness of some toward increased public aid to North Carolina students in the state's private colleges, the refusal of private fundamentalist school officials to comply with the state's request for information on qualifications of teachers and pupils. The list goes on. And the 21st century is not really far off.

Right here at Elon College, we have our share of conservatism, chauvinism, provincialism and a few other isms. Not that a certain conservatism isn't wise and that regionalism can't be charming. No one wants change for the sake of shuffling a few people and things about the campus.

But to come into the late 20th century in America with one or two Blacks on the faculty and staff combined, this college is not only behind the times but is suffering sociologically and educationally.

To come into the 80s with only two or three women in any position of real decision-making and power is incredible. What has happened to our affirmative action committee that met two or three years ago? We may soon get a nudge from the federal government whose money we have been using for a study to see how things can be improved at Elon.

As the annual decisions on promotions, salaries and such are made by the men at the top, many students would like to see action in bringing more qualified women and Blacks (men and women) into positions within the administration, faculty and student affairs staff. Let us move toward the 21st century!

## Take part in Founders' Day

On Founders' Day, March 7 this year, all students will have the opportunity to hear the governor of North Carolina speak in Alumni Memorial Gym and to see the faculty and administration march in clothed in splendid academic regalia.

Classes will be suspended on Wednesday morning from 10 to 12 for the sole purpose of affording students and faculty a chance to attend the ceremonies. All students should take advantage of this opportunity.



## Letters to the Editor

## Vandalism affects majority

Dear Editor,

The time has arrived for the majority of Elon students to come out of the woodwork (or cinderblock) and stand up for their rights.

There is a growing problem on Elon's campus which seems to be spreading like Poe's "mask of the Red Death"—the problem is vandalism and the issue is victimization.

Even if the SGA never suffers the frustrations and irritating experience directly, all Elon students suffer, indirectly, for the actions of a degenerated minority.

Last year because of the arson attempts the college spent \$17,000 to pay for fire patrols. Even in the days of skyrocketing inflation \$17,000

remains a sizeable amount to spend on fire prevention.

To those students who choose not to take an interest in a situation until it directly affects them I hope you now realize how totally self-centered and illogical that type of philosophy can become.

If I am wrong in assuming that this close-mouthed, blindly dogmatic attitude affects only a minority of Elon students, then may be our limited freedoms at Elon (i.e. visitation privileges) will remain effective until 2001. Hopefully, I am right in believing students do care about their school and will refuse to watch anyone attempt to destroy it. We in the SGA do not wish limited freedom or the prospect of increasing

freedom students now enjoy to be endangered by such a degenerate few.

To this end, the student senate has created a committee whose sole purpose is to review Elon's current security system and submit a written report to the Dean of Students with suggestions for improvement. If you wish to contribute to such a committee, please contact the SGA at Ext. 367.

Robin Moser,  
SGA President

## Why eat?

Dear Editor,

Why is the food at Elon so bad? Why am I, a dorm student, forced to buy a meal ticket? Students at Elon almost universally dislike the food. Who likes to eat rice which is impregnable to any digestive attempt by the human body? Why are hotdogs only one half as big as the buns? Why is the cafeteria always running out of cups or forks?

Why doesn't the school put the food contracts out for open bids? Private contractors could be hired by the year. They certainly could do no worse than Elon does.

After all, I don't see a lot of the faculty eating there—they don't have to.

Kevin Robinson

## Reward for lost scarf

Dear Editor,

I lost a scarf. It is mostly blue plaid wool. I lost it last Sat. (Feb. 17) during lunch at Harden cafeteria.

The scarf has much sentimental meaning to me.

If anyone has found it, turn it in at the Lost and Found in Frank Mianzo's office. A reward is being offered for its return.

Marty Hardison

## But what about now!

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter concerning a common complaint here at Elon—that of parking. On Feb. 14 I was issued a ticket by the Elon College Police for parking on the pavement on O'Kelly Drive. I arrived on campus a few minutes past eight, and the gym parking lot was full. Other students were parking on the shoulder of O'Kelly, so I parked there too, getting as far off the road as possible without getting in a snow drift.

When I came back from classes, I had a ticket for parking on the pavement. Police Chief Mitchum said he had checked the lot behind Huffine's Texaco, and it was clear of snow, so he gave everyone on O'Kelly Drive tickets (15 in all).

I had assumed that this lot was still covered with snow as it was the day before. Anywhere I parked at Elon I would have gotten a ticket; the road in front of President Young's house is for two

hour parking and I have three classes straight; parking between yellow lines at Elon gets you a ticket, and parking in a fire zone gets you towed. As it was, I parked as far off the road as I could without getting in a three-foot drift of snow, and I still got a ticket.

The parking situation in clear weather is bad, but with the recent snow it is even worse. Although commuters are supposedly excused from classes, we are urged to come if at all possible. Last Tuesday I came, and couldn't believe that the gym parking lot had not been cleared of snow. If the college is going to hold classes, they should clear the lots so that those commuters who want to can come without the fear of getting stuck or getting a ticket when forced to park elsewhere. I realize a parking lot is to be made next year at the Middle School (East campus) but where are we supposed to park until then?

Laurie Alcon