



## Elon experiences voter apathy

The students at Elon College have once again been stricken with a not-so-unusual disease — voter apathy. This was evident in last week's SGA elections which showed a turnout of only 765 full-time students.

This number may not seem so bad at first appearance, but then one remembers that 2,176 full-time students attend Elon College.

The *Pendulum* printed several articles earlier on the apparent apathy of various senators in the SGA. This problem is in the process of being corrected; however, this cannot be done without the help of the students. Last week's ballot contained the proposal for an

amendment to lower the number of senators from seven to five per precinct and only class presidents would have the right to vote in the senate.

However, according to Janice Nelson, chairman of the board of elections, this amendment could not have been passed even if every one of those 765 voting students had indicated "yes" on their ballots, because a two-thirds majority of the student body was needed, but was not reached.

The students at Elon need to become more involved in their own government. One way this can be done is to simply vote in the annual elections for student body offices. This campus government is very similar to the governmental situation awaiting students after graduation, and it is necessary for students to become thoroughly acquainted with the democratic method of government.

Voting for the person who can do the better job is an effective way to get things accomplished on this campus. And the way to determine who can do that kind of job is to

carefully watch the campus newspaper for news concerning these people who are running for office.

Information about each candidate should be carefully sorted and weighed before election day. In fact, if students had carefully read the *Pendulum* earlier, these election results could have been very different.

## Letter

### Think before voting

As students, we should make sure the right people are representing us in the SGA.

These representatives are paid from the \$12.50 each student pays in SGA fees.

After seeing the results of last week's election with Mary Watson having been elected as treasurer, it appears that students are not looking at these candidates critically enough before putting them in office.

Ms. Watson was among the representatives reprimanded by the SGA for not attending Senate meetings.

Is this the type person students wish to see in office?

If Ms. Watson didn't attend meetings before, how do we know she will begin doing so?

If students want the best representation, they should think about the candidates critically before voting.

A concerned student

## What our readers say

### Business uses unfair practices

Editor:

I would like to share a recent experience of mine with the hope that other students will not be taken in by a seemingly unreliable business as I was.

Last Friday, my radiator hose burst immediately after I arrived at school. I taped the hose with duct tape and drove a couple of blocks to Huffines Texaco in Elon to fill the radiator with water before returning to Burlington.

The attendant repeatedly offered to replace the hose for "\$6 or \$7." I foolishly concluded that \$6 or \$7 did

not seem too outrageous and agreed to let him replace the hose.

My brother unscrewed the two clamps on the hose and drained the antifreeze into a pan while the attendant finished cleaning another car.

The attendant then attached the new hose, screwed on the clamps, and told me that he had been mistaken—the hose he put on would be \$9.40. He graciously added that he wouldn't charge me "labor." (Ironic, since my brother had done half of it.)

I politely suggested to him that I would have appre-

ciated an accurate price quote prior to the hose's attachment.

In my opinion, this sort of business practice is unethical and unfair. Perhaps the only good thing that did evolve from this experience is that I have learned two things. First, with no more than a screw driver, a pan and \$5.66, I can purchase and attach a radiator hose myself.

In addition to this, I believe that I have formed a reasonable opinion of this local business and its credibility.

Susan Troxler

### Mowers disturb student classes

To the Editor:

With spring's arrival comes class disruption; I refer to the famed lawn mowers of Elon.

I'm sure everyone has been forced to endure the racket of lawn mowers sometime during their years at Elon. It becomes quite distracting to lose every other sentence the instructor says because of the noise outside.

Twice in February, I was forced to put up with the noise. Although it didn't really cause a great distraction (after all, February is a

little early to be opening windows), things are bound to change with the warm weather.

Surely there is a logical solution to this problem. Perhaps mowing could be done on Fridays after 12:10 when classes are dismissed. If that presented problems, the mowing of sections close to windows could be put off until classes are dismissed.

Maybe the maintenance

crew object to waiting until Friday afternoon, but I doubt if they've had to sit in

class on a 90-degree day and have the instructor shut the windows because of the racket caused by lawn mowers.

Nancy Crutchfield

Members of the United States Marine Corps Officer Selection Office will be visiting Elon College on April 28, 29, and 30. The Marine recruiters will be in the foyer of Long Student Center.

# The Pendulum

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