

Editorials

Finally, spring

By Loukia Louka

Yesterday marked the official beginning of spring, a time when nature sheds her winter encasements to show the entire world that whatever happened this winter, was over. Whatever snow or sleet hindered our way to classes this winter will indeed subside for yet another year.

Every year about this time, I try to remind myself to take note of the changes going on around me: to give notice to the first crisp sounds, new sights and fresh smells of spring. After all, Elon does put out a great deal of time and money to beautify our campus through constant care of the lawns, buildings and greenery. (You'll remember that for these efforts, Elon was awarded last April by the Alamance Beautiful Commission).

Granted, March's weather often lacks the accommodating warmth usually associated with spring, but that doesn't matter, really, as you can already see people sunbathing outside their dorms and anticipating the arrival of Spring Break.

Often though, when students are pressured by such occurrences as papers, tests and other anxiety-producing situations commonly associated with students, noticing things like spring's arrival is reduced to something like, "School is half-way over for the semester," or "Have mid terms gone out yet?" It is this type of nonchalance, this uncommitted attitude towards what I consider a "wonder," that makes me write about something other than politics, capital punishment or racism. I have faithfully pursued these issues over the months, all of which have involved a certain level of research and detail and some of which have thankfully generated some type of response.

This week, as spring becomes official and we embark on the first few days of the new season, I find it almost necessary to take a break from those more serious, pressing issues. Granted, as students its hard to sit back and take note of everything, but at this point in the semester its important to think in a more progressive state of mind. This is a good time in the semester to turn a new leaf (excuse the expression) and reinstate some of those resolutions that were so revered a couple of months ago.

There is still plenty of time to pull up sagging grades and ride out the semester on a high note. Now that mid terms have past, students should step back and take a good look at what they can do with the rest of the semester. Two months remain. Some students will be graduating (or hope to) but shouldn't really be thinking about *that* as much as what they can do until then. Still to come in the semester are plenty of activities including athletic events, Greek Week and Spring Fling—events which are designed to unite the student body. By taking a finer interest in these events, the remainder of the semester may be one well spent.



Letter to the Editor

Editorial policies supported

In your article on the Board of Trustees meeting of March 6, you failed to mention a proposal which was submitted to the board by the Student Government Association and approved.

Our proposal was to raise the student activity fees which fund the SGA and its subordinate committees. With the very small amount that students pay each semester (only \$20), they get more than their money's worth from the organizations who receive the funding—intramurals, Student Union Board, Liberal Arts Forum, Black Cultural Society and *The Pendulum* to name a few.

The approved raise, which will go into effect next year, is only \$3 per semester, but this will help student organizations on campus tremendously as they try to provide better and bigger programs for students.

I would also like to take a moment to express my support for the editorial policies of *The Pendulum* this year. I think that it is commendable that your newspaper is willing to take controversial and sometimes unpopular stands on the issues of the day.

Perhaps those who criticize *The Pendulum* as being too "liberal" should take the time and effort to have their opinions expressed in articles in the newspaper rather than sitting back and taking potshots at the editorials which are printed. The paper has shown that it is more than willing to print "opposing" viewpoints whenever they are offered.

If it is only the "liberal" among us who take the time to have our versions of the truth submitted to *The Pendulum* then it is only our viewpoints that will be expressed.

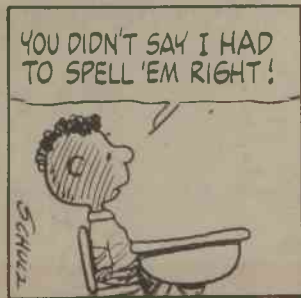
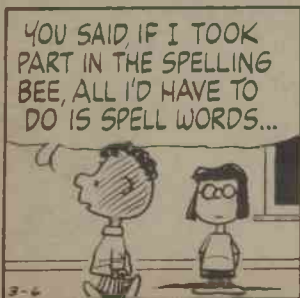
I do believe that the paper might spark more interest among students if more of the editorials addressed problems that exist on our campus. The editorials have been generally well-written and well thought out, and if issues on Elon's campus were addressed more often, you could make a big difference in the way the college is run.

I commend your brave stand on the issues you present. I hope that your editorials are being read, because they certainly could open the minds of many in the community whose minds seem permanently closed, if they are functioning at

all. I hope that *The Pendulum* will continue to keep an open mind in airing the issues that we face in today's society, and that you will never back down to disapproval from those who prefer to criticize rather than act.

Bob Moser
SGA President

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The Pendulum welcomes letters, limited to 250 words, from our readers. Longer materials may be submitted as opinion articles. All letters submitted must be signed, and a phone number given so that the letters validity can be checked. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, libel, good taste and accuracy. The deadline for submitting materials is 2 p.m. Friday. Our office is located on 102 Williamson Avenue, phone 584-2331 or 584-2476.