

Editorials

Fire alarm prank shows immaturity

The East Area of Elon's campus has not proved to be what everyone had hoped for last year. It was thought that housing only freshmen in Smith and Carolina residence halls would yield positive results. But as of yet, positive results remain to be seen.

On the contrary, several problems have plagued the area in the two months that Smith and Carolina have been all-freshmen dormitories. Theft and vandalism have occurred repeatedly, but these offenses have also prevailed in other areas of campus. The main problem lately, aside from damages, has been the frequent triggering of the fire alarm systems in the two dorms.

On about 15 different occasions in a week and a half, the alarms in either Smith or Carolina were pulled. When an alarm sounds, RAs are required to see that all residents in that building evacuate. All students must wait outside, regardless of the time of day or night, until all rooms have been checked and the building has been declared safe.

It seems that some impish freshman or group of freshmen finds it amusing and entertaining to inconvenience fellow residents with a false fire alarm.

I'm sure that by now the RAs and the majority of the residents are more than slightly perturbed at the situation. I would also be willing to bet that President Young and other neighbors of East Area find the alarms quite disturbing, especially at 2 a.m.

In addition to being annoying, the false alarms are also presenting the possibility of danger. At least some of the students probably hide in their rooms so they will not have to evacuate. But what would happen if there were a real fire? Innocent people could be harmed by failing to take the latest fire alarm seriously.

These delinquents who are causing the disturbances must not realize the seriousness of their offense. It is illegal to sound a fire alarm when there is no fire, and they could be arrested for doing so in a public place. Also, dormitory fires *do* happen. Those who smoke cigarettes in a building full of beds and wooden lofts make dormitories a prime target for fire.

These culprits, whether it be a few or many, are demonstrating immaturity and poor judgment. It is a few freshmen such as these who perpetuate the "immature freshman" stereotype. It is about time for them to grow up and find more creative and productive things to do with their time. And if they can't manage that, they belong not in college, but at home under their parents' supervision.

-By Jane Kidwell

Committee invites worship

To the editor:

We just want to give a cheer for the weekly worship services held on our campus! For us it is a time for focusing and regrouping. The service is informal and there are a variety of leaders, mostly from our own campus. At this time our whole community can gather together to worship God!

To all members of the Elon College community—students, staff, and faculty—we extend a warm and enthusiastic invitation to join us whenever possible in Whitley Auditorium between 9:30-10 a.m. on Tuesdays!

Ray Covington
Carole Chase
Religious Life Committee



Parents Weekend approaching

To the editor:

Nov. 1-3 is Parents Weekend. Brochures have been mailed to parents, and information is being distributed to students. Parents Weekend is one of the biggest on-campus events of the year, and I expect a very large turnout once again this year.

On Saturday evening, Nov. 2, a dance called the "5th Quarter Social" will be held at the Alamance Country Club. Students and parents should be aware of two important restrictions pertaining to the dance: (1) Because club restrictions disallow the sale of tickets on the premises, tickets to the "5th Quarter Social" must be purchas-

ed in advance. No one will be admitted without a ticket. (2) Because the dance honors the parents of Elon students, students will not be allowed unless accompanied by their parents or the parents of another student.

Other events for which family members may wish to purchase tickets include a picnic lunch and the football game. Of course, students may attend the picnic and the game by displaying their college IDs. Students may purchase tickets for their family in the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs, located in Room 101, Powell Building.

Parents Weekend promises to be a very special event. I urge all

students to invite their parents to come and share this weekend with them.

Susie Bullard Sanford
Director of Alumni and Parent Programs

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The Pendulum welcomes letters, limited to 250 words, from our readers. Longer material may be submitted as opinion articles. All letters submitted must be signed, and a phone number given so that the letter's validity can be checked. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, libel, good taste and accuracy. The deadline for submitting material is 2 p.m. Monday. Our office is located in 102 Williamson Avenue, phone 584-2331 or 584-2467. This paper is published by the Communications Media Board of Elon College. Founded on October 14, 1974, as the student newspaper serving the Elon College community. The Pendulum is published each Thursday during regular terms except for the examination and holiday periods. The Pendulum is printed by The Burlington Daily Times-News.

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