## The Pendulum

Serving the Elon College community

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The Pendulum, founded in 1974, is published by Elon College students each Thursday during regular school terms. The Pendulum welcomes your opinions, with letters limited to about 250 words if possible. All letters must be signed and a phone number given for verification. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m.

## Parental parking problems

As most of us commuters have figured out, there is a parking problem. But it's a real shame when our parents come down for Parent's Weekend and find a ticket matted to their windshield. I have never known Elon College to hand out parking tickets on weekends, let alone to our parents who pay this school a substantial amount of money anyway.

The weekend was a mess as it was. I have to believe Elon is paying these students or traffic officers a lot of money for them to stand out in pouring rain and pass tickets out to all these cars. One person I know had her parents park in a not-so-wet spot just long enough to take some winter clothes up to her room. To their dismay there was a soggy white sheet of paper saying they owed the school \$25, as if her parents don't give enough.

I understand having parking rules and giving out tickets to students. Anytime you have approximately 2,000 cars spread out in different lots there has to be some kind of order. But to give out tickets on a wet day like Saturday and to our parents is a bit extreme. I live off campus, so my parents could park freely in my apartment complex, but I know my friends' parents would be much happier if Elon went back to the old way of not ticketing cars on weekends.

Julie Barton

Neagle's Notions

Everyone would like to be the best at something, but the majority of us are forced to settle with being superbly decent in most of our undertakings. But I've got some advice for those of you out there that are suffering from an overdose of mediocrity. It's a lot easier to be the best at something if you're the first person to do it.

Take the Wright brothers, for instance. Carl Lewis can probably jump about as far as they flew in their historical flight; but they were the first, so consequently they were the best. The Concorde is an incredibly spectacular aircraft, but how many people know who designed it? I'm telling you, being first is the way to go.

I'm really excited about having kids (maybe even a wife) one day, and like most parents I'll want my child to be one of the best athletes on the block. However, I'm not uptight at all about the thought of him being lousy at baseball, basketball, or football.

If this is the case, I'll just enroll him in fencing lessons and watch proudly as he defeats his friends one by one with amazing thrusts and parries. If his friends start to catch on to the fencing business, then we'll simply take up team handball or full-contact Chinese checkers. Being before is just easier than being better.

One of my most special talents is gargling "The Star Spangled Banner." Even though I have very little musical ability, through a little practice in the shower I'm able to entertain and

by Win Neagle

amaze (well, at least entertain) people with my performance of our national anthem.

Very few of them actually realize how simple it is. Pioneering in the world of gargling has given me a small (a very small) sense of superiority.

If you would like to do something better than it's ever been done before, then just try something like this. Put three playing cards, a dime, and your driver's license in your left hand. In your right hand have a bologna sandwich with grape jelly and horseradish. Now start on one side of the room and begin to eat the sandwich as you hop around in circles on one foot.

I wasn't there to see it, but I can almost guarantee you that you did better than it's ever been done before.

## A not-so-beautiful neighborhood by Holly Sniffen

provide students with an alternative to living either in the these responsibilities. dorms or off-campus. Except for the phone system, the apartments offer the freedoms of living offcampus. There are no visitation restrictions or drinking regulations and a meal plan is not required.

With these freedoms. however, come many responsibilities. Responsibilities such as disposal of garbage and keeping hallways, stairs, and entryways clean. Unfortunately, some of the students living in the

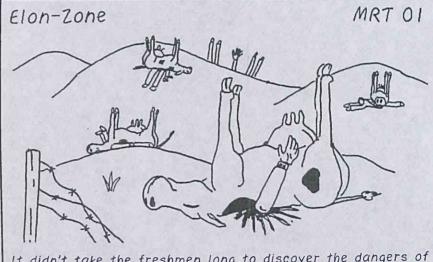
Campus East Campus Apartments have Apartments were designed to proven by their actions that they are not mature enough to take on

> The entrance-ways to the buildings are cluttered with empty beer bottles and cans. Piles of mud and dirt are tracked into the hallways and onto the stairs and then left there. And, some students mound their garbage outside their doors rather than just carrying it out to the dumpsters.

Vandalism also seems to be a problem at the apartments. For example, the letters of both buildings A and B have been stolen, there are tire tracks in the new grass, and, more recently, the window in the door of building B's laundry room was shattered.

To the residents of the East Campus Apartments, I suggest that you forget about the empty lake and the unscaped land--those problems will soon be solved. Instead concentrate on respecting your neighbors and keeping your new apartment complex clean.

And remember, pick up after yourselves--your mother doesn't live there!



It didn't take the freshmen long to discover the dangers of cow-tipping while drunk.