

The Pendulum

Serving the Elon College community

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LARA LEE MARSHALL

ADVISOR
BRAD HAMM

OFFICE
102 WILLIAMSON AVE.
ELON COLLEGE, NC
27244

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. Letters must be signed and a phone number given for verification. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Monday.

Everyone should be pitching in

Well, it's about time. Elon is finally making strides to recycle. And not a moment too soon. It seems that the "in" issue this year has been the environment. Students and faculty alike have jumped on the bandwagon to try to preserve our natural resources. They have tried to raise the consciousness at Elon, and it seems that they are succeeding.

Stop and think for just a moment about how many products the campus uses that can be recycled.

Residence halls and academic buildings have soda machines in them. Think of the number of aluminum cans used in a single day on this campus. Already, some students and professors have made the effort to encourage their peers to dispose of these cans in a common collection site so they can be taken to be recycled.

Each week, any Pendulums left on the newsstands are collected and taken to the recycling bins behind the Food Lion in Burlington. Some faculty members and students have begun taking old newspapers delivered to their residence hall rooms, apartments or homes to be recycled as well.

But what about all the cans that aren't deposited in the boxes and all the newspapers and other paper products that are not taken to a recycling site? Finally, the college is organizing a way for its community to pitch in and begin a full-fledged recycling campaign.

After all the complaining, the cries for action have been answered. As the recycling effort takes effect, each and every person at Elon must do his or her duty and make use of the facilities offered. Otherwise, all that griping will have been for nothing.

Condom machines needed School should adapt to lifestyle changes of students

To the Editor:

I believe that it is essential for the administration of Elon College to attempt to understand the needs of its students. It is unrealistic for anyone to think that students are not going to have sex until they are married. In conjunction with this, condom machines are the administration's outlet for promoting responsibility in a situation that they cannot, and do not have the right to, control.

Tom Newman stated in his letter last week that Elon College was "founded with a distinct purpose, to educate young men and women for service within the Christian Church."

While it is obvious that the Christian values and ethics that Elon College was founded on are still very important to a number of you, it is ridiculous of you to generalize and assume that the entire student body has the same religious gusto that those

founding fathers did.

The fact is that Elon College is affiliated with the United Church of Christ in name only today. The student body is made up of all types of people with all types of backgrounds. There are no religious requirements for admittance, and everyone here does not fit into one large category; namely, Christianity.

As a result, the administration must attempt to respect the decisions made by its students, whether they agree with these decisions or not. And all of the "Tom Newmans" at Elon must strive for that same type of respect because wasn't it you who were called to "love your neighbor?" A large part of love is respect.

The time has come for the administration, as well as you "Tom Newmans," to wake up to the times. I don't promote promiscuity and I don't promote sex before marriage, but I recognize that these are the

nineties and this happens all the time. I refuse, however, to jeopardize the livelihood of others because of my personal views about sex.

If students are going to have sex, which they inevitably are, then condoms should be available. There is no reason for controversy; a simple machine in the hall is not going to change your personal religious positions.

Why are you so threatened? No one is going to force you to have sex because condoms are available. Part of college is social education, and part of social education is opening your mind and making responsible decisions for yourself.

So hear me, Tom Newman and friends, when I say stop pushing your religion on others and show us all some respect. The world is not as defined as you would love to make it.

Kree Mairs
Student

Meal plan needs revision Students should pay only for the meals they eat

Do you ever find yourself running off to McDonald's or calling Domino's because you didn't make it to the cafeteria or if you did go, you just weren't satisfied? Then afterwards you feel guilty because you spent too much money on food. If the meal plan at Elon was arranged so that we only paid for food that we ate, then we wouldn't have to worry about wasting money that we don't have.

The meal plan that is required for freshman students but purchased by upperclassmen as well is the seven-day plan. This plan includes breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. The total cost of this plan comes to \$1,940 for the whole school year, which is roughly \$3 per meal.

The main problem with this plan is that most students do not always eat three meals a day. The most common meal missed is breakfast, due to the fact that many students do not like to get up early in the morning and run

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to the cafeteria at 8:30 a.m.

Brunch on the weekends may be an exception because it's open until about 1:30 p.m. There are times when students want to go out to lunch or dinner, whether it be for a change of pace (or FOOD) or even a date. Sometimes students go home for the weekend or to visit a nearby school. Why should we be expected to pay for meals when we're not here to eat them?

There are also those students whose weekly class and working schedules conflict with the

cafeterias' hours. Some of the students that I have spoken to on the subject are unable to eat lunch three days a week because their classes run together through the lunch hours.

These are just a few reasons why the meal plan should be arranged so that the students do not have to pay for meals that they don't eat.

In addition to the set amount of money that we pay for the meal plan, we are asked to pay an extra \$3 per meal if we do not have our meal cards with us. This is ridiculous because sometimes students misplace their meal cards and don't have time to look for them before a meal. They make us feel like criminals when all we want is a meal that we already paid for.

With all the money put toward the meal plan, you would think that someone could come up with a better system.

Jennifer Tibbitts