

## No excuse for the recent outbreak of campus violence

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in concern of the recent outbreak of violence on Elon's campus. For a campus so small, it seems ludicrous to think that there would be a problem with violence.

However, I have witnessed more conflict this school year than any other year I have attended Elon. I am growing rather tired of going out at night and having to be concerned with some type of violence breaking out. Needless to say, it ruins everyone's good time.

In pondering the reasons why this is happening, I have become even more baffled. The explanation does not lie behind racial conflict, gangs, terrorism or anything quite as exciting. Instead, the explanation leads itself to reasons much more shallow and petty.

Are the campus organizations segregating themselves so much that we have become tribal about protecting our territory, or is the nightlife so boring that people are just looking for something to do? I would hope to think that the mental capacity in this college would rise above that, since it is obvious that petty violence is self-defeating.

I think it would be wise for the students at Elon to think a minute about all that has occurred lately: a bartender stabbed, guns pulled on campus, rapes, ambulances at keg parties, property being trashed, fights being broken up, and unfortunately, the list goes on. A cold beer sure tastes good, but it is hardly worth all that.

For a supposedly educated and upper middle-class environment, we sure are acting like the low-life we so readily criticize. Furthermore, I can not think of one rationalization to excuse it.

It is not my intention to feel as if I must be looking over my shoulder when I go out at night, nor is it my hope to witness violence every time I go to a party. There are enough problems in the world and if people feel as if they must fight, why don't they try fighting for something

### LETTERS

#### To The Editor

with a little more purpose?

It would be nice to see the barbarianism left in the Stone Ages and people living up to the expectations of their own generation.

Catherine Long

#### New eatery should reuse and recycle

To the Editor:

It has been some concern to the members of Enact (Elon's Environmental group) that the new snack bar being built in the new student center will not provide sufficient environmental plans.

As we all know, the Varsity Grille and the Back Door use non-recyclable plates, utensils and cups due to an insufficient amount of space for a dishwasher in the kitchen area. It is our concern that the new snack bar will also use unnecessary waste products.

We have thought of a few possibilities that would be more environmentally sufficient:

1. Provide necessary space for a dishwasher at the new Grille.

2. Go back to the idea of selling recyclable cups and if used at the snack bar receive a discount on a drink.

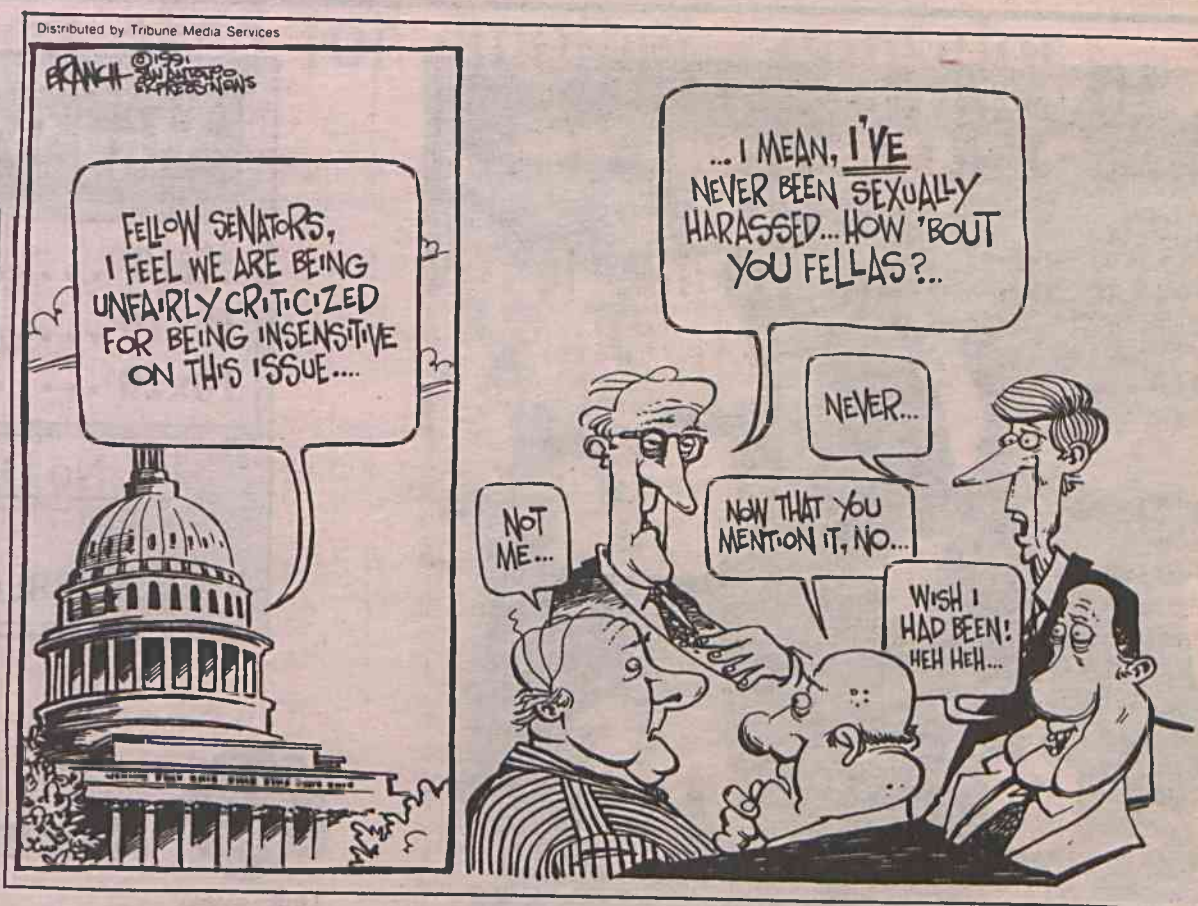
3. If a dishwasher is not applicable in the new plans then perhaps, instead of using plates, use plastic baskets lined with wax paper. Therefore, the wax paper could be thrown away and the plastic basket could be reused.

4. Use silverware rather than plastic utensils.

5. Use recycled goods such as bags and napkins.

Anyone that has any new ideas or would like to voice their concerns, please feel free to come to our Enact meeting held every Monday at 6:30 in the Large Lounge, or write to our campus box at 5469.

The members of Enact



#### SGA gets poor Pendulum coverage

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to your editorial in the March 4, 1993 edition of *The Pendulum*, "Put Some Muscle Behind the Mumbling."

You spoke eloquently on behalf of the short-staffed paper, with members that have 18-hour course loads and part-time jobs, who have decided to make a difference and "make their time at Elon count," as stated in the editorial.

But why not let the students know of the other side of the newspaper. The side of the paper that should report on the full scope of campus life-- but is not. The side of *The Pendulum* that feels that the Student Government Association (students of Elon College elected to make a difference) is not as newsworthy as the articles titled "Car explodes at Scotchman, woman escaped unharmed" or "Sex Police: Band makes first appearance."

The students of this college have the right to know that the Student Government Association is fighting for additional counseling services (a meeting you attended on February 11, 1993, but failed to report on).

The students on this campus have the right to know that the changes in the lighting and

security phones on this campus came as a direct result of the work of the Senate committee on Campus Safety and Security, chaired by Patrick Payne.

All Elon students have the right to know about the recently released campus crime statistics for the first semester, which the paper will not print because its staff doubts the validity of the statistics.

The students have the right to know that the SGA is currently negotiating with the Town Council of Elon College for a non-voting student member on the council, so that the students of this college will be better represented in the town. A story about this appeared in the *Greensboro News and Record* on Saturday, March 6, 1993.

The students have the right to know that *The Pendulum* will not print anything about the Student Government because its staff will not "do the SGA public relations," as it has been stated by members of the staff, but will do the Lighthouse's.

As for being short-staffed, join the club. There is not an organization on this campus that is overflowing with the optimum dedication and work-force that each needs. Every organization functions as a result of the dedication of a handful of members who will get the job done. It is time for *The Pendulum* to realize this.

*The Pendulum*, I understand, was once a paper that worked for

the students and reported on stories that affected the students of this college. It is truly time for that *Pendulum* to return to this campus.

Sean Stowers  
Student Senator

*Editor's Note: The Viewpoint in the March 4 edition of the Pendulum was written not solely "on behalf of (our) short-staffed paper," but dealt with all those actively involved in campus organizations.*

An interview with counselor Ruth Pugh is on page 5 of this issue. *The Pendulum* also ran a three-column photo of the installation of the Long security phone on page 4 of the February 25 issue.

#### Sig Ep rush party not meant to offend

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to you to assist in helping clear up a problem we experienced during spring rush.

For one of our rush parties we decided that we were going to have chicken wings. We contacted the Hooters restaurant in Raleigh and hired them to cater the party which was scheduled for March 2.

After we put up flyers advertising the party to rushees, our organization's headquarters in

See Rush party, page 9