

Unfair testing policy imminent

To the Editor:

The administration at Elon is considering making the passing of a standardized test (in your major) a prerequisite for graduation.

This is not fair to the students because first of all, the students have to take at least thirty-three hours of work in their major. The student will receive grades for those classes. Those grades that the students receive in those classes should be the deciding factor in terms of their graduation and not a standardized test.

Second of all, some students just don't do well on standardized test.

A standardized test really doesn't give any indication of how much a student has learned over a four year college career. Some of the questions asked on these types of test are on topics that you really can't study in college. I mean, some courses in your major you don't have to take in order to graduate. Usually the material that you never studied before shows up on the test. Because a student can't

answer these questions correctly, is this an indication of failure on the students part? I would suggest that classes in a persons major should be geared toward the standardized test so that all of the material on the test will be covered.

Lastly, your graduation would rest on someone you don't even know.

In college, students get to know their professors. Students become adjusted to professors' style of teaching and testing. These are the people that know what the students are taught and they should be the ones that test the students, not anyone else.

If a student meets all of the requirements for graduation should one test keep them from doing so?

Marcus Stewart

Dissatisfaction with the Pendulum

To the Editor:

I'm writing this not only on the dissatisfaction that I have of many students but also of our paper. I often wonder why students didn't become involved in this school when they feel something is wrong but now I know. Stories in the paper are usually general and boring. Students aren't heard enough about the Pendulum and the paper doesn't publicize critical issues, thus students don't become involved. For instance, many students disagree with the new grading policy but have done nothing about it. When a hearing was set up last year for students to be heard, so few turned up that it was embarrassing. I feel it is not all the students fault however. This meeting was poorly advertised and to my knowledge was not mentioned in the paper.

The paper should be more in favor of the student body and not be so conservative. Maybe we could be heard and become involved if the same would happen to our paper.

Rob Speir

How do students get involved?

To the Editor:

I am writing concerning activities on campus. I know that Elon has many opportunities for students to become involved religiously, socially, athletically, and academically. However, my concern is how students become aware of these various opportunities. I know that last



year I lived on campus and knew most of what was going on because of my Elon 101 class and the Elon channel. Even though there were still many activities and clubs that existed at Elon that I could have benefitted from but probably did not know about.

Now, I live off campus and want to get involved just as much if not more than I did last year; however, I have no idea what is going on when and am not sure how to find out. The problem here is not that there are no activities available, but that communication to the students is lacking.

Granted, there is the commuter board in the student center and other boards all around campus with activity sheets on them, but the boards are so unorganized and many of the activity sheets are so out of date that I can not tell what is what and which activities are recent. I understand that a lot of effort is placed on trying to get freshman involved when they first come onto campus-but just because I am a sophomore does not mean that I still do not want to be involved. Besides, how are all the organizations that I was involved in last year going to get a hold of of me now that I have moved?

I love Elon and all that it has to offer, but I wish that there was an easier way for me to find out about all the opportunities.

Perhaps if the Student Government would produce a flier once a week or once a month that has all the activities on it from all the organizations. This flier could then be distributed in students' campus boxes. This way students will be informed of all the activities on campus- what they do with that information is their choice.

Brooke Bell

Elon 101 Softball Tournament

To the Editor:

Thanks Dan Wright. Thanks for the bloody ankle, the pulled hamstring, the jammed finger, the sunburned neck, a busted lip, plus aches that we can't even name. Thanks for getting us up at 9:00 on Saturday morning. However, in spite of these rather "negative" results, the first Elon 101 "Who's On First Softball Tournament" was a rousing success. Thanks for originating the idea, organizing the 35 team competition, and playing on at least dozen teams. Your enthusiasm and good spirit reminded us why we came to Elon. We learned not to take ourselves too seriously, rather to play softball to win friends. Both professors and students became just softball players. This was a good way to begin the year. We can't wait to sign up for Chemistry Dr. Dan.

Elon 101 Softball players

A few thoughts from your Editoralist

I was thinking last night, our generation-X has been shoved into a crucial time in our nations history. We have incredibly large responsibilities to our kids and the rest of the World. We live in the greatest nation that has ever been conceived by mankind. Unfortunately, it wasn't until 1971 that that greatness was finally realized. People under the age of 21 could not vote until then.

Approximately fifty-percent of our generation voted for Bill Clinton. Despite all his promises about the deficit it is a hard cold fact that our nation will be five trillion dollars in debt by the time he leaves office in 1996. These are his numbers, making the assumption that his "deficit reduction" plan works perfectly

Wednesday night the President unveiled his health care plan. If you were tuned into Melrose Place (I was, I have a crush on Alison) pick up a USA Today and get the details. A few minutes discussion with a friend or professor about the relative merits or problems of the plan will help you develop ideas about Bill Clinton and his stake in our future.

Scott Miller

Elon complies with a new law

To the Editor:

A new federal law mandates that colleges and universities report graduation rates to prospective and future students. I am pleased to report that Elon's graduation rates are higher than the national average for both private and public institutions and improving every year. For the class entering in 1987, 43 percent graduated in four years, 55 percent in five years and 57 percent in six years. For the previous class which entered in 1986, 37 percent graduated in four years, 51 percent graduated in five years and 54 percent in six years. So far, of the class entering in 1989, 45 percent graduated in. These rates are determined in strict accordance with the Student Right to Know Act of 1992 and include only those who began and completed their degrees at Elon. They did not take into consideration students who began at Elon but transferred to complete degrees elsewhere.

Pat Kinney

Director of Publications
and Public Information