

Viewpoint

At first glance some readers may notice something different about *The Pendulum* this week. Then again, knowing Elon students, most of you couldn't care less.

Page three of *The Pendulum*, normally reserved for Letters to the Editor, was temporarily deleted. Why? Because our readers, with the exception of professor John Herold, were too lazy to write.

It amazes *The Pendulum* staff that students have so much to complain about to our faces, but they can't take 15 minutes out of their 12-ounce curls to put their thoughts down on paper.

We recently received an e-mail message criticizing *The Pendulum*, but the professor who wrote it didn't want it printed.

In the past, the paper has not had a problem filling the Letters page. We know our readers have something to complain about. We hear it in our classes every day.

What's different this year? Is it that readers are too afraid to voice their opinions? Or do they just not care about what goes on?

If you don't like the way the paper covered or didn't cover an event: write a letter. If you don't like the new four-hour class system: write a letter. If you don't like the fact that the new campus center isn't open: write a letter.

Without the voice of the people, newspapers wouldn't know how their readers feel. Through Letters to the Editor, *The Pendulum* is able to see what concerns its reader have and what changes it can make.

Newspapers were designed for the public. The Letters to the Editor page is the people's forum. It allows you to express how you feel about what's going on in this town. So use it or lose it.

The Democratic party in action

The mind-boggling political correctness of the Clinton administration again reared its ugly head last week. A Charleston, South Carolina hospital was forced by the Health and Human Services department to give up a practice of reporting to the police the names of pregnant women who had tested positive for cocaine usage. The women had the option to either enter a drug rehabilitation program or go to jail.

This action is indicative of the true nature of the Clinton crime fighting concept. They talk a lot about how we need preventative programs and then not follow through when there are good programs there. This program came about during the heart of the Reagan-Bush programs of real crime fighting.

Opponents of the program wanted to stop this program for several reasons. Amongst them were the program targeted poor black women, violated patient-doctor confidentiality and the women's right to privacy. Come on, programs like this are exactly what we need!

The inner-city is being strangled by the usage of drugs. The simple fact that minorities are being affected by this program should not be a big deal. We're not talking about seventy years in a Soviet Gulag, we're talking about a simple drug treatment program.

This whole shameful episode is endemic of how the Democratic party works. Their whole philosophy can be called, "Keep them poor, dumb, and ignorant so that they think they are grateful." The massive social spending of the crime

Scott Miller



have the government pull them there. It is possible that one of the best things about the cold war was that it scared people away from anything leftist. Thus, the last forty years have been a virtual *pax Americana*.

I know that minorities in the system have not had their fair shake during that time span. What we need to do is to successfully pull them into the system of capitalism and free enterprise. It's beginning to happen. However, the very makeup of the Congressional Black Caucus indicates that there is a long way to go before we come close to parity.

As I run out of space, I ask you to look at history. The minority leaders of today would have you believe that the L.A. riots were a result of Reagan cutting social spending over the previous ten years. The Watts riots of 1965 were right in the middle of one of the biggest social programs in our history. These riots were a reaction to a single

incident, not a deep burning hatred of the system.

Let's demonstrate this. Just prior to the failure of Clinton's stimulus package, some leaders were predicting that if the stimulus package failed there would be rioting in the streets because the disadvantaged would only be left with the option of burning. The stimulus package failed. There was no rioting. The congressmen were not able to bring back the pork, and their constituents did not riot over it. Why? Because they are thinking, feeling and rational human beings who can make a choice for themselves. End of story.

bill is simply an excuse to create another level of bureaucracy that is run by the Federal government.

What do I mean by the phrase, "Keep them dumb, poor and ignorant?" Well, it's like this. Ever since the Democratic party adopted



the Keynesian economic strategies that characterized the New Deal, personal achievement has not been regarded as a good thing by that side of the political spectrum. By taxing the people that make money the Democratic leadership plays on the issue of class.

The folks out there who hear Hillary Clinton talking about the decade of greed immediately associate the tax cuts of the nineties with their losing jobs in the recession of 1991. Good solid people. However, they are all too susceptible to the propaganda of the left that encourages them to believe that the easiest way to success is to

back that he and his colleagues were very enthusiastic about the range of books to Bulgaria. Many thanks to all of you who participated. Special thanks to Louisa Lackey and Willie Williams in the Campus Shop, who helped collect, store, and find new homes for our unwanted books.

John Herold
Department of English

Letters

To The Editor

To the Editor:

Last winter I received a request for books from alumnus Robb Hughes, who teaches English in Bulgaria, because his students were in desperate need of reading materials in English. Thus was started the Bulgarian book Drive, which cul-

minated during the buy back period last spring. The response from the Elon community was overwhelming; many colleagues and hundreds of students generously donated.

We were able to send many bags of books to Bulgaria. A shipment also went out to Nanjing University in China. The remainder of books were sent to Georgia to aid flood victims there. Robb reported

Corrections:

The Pendulum strives to report the news accurately and will correct errors that come to its attention.

Kate Ruth was appointed junior class president and Robin Mace was appointed secretary/treasurer. *The Pendulum* incorrectly stated their positions.

THE PENDULUM

Informing the Elon College Community

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Single copies of The Pendulum are free. If extra copies are needed, they can be purchased at The Pendulum office.

Office: 102 Lebanon Ave., Elon College, N.C., 27244. 584-2331.



The Pendulum welcomes your opinions with letters limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed with a phone number for verification. Deadline for submission is noon Monday. *The Pendulum* is not responsible for spelling or grammatical mistakes in Letters to the Editor.