

Viewpoint

Once again Elon College officials believe that we live in a secret society.

Richard Bernard, one of the four vice president finalists for Elon College, was on campus to have breakfast with students Tuesday morning. But when a reporter from *The Pendulum*, who is a student, showed up at the breakfast she was denied.

No one from any campus media was invited and neither was Student Government President Larry Williams. Now if it's a breakfast with the students and for the students, then how did those students who attended get invited?

Why wasn't the campus media allowed to cover a breakfast with a vice presidential candidate?

Dean of Students Smith Jackson told *The Pendulum* reporter the college didn't allow her to cover the meeting because it was with a "select number of students."

What good does it do for a "select number of students" to have breakfast with a vice presidential candidate if they don't have the access to share with the rest of the student body?

Not only for the student's benefit, what about faculty? Don't they care what students think of the vice presidential candidates?

What better way to publicize vice president candidates to the campus then invite campus media. I'm not just talking *The Pendulum*. Invite ECTV, WSOE and *Phi Psi Cli*.

Too many times students aren't involved with what goes on around this college. College officials like to believe students are involved, because at the last minute some dean in an office closes his/her eyes and draws names out of the phone book.

But in reality, that's not cutting it. Some students on this campus do care what goes on. The ones who dedicate themselves to this paper every week care, and they have the right to know why they weren't invited.

Off The Record

"You can tell by the way I use my walk, I'm a woman's man, no time to talk."

- The Bee Gees
"Stayin' Alive"

THE PENDULUM

Informing the Elon College Community

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Address: Campus Box 2800, Elon College, N.C., 27244. 584-2331.



Dirty democratic demagoguery

What do you do when you are an unpopular president unlikely to get re-elected in a year and a half?

Lie, of course.

The Federal School Lunch Program is run from Washington, D.C. Just like anything else that is centrally planned, the school lunch program has its layers upon layers of bureaucracy.

It sets nutritional standards. It mandates what level of income is to be subsidized and at the specific rate. Last of all, in a budget pinch the bureaucrats take food out of the mouths of schoolchildren.

The Republican controlled Congress set out to change that. Last week they cut out the bureaucracy. The legislation they passed took the money for the program and divided it into block grants for each of the 50 states.

Very simply, over the next five years, the GOP plans to write a check to each of the 50 states and say, "Feed your children!"

Clinton planned to increase the money spent on school lunches by 3.1 percent over the next five years. The Republican plan calls for an increase in spending of 4.5 percent over the next five years!

The Republicans actually want to spend more money on a program than President Clinton! What's more incredible is that it has nothing to do with defense. I guess it's



Scott Miller

simply because they recognize the value of making sure kids aren't hungry in school.

They have locked the money in as well. The legislation mandates the National Academy of Sciences check on the individual states programs to see that they spend all of the money where it was intended. Also, the Academy has the mandate to make sure that the nutritional programs established within each state are not unhealthy to that state's children.

This allows for innovation. In New England, a family with four children with an aggregate income of \$20,000 is going to need more help than that same family in Alabama. The simple cost of living is going to effect the amount that kids need to be subsidized. When there is a national standard, it makes it impossible to experiment.

As already stated, kids are going to get more money for food than before. Why is Clinton lying about it and saying that the Republican plan is just to take food out of the

mouths of children?

He's running scared. He has to shore off a challenge from a more liberal Democrat in the primaries. He's got to solidify his base and make sure that no one challenges him. He can do that by talking about good, basic liberal issues like children, minimum wage and sticking with yet another abortion-on-demand nominee.

He has been doing it fairly effectively. Few people, especially in the day-to-day media have brought up Clinton's playing fast and loose with the facts.

It is especially fashionable to bash the Speaker of the House in these trying times. From Des Moines to Detroit Gingrich is considered to be the most evil person since Hitler. Mr. Gingrich is no liberal. However, the character assassination that has taken place against him to try and prevent the country from moving forward has been abominable.

Clinton has used the school lunch thing as another tool to try to convince America that Gingrich is just for big business and rich, white males. Gingrich is out to make America a better place for everyone involved.

There might be racist and elitist individuals within the Republican Party. However, the fact of the matter is that on this issue the GOP is clearly the moral victor.

Out of the closet: Into the Stonewall Cafe

Cybill Shepherd
Guest Columnist

"...Only through Christ can we be...I'm looking thru the lens of the Gospel but I am not speaking from ignorance. I have thought the thoughts, spoken the words and done the deeds of "the homosexual"...I'm recovering with the help of God..." so quoted from the "Bruce Willis" letter in response to Stonewall Cafe's first article.

"Bruce," it is wonderful that you have found Christ and profess Him to be your Lord and Savior. However, it is disheartening to know that being homosexual and homosexuality has been clumped together with other sins to be "saved" from.

Religion is not spirituality, spirituality is not religious. When following Jesus' teachings, professing Him as one's Lord and Savior, or even developing one's spirituality separate from Christian parameters, one is seeking to create peace, acceptance and affir-

mation within themselves.

One of the wrestling issues a person who is "coming out" to themselves as a homosexual/bisexual is how do they accept who they are if what they've been taught, their religion, has no place for them other than in Hell.

Like "Bruce," some settle this issue by suppressing their identity, others realize that love and acceptance is unconditional and even a few, sadly enough, take their lives in the face of this dilemma.

Stonewall Cafe asks that we each examine the criteria with which we base our religion upon, is it love or what we as mere woman and man believe that's the way things should be, hence the quote "God loves the homosexual but hates homosexuality."

To the anonymous letter who addressed herself as a lesbian who has lived much of her life in fear, anger, and frustration particularly as an Elon student: kudos. But a question to not just the anon, but

every gay and gay friendly person on campus, how will the heterosexual community of Elon "open their eyes and their minds" if there is not a visible gay community? Yes, Stonewall Cafe knows the dangers of coming out on campus, particularly one situated in Jesse Helm's homophobic radius, but just how much can we, as gay students, faculty and staff expect for Elon to be accepting. Granted, this Stonewall was created out of the need for the gay community to safely communicate with "straights" who want to know more about homosexuality, but the general perception is that there are only three gay people on campus and not really as it truly is, an entire substantial community. It is a choice of safety and job security to not be out on campus. What choice are we making when there are no accessible resources for gay, bi-sexual students, faculty or staff?