

Viewpoint

It's hard for me to believe I'm writing my last viewpoint ever. For four years (84 issues) my name has been in the staff box below. I've done everything from taking pictures to selling ads to writing articles to even delivering the papers around campus on Thursdays. And now it's over.

Time passed so fast. I still remember my first night at Elon. This cornball, wannabe R&B band played at the outdoor stage behind Beck Pool. After five minutes, I was fed up and decided to shoot ball in front of Hook, Brannock and Barney. I just realized last week that one of the people I played basketball with was the lunkhead to the right of this column. It is truly a small campus.

You wanna know what the point of that story is? From that night on I have asked myself, "What the hell am I doing here?"

Several times I had my transcripts and application ready to be sent to UNC-Chapel Hill. But a few things forced me to stay: the few close friends I made (especially the ones from second-floor Smith), the beautiful girl from Long Island, who lived on first-floor Staley, and this newspaper.

I actually thought that I could make a difference here. I thought that if something wasn't right, the newspaper could change that. News articles would let people know what was being done behind their backs. Editorials would shake up the administration.

But what happened? No one cared. Every year it was just myself and a handful of Pendulum staffers who cared enough about this so-called institution of higher learning as we sank in a pool of propaganda.

Why? Because professors are too afraid to say anything for fear of losing their jobs and students aren't worried about mommy and daddy's money as they pissed it away at The Lighthouse's Drink and Drown Night.

Margaret Thatcher said Friday, "To get anything out of a mind, you must first put something in it." So instead of just filling yours with barley and bong hits, do something with your four (or five) years at Elon.

■ **Erick Gill**
Editor in Chief

Off The Record

"It's a town full of losers and I'm pulling out of here to win."

- Bruce Springsteen
"Thunder Road"

THE PENDULUM

Informing the Elon College Community

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A few last comments from Mr. Miller

"Do not fire until fired upon. But if they want a war, then let it begin here!"

Captain James Parker
April 19, 1776



Scott Miller

Wasn't Prime Minister Thatcher great! Her talk last Friday is definitely on the "top 10" list of events in my life. Number one is when George Herbert Walker Bush gave me a thumbs up in the pouring rain in Greensboro. Number two would be meeting my fiancée, Heather... I have not ranked where Mrs. Thatcher's visit stands yet.

It puzzles me that there are individuals who can still want to use their freedom of speech to be wrong after such an awe-inspiring visit. For example, Professor Weston, in a letter to the editor thought that one of the reasons there might have been a threat against Thatcher might have been her economic policy which stopped the welfare dependency in England created by 30 years of Labor rule.

I got news for you, Dr. Weston. Ronald Reagan hacked away at the dependency entrapment programs in the United States in his very first budget. The only reason that someone tried to assassinate him was that John Hinckley wanted to do the nasty with Jodie Foster. People love a GREAT leader, no matter how "cruel" they are.

Regardless, Thatcher's visit to our campus did more than just raise money. There are many women in the graduating senior class that will face a thing called a "glass ceiling."

upon entering the workplace. I personally think that it is a figment of Patricia Schroeder's imagination, nonetheless, I am told that it's out there. Here is a woman who has risen to the very top of a man's world.

So, to the folks who should admire her the most, because of her ability to succeed where she shouldn't, she is the anti-christ because she dares to espouse conservative notions.

Her successor, John Major, has won another election. Conservative rule in Britain is going to last at least 16 years. Obviously, the British people have learned their history well and will stick with conservatives well into the next century.

Last week, President Clinton politicized the disaster in Oklahoma. He fired the first shot in a coming intellectual battle between conservatives and liberals.

Conservatives, the only true liberals in the classic sense, have an obligation to mount the battle against the neo-Marxists and wackos who form the political left in the United States.

Yes, it must be a battle for the

heart and the soul of our nation. Not in the violent sense advocated by the freaks of the various unorganized militias around the country, but in a never ending struggle of ideas against the machinations of the political left.

Also, that movement must be all encompassing. The faulty perception that the GOP is all white men must be destroyed. It is a lethal serpent that is waiting to destroy the party if we are not careful.

The socialists who have run this country for 50 years have not allowed the Republicans to really try and approach problems of the inner-city. With the new Congress and a new approach to our problems, we will succeed in solving our nations problems.

An example is in Elon College. The 15,000 hours given by Elon students demonstrates that an inherently conservative notion is alive and well. We can do it better, in the alcohol treatment centers, the elementary schools and the homeless shelters than any other bureaucrat from Washington D.C.

Do the morons who advocate the legalization of marijuana really intend to use it for industrial purposes? If not, why is that always part of the argument? I think the Grateful Dead suck. I think that the Senator Richard Lugar will be the next president of the United States. I walk with God.

Excuse the randomness. In the words of John McLaughlin, "Bye, Bye!"

A farewell address from The Stonewall Cafe

Cybil Shepherd
Guest Columnist

A friend from Chapel Hill commented that she, as a lesbian, was not involved in Carolina's BiGALA (Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Alliance) because they were "too political." Although she is an out lesbian and is just as affectionate as her heterosexual counterparts in public, she and others who share her view have absolutely no clue as to how "political" their lives have become.

There are landmark court battles going on as you read this for same sex marriage recognition and rights in Hawaii, and eventually, to the Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, the decision to come out of the closet and to be involved in the gay community is no longer one of emotional cleansing, but a political statement as well.

No one is advocating that every single gay, bisexual and transgendered person jump out of the closet with a rip roaring party and a political agenda in tow, or to introduce yourself as "Hi! I'm (fill in the blank) and I'm gay/bi/trans! How are you?!"

Rather instead, reflect upon one's personal actions to ensure that one day, if one ever decided to make the first steps to coming out, that your rights are protected.

The Stonewall Cafe was created to establish a safe place for closeted and open homosexuals, bisexuals and the transgendered. It was and has been a place for those to express fears, concerns and even one's own homophobia without being charged with violating the politically correct constitutions that dictate and negate communications between peoples.

The Cafe was a result of the awakenings of Elon College's gay com-

munity. If Elon College is to change the non-discrimination statement and intent to include non discrimination based upon sexual orientation across the board, be sensitive to and provide services and education to promote understanding and a gay friendly environment, more members of Elon College's gay community will eventually have to come out of the closet.

Of course every decision to come out of the closet is personal and is severely weighted with one's career/academic standing, family and friends. However, no one will fight for you if you do not fight first for yourself.

Gay rights will never come about if there are no gay people to fight for them. Human rights will continue to be denied to all of us if we insist upon deciding who and what is against human nature and therefore not human.