

Viewpoint

First comes a letter to the editor about school spirit. Next comes a letter challenging Elon as a whole from a seemingly unlikely source: a 16 year old freshman. And finally comes Hurricane Fran.

There is a connection between these things. That common bond is how Elon students reacted as a group.

We answered the call and took action. When Fran hit, students were out in droves, Greeks and non-greeks, Elon Volunteers and athletes, all with one common goal: to help restore the campus to the beauty it had before the storm. And we succeeded.

The letter of criticism, though not intended to provoke anger, sparked a response of "love it or leave it." People talked about it. They spoke in defense of the school where they chose to spend their first four years of higher education.

The letter about team spirit inspired a columnist and possibly inspired this paper's readers. At Elon's second football game, following a tough loss, the stands were packed.

Will this be the year that Elon proves itself as a great place to be because of that sense of community and small school feeling? Will this be the year that Elon will excel in not only athletics but athletic attendance?

I challenge everyone to praise the school for the reasons that you came here and try to change the things that you don't like. Anyone can complain. But only those who truly care can make a difference for the better. Treat every problem like the aftermath of Fran and we'll be in great shape in no time.

Tracey Stark
Managing Editor

The End is Nigh

Chuck Buckley

So we are all going to die. Pack your bags and say goodbye to your friends cause the fat lady is warming up. We have so many ways to completely destroy our society whether it's from deforestation, cows farting, killer bees, chemical weapons, vanishing resources, nuclear whatever or stupid people with lots of power. I mean lets face it, we're doomed.

Everybody seems to be talking about the end of the world as we know it. So many of the recent movies are about the collapse of society ("Independence Day," "Escape from L.A.," "A Very Brady Sequel"). Even Nostrodamus predicted that if the world doesn't change most of the Earth's population would die in the later half of the 90's, some even say this month.

What if what happened in Stephen King's "The Stand" happened to you? I want you to ask yourself if you could survive (or if you would want to) if only 1 out of every 10,000 people were to live beyond the year 1998. Within 6 months there would be no electricity, gasoline, fresh meat or perishable foods. What would happen to the people that lived? There would

be roughly 600,000 people left alive. Would we revert back to being like animals, trying only to live, or would we try to rebuild society?

For some it would be a dark paradise. Everything is free. No working. No laws. Complete and total freedom. But there would be none of the things that make living worthwhile. No human contact of any kind. No way to have children. Absolute solitude. Could you handle it? I don't think that I could.

Here is where you where are supposed to say, "Hey Chuck, what should we do about this whole apocalypse thing?"

My answer is simple take advantage of the situation. Should we go live in the woods like survivalists? Should we spend the next few years practicing weapons use and eating K-rations in preparation for the coming armageddon? Hell no! This is what the modern day hardcore survivalists does:

Let's say you have got a one in 10,000 shot in making it to the next century. If you are one of the lucky few who live through the end of the world it would be really freaking practical to get yourself some canned goods, a portable generator, an electric car and a solar powered home with a bomb shelter that has an independent air supply. Just

bear with me here.

The next thing you should do is (Note - This advanced course of the modern day survivalists should only be done if you are a true believer) max out your credit cards. Buy as much stuff as you can, just because there is stuff to buy. If you run out of credit cards, mortgage your new home and get huge loans from the bank.

The next thing you should do is quit your job. I don't care if you love your job or if you hate it, the point is it's work and you shouldn't be doing it in the last days of society's existence.

Finally, and this is the most important step, party like a madman. Toast all your friends, because, hey, you'll never see them again. Look at you, not a care in the world.

Just remember when the collection agencies show up at your door demanding payment, just hand them this article and say, "Chuck said the world would end and he lied." And as they're breaking your legs I want you to keep in mind that you've done the right thing.

I welcome all questions and comments at my street corner where I hold a 'End is Near' sign, or at bucka5c0@numen.elon.edu

THE PENDULUM

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Speaking of . . .

This Week:

Homosexuality

Do you think the state should recognize homosexual marriages?



Kate Doughert, sophomore: "Yes, because they have just as much right to be together as anyone else."



Colin Rackley, junior: "Yes. I think they are born the way they are and they can't help it....They have the right to love who they want to."



Danielle Mitchell, freshman: "Yes, I don't think they should be told no because of their preference. They have the right to marry who they want."

Jay Gilvray, junior: "Yes and no. Yes I feel people should be able to speak feely of what they believe in, but as a Catholic I have to disagree with same-sex marriage."

Amy Stewart, senior: "I don't mind the marriages. I think they should be recognized....but I don't think they should be able to adopt children."

Jason Hills, freshman: "Yes, because I don't think they should be treated differently because they don't follow the norm."

Compiled by Michelle Cater