Viewpoint

Think Before You Vote

On Tuesday, we will elect a new president or re-elect the same one. We will also pick state and local representatives to be our eyes ears, and mouth in our government.

This responsibility is not to be taken lightly. Please take the time to read the information we have provided you with on pages 8 and 9.

The candidates are described based on the issues and what they would like to do.

The separate categories include environment, education, social issues, foreign policy and the economy.

The next column over on this page describes how NOT to vote. Do not, I repeat DO NOT use this method for voting.

I wrote that column as a sarcastic warning to those who use their responsibility to vote in an irresponsible manner. People who vote using things such as looks, age or even name should not be casting a vote.

I won't be basing my vote on anything like what I wrote. I will be basing my vote strictly on Astrological predictions for the coming four years.

Tracey Stark Editor in Chief

THE PENDULUM

Informing the Elon College Community

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The Stark Guide to Voting

Tracey Stark Editor in Chief

It's that time again. Time to get into the little polling booth, shut the curtain behind you and pick who will represent you in YOUR government.

Let's face it: Most first-time voters and many older voters have no clue, nor do they seem to care who they vote for. The way they pick the next president is by random accident.

This is not the best way to vote, but since I can't make people watch the news, I give you the "Idiot's Guide to Voting."

Your choice will be based on things like name, looks funny accent, age and possibly even what war they fought in i.e.; Dole fought in the Civil War for the North.

So if your family is from the South, you may not want to vote for him.

Clinton didn't fight in any wars. He was a Rhodes scholar They don't fight, they read a lo of books and smoke pot without inhaling.

Perot didn't fight in a war, but he did serve in the military. He was in the Navy. I think he was used as radar.

Next factor: Looks. This is an obvious one.

Clinton. Good hair. No dyed. Nose? (Can you say W.C. Fields?) Large man, fond of food Best viewed as a two-dimensional photograph.

Dole. Hair? Dyes often. Gen-

balmed.

Perot. Hair resembles "Bob's Big Boy." One word description of his appearance: "Squirrelly."

Next is age. In order: Clinton is 50 and still downing the burgers like a freshman with the munchies.

Perot. Older than Clinton, younger than Dole.

Dole. Let me put it this way, his Social Security number is in the low teens.

> Clinton is left-handed by birth as is Perot. Dole is left-handed by necessity. I'm left-handed. So, we can't use this as a legitimate factor.

Dole has a good speaking voice. He is articulate and easy to understand. Good to listen to when you need to fall asleep.

President Clinton is an educated 'good ol' boy." I hear him talking and I want to grab a shotgun and go crow huntin'.

But Ross Perot can talk circles around the other two. In fact, he is most often seen talking in circles. He has more Texas-isms and meaningless metaphors than a "three-headed parakeet with a fire under his tail feathers."

When it comes down to it, you may have to go with just the name. Because, let's face it, you're in a

eral physical appearance: Em- small booth and you won't be able to remember all of the facts about the candidates.

So you may have to break it down by names.

"William Jefferson Clinton" is a very American sounding name. Though it does sound a bit like a country singer's name. In fact, that's probably what Bill would have ended up doing if things hadn't worked out so well to this point. "Bill Clinton's Achy Breaky

Bob Dole. Sounds fruity. Now I'm not calling Dole fruity. I'm just saying that "Dole" is fruity. You know, bananas, pineapples, etc. Using "free-association" thinking, my mind wanders off to Gilligan's Island. There was nobody on that island I would have wanted as president. Except the professor. Or maybe Thurston Howell III.

And thinking of Mr. Howell brings me to the final candidate, H. Ross Perot. First off, he has an initial for a first name. Very suspicious. And his last name has a silent letter in it. Once again, very suspicious.

I guess using this logic, none of them sound like much. And the name "Ralph Nader" just blows. (I saw the movie "King Ralph" and I don't want those antics going on in MY White House.)

Using my foolproof system, you can eliminate all of the candidates and just go back to bed.

(If you are still planning on voting, turn to pages 8 and 9.)

Speaking of

This Week:

The Next president.

Who are you voting for president and why?



Jamey Fenton, freshman: Clinton because my parents are democratic and they put me into it.

Cat Wahl, freshman: Clinton because of his stands on education and I am pro-choice,

TimVassas, sophomore: I have already voted for Dole because Clinton hasn't done anything for the economy and it is time for a



Jennifer Dillon, freshman: Dole because I live with two republicans and I don't like what Clinton is doing with health care and small businesses.

Casey Dwyer, freshman: Clinton because I know his treatment towards women is better than Dole's and mostly because I am prochoice.

compiled by Amy Lerner



Ta Messa Carter, sophomore: I am still undecided. I am still weighing out the issues. I'm still leaning towards Clinton.

Mike Kopec, sophomore: Clinton because Dole doesn't have good relations with his vice presidential candidate, he doesn't know what is going on and he is not a good public speaker and he has a mean personality.