

# Viewpoint

Scandals, resignations and preliminary hearings. Yes, you could say covering the Student Government Association this week was a journalist's dream.

First, you have five senators resign within the span of seven weeks, two of which said goodbye in the last five days. Then you have two senators who are waiting to see if they will be charged with neglecting senatorial duties. Gee, if only Washington had this much drama.

Of course, I'm being as sarcastic as I get. These are terrible things, and a headache that the members of the SGA don't really have time for.

But as an editor, I'm in the unenviable task of finding good, interesting news. And impeachments and unrest are the things readers seem to be going for nowadays.

Not that I root for bad news, not publicly at least. But if nothing happens, which is usually the case at Elon, people complain that *The Pendulum* is boring, or lacks controversy. Then they write letters to the editor to bitch about the fairness of our advertising practices. Where's a good ol' peeping Tom when you need one?

Of course, when something bad happens, like say a fight involving 70 people at the Greek Courts, people tend get on my case for snooping in their private affairs. *The Pendulum* had at least a half dozen calls asking us not to run a story on the alleged Greek Court fight. I guess they'd like to see a big, colorful, boring *Pendulum*.

And truth in point, so would I. My staff doesn't enjoy bad news, but when it happens, it's our job to report it and be fair.

Which brings me the newest controversy: the two SGA members accused of neglecting senatorial duties. That's just a fancy phrase for they are accused of doing something they shouldn't have done.

It's *The Pendulum's* job to use big words like accused and allegedly, because the paper prints the news, it doesn't make judgments on anyone's guilt. Finding a verdict is the judicial board's job. And by just printing a story about the incident doesn't mean these senators are guilty.

• Jeff Wirick  
Editor in Chief

...he's a salesman. paper down I'll become one of them. And as soon as you put the right now there is you and me and make... But then of course that's only have to live with the choices you for you are the only one that will yourself. Come what may you are going to have to follow your heart that's what it's all about. Trust me today. I trust myself."

...I think that everybody is in- say this is how we must act. I do those things which seem correct to deal with it, just as I do today with what draws my concern today. I am powerless, let it not happen to me... But no am powerless, let it not will... God protect me. I and-so chance this way to deal with this is "We say the correct David Mamel. Glen Ross by Roma from the play I quote the character Ricky Seavers... I doubt it. People like they the Huxtables or the then be that thing"

...The only person that you have to answer to is yourself. Not God, not your parents, not your friends. You, and you alone. "There is an absolute morality? If you think that, com family you've ever known be they the Huxtables or the Seavers... I doubt it. People like that aren't normal, they're scared. I love the world's individuals. I love Leslie, I love Robert, I love you can jump off a cliff and die for all I care. Why is that? Very simply because it's cool and trendy to be a misanthrope and for all my protestations, I am still sway to public opinion. Truth is, in these days there is nothing rebellious about being a rebel. It is normal to be a nonconformist. Individualism: everybody's doing it! The reality that we live tells us that the biggest conformism of all is against society and the established grain is to go with it and be normal. Hold on. Time out. What is normal anyway? I mean who defines what constitutes unusual. Well, it's certainly not you. I mean you're reading the paper upside down, and as soon as you put the paper down I'll become one of them. And as soon as you put the right now there is you and me and make... But then of course that's only have to live with the choices you for you are the only one that will yourself. Come what may you are going to have to follow your heart that's what it's all about. Trust me today. I trust myself."



Chuck Buckley  
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...Is normal getting up everyday person in the world. Look out for them. You are the most important number one? Hell yes!

# Conformity be Damned

Speaking of...

## Alcohol Abuse

Is there a problem at Elon with drug and alcohol abuse?



August Peoples-Robinson, freshman: "Yes, because you can't have a decent conversation with someone without the topic of alcohol coming up."



Katie Pitcher, freshman: "Yes, there is a lot of drinking going on that should not be happening. I don't see too much drug abuse, but I know it's out there."



A.J. Grier, sophomore: "I think people need to be more responsible with their drinking, and think before their actions. Many people end up regretting things."

Kristy Rawls, senior: "No, the problem on this campus is not worse than anywhere else. Too much emphasis on the topic makes students rebel."

George Trantas, senior: "The problem is with the administration being too strict because the students are just trying to have fun."

Joshua Pantke, senior: "There isn't a problem at all. Even the chaplain has admitted that our alcohol use falls within national averages."

compiled by Lisa Roark with photos by Jenny Jarnecke

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