

Viewpoint

Yesterday Elon held the groundbreaking ceremony for the new library. The new science building is just months away from being completed. The all-new, bigger and better Elon is almost here.

But what about today's Elon College? Or more specifically, what about today's Elon College student?

Elon Vision or not, most of us still have to get to class on a daily basis, and all this construction has not helped things much.

The construction of the new science building has already caused problems on O'Kelly Avenue as construction vehicles block traffic and slow students down as they drive to class.

The new parking lot has been opened, but due to construction, nails and debris litter the lot. Most students are leery of parking there because of it.

The construction of the library creates a whole new set of problems. The construction site is going to block off the Haggard Avenue entrance into the Moseley Center parking lot. This will back up traffic into the lot from O'Kelly Avenue even more.

The construction is also going to eliminate approximately 100 spaces from the lot, forcing more students to park in the new lot, nails and all.

We have nothing against Elon trying to better the institution or the education its students receive. Some of us on the staff even regret the fact that many of us will have graduated before the "new" Elon is completed.

However, we do think that the administration should be respectful of the current students and their needs.

Is it too much to ask the construction workers not to move their machinery during peak traffic times? We should not have to be late for class because a cement truck is blocking the entrance to the parking lot. We should not have to park in a lot littered with construction debris.

Most importantly, we should not feel like the Elon that is to come is more important than the Elon that is. The "Vision" for the future of Elon College should not overlook the present.

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One is silver, the other is...

There comes a time in every friendship between a male and a female when the thought of taking the relationship to another level enters the mind.

Of course in many cases only one of the two that thinks this, and when the other one does think of it their response is sheer disgust.

So that leaves us with an off balanced relationship. In one corner we have a person who is just skipping along happy as a clam, oblivious to distress of their friend.

And in the other corner we have got someone who is harboring a deep yearning for their friend which is slowing transforming into a full blown obsession.

What do we do now? I'm going to take the view of the person who is smitten with their friend, just because it's something I can relate to better.

There are so many options open to this person that it blows the mind. They could tell the person, they could repress their feelings, they could jump off a cliff, so many choices.

Every relationship can be related to some sort of game. There are relationships that are like War, Sorry, Trivial Pursuit and for many of us, Solitaire.

I'm serious. Take Tiddly Winks for example. There are relationships like that in the world. Just smack the

coin until it goes in the hole. I don't want to even start with Connect Four.

This relationship is a poker game. Everybody comes into the thing with an ante. If a friendship fails in the first week or so, big deal, you don't lose very much.

As the friendship progresses, each "player" gets better cards and a better understanding of who the other person is.

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The stakes are also getting higher with every new thing you learn about your friend, and the closer you become and the more you risk in losing them.

Finally one person "calls" the game by asking the other person in a not-just-friends kind of way. At that point you either fold and give up on the game or the thing keeps going with even higher stakes.

There is no real answer to the problem of what to do when you fall in love with your friend.

It has been said that the very best loves start off as friends. I believe that. You have so much more to draw on. There is also a

certain level of trust that you have with a friend that you don't get when you just hook up with someone.

If you do flip for your friend, do you really want to risk telling them how you really feel? But they're your friend, if you can't tell them how you really feel about things, you aren't being that great a friend.

So it's decided. You will tell your friend just how you feel. But, what if they don't feel the same way as you?

Telling a person that you care for them in ways outside the normal role of a friend is probably the fastest way to destroy a friendship, but it could also be the best thing that could ever happen to you.

That is the problem. Is it worth risking the friendship in order to become more than just friends? That brings us right back to the beginning again. What do you do?

Do you tell them exactly how you feel and hope the best, do you swallow your true feelings and be satisfied that you still have a good friend, or do you write a silly little column about it and try and see what shakes loose? I have no idea.

Speaking of ... Elon's New Library

What are your thoughts on Elon's new library?



Amy Naudascher, junior: "I think its much needed that we expand our library. Unfortunately, I won't be able to use it while I'm here. For the future of the college, though, it will be a good thing."

Katie Spiker, freshman: "I think we need a new one. The one we have is too small and it lacks resources. And you feel like you're going into a dungeon when you go in the basement."



Dan Schrot, freshman: "We definitely need it. Other students from other campuses have much bigger libraries. I've heard that this library will be sizably larger, and that will help out the students a lot."

Damian Smith, freshman: "I'm glad we're getting it. I think I'll use it about as much as I use this library, though."



Jennifer Colter, freshman: "I think it's good, we need a bigger one. We need more resources. The library and the LRC are pretty far from where I live so the new one will be more convenient."

Jamal Green, junior: "I'm glad we're getting a new library because then we will have more room for new materials and to expand our music library."

compiled by Carrie Lancos with photos by Jenny Jarnecke and Andrew Brickey