

Viewpoint

One of the most painful tasks that the good people of this newspaper must endure is the weekly debate over what in the name of all that's sacred will we write about in the Viewpoint.

On a good night, the conversation starts out in earnest, with theories about Nietzschean existentialism mingling with ideas on the socio-political role of the modern press in American society.

Usually, however, the conversation degenerates into overly hormonal diatribes on sex (or lack thereof) and brainstorming sessions on how the female contingency of the newspaper could lure one of the male staff members into the darkroom for the evening.

Then the glorious notion of the deadline is brought to the attention of the racuous group and someone gets stuck with writing the thing.

Said individual is then locked in an office and is ordered to produce something terribly clever while being subjected to the musical stylings of whatever crap is playing on 107.5 that evening.

Odds are good that they'll hear something by Third Eye Blind at least 14 times in their sitting.

And all this poor writer wants is some fine Waffle House cuisine and the comfort of their bed.

Yet the writer sits there, as the little hamster wheel in their head sets to spinning, and pouring from every sub-journalistic pore comes a thick, rich mass of unprofessionalism and the frustrations of the day.

All this is performed under the peer pressure of the rest of the staff who wants nothing more than to escape from the confines of the office.

So why do we put up with it?

Simply because one day some topic will come up which so moves us that we will be inclined, nay, forced to write something in response.

Maybe you can think of something, good citizens of Elon College. Maybe something is irritating you to the point that you would feel compelled to write or e-mail us and tell us what the hell to put in this charming grey box on page two.

Viewpoint should not be a mess of private office jokes. But do you want it to address national issues or school policy? Tell us, we are your forum, after all.

Or maybe we're just copping out. Waffle House does sound kind of good right now...

• The Pendulum editorial staff

SGA acts as students' voice

Taking thoughts and ideas and making them a reality was the theme for the Student Government Association planning retreat held over the weekend.

Forty SGA members, including our newly elected freshmen senators, organized, planned and debated many issues.

We organized many committees to address upcoming events, including Homecoming, tailgating at football games and our budgeting process.

One of our primary goals this year is to give the students a voice through the SGA.

On Sunday morning, Provost Gerry Francis and Vice President of Student Life Smith Jackson spent two hours with our group discussing such topics as parking and the new shuttles, requiring students to have computers and the effectiveness of the new Spanish Center.

Other topics discussed were library and LRC hours, as well as the impact and timeline of campus construction over the next year.

One thing students need to realize is that the administration, for the most part, listens to our concerns.

John Gardner, who is chair of our Student Issues Committee, will deal with gripes and issues that Elon students have. We want to be able

to give students a forum to protest changes with which they do not agree and to make recommendations on ways to improve the campus climate.

Senior class senator Andrew Stemmer requested that there be a greater variety of daily newspapers on sale in the campus shop.

Mark Richter

SGA Executive

President

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Alan Slider, the business representative for the senate, would like to see a push cart selling coffee and breakfast items in front of Long building.

Several years ago, this service was available to those people who did not want to walk to the Octagon Café early in the morning.

Black Cultural Society representative Tina Ryals would like to see the LRC open longer hours.

All of these requests are legitimate and may not take too much energy or a lot of funds to fix.

We want to address the problems we have and give the student body the voice to bring up solutions to dilemmas they may face.

Things can change as long as you complain to the right people.

The SGA is the right place to start.

We may not always be able to fix every problem on campus that irritates you, but we can always lead you in the right direction. Any feedback or suggestion for the SGA can be sent to me through e-mail of by calling the SGA office at ex. 2333.

For those of you looking for some fun, I invite everyone to tailgate before the football game this Saturday evening.

Shuttles to the stadium will depart from Boney Fountain on the east side of Moseley Center starting

at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 12 for the big game.

After last weekend's exciting football game, everyone should want to cheer on our Fightin' Christians as they face Delaware State. GO ELON!



Sept. 24 Issue
Mark Richter
discusses
the Presidential
Selection
Committee

THE PENDULUM

Informing the Elon College Community

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The purpose of *The Pendulum* shall be to inform and entertain the Elon College community. *The Pendulum* shall be a forum where all members of the college community are able to express their ideas and opinions.

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Speaking of ... The JMU Game

Why do you think the football game against James Madison is so important to Elon?



Rashid Alexander, sophomore: I won't be here for the game. But it's Elon's first year playing big name schools. It could really put Elon on the map as part of the powerhouse football teams. It'll give us some respect.



Halee Riehle, sophomore: I think the school's trying to make a big deal out of it, personally. It's so important because they are a Division I school and they want all of us to go up there and support them so they'll win!



Maureen Hass, sophomore: I think because it's a big name school. They're well known, so it's a good challenge for us. It's a nice perk for Elon when people see them on the schedule next to the big schools.

Derek Luther, sophomore: I have to go because I'm in the pep band. It's part of the push to Division I. The football team says we'll do very well. It's part of all the big excitement going into Division I.

compiled by Carrie Lancos with photos by Kristy Wolfgang