

## Viewpoint

Fall Break is nearly upon us, kiddies, and we know you're probably more than ready to clear out of this brick-infested cesspool.

Your eyes are glazed, your brains are southern-fried and that puddle of drool accumulating under your chair in history class would be a stretch for Moses to cross, much less your classmates.

During one of the frequent philosophical ramblings brought on by midterm-induced overdoses on Dr. Pepper, perhaps the question arose among students: Are the good people of *The Pendulum* ready for the break?

Sweet mother of mercy, yes.

The majority of you don't work for the newspaper. The majority of you go about living your lives on Tuesday nights, studying, socializing, drinking, scoring or doing whatever it is that the kids do these days. And God bless you for it.

Up here in Moseley 233, the story is a wee bit different. Take this past Tuesday, for example...

Apparently every computer in our office went on its Fall Break sometime last Wednesday, however we took this little setback in stride. At last count, the score for Macintosh Dodgeball was Team Eds: 16, Team Frosh: 12.

Each editor had his or her own way of dealing with the stress of the failed computers, the overshot deadlines and the constant reminders of papers left unfinished and midterms yet to be studied for... although some were more creative than others.

Our news editor quickly claimed the couch for her own personal nap schedule while our editor in chief, features and sports editors found comfort on the phone with civilians or in the scrumptious spread of lukewarm Chinese food congealing on the coffee table.

Somewhere between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m., our photo editor developed a raging God Complex and, in a fit of spiteful creativity, bestowed a third eye upon the forehead of our assistant sports editor. Photographic proof of this ocular miracle will be presented upon request.

The opinions editor was last seen curled up in the fetal position in a corner, insulting her computer's mother and wondering aloud how the A&E editor escaped so early.

Fall Break could not have come any sooner.

• *The Pendulum* editorial staff

## 'It's different to be a bystander'

Two *Pendulum* reporters met with current president Fred Young to discuss his feelings and reactions towards the search for a new president. These are his responses to those questions.

**Q:** What kind of experience has it been for you to be at Elon while they look for the next president?

**A:** It's been absolutely pleasant and interesting. It's different to be a bystander, which I have been in this process. I've watched everybody else and I've watched myself react to everybody else and it's just been more interesting and pleasant. When you retire everybody's nice to you.

It's different because I'm an observer and not a participant, yet I'm highly interested in the outcome, not in controlling it or influencing it. I want this institution to have the finest president in the world, and I would certainly want to get that.

**Q:** Do you have a personal preference?

**A:** No, not at all. Obviously, I don't know them. I haven't examined their credentials. I've only met one of the candidates, and they said they have hundreds of applicants.

I don't have a personal preference because I have no information, and in some ways that's inter-

esting, because I don't have the responsibility, but I am observing, and I am interested.

**Q:** What characteristics would you consider are the most important for Elon's next president?

**A:** I really don't think you can bottle a president

### Dr. J. Fred Young Elon College President

with characteristics. It's the total package of the person.

Some people think this characteristic or that characteristic is indispensable, but

I think you have to look at the total package, the whole person, the leadership skills, the intellect, the knowledge, the judgement, the relationship skills and how they package together.

**Q:** What do you want the new president to do with the Elon Vision?

**A:** I anticipate that the new president will finish the Vision and gain the experience and knowledge to lead the community in establishing the next vision.

That's sort of a dual purpose, to finish what is 80 percent complete and while that's being done, gaining the knowledge, establishing the leadership base, getting to know the community and being able

to lead the community in developing another strategic plan which will carry Elon well into the next century.

**Q:** Would you consider yourself a lame duck president right now?

**A:** I didn't until about two weeks ago. I became a lame duck in my mind because the work of this office is about a year ahead, and once this academic year

started, I'm finished with my planning work for this year.

My work as president is to look at what we are going to be doing next summer and next fall, which renovations, which curriculum changes, etc.

When I realized that there was no next year for me to plan for, then I essentially became a lame duck.

...I'm not generally an emotional person. I love this institution, I like the students, I like the community to the extent you can love a community and feel a part of it.

I guess by now 15 students have said to me "you promised to be there at 10:30 on graduation." That has been one of the really sentimental things that I have felt.



## 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 ...

## Fall Break

## What are your plans for Fall Break?



**Randy Miyaoka, sophomore:** I'm going home and hanging out with some friends who went to colleges far away. The Virginia Tech marching band is going to be in town this weekend, so I'm going to see some of my friends who are in the band play.



**Ashley Overbey, freshman:** I'm going home to visit my best friend whom I haven't seen in a year, one of my best guy friends is taking me out and it's my brother's birthday. It's also Homecoming at my high school, so I'm going to the game.



**Alison Kandzer, freshman:** I'm going to a Van Gogh exhibit in Washington. I'm getting up at 4 in the morning, sitting on the street and camping out for tickets. I'm going clubbing too.

**Jay Bryan, junior:** We're heading up to Baltimore and going to see the play "Rent." Then we're going to chill in Baltimore, maybe go down to D.C.

**Leigh Wheeler, sophomore:** I'm going to be a counselor for a retreat with my old church youth group back home. Then I'm going to hang out with my family and spend a little quality time with them.

compiled by Carrie Lancos with photos by Kristy Wolfgang