

## Viewpoint

Here are some names. Say the first thing that comes to your mind: Divine Brown, Michael Jackson, "Dirk Diggler," Chuck Buckley.

Yes folks, it seems we, the media, are attempting to run the gamut on smut — that's right, sex. Oddity, beefcake, freakshow, or just good ol' pervert, we as a culture just can't get enough of the stuff.

Last week, *The Pendulum* attempted to run (as it does weekly) an unbiased section on a topic of our choosing — the Focus section. Although around since biblical times, homosexuality continues to be an issue upon which our culture just can't seem to pass a final equivocal and across-the-board opinion.

We received many letters in response which are not critical of the homosexual individuals who discussed their experiences at Elon, nor are they critical of the article on Spectrum. Rather, it was the conservative commentary from "Anonymous" that provoked readers to write in.

The opinions expressed in the article "It's not a cause, it's a private matter" by Anonymous may or may not be shared by individuals of the editorial staff, however we unanimously defend this individual's right to leave his/her name off the byline.

In past issues, the Focus section included anonymous articles from a person dealing marijuana and a closeted homosexual. Perhaps these "Anonymous" submissions seem more justifiable than that of a person who did not want to face repercussions from an unpopular opinion. Perhaps not...

Why is it you know John Wayne Bobbitt's name? I doubt that you're following his supposedly stellar adult movie career. Perhaps it's that our culture brands such sexual oddities with names and even laws. Granted the system may fail in the rehabilitation of some sex offenders, but now laws track them down and let everyone know what they did one night with a monkey. Forget the fact he's done his time.

For those of you who have a problem with the anonymity of the author, we simply ask, "Why?" This individual decided not to wear a Scarlet Letter for the rest of his college career. If Michael Wright, who wrote about coming out, left his name off his byline, would the same number of letters pour in?

Just because an opinion is unpopular, doesn't mean it doesn't deserve voice. At least "Anonymous" had the courage to write.

• *The Pendulum* Editorial Staff

## Vanity... yeah, I got that

Self-confidence is a good thing. However, to much of it is even better. I wouldn't be the, whatever I am, today if it weren't for my own beautiful little ego. Some say I am conceited, some say I am just an ass. Whatever the truth may be, it will suffice to say that I have found my own little niche in Elon's social society.

Freshman year I found it necessary to go out every weekend and try to fit in with all the big boys around campus in an effort to make friends. This worked quite well at first. Try it if you like.

Soon you will see, as I did, that it's not really worth it. About two or three months down the road you will look back at all the people you met and ask yourself what good memories, if any, you have of your time with them. You can't remember any because you were too drunk to remember any, weren't you?

Then sophomore year I chanced upon a revelation. An intense moment of inner-peace, much akin to the Hindu Moksha, in which the Yogi achieves his goal of self-realization.

I looked inward upon myself and found I liked what I saw. What's more I looked around and saw that those around me liked it too.

No one has ever accused me of having low self-esteem but sud-

denly I realized I was what every person wants to be. Content in and of myself.

Alas, I am not perfect. I make mistakes, as to which several people on this campus can and probably will attest.

But what makes me so great is that I'm not concerned with my shortcomings. I know I have them and I work on them in private

### Chris Rash

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sessions with a counselor. Don't ask, my problems are none of your business.

I guess what this column is really saying is that, no matter what your shortcomings, you to can be like me. Truly happy.

The key to true contentment is being comfortable with yourself. A necessary component of comfort with one's self is confidence, thus I have included a few tips from Rash's guide to immediate egotism.

The first "step" in achieving self-confidence, which in turn leads to happiness, is knowing how to carry yourself. Adopt a style that is all your own and flaunt it.

Those close to me say that I have adopted a strut in addition to

the awkwardly cocked hat. Neither are fashion statements, but rather they are symbols of me. Each person needs to change a little something about themselves that makes them more noticeable.

Elon College is a cookie-cutter campus and those of us that break the mold have the best college experiences.

Develop an image that is purely your own and maintain it better than anyone else could. Eventually your reputation will precede you. This may sound bad, but in actuality it helps you socially.

People hear the rumors some are true but most are so blatantly false that people will be intrigued by them and become interested in the real you.

My advice to you is to go out, "strut your stuff" and have the best time possible doing it. You only live once. Might as well let every one know your doing it right.

"Just because someone excludes confidence, does not necessarily make them a bad person."

— Sarah Michelle Gellar  
*Cruel Intentions*



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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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## EYE ON ELON

### Making the music of praise



Andy Villwock (l.) and Nikki Davis of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship practice songs together in Moseley Center Sunday night. Villwock and Davis are part of IV's Worship Team, which leads the music for the Large Group services.

photo by Carrie Lanco