

## Viewpoint

Last week *The Pendulum* devoted the front page to the new Ellington Health Center. In wake of another success of the *Elon Vision*, I've decided our school's plan needs a few amendments.

First, our library needs new books. New reading materials are essential to a smooth transition to university status. I suggest the best series of books that have hit the market since the early 80s. For example, the "Funny Face" characters became an epic hit that swept the kindergarten reading list year after year. Likewise, rather than spending valuable college students' tuition on reference materials that students could use for classes, I suggest we expand our collection to "Spot," "Blue's Clues" and the "Rugrats in Paris" video.

Secondly, with our recent burst of construction, I have a suggestion that would not only beautify our campus, but improve student relations. What *Elon* is in desperate need of is a set of good playground equipment. I am talking slides, swings and even seesaws; the whole nine yards. With playgrounds on campus, *Elon* students would be relaxed, more hospitable and would learn practical application of the word "sharing."

Finally, the *Elon Vision* is lacking a few of the finer aesthetics early education taught us: "snack-time" and "nap time." How would classes be if one-third of the way through, a teacher's aide passed out apple juice and animal crackers? Once you've had time to digest, a 15-minute nap time is allotted to each student. How happy would you be if you were allowed to legitimately take a nap during class without the teacher caring?

As the school finds newer ways to treat us like children, we should find better ways to improve our environment. If professors are going to treat us like we don't know squat, we should be able to act like it. Well, I'm going to go take my own advice and take a nap! Cheers.

Adam Waterson - Photography Editor

## AIDS Quilt makes way to Elon

Lauren Vilis  
*The Pendulum*

The AIDS Memorial Quilt was established in order to provide a memorial for victims of the AIDS disease and to provide a means for remembrance and healing for their loved ones. It is being used to illustrate the enormity and severity of the AIDS epidemic, to increase public awareness, assist with HIV prevention education, and to raise funds for community-based AIDS service organizations.

In June 1987 Cleve Jones, a long-time San Francisco gay rights activist, founded the NAMES Project with several friends in order to embark on a quest to honor and remember victims of the AIDS disease.

Their quest led to the founding of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The project began with one panel memorializing Jones' friend Marvin Feldman. Due to the rapid spread of the disease and increasing awareness, the public and generous donors were quick to respond as panels and supplies began to flood into the San Francisco workshop.

Four months later on October 11, 1987 the Quilt was displayed for the first time on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. It contained 1,920 panels and covered a space larger than a football field.

This inaugural display prompted a four-month, 20-city, national tour of the quilt the following spring. The tour raised over \$500,000 for hundreds of AIDS organizations and added over 4,000 new panels by the end of the tour, tripling the Quilt's initial size.

By October 1996, the Quilt covered the entire National Mall in Washington, D.C. Consequently this was the last time the entire Quilt would ever be displayed again due to its size. Currently there are over 44,000 panels in the Quilt and over 83,000 names representing 20 percent of all AIDS deaths in the United States.

The entire Quilt weighs 50 tons and is equivalent to 26 football fields in size. All 50 states are represented on the quilt, as well as 36 countries.

*Elon* will display 500 of the 44,000 panels in existence April 26-30 in the Koury Center during the Quilt's only North Carolina Appearance.

Committees are preparing for the Quilt by raising money, generating publicity among the *Elon/Burlington* community and surrounding cities, and providing panel making sessions. These panel-making sessions provide members of the community with an opportunity to create a lasting memorial for their loved ones who have lost their lives to AIDS.

The third panel-making session will be at the Holy Comforter Church March 3 and the last session will be April 3 in the Moseley Center. Each session is from 6-9 p.m. At these sessions participants bring their own supplies and items to personalize their panels. A sewing machine is provided and several quilters are on hand at each session to provide assistance in the physical construction of the panels. and is open to anyone who wishes to memorialize a loved one who has died from the AIDS disease.



The purpose of *The Pendulum* is to inform and entertain the *Elon* College community and provide a forum for ideas and opinions.

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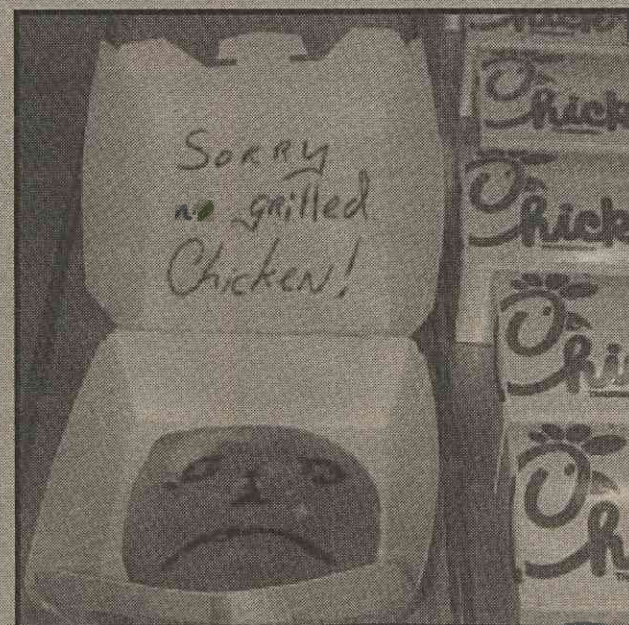
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Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, double-spaced and signed with the author's name, year in school and phone number for verification. These submissions are also accepted as Word documents on disk or by e-mail. *The Pendulum* reserves the right to edit obscene or potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may have to be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of *The Pendulum* and will not be returned.

# EYE IN ELON



Ah, those  
witty Octagon  
employees!  
Don't worry, at  
least it isn't as  
bad as the  
Coffee Shop,  
they have  
buns!

Photo by: Adam Waterson / Photography Editor