

Pendulum Editorial

When the *Reno v. American Civil Liberties Union* decision came, the nation felt a bittersweet twinge in their stomachs. The decision, made by the Supreme Court, overturned the previous Communications Decency Act, which censored certain Internet materials. *Reno v. ACLU* freed the World Wide Web and its surfers.

This week Elon was faced with its own Internet moral dilemma.

This dilemma leaves many students and staff ques-

tioning the place of the Internet on a college campus and throughout the world. Should we question others' Web page content? Should we hold them responsible and liable for material that is disgusting, inappropriate and demeaning to some? Or should we laugh at and appreciate the attempt at humor?

The decision, the questions and the Web itself will continue to raise issues everywhere. Solving the problem and addressing the issues will not be easy. Do we rely on people to be

respectful and tasteful? Do we allow our students and staff total freedom to express themselves? Or do we find middle ground? Do we create institutional laws and regulations? Maybe the answer isn't in the legislation, but rather in the people.

Maybe we should expect more from our staff, our leaders and our peers. Self-censorship, or rather self-realization, may be the key to ending the trivial and never-ending Internet wars.



Asking to re-instate Elon's most cherished television brotherhood

Teresa Bateman
Columnist



In high school, I would desparately look forward to Wednesday nights at 8p.m., because my favorite show, Dawson's Creek was on. I would even go so far as holding Dawson's Creek parties with my friends, and 10 of us would order pizza and sit and watch the Dawson's Creek saga unfold.

In my senior year I managed to get my generally tough father hooked on 7th Heaven. He and I would watch the show together while doing schoolwork.

Before coming to the wonderful world of Elon, I had never missed an episode of Dawson's Creek. I would even make sure to tape it when I had gymnastics practice during its time.

The fourth season of Dawson's Creek was slated to begin on Oct. 4, and I was ready to host another year of parties in my dorm room at Elon.

I had heard rumors that at Elon, the Warner Brother's Channel was not shown. However I couldn't believe that such a teen oriented channel would not be broadcast.

On Oct 3, one day before the big premiere day in which viewers would find out about Pacey and Joey's summer ro-

mance, my worst fears were confirmed. While flipping through all 103 of the channels on my TV, I never once saw WB.

Instead I saw ECTV, where my beloved network was supposed to be. I was gravely disappointed.

Now I am about to commit blasphemy because I am a broadcast communications major, but do we really need three channels devoted to Elon College television?

One channel shows movies on the weekends, and another scrolls through station identification numbers, which by the way can also be found on the channel 22, the TV Guide Channel. The third one, I am guessing, is used for actual Elon broadcast.

I have been at Elon since August and I have seen very few programs that are actually

broadcast. I saw the SGA presidential debates and that is about all I have seen. Most of the other time viewers see community announcements accompanied by WSOE (the radio station) broadcast.

So why are three stations taken up by Elon? What is the harm in taking one of those away and letting the WB network broadcast?

I know several people who are fans of Jack and Jill, 7th Heaven, Dawson's Creek and Roswell. Some even like to watch the baseball that is shown on the WB Network.

As it stands now, in order to watch this network we have to unhook the cable from our televisions and hook up an antenna, now this isn't much, but I would just like to be able to see my shows without too much effort.

I am very out of the loop when it comes to Dawson's Creek and 7th Heaven, and yes I have my parents fill me in on the latest WB gossip. I hope in the future that our school will take into consideration having just two Elon Channel's and giving us WB fans satisfaction in seeing the love triangle of Dawson, Joey, and Pacey unfold for yet another season.

A dripping satire from around the campfire

Rady Large
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Every person on this Earth is a butterfly of hope and happiness. We have the ability to show the patterns and colors within ourselves, to spread our wings and float through life in a happy bobbing that showcases our talents and inner-person. Yet, within the past few months, the safe, serene, country club-like bubble that is Elon has turned into one of those gas-polluted, grayish bubbles that you encounter when some toxin has been poured into a puddle.

No one here can truly have an excuse for a frown here. Unless your mind is tuned to the real world of hunger, disease, smog and oppression around our bubble, you have absolutely no reason not to smile. I walk past dozens of people here who look healthy, yet miserable and unhappy simply because of a stupid trivial mundane everyday crap. Look around you. Everything is alive and YOU are alive. You have food, shelter and you are surrounded by people that don't want to hurt or surround you. All over the world are young students like us with snipers hunting them down, or textile bosses beating them for not stitching correctly. Here, we work to prepare for, well...work.

If you are not thinking about others in that world of oppression and corruption that so many battle everyday, why not live in the now

and smile? When someone says hello to you, reply and send that package back to them. We are losing a sense of community that was here when I began school. Back then you could wave without getting ignored or glared at. Southerners call this the effect of the "Yankee salting" of college kids that come to school down here. I don't agree. There are communities that exist with intercultural relationships all over the world. There are chill communities all over the world. All of them have one thing in common - a true sense of community. They don't let the bigwigs steal from them, or slowly strangle their budget.

Octagon is open from morning until 1 a.m. At the beginning of the year we were allowed to use our meal plan. Well, as of four days ago, the café offers a "late night program." That means that you can't use the meal plan from 12 to 1, only meal dollars. Don't be too surprised if next semester you have a "Late Night" option on your meal card. Those sly snakes!

The point is, well, three things: smile (you can at least help the vibe on our campus); watch out for our community being attacked by a money driven institution (late night...that's all I am saying); and let your beautiful butterflies get out and play in this spring paradise (push positive energy)! To quote a friend, "there is mad sh*t around this fire."