

LETTERS

Response to article about discrimination

To the editor:

I, along with many black students on this campus, was very offended by the editorial "Silence may be golden, but it should never be black or white." The author of the editorial completely neglected to take in consideration everyone's perspective, and cranked out an utterly one-sided account. The author took two examples and completely stereotyped the entire black race, or should I say "species," by the way he refers to us as a completely different entity.

To begin with, let me cite two non-fictional examples of my own. First, a black friend of mine overhears a roommate and a group of white friends discussing how all black people have attitude problems. Then there's the time when I am sitting in my room, minding my

own business, and I hear a group of white people discussing the "N" word out loud and quite insensitively right in the next room. Although these situations both involved white people, I am not going to stereotype the entire race or preach about how white people need to learn to keep their racist comments to themselves, because not ALL white people feel the same way as the people in my examples. I only wish the author of last week's article would use the same reasoning.

I would like the author to put himself in the shoes of a black person. Sure, the days of slavery and the Civil Rights movement are over and gone, but racism still exists, and whoever says it doesn't is living in a fantasy world. In my day-to-day activities, being the only black person in my dorm building or maybe

one of three blacks in a classroom, I am never sure who is looking at me as "the black boy" or as just another human being, and my aforementioned experiences (among others) give me reason to wonder. For that reason, I can understand why some other black people may feel extra-sensitive about race issues.

Furthermore, those blacks who are extra-sensitive about race do not account for every black person in this country, or the world. So next time, I advise the author to take that into consideration, and instead of pointing the finger at one race, realize that the responsibility of "alleviating the racial divisions" is not only on black people, but everyone on this Earth.

-Darrius Covington,
Freshman

Greenpeace organization has major impact

To the editor:

Do you care that logging has destroyed 80 percent of the world's forests? Logging not only affects the world's forests, it also affects the inhabitants, which survive there. We have become concerned with this environmental problem as well as many others that are affecting the world we live in today.

The Greenpeace organization has been actively, addressing environmental problems for 30 years on a global scale.

Greenpeace takes a direct, non-violent approach to increasing public awareness on key environmental issues. Though nonviolent actions seem ineffective, they really have made impacts around the world.

For example, the organization originated with a small group of activists sailing into a nuclear testing zone to stop the testing.

Now, 30 years later, this organization has grown to have offices in 39 countries.

Forestry and nuclear disarmament are only two of the many is-

suues that Greenpeace is concentrated with. The others include global warming, genetic engineering, oceans, and toxic wastes.

Although this is a wide focus range, Greenpeace has made a significant impact within each and everyone of these areas. Some of their major achievements include protecting Antarctica from exploitation, making an end to nuclear testing, and eliminating most of the dumping of nuclear wastes at sea.

Greenpeace began with many positive objectives, and remains to concentrate on most of these. However, there are some concerns with how they run their organization. Some aspects of the Greenpeace organization have turned to making a profit, unlike when it first began. We believe that Greenpeace has a very good idea for how to control the many environmental problems, and that they have worked very hard to become what they are today.

However, they need to look back on their mission and remember why they began. Their mission is: "To protect and save the global environmental "commons"; long ensure

there is a world our children can live in with risks from polluted water, air, land and food."

To gain further information on the organization or want to see how you can become apart of Greenpeace and make a difference environmentally, visit their Web site at www.greenpeaceusa.org/.

- Michelle Williams,
Monique Simpson and
Erika Cook

Freshmen

Write to The Pendulum

Letters are welcomed from all readers. They must include name, title or class and phone number. Maximum length is 300 words. All letters are subject to editing and will not be returned. No anonymous submissions will be printed.

E-mail: pendulum@elon.edu

Mail: 7012 Campus Box

Thumbs up OR Thumbs down?



Elon received a downfall of snow, delaying the start of winter term.



Walter Cronkite is slated to speak on campus Spring 2003.



As a result of the snow, Elon held classes on Saturday, Jan 5.

Hollywood's preoccupation on itself as visable at the Golden Globes.



Thank you to the professors who realize sitting a classroom for three hours is a long time and opt to give a 10-minute break.

When professors give students breaks, they can't afford to lose the class time, so 10 minutes are added on the length of the class.

The driveways were removed at University houses, which are used for faculty and staff offices. This seems like a bad idea when parking at Elon is limited.

Have any Thumbs Up/Thumbs down ideas? Send your suggestions to pendulum@elon.edu.