

The Pendulum

Established 1974

Opportunities are abound on Elon's campus

Part of the ingenuity of attending a small university are the many organizational opportunities afforded the student body. The SGA recognizes more than 110 student organizations on campus, so finding one most suited to your interests is easy.

Each organization should be present Friday on Young Commons from 4 to 6 p.m. at the annual organization fair. This is the prime time to interact with members of a desired group, or to discover one with which you may be unfamiliar.

Prior to the org fair will be the media interest meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. in McKinnon E and F in Moseley Center. (Freshmen: The time you were given as part of your orientation schedule is incorrect.) The Pendulum, WSOE, ESTV, Colonnades and Phi Psi Cli will be present at the meeting. Visit the media organization of your choice, but don't be afraid to join more than one. In today's world of media convergence, being adept in more than one field of communications is almost a necessity.

Contrary to popular belief, the orgANIZATION fairs are not for the sole purpose of freshmen. All students should feel a strong obligation to attend, as it is never too late to get involved. It's important not to over commit yourself, but don't shy away from trying many things until you find what you enjoy. There are 110 organizations, surely one fits your needs. Find it, and create your niche.

Pointed fingers over blackouts

Leigh Wiley
Columnist

I'm lounging at home participating in my usual summer activity of doing absolutely nothing when my phone rings. A quick caller ID check tells me it's my boyfriend and I answer the phone prepared with a witty hello. But before I can even open my mouth I hear him screaming,

"The South has risen again!"

Naturally, this comment surprised me. What had some stupid redneck done now?

But alas, the South had actually done nothing. Through no fault of anyone, the entire Northeast and part of Canada was completely without power.

So what my boyfriend was basically saying is the North is incommunicado, California can't pick a governor, ergo the South has risen again by default.

It's not too disconcerting to me that 13 power plants in the northeast failed and no one quite knows why. What does worry me is that President Bush is prepared

to "investigate." But of course, at this point the White House would investigate a broken tree limb. I think the entire situation would work so much better if Bush threw his hands in the air and admitted that he knew nothing about electricity and just left the power companies to sort it all out.

Eventually, someone will have

to figure out what happened.

The news has been covered with pictures and film of the northeastern victims all sitting quietly in the streets, chatting and having what looked like one big sleep over. That's just because they can't get to a phone to call their lawyers. If Bush's administration can't find the Homer Simpson who pushed the wrong button then heads are going to roll once power is restored to all.

If all of these experts continue to simply point to Ohio and go, "It started there man, just don't ask," then the American government is going to need a new plan.

I think the Garden City Hotel

in Long Island has the right idea. As soon as they learned that the electricity wasn't coming back any time soon, the hotel reportedly kicked on its back up generators and served complementary cocktails to all its guests. I'm sure a mixer would raise everyone's spirits.

The American and Canadian governments are not planning something this simple. Instead they have started to point fingers at one another. Safely from their well-lit, air-conditioned offices the neighboring countries are accusing each other of causing the outage. This seems to be in the spirit of South Park: if all else fails, just blame Canada.

Amazingly, nothing has gone seriously wrong in what's being called the worst blackout in history. No true riots have happened, and people have seemingly returned to their normal lives without too much of a ruckus. Even the Great War between Canada and the United States has been postponed.

And of course the South's quick rise to the top has been overthrown once again.

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Leigh Wiley

Varsity dining welcomed by students

Brittany Dunlap
Opinions Editor

The new Varsity dining area located in downstairs McEwen is just what Elon needs. If it is as popular as the University hopes, it seems like it will be the place to gather for food and friends. For those of you who used to watch Saved by the Bell, I see the Varsity being somewhat equivalent to Bayside's 'The Max.'

The food is far better than what is served in most of the dining halls and you have a wide selection to choose from. Not to mention the prices are hard to beat. For those of you who have an unnecessary amount of meal dollars, this would be a much better place to waste them than Cantina.

The best part of the Varsity is the atmosphere. On Monday around

lunch time there was not an empty seat in the house. The lazy-boy chairs and movie theater type screen were a plus, not to mention comfortable. They will be a great place to relax with friends while kicking back and watching the evening's game.

To keep you entertained while eating, there are 14 flat screen TV's strategically placed around the restaurant. On Monday, everything from CNN, to ESPN and even soap operas were being aired.

On the walls of Varsity are murals of Elon athletics. Although some seem a little big, they help give the restaurant its sports bar theme. To top it off, it is fun to see your friends plastered up on a wall.

The way the food is served in paper cups and baskets has raised a few eyebrows. However, those paper

cups and plates remind me of how a real sports bar serves its food. Besides, it makes for a faster and easier clean up which means tables will turn over faster.

The only drawback that I saw was slow service. The place was packed and there were not nearly enough people on staff to make sure everything ran smoothly. However, the staff was polite and apologized for the wait.

Varsity has great hours, Sunday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. When you have a late night craving and nothing is open, your best bet would be to pay a visit to Varsity.

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The Pendulum

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The Pendulum is published each Thursday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Monday before publication.

Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, double-spaced, signed and include a telephone number for verification. 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.

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Each individual is entitled to one free copy.