

The Pendulum

Established 1974

Student apathy taken to a sickening new level

It's bad enough that students don't attend football games. Or rather, show up halfway through the second quarter and leave at halftime. It's terrible that students have to be told not to leave convocation events early.

But it's absolutely deplorable that the existence of Safe Rides is in jeopardy. Citing lack of volunteers, Safe Rides may be forced to shut down its operation. And in the giant arena of Elon apathy, this turn of events stands head and shoulders above all else.

Not showing up for a football game or leaving convocation early is pretty minute in the grand scheme of things. But failing to volunteer for something as important as Safe Rides can cost lives. The program exists to serve and aid and students ... your peers.

According to the Safe Rides staff, students have called the office on a Friday or Saturday night, essentially saying they're driving drunk because no one at Safe Rides was present when they called to get a ride.

Show a little compassion and get past the egocentric attitude. And don't think someone driving drunk doesn't affect you. Don't become a casualty of someone's ineptness.

For those of you who have used Safe Rides in the past, sacrifice one weekend evening and give back to a program that has served you. So everyone put down your drinks, find your way to Moseley 230 and sign up. Safe Rides is run by students for students. Make a difference.

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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.

To reach The Pendulum at 233 Moseley Center, call 278-7247 or fax 278-7246. Contact The Pendulum by e-mail at pendulum@elon.edu. Visit our Web site at www.elon.edu/pendulum.

Each individual is entitled to one free copy.

Schwarzenegger lacks experience

Leigh Wiley
Columnist

With everything else that seems to be falling apart in our country, the California governor race only adds to the problems. But this isn't just any typical kick out the current governor and replace him. This one involves celebrities who have ridden their wave of stardom and still want attention. Since Arnold Schwarzenegger has chosen to run, the race has gotten more press than any governor election should.

The actor is avoiding not just one question, but all of them. So far Schwarzenegger has not participated in any major debates with any of the other almost 100 candidates in the race. Most of his answers are wishy-washy.

Art Torres, the California democratic party chairman, told CNN that he claims that

Schwarzenegger is "ducking the debates because he's not prepared. Every time he's asked questions, he uses the old Reagan trick — 'Oh, I can't hear you' or 'Oh, I don't know' or 'I don't remember.' At some point, that's going to catch up to him."

And Torres seems to have pegged Schwarzenegger perfectly. Schwarzenegger claims that illegal immigrants should not be given drivers

licenses—a firm belief I'm sure. He follows

that up by saying that other decisions on the rights concerning illegal immigrants should be left up to the federal government. Basically, he does not want to take a stand on anything, including which way he believes the government should lean. This kind of attitude will not get Schwarzenegger anywhere. He might make it to the governor's chair, but without a true voice.

He won't be happy there. People clamoring to make a difference will see to that.

Beyond not taking a stand on issues, Schwarzenegger is not taking a stand on his history either. In 1977 Schwarzenegger did an interview with "Oui" magazine talking about his drug use and group sex. When confronted with this interview Schwarzenegger claims not to remember it. Do we really need a California governor who can't remember an interview about that?

Schwarzenegger is using his run to allow a "peoples takeover" of Sacramento. During one of his recent speeches, someone in the crowd threw an egg at Schwarzenegger, which landed on his shoulder. The egg did not harm Schwarzenegger. In fact he joked about it in a later engagement. I think that the egg may symbolize that the people might not want Schwarzenegger to take over Sacramento. And I, for one, cannot blame them.

Contact Leigh Wiley at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Elon stereotype far more diverse

Elizabeth Colquitt
Columnist

A Coach handbag. A BMW convertible. These are just some of the "status symbols" you will see in the Elon Bubble. But is that all our student body is focused on?

Hardly.

My roommate moved out Aug. 28, two days after classes began. Although she cited many reasons, a key issue that troubled her was what she considered a homogenous student body. In her opinion, the sole interest of all Elon students was their money, clothes, hair and cars.

Too bad she never ventured outside the dorm.

While I've met a girl whose first car was a Porsche, I've also met people who wouldn't have even been able to consider this

school without ample scholarship money. Several students also balance their class hours with a full work schedule.

Another mistake my roommate made was cutting people off just because they dressed a certain way. I'm from a small town in Tennessee where we don't even have our own Gap. I'd never heard of Lilly or Vera Bradley until I came here.

These brands are very popular at Elon and I've met several girls and even a guy who consider them staples of their wardrobe. Just because they are a fan of this style doesn't make them snobby and cold; most of them were actually quite friendly. They also don't compromise the entire student body.

For every Lilly fan, there's another Goodwill one in the next desk.

Elon students are also very passionate about their organizations here. Most students you come across are involved in at least one thing, whether it be a political organization, Greek life or club sports. By putting time and energy into a group effort, people are broadening their horizons and meeting others with different experiences.

Elon is a preppy school, but that's not all it is. While there are a few stereotypes about the students, they don't apply to everyone, and even the ones who they do apply to are more than just cute shoes.

Try giving people a chance before you write them off.

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Leigh Wiley