

The Pendulum

Established 1974

Time is of the essence when it comes to class

It's 9:20 a.m., do you know where your watch is?

Elon may need to offer a refresher course in telling time. Students are leisurely strolling into class 45 minutes late, irritating professors and fellow students alike.

Your professors spend a lot of time working on their lessons so that you get the best education possible. By slouching in to class 25 minutes after the lecture has begun, you have missed important material and wasted your professor's time. Our professors are experienced, well-educated people who can, if you give them a chance by arriving to class on time, make your education amazing.

Taking your sweet time getting to class is also annoying for your fellow students. We can manage to show up on time, even for an 8 a.m. class, and your late arrival interrupts our concentration. We have to wait for you to get settled into your seat before the lecture can continue. We deserve your respect as much as your professors.

Maybe it is time for Elon to start enforcing some kind of tardy policy similar to the attendance policy. Maybe then students would take class times seriously and we could learn in peace.

Being on time is really about being responsible and treating others with respect. Mom isn't here to wake you up for class and in the real world your boss won't care you're late because you had to have your latte. Get to class on time or don't bother coming at all.

The Pendulum

Colin Donohue, Editor-in-Chief
Lindsay Porter, Managing Editor
Steve Earley, News Editor
Matt Belanger, Asst. News Editor
Brittlny Dunlap, Opinions Editor
Kaitlyn North, A & E Editor
Mary-Hayden Britton, Features Editor

Nick Palatllelo, Sports Editor
Jeff Heyer, Photography Editor
Tim Rosner, Asst. Photo. Editor
Ellis Harman and Jessica Kemp, Copy Editors
Annette Randall, Bus. Manager
Matt Ford, Online Editor
Janna Anderson, Adviser

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.

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.

Mailbox



To the Editor,

It's approximately 12:50 a.m. Oct. 1, 2003, and another common occurrence unfolds. My friends and I are watching the Boston Red Sox vs. Oakland Athletics' American League division series game and the police show up. So what if we're cheering for our team and chanting for our favorite players? So what if our apartment normally holds only 10 people but tonight we have 17?

If police want to know why college kids hate them, then all they need to do is step back and look at the scenario I witnessed. Two police officers just stepped into my next-door neighbor's (off-campus) apartment and started giving out drinking tickets and breaking up the party. They threatened people saying, "If you don't leave right now, then I'm taking all of you to jail." Then, recognizing another person that

he is writing up the police officer said, "Haven't I written you up the police officer said, before? Yeah, sucks to be you." What kind of scare tactic is that? How unprofessional can someone possibly be? They claim to have received a noise complaint when in reality all of the potential complainers are in the same apartment as the cops. This is why nobody likes or appreciates cops. It should be, realized by now that Elon Police are not out to "protect and serve," but to "find you and screw you."

Let me try to keep this short and sweet. I have no problem with a police officer setting up a road check and making sure the roads are clear of drunk drivers. However, when police officers go out of their way to seek out 25 college students and find a way to ruin their night, then they have gone way too far.

Their \$40,000 a year salary

may buy them a used Chevy pickup truck, but it will never buy them the respect and dignity that a normal police officer should have. They aren't making friends. They aren't making our lives any safer. All they are doing is putting a bad name to their profession. Just think about this Elon students; every time you get your paycheck from work and you see that little state tax being taken out of your gross pay, you are paying for various things, including a police officer's salary.

Maybe Niggaz With Attitude said it best some 13 years ago, or maybe things just haven't changed or have changed for the worse. In closing I'd like to say to the Town of Elon Police, thank you for absolutely nothing but making your quota, and congratulations on being the No. 1 nemesis of any normal college student.

-John Menser, '05

Computer communication trendy

Elyse Rodriguez

Columnist

As most of you have probably seen, there was an article in last week's paper titled "Confessions of an AIM Addict" that says it was written by yours truly. Sorry to burst everyone's bubble, but I didn't write it and I'm not going to take credit for someone else's work. However, since I keep getting asked about it, I figured I'd write my own opinion of AIM to clear up the confusion.

I'm from New York and as many of you know, that's pretty far away. I would like to keep in touch with all of my friends, but there's no way I'm going to call each and every one of them throughout the week. I'm your stereotypical college kid: poor. Jacking up the phone bill is not on my list of things to do. So what is a more efficient way to stay connected to my friends? The answer is simple: Instant Messenger. I hear a lot of older

people knock it and say us "younguns" are consumed with our computers. Well fine, they can have it their way and then complain about overpriced phone bills and our money-conscious generation can have a grand old time doing it our way. We spend a small amount to talk to many people at the same time!

Now listen, I'm not encouraging you to lock yourself in your dorm and preach the wonders of AIM. Get out and get some sunshine! If you wanted the gorgeous complexion of a vampire, then why did you choose Elon?

I'm simply stating that there is nothing wrong with communicating over the computer rather than the phone. For the people you have just met and wish to know better, there is no easier way to say hello than just messaging a casual "hey" with the added plus of a smiley of your choice. Or perhaps it's late at night and you leave an away message up. Your friends (that is, the brighter

crayons in the box) can simply leave a message there instead calling you on the phone and possibly waking you or your roommate. Come on, you know you've all maliciously wanted to plot the death of that 3 a.m. caller at one time or another.

So if I leave an away message up while I'm sleeping, I don't consider myself an addict per se. It's nice when the homesick feeling starts to rise up and you wake up to messages of "I miss you!" or "Iu'm gfso durunk! I loive ouj!" because you know that your friends are thinking of you too.

See? With all the benefits of IM, you shouldn't be embarrassed for being on constantly. Just make sure you don't become a hermit because of it. You're at college and now is the time to get out and live it up.

Contact Elyse Rodriguez at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.