

Editorial

The Pendulum seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty as well as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.

Celebrate, give thanks during the holidays

The spirit of giving is synonymous with this time of the year. And this year, as every year, the Elon community has reason to celebrate and be thankful.

Despite the earth-shattering aftermath of the weather atrocities of the past few months, we were largely not personally affected, yet dedicated time and money to the effort to rebuild.

Despite all the talk we hear about the continued efforts of our troops, particularly those in Iraq, the majority of us will never experience what it's like to live in constant fear and be away from our loved ones for extended amounts of time.

Despite the constant complaints about the lack of parking, most of us will never know what it's like to not have the freedom to drive whenever and wherever.

Despite the final exams, the take home tests, the presentations and the

projects, we will never know what it feels like to not have the ability of obtaining higher education.

The frantic and frenzied nature associated with the holiday season puts us in the position to forget that we are extremely fortunate to have the things we have.

Many people throughout the nation and the rest of the world will never have the opportunities our families and our friends have given us. They will never understand the magnitude of successes and failures we deem important, nor will they understand our obsession with material items.

Before you write your "must have" list of presents, consider what you have and what you have to offer. Everywhere you go, whether around Burlington or in your hometown, proves that poverty is in existence. Many children and families will go without gifts or even a holiday meal this season. Although you may con-

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sider yourself broke, consider your possessions—your TV, your cell phone, your iPod, your favorite jeans, your own room and the ability to order a midnight pizza. You have more than some can even imagine. Even a dollar will help contribute to giving making a child's Christmas dream come true. Organizations are dedicated to helping people in need by trying to bring some joy to their lives. The need for these donations in the community is very real.

Many tables set up in Moseley ask for donations at this time of the year. It's easy to look down or avoid walking by, but consider, for a moment, how it would feel to go to bed hungry on Christmas Eve and wake up on Christmas morning to no presents

from Santa.

So when you reflect back during the most stressful time of the year, remember the things you are fortunate to have.

Editor's Note:

The Dec. 1 issue of The Pendulum is our last issue of the semester. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as editor in chief during the past year. The stories we've covered and the continued dedication from the staff, our reporters and readers make this publication what it is.

Thank you for the frequent responses to our stories and all the suggestions. I have had a wonderful time serving in this capacity and look forward to The Pendulum's continued success.

—Ashley S. Feibish, Editor in Chief

Correction: The David Jenkins mentioned in Crime Watch is not a student at Elon University.

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 and as posts on our Web site.

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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