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# THE PENDULUM

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## Bailout bill fails, stock market plummets



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Jim Clyburn leave a news conference after the failed House vote on the financial bailout package.

### House says 'no' to \$700 billion bailout, Dow posts record losses

Caroline Fox and Andie Diemer  
Executive Editors

The House of Representatives rejected the proposed \$700 billion plan to bail out the U.S. economy late Monday afternoon. The emergency rescue package, which aimed to buy bad mortgages to help stabilize the economy, failed by 23 votes, sending the Wall Street Stock Exchange plummeting before the vote was even complete.

The bill, which lost 228 to 205, would have been the Treasury Department's biggest intervention since the Great Depression. The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 777 points, the biggest closing point drop in history.

About 60 percent of Democrats backed the bill while only about a third of Republicans supported it.

Jim Barbour, associate professor of economics, said this

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### Local citizens express skepticism over bailout of financial firms

Lesley Cowie  
Reporter

After receiving news of the rejection of the bailout bill, some local taxpayers took a sigh of relief while others winced. Yet, as plans for a new bill quickly began to circulate among political leaders, the possibility of a government bailout remained pertinent on the minds of local citizens.

Brandon Black, an ARAMARK catering supervisor, expressed his concern about the effect of this plan on his taxes.

"It will only cause taxes to go up or the monetary value of our dollar to go down," he said. "Both of which are going to affect every American negatively."

Much of the local concern over this plan pointed

**See IMPACT | PAGE 4**

## Food-related illness sends two to hospital

Andie Diemer  
News Editor

For juniors Mike Milano and Dan Rickershauser, seeing their families during Elon's annual family weekend wasn't in the cards. But each was forced to reunite with their loved ones in a rigid scene: the hospital.

Both students were hospitalized last week with internal bleeding and released Sunday once they had recovered.

At press time the exact ailment had not been determined, but the students said their doctor, Robert Elliott, said he was 99 percent sure it was a food-borne illness, most likely food poisoning and bacteria-related.

"We had the same exact thing," Milano said. "I had it a little bit worse, a little more progressed."

Jana Lynn Patterson, assistant vice president of student life, said the administration was contacted Friday afternoon and told two students had been hospitalized, one on Wednesday and one on Friday.

"Given the severeness [sic] of the illness, they needed to survey our records to see if there was anything similar," she said.

Patterson said Elon was also contacted by the health department to see if there was any connection.

"There is not any set pattern or anything," Patterson said. "Any time you're going to have that kind of connection, two students at one time in the hospital, then [the health department] feels like they're going to need to follow through."

While the health department consulted each student to determine a link between their cases, the only thing each had commonly eaten were a chicken sandwich and fries from Chick-fil-A Wednesday evening, Rickershauser said.

But he said the health department asked for every item consumed since Sept. 15, making it difficult to assist them.

Milano, who does not regularly dine on campus, said he still doesn't know where it may have come from.

Since Sept. 23, seven people visited the health center with symptoms that could possibly mirror Milano and Rickershauser's symptoms, Patterson said.

She said that it is not an atypical number and that none of the other cases were severe.

"There's nothing right now where we've seen a bunch of people or any out of the ordinary numbers," she said. "That may change."

On Wednesday both Milano and Rickershauser started having stomach pains, among other symptoms such as vomiting.

Milano said the sharp, stabbing pains he experienced immediately denoted something was wrong. Thursday morning he skipped his morning class and visited the urgent care unit next to Alamance Regional Hospital.

From there he was immediately handed off to hospital specialists and was admitted into the hospital

**See ILLNESS | PAGE 6**

## Obama tackles economic crisis in speech

Miriam Williamson  
Design Editor

GREENSBORO, N.C. — As the economic crisis worsens, Sen. Barack Obama, the Democratic presidential nominee, says the priority should be meeting the needs of the people of Main Street before the people of Wall Street. In his speech at a rally in Greensboro on Saturday, Obama, who was joined by his running mate, Sen. Joe Biden, focused on the economic changes he would make as president to help release America from its current financial quagmire.

"We need a president who will fight for the middle class every single day," Obama said. "And that is exactly what I will do when I am in the Oval Office as president."

A crowd of Carolinians holding signs and shouting "Obama!" and "Yes we can!" greeted Obama and Biden.

"I love North Carolina," Obama said. "Every time we come to North Carolina we end up having a great experience. The people here are some of the best people in the country."

A subject both Biden and Obama focused on was the seeming lack of

concern his opponent, Republican Sen. John McCain, has for the middle class.

"More important than what we heard from McCain was what we didn't hear from McCain," Obama said of the first presidential debate Friday evening in Oxford, Miss.

During the debate, McCain failed to mention the middle class once, Obama said.

"The truth is, through 90 minutes of debate, John McCain had a lot to say about me," Obama said. "But he had nothing to say about you."

### The Economic Crisis

Obama said that he, on the other hand, has a plan to help middle-class Americans and the United States get out of their economic crisis.

He plans to cut taxes for 95 percent of all working families, he wants to implement lower tax rates than those enacted by former President Ronald Reagan. He said his plan offers three times the tax relief for middle-class families than McCain's does, which



MIRIAM WILLIAMSON | Photographer  
In preparation for last Monday's senate vote, Obama focused on economics at a rally in downtown Greensboro last weekend.

**See OBAMA | PAGE 2**

# Obama promises 'world-class' education standards

## OBAMA from page 1

encouraged Greensboro resident Katana Sinclair. "I'm going to vote for him because I'm from the middle class and everything he said is basically what we're going through," Sinclair said.

Obama also pledged to stop giving tax breaks to companies that outsource jobs overseas.

Instead, he will give them to companies who will help alleviate the high unemployment rate by offering jobs in the United States.

As for the \$700 billion bailout plan, Obama said he would not accept it without four core conditions:

- It requires an independent board comprised of both Democrats and Republicans to "provide oversight and accountability" so the money is used in the most efficient way possible.
- Taxpayers need to be treated as investors. He said he thinks Americans should get back the money that is put into this plan once the economy stabilizes.
- Assistance must be provided to individual Americans who have been greatly impacted by the economic failings.
- The agreement should not create a "welfare plan for Wall Street." He said many CEOs are unwilling to help the rest of the country in this time of crisis, saying they are in greedy and selfish positions. "We cannot and simply will not bail out Wall Street without helping the millions of innocent homeowners," he said.

Obama explained that one of his main reasons for choosing Biden as his running mate is because he is familiar with what many Americans are experiencing today.

"The reason I'm so proud to have Joe with me [is that] he knows what it's like to struggle," Obama said. "He knows what it's like to see your father or your mother pinch pennies a little to get by."

Obama said the United States must live up to its economic promise: That everyone has the opportunity succeed.

"America prospers when all of America prospers," he said.

### Education

"Now is finally the time to provide every child with a world-class education," he said.

To do this, Obama wants to raise salaries for teachers and raise the standards for education.



MIRIAM WILLIAMSON | Photographer

Tens of thousands of Obama supporters flash signs of support as they line the streets at the Greensboro rally.

Visit Pendulum Online for video from Obama's Greensboro event

He said teachers should not plan their lessons for the sole reason of helping students pass state-mandated standardized tests. This kind of teaching does not let the United States give an education that competes with other nations on a global scale.

Greensboro resident Victoria Kearns said her concern for her children is the reason she is going to vote for Obama.

"My kids need hope for the future," she said. "A great education and opportunities."

Obama also says he will make it possible for more Americans to attend college.

He promised that young people who work for the country in programs such as the Peace Corps and the U.S. Army will be ensured the opportunity to attend college.

"If you are willing to invest in America, then we are going to invest in you," he said.

### Taking on McCain

Obama said the amount of money being spent on the Iraq War is not appropriate considering the economic crisis Americans are experiencing at home.

"[McCain] had nothing to say [in the debate] about the fact that more and more Americans can't afford to pay for a college education," Obama said. "Sen. McCain talked again and again for the need to spend \$10 billion in Iraq."

Biden expressed concern that McCain is not even knowledgeable about the situation in Iraq.

"We cannot afford a commander-in-chief who does not know where the central front of the war on terror is," Biden said. "He does not instill confidence."

Regardless of all the troubles the United States faces, Obama said he is confident it is possible to make the changes necessary to move past it all.

"Here in America our destiny is not written for us, it's written by us," he said. "Nothing can stop us when we are together. I know times are hard. I will not pretend that bringing about change will be easy."

He said President George W. Bush has dug the American people into a hole and that John McCain will continue to carry the shovel.

"It's going to take time to dig ourselves out," Obama said. "If you want the next four years looking like the last eight I'm not your candidate. But if you want real change, I need you to give me your vote."



MIRIAM WILLIAMSON | Photographer

Obama shared his views and plans regarding the current economic crisis, education standards and why he is more qualified than his opponent to be the next U.S. president.



MIRIAM WILLIAMSON | Photographer

RIGHT: Greensboro resident London Grace Fearington shared her pride at the rally, even though it will be a few more years before she can officially vote.



MIRIAM WILLIAMSON | Photographer

Democratic vice presidential nominee Joe Biden spoke to the people of Greensboro about Obama's readiness to become president and handle the war in Iraq.

# Politics with a side of pork

North Carolina Republican candidates gather for barbecue at Elon Law

Andie Diemer  
News Editor



Friday night the Elon Law Republicans hosted "Pork and Politics," where the community was invited to eat Hursey's Bar-B-Q, listen to local and state Republican North Carolinian candidates and watch the first presidential debate live.

"It can be hard for local candidates to have a forum to speak about why they are running and how they would contribute," Summer Nettleman, Elon Law student and event coordinator, said. "We wanted to be able to bring local Republicans together."

Each candidate addressed the audience on why he or she should be elected. Fourteen candidates were represented.



**Hugh Webster**  
for 13th District Representative

After spending 12 years in the North Carolina Senate, Webster is still firm in his platform.

"I support real tax reform, folks," he said. "And I support, more than anything else, integrity in government."

He is also an advocate for offshore drilling and cited a price drop when President George W. Bush opened up drilling recently.

"I care how you vote," he said. "Anybody that knows me knows what I stand for."



**Laura Wiley**  
for N.C. House of Representatives

Wiley is up for re-election for District 61 in the N.C. General Assembly House. During her time there she helped pass a child predator act and helped rewrite, redefine and increase penalties for stalking.

This November, she is hoping for a republican house majority.

"We have a lot left to do," Wiley said. "We've got to work together. We don't win elections by ourselves, we win them by your hard work."



**John Blust**  
for N.C. House of Representatives

Representing District 62, Blust is running for re-election. He wants new ethical standards to be implemented this time around.

"Today we have our terrorism, we have our war on terrorism but our biggest challenges are from within," he said. "For you people going into law, remember that the fundamental reason for the law is something called justice."



**Elizabeth Dole**  
for Senator

Bill Fields spoke on behalf of Sen. Elizabeth Dole, who is running for re-election. He said as Americans, North Carolinians are at war on the borders, with the democrats and the energy crisis.

"We're also at war in our pocketbooks," Fields said. "It's the Democrats who want a government that's all intrusive."

He said Dole promises to provide less government and fewer taxes. "If it's war that the Democrats want," he said, "it's war they'll get."



**John Odom**  
for N.C. Insurance Commissioner

Odom has a business background but said he saw the need for a new commissioner in Raleigh.

He said he plans to streamline the departments, which employ 492 workers.

"[This will] make it easier for you as a consumer so that everybody in the state of North Carolina has a low rate and is taken care of," he said.

**Eddie Southern**  
for Guilford County Commissioner

Southern plans to work on education and on bringing down the tax rate.

"We [have to] get our children educated and work on the fact that we have gang and violence problems in Guilford County," Southern said. "We [have to] work to get some republicans that have backbone in the government."

He also wants to bring safety back to the neighborhoods.

"What I want to do is work to make our lives better," he said.



**Pat McCrory**  
for Governor

Penn Broyhill acted as a stand-in speaker for Pat McCrory, who is currently the mayor of Charlotte.

"We are in a tough, tight race," Broyhill said. "We're fighting a political machine that can control Raleigh."

He said McCrory wants to clean up Raleigh and the state as whole.

In December of 2007, McCrory became the only Charlotte mayor in history to be elected to a seventh term. He was originally elected in 1995.

McCrory was raised in Guilford County and graduated from Catawba College in 1985.



**Betty Brown**  
for District Court Judge

With more than 24 years of experience in the court system, Brown said she will continue to treat everyone who appears before her with dignity and respect.

"I wanted to take that experience, knowledge, skills and wisdom that I've learned over the years and take it to the court bench so I could continue to serve the citizens of Guilford County," Brown said. "I will be fair, impartial and thorough in my deliberations."



**Robert Enochs**  
for District Court Judge

Enochs has a background in accounting and has practiced criminal defense and domestic and civil law.

He also worked as the Guilford County Assistant District Attorney for 13 years.

"I've appeared in district court rooms on both sides of the aisle, which gives me unique sight," he said. "Experience matters."



**Bob Edmunds**  
for N.C. Supreme Court

Running for his second term, Edmunds said the Supreme Court is a court that does affect everyone, even students.

"One thing I hope, above all else is that the voters will compare their candidates," he said.

He said he feels he is the highest-qualified candidate, since he is the only one that has been a judge, a partner in a law firm and is certified in law.

Edmunds was elected to the Supreme Court for his first term in 2000. He has also served on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and as a U.S. federal prosecutor.

**Susan Bray**  
for District 18 Judge

Up for re-election, Bray said she was happy to be out in the community, talking about her campaign.

"We who are judges and judicial candidates appreciate the opportunity to meet voters because we get left out of a lot of forums," Bray said. "I really would like to win it."



**Jim Rumley**  
for House District 59

Rumley said he is asking the community to vote for him so he can "unseat one of the most ineffective legislators in the House today."

Questioning the ethics and integrity of his opponent Maggie Jeffus, Rumley said he will help North Carolina in a new way.

"I'm going to do what's right," Rumley said. "We're going to do the right things when I get in the house."



**Dan Barrett**  
for N.C. Court of Appeals

During his race for governor, Barrett physically walked across North Carolina.

Five pairs of shoes, 582 miles, 20 pounds and an unsuccessful bid for governor later, he is now running for the Court of Appeals.

"My judicial philosophy is conservative. That means I will not legislate from the bench, I will be tough on crime and I will be independent, fair and impartial," he said. "I will do the job you sent me to do."



**Jewel Ann Farlow**  
for N.C. Court of Appeals

Farlow, who has practiced law for more than 20 years and worked on civil and criminal cases, said it's important to elect a practitioner like herself.

"I bring 20 years of practical, real-life experience to the bench," she said. "I want to make a difference to the people and to the state of North Carolina."

She pledged to be a full-time judge and not hold to any special interest groups or lobbyists.

"I believe that the law should be applied fairly and impartially. I will make my decision based upon the law," Farlow said. "If elected I will be working for the people of the state of North Carolina every day of the week."

# Popular vaccination may yield dangers

Taylor Abbott  
Reporter

Between television commercials, radio broadcasts and doctors visits, women have been bombarded with the advice to receive vaccinations to prevent Human Pappilomavirus. HPV, a collection of viruses that cause warts on the hands, feet and genitals, can lead to cervical cancer.

Gardasil is the vaccine for HPV licensed for use by the FDA in 2006. It targets four strains of HPV, two of which account for about 70 percent of cervical cancer and another two that account for about 90 percent of genital warts.

Although Gardasil may seem to be the perfect solution to this growing virus among females, many are injecting the vaccine without any knowledge of the side effects.

Director of Health Services Kitty Parrish said she thinks it's probably 50/50 in regards to students prior research before receiving the

vaccination.

"Some students' come in and get vaccinated because mom said so," Parrish said.

There are over 100 strains of HPV and they typically do not cause noticeable symptoms. More than 6.2 million women contract the virus each year.

Mild side effects such as fever, nausea, dizziness, vomiting and fainting can occur, the site said. Additional side effects include difficulty breathing, severe rash, swollen glands, Guillian-Barre syndrome and joint pain.

One in four U.S. women between the ages of 14-59 have HPV, according to WebMD.

Last year, 340 vaccinations were given to students at the Health Center for \$145 per shot, Parrish said.

Studies show younger women are more susceptible to HPV, which is why there is a drive in many minds to obtain this shot.

But for some women, like junior

Sabine Gempel, this may not be the best option.

"I don't feel comfortable getting a shot we don't know the long term side effects of," Gempel said.

The vaccination is approved for females between the ages of 9 and 26. It does not stop the virus from becoming cancer if the patient is already infected, however the vaccine does prevent further strains.

According to the makers of Gardasil, Merck & Co. Inc., the vaccination is 100 percent effective in the prevention of cervical pre-cancers and noninvasive cervical cancers caused by strains HPV-16 and 18 to those who are not already exposed to those strains.

Gardasil lasts at least four years, but because it is a new vaccine research cannot be certain that it will not last longer, according to Gardasil's Web site.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Alumni Chapters participate in national service day

Beginning this month, members of Elon's various Alumni Chapters will volunteer in areas around the country as part of national Make a Difference Day.

Participating chapters include Boston, New York, Washington D.C., Baltimore, Charlotte, L.A., the Triangle and the Piedmont Triad. The service will benefit numerous charities.

### Leadership program open to sophomores

Sophomores can apply for Charting Your Journey, Elon's new leadership development program. It will focus on the development of personal and professional skills. Free applications are due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 15.

Apply at: [http://www.elon.edu/images/e-web/e-net/Program\\_Application.pdf](http://www.elon.edu/images/e-web/e-net/Program_Application.pdf).

### Elon lecturer writes book on ethics and critical thinking

Lecturer Martin Fowler wrote a book with philosophy department colleagues, "The Ethical Practice of Critical Thinking." It examines practical applications for critical thinking and includes 50 exercises to help students understand concepts.

### Elon's newest MBA class boasts high GPA, GMAT scores

The average new MBA students have a 3.22 GPA and 554 GMAT score, making this class the second most competitive in the history of Elon's MBA program.

The average new MBA student has eight years of professional experience at companies such as Kayser Roth, Motorola and Pfizer.

### Women's and Gender Studies program hosts documentary screening

The Women's and Gender Studies program will screen "Running in High Heels," a documentary about women and politics, tonight at 7 p.m. in McEwen 011 and tomorrow at 12:25 in Yeager Auditorium. Both screenings will be followed by a discussion.

### Texas Tech law professor to speak at Elon School of Law

Arnold Loewy from Texas Tech School of Law will speak at the Elon School of Law on Oct. 3 at 12 p.m. All faculty and students are invited to attend.

Loewy will speak on "Intelligent Design and the Constitution" in room 207 of the law school campus.

### Group Exercise offers classes for faculty and staff

Campus Recreation now offers two classes a week for faculty and staff only. The classes are cardio on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. and Pilates on Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Faculty and staff are also welcome to attend regular classes throughout the week.

### Elon Law hosts first "Family and Friends Day"

More than 250 students, parents, siblings, spouses and friends attended Elon University's School of Law's first "Family and Friends Day" on Sept. 13. Activities included a mock class and a question-and-answer panel. The mock class offered a brief introduction to criminal and constitutional law.

# Man lying on tracks, killed by train east of campus

Andie Diemer  
News Editor

A 21-year-old man lying on railroad tracks was struck and killed by a freight train early this morning. The university confirmed he was not an Elon student.

Ronald Alan Graff was lying on the railroad tracks and hit by a Norfolk Southern train traveling west at 2:16 a.m., according to the Times-News.

His body was found at Park Road Extension and Hunter Avenue.

The Times-News reported that the conductor saw someone lying on the tracks but could not halt the train in time.

Police did not release where he lived.

Officials are looking for any extenuating circumstances surrounding Graff's death.

To report any information regarding this incident, call Burlington police at 229-3530.

# Students, community questions repercussions of bailout bill

## IMPACT from page 1

toward the government's willingness to help these financial institutions at such a large cost.

The bailout could have been helpful, Francine Light, a deli clerk at Elon University's Colonnades dining hall,

said.

She suggested the government give half the money to the institutions in need and see if it helped. From there, the government can decide whether or not to give the rest of the target amount.

Other residents disagreed with the original plan because they believe it was hypocritical. "Our federal government wants to go in there and bail them [the financial companies] out," Gary Oakley, of Oakley Painting Paper Co., said. "They wouldn't bail me out."

The FBI is investigating 26 firms that were considered to be at the center of this financial collapse. AIG, Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers are among the companies who have lost substantial profits in the past several weeks.

The creation of subprime loans combined with the falling price of houses may have caused banks to become more careful with their spending.

Unfortunately for Americans, this makes it more difficult to take out a loan or pay off a credit card. Ultimately, the prices of homes depreciate in value and result in foreclosures.

Elon Town Manager Mike Dula said he thinks the biggest overall change has been in residential building. Since the recent financial collapse, building has been virtually non-existent.

According to Dula, people are extremely hesitant to venture into any major business deals. Considering these detrimental effects on the town, Dula hopes for the best with the failed plan.

He said a failed economy would hurt Elon more than new taxes to stabilize the economy.

"It's important to the town that the country be as sound as it can be," Dula said.

Elon Mayor Jerry Tolley shared Dula's optimism but posed his concerns for town residents.

While he thought the bailout plan was necessary for the government to implement, Tolley said he did not want to give a blank check to Congress so they could do what they wanted.

Some, like David Copeland, an Elon communications professor, tried to support the bailout but hesitated at the expense.

The bailout needed to be better thought-out, Copeland said. We are

already spending a large amount of money in Iraq.

"Look at how much money we're spending over there [in Iraq]," said Glenda Roberson, a waitress at Skids Restaurant. "Why can't we stay here and spend that money here? We should be taking care of people in our own country instead of staying over there and killing people."

Stephen DeLoach, department chair of economics at Elon, viewed the bailout plan as a needed effort to infuse liquidity into the financial markets.

"We don't want banks and financial institutions to stop loaning money," DeLoach said. "The main groups in the economy that borrow significant chunks of money are businesses. If businesses can't borrow money, they're going to go under. Then we lose jobs."

After experiencing the Great Depression in the 1930s, Eleonore Dunn, owner of Eleonore's Hair Design, fears the falling economy will slump to an equally devastating level.

Mark Kurt, assistant professor of economics, explained that the government's attempts were supposed to alleviate the pressures on the U.S. economy.

"The argument is that things could get really bad if we don't do something about it," Kurt said. "This is the biggest thing to hit the market since the Great Depression."

When the government has to bail out banks, it is obvious there is something wrong, said Susan Sharp, an ARAMARK employee. Besides praying, there is not much Sharp feels she can do about the recession.

"I don't see it getting any better any time soon," Sharp said. She said even electing a new president may not be able to help the situation.

Although the Bush administration strongly urged acceptance of the bailout plan, Congress ultimately voted against it.

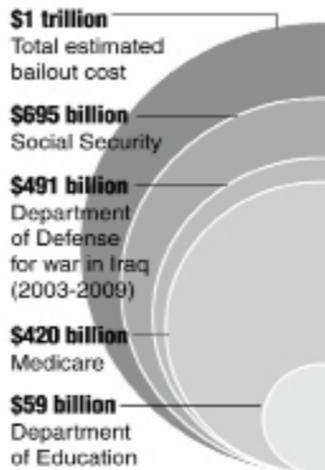
"There is no more middle class," Roberson said. "I think the world is in bad shape and it's going to take more than a new president to fix it."

*Bryce Little, Christina Edwards, Emily Silva, Hannah Williams, Daniel "Hobie" Temple, Kate Austin, Laura Smith, Miriam Williamson, Rachel Cieri and Ryan Catanese also contributed to this article.*



## Visualizing \$1 trillion

How the estimated cost of the bailout compares to other to other federal expenditures, fiscal 2009:



### \$1 trillion =

About \$3,000 for every person in the U.S.



More than the GDP of all but the 12 largest world economies



At \$1,000 per second, it would take almost 32 years to spend



A stack of a trillion \$1 bills would be 790 miles (1,270 km) high



© 2008 MCT  
Source: Dallas Morning News research  
Graphic: Troy Oxford, The Dallas Morning News

# Wallace L. Chandler Fountain flows again after repairs this week

Rachel Cieri  
Reporter

Contrary to rumors circulating around campus, Wallace L. Chandler Fountain is not sinking into the ground nor is it breaking in two from a massive crack. In fact, construction on the fountain is nearly finished, and it is expected to be filled with water this week.

According to Director of Construction Management Neil Bromilow, the problems with the fountain are not nearly as severe as the rumors.

Because of the massive amount of concrete from which the structure is comprised, there were several hairline cracks radiating from the center like spokes on a bicycle wheel, he said. Water was seeping through the tiny cracks and in order for them to be filled in with caulk they first had to be expanded.

"It's not unnatural for something that's made out of that much concrete," Bromilow said. "Think of a sidewalk, that's made out of concrete and cracks."

As the structure was settling into the ground the walls of the fountain began to bow out, causing some of the ceramic tiles to come loose.

"Imagine that you've got an air mattress with rocks under it," he said. "Over time, the air mattress changes shape to conform to the rocks underneath it."

This is all part of the fountain's

## Rumor vs. Reality

**Rumor:** Chandler Fountain is sinking into the ground because the foundation was not built correctly.

**Reality:** The fountain is not sinking. It's shifting like any concrete structure.

**Rumor:** There is a huge crack in the fountain.

**Reality:** There were several tiny, hairline cracks in the concrete and they had to be expanded before they could be filled.

structural shifting. The places where the cracks and "fault lines" appeared have been filled with rubber-like joints to absorb any future movement as the fountain conforms to the ground.

While it was dry, maintenance was performed on machinery like ventilation and pumps used to operate the fountain.

The bottom, originally black to give the illusion of depth, was painted blue to make it more aesthetically pleasing. Lights have been reinstalled to illuminate the water at night.

Much speculation about irreparable damage stemmed from the length of time the fountain was filled with construction crews rather than water, but Bromilow explained weather has delayed repair efforts.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Chandler Fountain stands empty as workers repair damages in hopes of getting the fountain up and running as soon as possible.

For the bottom to be painted the concrete needed to be bone dry, which requires five days of sunshine. Instead, construction crews got frequent rainstorms.

Whenever it seemed like they would finally be able to start, the clouds rolled in, Bromilow said.

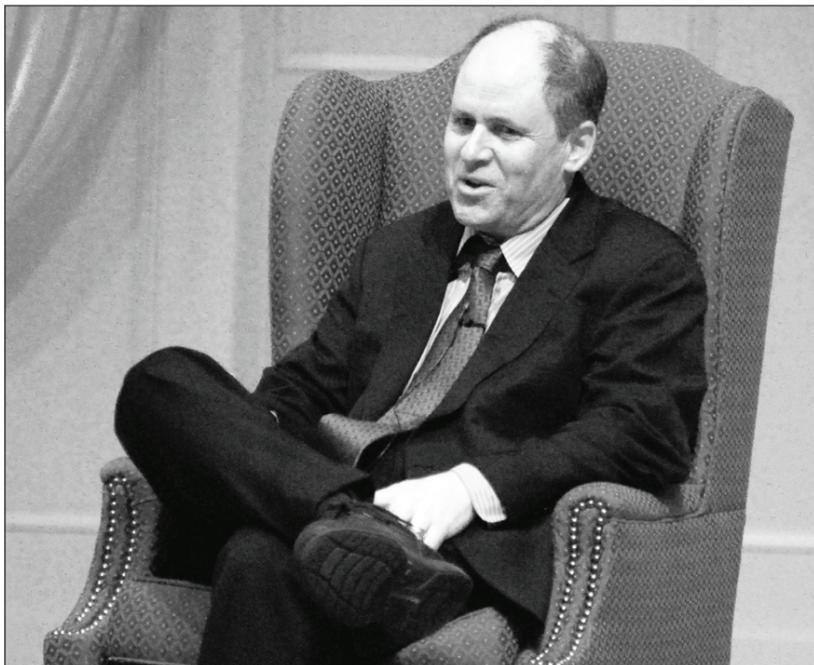
"If you ever need a drought broken, I'll bring you the fountain," he said.

Construction crews were waiting for a water-resistant coat to dry and machinery to calibrate before filling Chandler Fountain.

Bromilow said he does not expect to have to perform maintenance on the fountain for another 10 years.



# Election campaigns full of surprises for news veteran Alter



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

In addition to his evening speech in McCrary, Alter held a question-and-answer session on Monday afternoon in Whitley Auditorium. Both events were free and open to the public.

Whitney Bossie and Andie Diemer  
News Editors

Jonathan Alter, a senior editor at Newsweek since 1991, spoke to the Elon community on Monday night about the election campaigns, the current status of the country and the issues the next president will face.

Students, faculty, staff and community members crowded into McCrary Theatre to hear Alter speak. While Alter was pleased with the turnout, he wasn't surprised. He said he has seen large crowds and a similar interest and intensity at every venue he's visited this year.

"People are taking this choice seriously," he said.

Prior to his speech in McCrary, Alter sat down for an exclusive interview with The Pendulum. He shared his insights on the youth vote, last Friday's debate, Sarah Palin and more. To read the full interview, go to [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum).

**P: This is the seventh election you've covered for Newsweek. Has anything surprised you?**

A: Everything is always surprising me. That's what keeps it fun, is that every year there are big changes in American politics. I think particularly in this

election year, we've seen a number of major changes. To give you a quick example, four years ago, hard as it is to believe, YouTube hadn't even been invented yet. It didn't start until 2005. In the past, campaign finance was dominated by fat cats, big contributors. This year you have the Obama campaign — about half of their contributors are giving under \$200 and large numbers under \$100. They have about 2.5 million contributors, which just dwarfs anything we've seen in the past, so that's very surprising.

**P: Why are young people more interested in this election?**

A: I think there are three reasons why they are turning out in greater numbers this year. First is how close the 2000 election was, when they were very young, and they remember that. The second is the aftermath of Katrina and 9/11 and the recognition that the stakes are very, very high for who the president should be. The third is the emergence of Barack Obama, who has a very unusual and particular appeal to younger voters.

**P: Why are kids so drawn to Obama?**

A: There is sort of a combination of a freshness and a coolness to Obama, a hipness that just intrigued young

people from the minute they laid eyes on him.

**P: You've mentioned a lot of differences between this campaign and past ones. Do you see any similarities?**

A: I think the most significant one is it's still very possible to get the campaign off of the major issues that will face the new president, distracted onto lipstick-on-a-pig-type issues that are really just campaign flaps or gaps or charges and countercharges of the day that don't really have anything to do with the actual issues that the next president will face.

**P: What messages have been put forward by each camp that have had a lasting, negative effect on the other side?**

A: I think that the basic Obama message that John McCain is maybe a hero, but he's out of touch for the 21st century, is a resonant message and a problem for John McCain. I think John McCain's message that Barack Obama is not passionate enough about real people's problems and maybe a little too inexperienced to handle certain international issues — that will continue to be a problem [for Obama]. I think a deeper problem for Obama is when McCain and Palin push these class buttons: 'He's not like you; he's the other; he's exotic; he doesn't really come from the same place that you are.' Some of that may be a little bit racial, but some of it is not racial. It's just a depiction of him as having a different kind of experience.

**P: On the topic of the debate, do you think there was a clear winner?**

A: I think they both did quite well. I don't think there was a clear winner. There was a clear loser, and the loser was Sarah Palin. The reason that she was the clear loser is that both McCain and Obama set a very high standard for knowledge and fluency about the issues. If she just goes into her debate this week with a lot of canned sound bites, a lot of attacks on Obama, and doesn't show a command of the issues, she will be compared unfavorably both with Joe Biden and, more importantly, with Obama and McCain in terms of her readiness to be president.

**P: Since Palin was picked, there has been a lot of information, negative information, that has surfaced. Do you think the McCain camp is rethinking its choice?**

A: I don't think they are — they put so many chips on Sarah Palin and they came up such a big winner at the Republican convention, that I think that they really believe their faith in her and her abilities, and that she has real talents, politically, and they will be validated by her performance. Do they wish she had done better in the interview with Katie Couric? I'm sure they do, but I don't think that they're reassessing their decision to pick her and I think there's zero chance of her being taken off the ticket.

**P: What are the most important issues in this campaign? What does the next administration need to focus on?**

A: In many ways, there's only one issue, I believe, for the next president. The reason there's only one issue is that almost every other really important issue flows out of that one issue. That one issue is restoring America's global leadership, restoring America's prestige in the world. On the range of really big international problems, whether it's dealing with a nuclear Iran, winding down the war in Iraq, dealing with North Korea, dealing with climate change, with terrorism, with AIDS — these are all international problems. If we don't restore America's leadership, we will not be able to address those problems. So, to me the preeminent question is which of these two men can move most effectively to reestablish our leadership.

**P: Who do you think is going to come out on top?**

A: I honestly think it could still go either way, and I've been saying for the last several weeks that it was 50/50. I would now put it at about a 55/45 edge for Barack Obama, but that still gives McCain a very, very good chance to win this election. While I would maybe bet \$5 on Obama, I wouldn't bet \$10.



To read Alter's full interview, visit Pendulum Online at [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum).

# Debate failed to yield game-changing moment for McCain

Larry Eichel  
The Philadelphia Enquirer

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Barack Obama's campaign sought to make the case Saturday that the Democratic presidential candidate had proved his national security bona fides during Friday's debate, claiming John McCain had shown vulnerability in an area considered to be his greatest strength.

The salesman-in-chief was Obama's running mate, Joe Biden, who is campaigning with Obama throughout the weekend.

"This was supposed to be John McCain's turf, and Barack Obama owned it last night," Biden told a North Carolina crowd estimated at 20,000 Saturday afternoon.

Meanwhile, in a bid perhaps to bolster his standing on economic issues, McCain spent the day after in Washington. His campaign said he was making calls to members of Congress working on the \$700 billion plan to rescue America's financial sector.

His campaign continued to operate, however, sending out positive reviews of McCain's debate performance and releasing a new attack ad.

Obama and Biden campaigned in North Carolina and Virginia on

Saturday, spending valuable time and resources in what have historically been Republican strongholds. They were scheduled to move on to Michigan, another battleground state, Sunday.

Biden, in attack-dog mode befitting a vice presidential nominee, hammered McCain on foreign-policy issues ranging from Iraq to Afghanistan. "At this moment in our history we need more than a brave soldier," Biden said. "We need a wise leader."

Earlier in the day, Obama's campaign pointed to post-debate poll numbers that suggested that Obama's debate performance allayed fears among some swing voters about his readiness to be president.

"We think we moved the ball down the field in a very major way," campaign manager David Plouffe said.

But the state of the economy, as has been the case through recent weeks, dominated the talk Saturday. When Obama took the stage in Greensboro, he advanced a theme that his campaign has been advocating since the debate ended— that McCain is unconcerned with the middle-class.

"[McCain] talked about the economy for 40 minutes and not once did he talk about the struggles of middle-class families," Obama said. "The truth is, in 90 minutes of debate John McCain had a lot to say about me but he had nothing to say about you."

Obama took credit for some of the Democratic proposals in Congress that are being discussed to alter the bailout plan. Limits on executive compensation drew the most cheers. But like McCain, he hasn't been directly involved in talks. His campaign said that he, too, had been calling members of Congress about the bailout plan.

McCain's campaign said Saturday that the Republican candidate has not yet made a decision concerning when to return to the trail, staying wedded to his strategy of portraying himself a broker of the bailout deal.

That gambit backfired Friday when a White House summit proposed by McCain failed to produce a working agreement and he was forced to go to

Oxford, Miss., to debate Obama even after he said he wouldn't until a deal was reached.

At that debate, against the backdrop of the economic crisis, neither candidate scored significantly or caused much damage to the other. But the differences between the two were readily evident on issues ranging from federal spending to diplomacy with rogue nations.

Though McCain's attempt to inject himself into the debate and help resolve the economic crisis came up short, some of the damage may have been mitigated by his solid debate performance, including his ability to sound a recurring theme that contrasted the Republican's long experience with Obama's relative lack of it.

But the nation's potential economic meltdown provided Obama an opening to go to one of his campaign's persistent themes — a link between unpopular President Bush and the prospect of another four years of Republican control of the White House.

"We also have to recognize that this is a final verdict on eight years of failed economic policies promoted by George Bush, supported by Senator McCain, a theory that basically says that we can shred regulations and consumer protections and give more and more to the most, and somehow prosperity will trickle down," the Democrat said.

On foreign policy, Obama said that his top priority would be "to restore America's standing in the world," again blaming the current administration and contending that "we are less respected now than we were eight years ago, or even four years ago."

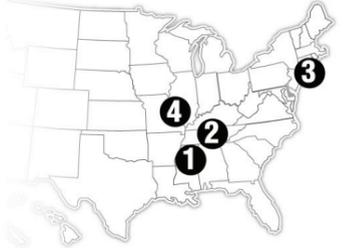
To further that goal, Obama defended the need to open high-level dialogue with the leaders of nations such as Iran, North Korea and Cuba that have long feuded with the United States.

McCain chastised the Illinois senator for proposing to meet with leaders of those nations without preconditions, saying, "It isn't just naive; it's dangerous."

But Obama said conditions set in the past emboldened those countries.

## Debate schedule '08

All start at 9 p.m. ET and are 90 minutes long:



### Presidential

**1. Sept. 26**  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Miss.  
**Moderator** Jim Lehrer, PBS  
**Focus** Foreign affairs

**2. Oct. 7**  
Belmont University  
Nashville, Tenn.  
**Moderator** Tom Brokaw, NBC  
**Town meeting** format; questions from audience

**3. Oct. 15**  
Hofstra University  
Hempstead, N.Y.  
**Moderator** Bob Schieffer, CBS  
**Focus** Domestic policy

### Vice presidential

**4. Oct. 2**  
Washington University  
St. Louis  
**Moderator** Gwen Ifill, PBS  
**Focus** Domestic, foreign policy

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Source: Commission on Presidential Debates  
Graphic: Judy Treible



Democratic and Republican vice presidential nominees, Sen. Joe Biden and Gov. Sarah Palin, will debate each other at 9 p.m. on Oct. 2 in the Washington University in St. Louis Athletic Complex.

Gwen Ifill, a correspondent and moderator for nationally televised public broadcasting news programs, will be moderating.

## ILLNESS from page 1

the severity of his situation was recognized.

After visiting the Elon Health Center Thursday morning, Rickershauser was sent home with Dramamine, Pepto Bismol and instructions that should his situation worsen he needed to seek immediate medical attention at the emergency room.

He entered the ER later that evening and was treated for his symptoms but was then released. He wasn't admitted to Alamance Regional until Friday after he met with a gastrointestinal specialist and was clearly not getting healthier.

Once both students were in the hospital, they were pumped with fluids, painkillers and antibiotics. "I had internal bleeding," Milano said. "My whole digestive tract was bleeding out."

Both patients underwent multiple tests including X-rays, CT scans and blood cultures, among others.

"My chest X-ray showed that my colon and large intestine were inflamed and huge," Rickershauser said.

He said he was told the diagnosis is difficult to

mail since the students were already being treated with antibiotics when he entered the hospital, which killed the bacteria.

Milano lost 13 pounds in three days since he wasn't permitted to eat solid food and was fed items like ice cream and pudding.

"Anytime you have a student who's sick we want the hospital to keep them a little longer because if they're coming back to a dorm then they don't get a lot of rest," Patterson said. "I think everybody wants to be on the safe side about things."

Both have check-ups today and were told if they felt any pain before then to return to the ER since it could signal kidney failure.

Neither had experienced additional problems up until Tuesday.

Patterson said she spoke to each student on the phone Friday afternoon and that the administrator— call, Brian O'Shea, and university physician Jim Hawkins visited the students Friday evening.

Elon Health Services also followed up with the other seven students that had similar symptoms to ensure they were healthy and collected additional information the Health Department may need,

Patterson said.

None of the other seven cases investigated were severe enough to warrant hospitalization.

However, Patterson was notified Monday that another student was admitted this weekend for similar symptoms. It has been determined that they are not related to food consumption.

So far no changes by the administration, supervisors or health department have been made to ARAMARK's food service.

ARAMARK Resident District Manager Jeff Gazda said his employees work hard to ensure food safety on campus.

"Our top priority is to ensure that the food served at Elon is of the highest quality within the safest environment possible," Gazda said. "We continuously train our managers and employees on proper techniques in food handling and food safety procedures."

Patterson said in the case there would be a widespread issue similar to Milano and Rickershauser's experience, Elon would work with the health department to notify the community.

# Belk Library celebrates 26th annual national Banned Book week

Pam Richter  
Reporter

"To Kill a Mockingbird," "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" and "Of Mice and Men" are just a few of the most frequently banned books. Elon is celebrating these books during Banned Book week, which will run Sept. 27 through Oct. 4.

Belk Library is recognizing this week as part of a national celebration. There will be a daily drawing at the library and each winner will receive a book from the banned book list.

Students are encouraged to enter their names at the information desk until Friday for a chance to win.

In addition to book drawings, there's also a banned book display.

Katie Nash, Belk Library archivist, said Banned Book week began in 1982 to ensure people had the power to choose what they read and also to provide opinions about these specific reading materials.

Books are challenged because of sexual content, offensive language, drugs or homosexual themes.

## Most Challenged Books of 2007

1. "And Tango Makes Three"  
Justin Richardson/Peter Parnell
2. "The Chocolate War"  
Robert Cormier
3. "Olive's Ocean"  
Kevin Henkes
4. "The Golden Compass"  
Philip Pullman
5. "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"  
Mark Twain

6. "The Color Purple"  
Alice Walker
7. "TTL"
8. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"  
Maya Angelou
9. "It's Perfectly Normal"  
Robie Harris
10. "The Perks of Being a Wallflower"  
Stephen Chbosky

# Family Weekend a huge success in spite of rain

Natalie Lothes  
Reporter

The gloomy weather did not stop families from all over the country from coming to Elon this past weekend.

Elon's annual Family Weekend was celebrated Sept. 26-28 through a variety of activities and events.

More than 1,000 families experienced everything from golf tournaments to tours of the Elon School of Law.

The weekend is coordinated by Jodean Schmiederer, assistant dean of students, and a committee of people from different organizations across campus.

Paula Zachary, program assistant for the office of judicial affairs, said the goal of Family Weekend is to have an informative time and community with parents.

"It's a time for students and parents to re-connect after students begin their new lives," Zachary said.

This year more than 850 families pre-registered.

Festivities kicked off Friday with a golf tournament at The Indian Valley Golf Course, hosted by the Phoenix Club, and Collage, a compilation of songs and dances from Broadway, presented by the Department of Performing Arts.

Afterward, the presidential debate was projected in LaRose Digital Theatre.

Saturday started with President Leo Lambert's update and then families had a chance to meet their children's professors.

Grandparents were also invited to a seminar led by Chaplain Richard McBride.

A picnic was hosted inside Moseley and Harden Dining Hall before the Phoenix football team took on



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor  
Pre-registered families pick up information regarding the events during Family Weekend.

Samford University.

Fans packed into Rhodes Stadium and cheered Elon on to a 23-17 victory over the Bulldogs.

The night was capped with a formal dinner in McKinnon Hall and a ring ceremony where Lambert presented rings to upperclassmen who ordered them in the spring.

Junior Jeremy Walter's grandparents drove from Mechanicsburg, Pa., a six and a half

hour drive.

Between the picnic and the football game, Walter was able to give his family a glimpse of his life while away.

"I got to show them what I do at school and where I learn," Walter said.

To wrap up the weekend, a breakfast was held at Maynard House with Lambert and his wife, Laurie, on Sunday.

Freshman Julia Murphy said she thought the weekend was a huge



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor  
Despite the rainy weather, families tailgated together with various campus organizations.



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor  
Administrators lend a helping hand to parents and grandparents.

success.

"My parents are very impressed with the teachers, campus and all the nice people I've come to know," Murphy said. "They thought family weekend went well and are excited for next year."

Have your voice be heard...

# SGA

Student Government Association  
*Service. Leadership. Excellence.*

Senate meetings are every Thursday at 7:30 pm - ALL are welcome  
This Thursday: **Darris Means** and **Breanna Detwiler** will be speaking.

## 'Charting Your Journey' program for sophomores to begin this Winter Term

Amber Murphy  
Reporter

Freshman year is over. And sophomores will make decisions that will affect the rest of their lives — not just about choosing a major. Second year students find themselves asking: Where do I want to go in life, and how will I get there?

"Charting Your Journey," a Life Entrepreneur Program, intends to help students craft a life plan that incorporates their core identity with their professional and personal goals.

Students are challenged to discover who they are and what they value.

Elon has teamed up with New Mountain Ventures, a company that works with individuals to achieve personal and professional excellence, to begin this new and innovative program.

The program spans Winter Term and the first half of spring semester, beginning with a three-day retreat in the Blue Ridge Mountains and ending with a one credit transition strategies course.

In the inaugural year of the Life Entrepreneur Program, 30 sophomores will be selected to participate for free.

The sophomores will be divided

into three groups, or "cohorts," where they will have contact with each other, a faculty or staff member and an upper-class peer leader.

The "cohorts" will meet weekly during Winter Term to share a meal together.

"We realize that you get a great education at Elon, but some aspects of life just slip away," said Associate Provost Nancy Midgette.

Midgette said this co-curricular program ties together the academic and extracurricular parts of student life and helps students identify how these experiences can help them achieve their ultimate goals.

"It's not 30 Elon sophomores taking lots of notes, but rather being actively engaged in discussion and thinking out loud," she said.

Students are expected to leave the program equipped with strong intellectual tools and with the ability to identify their strengths, be alert to opportunities, take calculated risks and set goals, she said.

The program will also emphasize the art of reflection and renewal as well as thinking strategically.

"Any program that helps a student mature socially and intellectually is a success and in turn makes our

community stronger," Midgette said. "It's not going to cost you a penny, why not take advantage of this?"

Sophomores from any discipline can apply to enroll in this program. The application process involves explaining why one wishes to participate and a recommendation from a faculty member.

Applicants are expected to be good, dedicated students who are open to new ideas and thinking creatively, Midgette said.

"Charting Your Journey" is part of a larger vision to assist students in taking their Elon education and effectively applying it to the world outside of Elon, which is the intention of the transition strategies courses.

About a year ago, President Leo Lambert and Vice President Smith Jackson met with Chris Gergen, the director of New Mountain Ventures, to talk about Gergen's concept of being a life entrepreneur and how it could apply to a college campus.

"Charting Your Journey" spawned from this meeting as an extension of the Transition Strategies concept.

Elon University anticipates expanding "Charting Your Journey" to more sophomores next year once the verdict of its success comes in.

## First issue of Elon sports magazine set for November

Ryan Catanese  
Reporter

At Elon University, radio, television, cinema, marketing and newspaper writing are all media outlets that students can explore. There is one significant medium not on that list and senior Cory Dowd is trying to fill that void.

Students in the Doherty Program for Entrepreneurial Leadership, led by Dowd, are teaming up with the School of Communications to create a full-color glossy magazine called Maroon and Gold.

The magazine will cover all Elon athletics and its first issue is slated to be released this November.

David Copeland, the faculty liaison in the School of Communications, is excited for the opportunity.

"This is really financially based in business," Copeland said. "But the product is going to be produced by the Communications department so it's taking it another step where the expertise of our students will really be put to great use."

He said the magazine will add something that was really lacking.

"Our real goal is to get this out to alumni who don't have that student-type connection with their sports," Dowd said. "If you go to Penn State or even smaller schools like Davidson, they have huge alumni and student support and it's not that Elon doesn't, it's that we can continually grow upon that."

Dowd hopes Maroon and Gold will fit those needs.

For Dowd, this has been a project long in the making. The past year was spent making business proposals, scheduling meetings and getting approval.

"I wish I could list all of the people I've talked to, but it's been a long, long process," Dowd said.

The logistical legwork has been exhausting, and could be for naught.

"There is still, unfortunately, a very real possibility that the product won't ever get made," Dowd said. "If IPS [Elon's marketing firm] says no, we have to figure out a way to do it without advertising and if the athletic department says no, we're pretty much shot."

But he is still optimistic about the publication.

"Everyone that I have talked to, every meeting that we've had, people have said, 'This is a tremendous idea, we think it will work,'" Dowd said.

The magazine's target goal is to have the first 20-page issue printed and ready for sale by Homecoming weekend.

"Initially in our business plan we wanted to get it out by Parent's Weekend, but we've hit so many roadblocks once we got there that [it] was just not possible, and even Homecoming weekend is going to be a push now," Dowd said.

"If we don't get it out by then, the problem will be that between the middle of November and the middle of December there's no real time to sell a magazine."

While it is still in the planning stage, Dowd and his team plan on selling the magazine for \$5 per copy or \$4 with a valid Phoenix card.

They are also considering group subscription discounts with the Phoenix Phanatics and other organizations on campus.

"There's no telling how popular it [will] get," Copeland said.

For Maroon and Gold, it seems that the sky is the limit.

"I'm still very optimistic that once this thing gets out, it's going to be a huge success," Dowd said. "We're very excited."

## Common reading author speaks on inequality

### Kozol blames government for public education shortcomings

Miriam Williamson  
Design Editor

Every child, regardless of race or class, deserves the opportunity for a solid education. But this is not the case in America today.

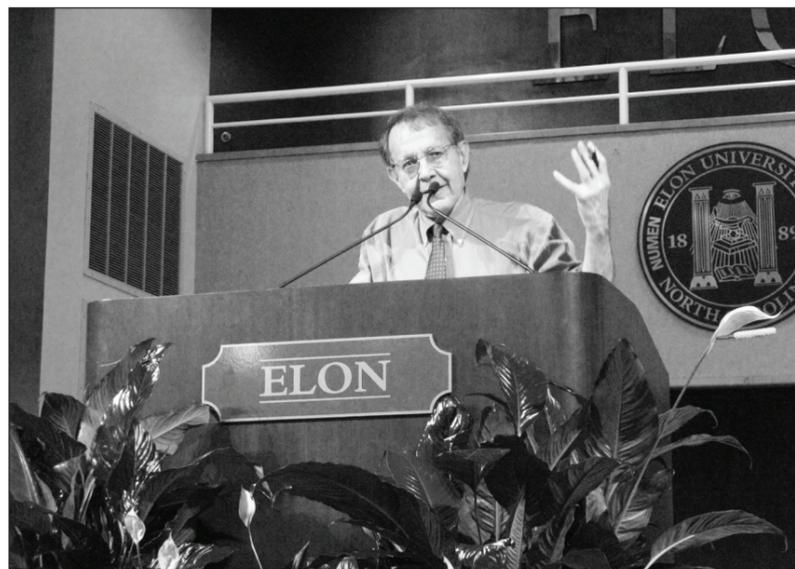
Jonathan Kozol, author of the 2005 bestseller "The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America," put much of the blame for the lack of opportunity for students in inner-city schools on government officials at the 2008-2009 Common Reading Lecture.

"Good teachers, especially teachers of young people, are not, and should refuse to be, drill sergeants of the state or servants of global corporations," Kozol said.

According to Kozol, government officials treat public education in inner-city schools like a corporation. The teachers though, are not to blame for this. Instead, Kozol praised them for their efforts.

Unlike the schools of upper-class white students, inner-city schools with minority children do not have the same standards. This, plus the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act, has left these students to face serious consequences in the quality of their education.

Kozol criticized government officials for establishing policies on something they have no idea about.



LAURA BRADFORD | Photographer

Best-selling author Jonathan Kozol said officials in the U.S. Department of Education treat the school systems like a corporation rather than considering the children.

"Very few of the people in the U.S. Department of Education would ever survive as first grade teachers because children wouldn't stand them," he said. "They are mean and stiff and gloomy."

Kozol has lobbied in Washington to alter the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, criticizing the effect it has on inner-city school children and the teachers.

Kozol said that No Child Left Behind should not be a part of U.S. education because it does nothing to improve situations for students. Instead of providing funds for the schools they expect to comply with testing requirements, they are simply punishing the schools.

According to Kozol, Massachusetts

Sen. Ted Kennedy, a sponsor of No Child Left Behind, promised the law would not be reauthorized.

"I don't believe [No Child Left Behind] can be fixed," Kozol said. "I believe it needs to be repealed. Abolished. Eradicated."

During his speech, Kozol also discussed the benefits of working with and teaching young children.

He taught in the Boston Public School system for a while, but was fired for reading a Langston Hughes poem to his fourth grade class. As a result of this experience, he wrote "Death at an Early Age." He has also written "Letters to a Young Teacher" and "Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation."

## Forty applications received for provost position



Gerry Francis

Elon has hired a search consultant to help wade through the more than 40 applications already received for the position of provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The search is underway after Gerry Francis, the current provost and vice

president, announced his move to the office of executive vice president.

Elon created a Provost Search

Committee comprised of faculty, staff and students to ensure students have a say in the new provost.

Tom Henricks, professor of sociology, and Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, are co-chairs of the committee.

In early September, the committee hosted three faculty and staff forums to help develop a better understanding of the expectations for the new provost.

"This is the recruitment period right now," Parsons said. "The search consultant is contacting individuals and taking queries from them and

we're sort of in this pattern until late October when the committee will review the applications to date and select about six or more for preliminary interviews."

The committee expects to receive somewhere between 80 and 100 applications.

The provost oversees academic affairs, admissions and financial planning, student life, intercollegiate athletics, institutional research, sponsored programs and cultural affairs and also serves as assistant secretary and treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

# Students work to get voters registered



**Daniel Harwell**

The time to register to vote is running short now that October is here. In North Carolina, Oct. 10 is the last day people can register if they plan to vote in this year's election. The Pendulum caught up with Daniel Harwell, president of Elon's chapter of the National Campaign, which aims to improve voter participation among Elon students this November.

**The Pendulum: Why is it important for students to get involved in politics?**

**Daniel Harwell:** Whether you think about politics or not, it affects everyone.

Everything from interest rates of student loans to foreign policy to environmental policy is decided by the people who represent us in all levels of government.

**P: How can students register to vote?**

**DH:** The first step to registering to vote is deciding where to vote, at home or at Elon. Every student is eligible to register at Elon, or at home. If you want to register at Elon it's easiest to use the North Carolina form and if you want to register at home you can use the National Voter Registration Form. Either form can be obtained by e-mailing polengage@elon.edu with your campus box number and the state where you are registering. Then we can send the forms right to your campus box. In fact, if you return the forms to National Campaign we will pay the postage to send

those forms in.

**P: Many students are only focusing on the presidential election. Why is it important for them to tune into the local and state elections, too?**

**DH:** Especially here in North Carolina, there are a lot of important races. In the Senate race, polls show incumbent Elizabeth Dole and Kay Hagan neck-and-neck, while both parties are pouring millions of dollars into television ads. The race for North Carolina's next governor is the exact same way. In fact, this election could elect the first Republican governor in North Carolina since 1993. Either way, the down ticket races are just as close as the presidential race and deserve the same amount of attention.

**P: What is the Elon chapter of National Campaign doing to make voting on Nov. 4 easier?**

**DH:** Right now we are making sure that everyone who isn't registered to vote gets registered before North Carolina's Oct. 10 deadline. Additionally, National Campaign will be operating a van between Boney Fountain and the polling locations to make it easy

to vote. And finally, we operate polengage@elon.edu, an e-mail address to answer any students' questions that might arise as we get closer to Election Day.

**P: If you could say one thing to all Elon students, what would it be?**

**DH:** Get out to vote on Nov. 4. The 2004 election had the highest voter turnout of the youth vote in many decades, so it is essential in this election that we increase youth voter turnout and prove to the media and the politicians that 2004 wasn't a fluke. Additionally, I would encourage everyone to act quickly in order to have their voice heard in this election. We are now less than 40 days away from the election and many states require you to be registered to vote at least 30 days in advance.



## FAST FACT FLASH

- National Campaign will operate a van between Boney Fountain and local polling locations on election day.
- Oct. 10 is the last day people can register to vote for the election in North Carolina.
- To get an absentee ballot, e-mail polengage@elon.edu.

## Stray cat boom fills Alamance County streets, animal shelters

**Kevin Kline**  
Reporter

It's a feline phenomenon: Stray cats can be found scattered in multiple areas across campus and many have made their homes near student apartments. But some students are finding the interaction less than "purrfect."

Senior Bana Kopty discovered four kittens under the hood of her car as it was parked near her Sheridan apartment.

"They were just looking at me meowing," she said. "They were a pain to get out though. That's for sure."

She eventually did get the cats out, but was extremely careful since she was not sure if they were rabid or not.

That's advice Tamee Penley, Burlington's Animal Services supervisor, encourages.

She said if an animal lives out in

the wild it likely plays with other wild animals and could be carrying diseases.

The animal shelter in Haw River is home to plenty of animals, Penley said.

"We are not at a shortage of animals," Penley said. "If you walk through our facilities, we have puppies. We have kittens."

Penley said more than 8,000 animals entered the Alamance County animal shelter in 2007. More than 2,300 of those were stray cats and the number of cats on the street is growing.

Penley warned that feeding strays may make the problem worse.

"If you feed them then you're going to keep more in your area," she said. "If they're eating and they're happy, they're [going to be] breeding."

Skids Restaurant Manager Glenda Robertson said she does not feed the stray cats behind the restaurant in Elon, but she does provide them with blankets and shelter.

"I don't want them to get cold," Robertson said. "In the winter, it gets cold. And that's all they have."

Robertson said she will continue to care for stray cats as long as people abandon them.

But she urges pet owners to be responsible.

"If you don't want an animal



Senior Bana Kopty found four kittens under the hood of her car in a Sheridan apartment parking lot. Stray cats can be found in many areas across campus.

and you don't want to take care of it, don't get it," Robertson said. "Don't purchase it. Let someone else take care of it."

Penley said stray overpopulation is a safety hazard for the animals as well as humans.

Alternatives include low-cost spay and neutering programs, which are available for anyone who helps care for the stray cats. That way someone like Robertson can help the animals, while limiting their population, she said.

Penley said people of all ages and walks of life give up animals to the shelter in Haw River.

At the same time the animal shelter said it needs people to adopt as well.

While it receives about 23 animals a day, only about 12 are adopted on a good day, so there are plenty of animals that still need a good home, Penley said.

If you have a pet and feel you can't take care of it, call animal services at (336) 578-1386.

**THE PENDULUM**  
ONLINE  
Visit Pendulum Online to see a video package about the stray cats on campus  
www.elon.edu/pendulum

## U.S.'s poor relationship with credit may be root of economic struggle

### BILL from page 1

is a situation where action needs to be taken.

"There is going to have to be some sort of intervention take place here," Barbour said. "There [are] lots of ways this could be accomplished and this bill is only one of them."

The plan would have allowed the government to spend up to \$700 billion to rescue banks and other weakening firms of assets, backed by home mortgages that are foreclosing at a record rate.

"This is a bill that is basically bailing out those people that have undertaken risky investments and those investments have not paid off and they are looking at great loss," he said. "They are looking at assistance from the government to protect their fortunes."

Because a bank can never be assured they are going to be repaid for any loan, the situation only escalates when the banks don't trust each other, he said.

"Unfortunately, these top-flight financial institutions are now risky loans in themselves," Barbour said.

President Bush addressed the public before the debate began, urging lawmakers to support the plan even through resistance from taxpayers and voters.

Bush said the vote was necessary to protect the economy and in an attempt to negate claims that the bill would only benefit Wall Street's top firms, Bush said "A vote for this bill is a vote to prevent economic damage to you and your community," according to the Washington Post.

Barbour blames the complications on American's unhealthy relationship with credit, whether on a personal or national level.

He said a substitute bill has probably already been created and will most likely be put forward soon.

"I don't like the idea that we're in this situation, but it doesn't change the fact that we are," Barbour said.

This can trickle down to local communities, where people may no longer be able to get a much simpler loan for items such as automobiles.

"This affects everything you do that involves borrowed money," he said. "Which includes everything from running your credit card to buy a coffee to borrowing the money to buy a house when you graduate and everywhere in between."

# 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.

## Responsible Elon students should get HIV tested

A modest E-net headline last week announced free HIV testing would be offered the first Thursday of every month at the health center. It was squished between announcements urging students to eat at Chili's or travel to Turtle Island for fall break. How many even gave the headline a second glance?

The importance of testing for sexually transmitted diseases, especially those that are fatal and incurable such as HIV, cannot be exaggerated.

There are wise cracks made all the time about the Elon "bubble," but most students are aware of a messier, dirtier world beyond the bricks and rolling green lawns of Elon.

Awareness of a non-Elon world needs to include the realization that bad life decisions made at West End on Thursday could have devastating venereal consequences.

Elon students don't look like they have diseases — the majority of the population is well-dressed, polished and clean. Many joke that Elon's perfectly pampered and designer-adorned students look like they stepped off the pages of a magazine rather than the Danieley tram.

Don't let a pedicure or Polo dress shirt fool you into associating pretty with clean.

Many have made an error in judgment — went home with the boy in their statistics class, had sex with ... what was her name?

These faulty decisions are not just the result of alcohol consumption — hormones and being 20ish can be just as detrimental to decision-making as doing a keg stand.

Whatever the reason for unsafe sexual behavior, the act needs to be rectified by responsible action. Private testing is available at the health center and no appointment is needed.

Getting tested for STDs, especially HIV, is as much of a community service as it is a service to an individual's well-being. It is disgusting when a possibly-infected individual continues to accumulate sexual partners. They are hurting those they love, like, or at least think are attractive that night.

Last year, students had to worry about a green-polo-wearing masturbator and GHB in their drinks.

The campus can't let the rapid spread of an STD be the next Elon plague.

Being body-wise by taking a three-minute test helps relieve personal fears, make treatment options available and protect those in the community.

There is not much comparison between giving a partner HIV and physically poisoning them — maybe it's because most poisons act quickly and the horrors of HIV can be dragged out over the span of several years.

Chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes and genital warts — many make jokes about these "gifts that keep on giving." Most stop laughing when it burns when they pee, hurts when they have sex and they are forced to make a chagrined doctors visit because of rectal bleeding.

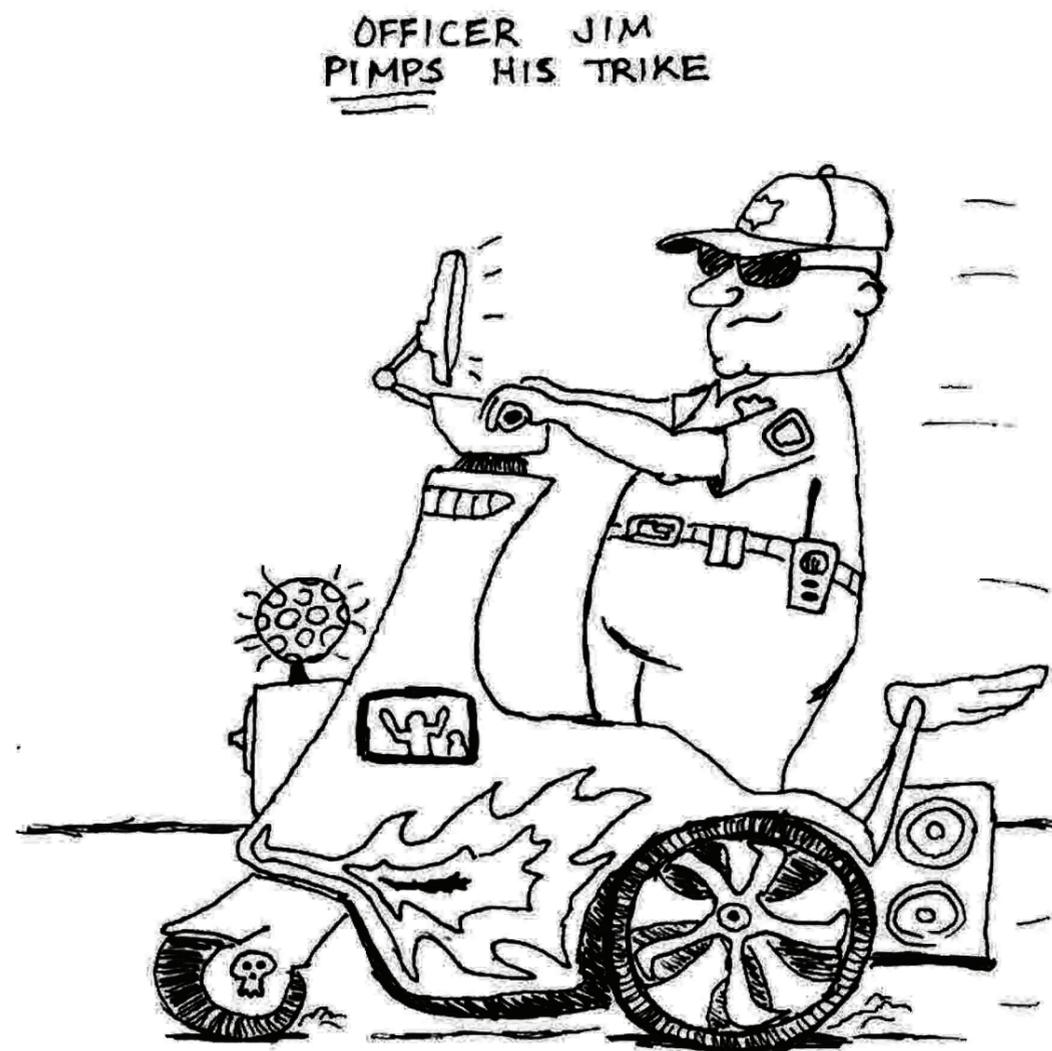
Everyone knows they should wear a condom when having sex. That caveat has been championed for years and any college-age student in America who doesn't know they should wrap it before they tap it has been living under a rock.

Once you've had unprotected sex, the deed is done but one bad decision can be corrected by a wise action.

Respect your peers and yourself and get tested.

### ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:

## Campus police ridin' dirty



LARS '08

Cartoon by Lars Bredahl

## Elon attendance policy needs revision

When Junior Jesse Unger realized the two most important Jewish holidays of the year, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, fell on a Tuesday and a Thursday this semester, she immediately thought of one thing, and it wasn't synagogue or Challah.

It was the School of Communications' attendance policy.

After contacting Dean Paul Parsons, of the School of Communications, Unger was granted a "grace period" to recognize her two holiday absences. While they will not be waived on the front end, Unger was told additional absences, as long as they are not chronic, might be dismissed so they have no impact at the end of the semester.

She was also told she needed to notify her teachers up front about the special reasoning behind the absences and acknowledge that she was not excused from academic repercussions if she racked up several absences.

While Elon professors are normally very understanding, Unger still has no 100 percent guarantee. She has to hope that in the case she would have to miss class, her professors wouldn't dock her final grade like each class syllabus clearly spells out they should.

Even though this is an extremely rare position to be in, with the Jewish holidays falling on these days about once every seven years, it does merit further attention. Elon's School of Communications is one of a few schools across the nation that actually has a standardized and enforced attendance policy.

Both the Koury School of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences follow the school-wide procedure of each department establishing a policy on class attendance, which has been handed over to individual professors.

But why even have an attendance policy? As young adults, college students are past the phase of having mom and dad write notes to get out of gym class and many are quickly approaching the next phase of the work force, where there is no attendance policy.

There, if you don't show up, you don't have a livelihood.

It seems like enforcing a policy where someone like Unger has to actively request help from the administration to observe two religious holidays throughout one semester and not have her grade impacted is like running back to the doctor's notes from fourth grade.

It reflects poorly on our student body to even have to require a policy. It should not have to be the professor's obligation to babysit their 20-year-old students.

If Elon wants its students to be professional, then they have to treat students like adults and put responsibility in their hands.

Students should be accountable for their actions and be willing to demonstrate they are dedicated to their education and future.

### THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and e-mailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. You can reach The Pendulum by e-mail at pendulum@elon.edu. If you have questions or concerns about an article contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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# Opinions

## In debate, McCain impresses, but Obama falls short



**James Glenos**  
Columnist

A political stunt. These were the first words that came to mind Wednesday upon hearing about McCain's decision to suspend his campaign in light of the pending national financial crisis.

Class discussion that day ranged from the belief that McCain really was living out his "Country First" campaign theme by putting his run for the presidency on hold, to the conversely-stated argument that McCain's decision was an obvious ploy to bolster support for his campaign by taking advantage of his "maverick" status.

Obama's campaign stance was confirmed by an official memo: "Make no mistake: John McCain did not 'suspend' his campaign. It's become just another political stunt, aimed more at shoring up the senator's political fortunes than the nation's economy. And it does nothing to help advance this critical legislation to protect the American people during this time of economic crisis."

McCain also called for delaying the first presidential debate. Was he avoiding it?

In retrospect, McCain's seemingly-risky (yet unsurprising) "political stunt," if anything, played

to his advantage. Obama is notorious for either not having much of a voting record or simply voting "present" rather than one way ("yea") or the other ("nay").

With his long-established style, McCain successfully contrasted Obama's absence from the Senate and ambiguous position statements to his own maverick record of "reaching across the aisle" to resolve issues with a country-before-self attitude.

It is apparent that the McCain-Palin campaign is banking on the maverick image for campaign success in addition to the Country First theme, a theme the Obama camp preaches but has yet to practice.

With little to no legislation to speak of, it is on par for the course for a politician to be banking on promises rather than previous actions in the call for change.

There is no doubt an Obama presidency would bring change to the nation. Just ask an Obama supporter. Then ask: How?

During the first presidential debate, moderator Jim Lehrer asked that question to both candidates. "Look," Obama quipped, as he did in response to questions time and again as if he had something substantive to say.

And he did have plenty to say about the past, and plenty to talk about with regards to the occurrences during the Bush administration.

It is very understandable why he brought up the unpopular president as much as possible. In many instances, though, Obama failed to come through on answering questions in a straight-forward manner, whereas McCain characteristically brought closure to raised issues with conviction.

In response to Lehrer's question about what administration priorities would be cut from a financial perspective in light of the imminent economic bailout, Obama said, "Look, I want to make sure that we are investing in energy. I'm not willing to give up the need to do it, but there may be individual components of it that we can't do."

McCain, on the other hand, made an actual proposal. "A spending freeze on everything but defense, veterans' affairs and entitlements." Thank you, John McCain, for a substantive answer.

As for the overall debate performance of both candidates, it is fair to say they both had reasonably strong performances. There was no clear "winner," but rather differences in opinion based on subjectivity (something easily perceived by flipping through post-debate analysis on FoxNews, CNN and MSNBC).

Obama currently has an edge in national and battleground state polls, an indication that the majority of Americans value hype over substance.

## 'Age issue' should not be a problem in presidential election



**Derek Kiszely**  
Columnist

Some Democrats keep talking about how Sarah Palin is a "heartbeat away" from the presidency, as if John McCain's heart is going to stop beating any second.

This is completely inappropriate and incredibly misleading.

John McCain is 72 years old, and the Social Security actuarial tables say that a man of his age has an average life expectancy of 12 more years.

The possibility that, if elected, Sarah Palin would become president any time soon has been greatly exaggerated.

The Democrats are guilty of perpetuating morbid rumors about McCain's health to exploit concerns that he's too old to effectively serve as our president.

But is it fair to make a judgment on McCain based solely on his age?

To look at him and say, "I can look at his age

and know everything I need to know about him" is just as wrong as looking at Sen. Obama and saying "I can look at the color of his skin and know everything I need to know about him."

Making judgments about someone based on a stereotype has no place in American politics, let alone in modern American society.

Unfortunately, that doesn't mean that McCain's age won't be an issue in this election.

Unlike race, making light of old age is still fair game in American pop culture. One of the most common prejudices we have in our Botoxed, youth-worshipping society is an inherent aversion to old age.

History is full of examples of great leaders who happened to be old while in office. France's first President Charles de Gaulle, West Germany's first Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Israel's first female Prime Minister Golda Meir all led their nations well past their 70th birthdays.

Winston Churchill, Ronald Reagan and Nelson Mandela were all older than John McCain when they were in office, and no one can deny that they were effective leaders.

The Founding Fathers didn't include an age

limit for the presidency in our Constitution for a reason: age, in and of itself, should never be a disqualifier for holding higher office. It all depends on the candidate's physical fitness and intellectual capacity.

Dr. John Eckstein of the Mayo Clinic said, "I can find no medical reason or problems that would preclude Sen. McCain from fulfilling all the duties and obligations of president of the United States."

McCain is completely capable of being president at his age, despite the "whisper campaign" the Democrats are waging that says otherwise.

McCain's health records reveal that his cardiovascular system is in good shape, giving him the vigor of a younger man. In the summer of 2006, McCain hiked the Grand Canyon from rim-to-rim. It's doubtful that there are many Elon students who could do that.

The issue of McCain's age doesn't have to be off-limits, as long as voters stick to the facts and not a bunch of ageist stereotypes.

For the record, John McCain has 'no evidence of heart disease.' So his heart isn't going to stop beating any time soon.

## TRL coming to an end after a decade at the top

**Noelle Clemente**  
Guest Columnist

What constitutes an era? Is it 10 songs five days a week for 10 years? Or is it the innumerable stars that graced the Times Square studio? Or perhaps the hoards of teenagers who stood on Broadway Avenue every afternoon to maybe get the chance to see a star four stories up through a window?

Total Request Live will be ending in November after 10 years on MTV. The show has lost steam since it first aired in 1998, but it is nearly the only music left on music television.

TRL was not only a music countdown, it was an outlet. Musicians debuted songs, promoted albums and could be themselves. Teens from all around could have a voice in what was going on television. The Times Square studio became a place of comfort and expression.

"I used to go home and turn the television on immediately so I did not miss a minute of Carson Daly counting down that day's Top 10," junior Kristen Clements said.

TRL defined a generation, but the producers have decided that the next generation will have to find another

forum.

The Backstreet Boys, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, \*NSYNC, Nelly, Eminem and countless others made TRL what it is today.

They came to Times Square with Carson Daly and were kids again. With only the constraints of what could air in the afternoons on cable television (and sometimes that fell by the wayside), artists felt they could do anything.

The fans made TRL possible. It was the collegiate generations' votes and viewership that kept it on for 10 years.

TRL was the first of its kind. Not a replacement, Feedback New MTV, also known as FNMTV, will return starting in November after a short stint over the summer.

There is no replacing 10 years of top 10s, but music will still play through the speakers of music television.

It is hard to consider that any show could possibly reach the level of TRL.

It has reached its number, 10 years, and will bid audiences farewell in a two-hour special in November.

The show and the youthful generation it entertains and represents will be missed.

## VH1 makes poor top song choices



**Kriss LeRoy**  
Columnist

VH1 has named its 100 best hip-hop songs list with artists such as Public Enemy, Sugarhill Gang, Dr. Dre and Kurtis Blow in the top 10, with Salt-N-Pepa as the only female group.

The past decade is notoriously famous for rap and hip-hop music. Boys with pants below their waists, shirts too large for their torsos and speaking raunchy words to virtually no music seems to qualify as good music these days. It doesn't always take talent to be considered a good rapper.

This is not to say that all rappers are talentless. But the determination, the efforts and the talent it takes to get there is significantly lower than that of male and female artists who really have to work to make themselves great. Rap is more like talking than singing, which makes it much easier than traditional singing.

Unfortunately, this decade isn't focused on the traditional talent it takes to make great music, like in the 1990s. Artists like Christina Aguilera, Mariah Carey and Michael Bolton not only sing beautifully, but they incorporate instruments into their songs instead of just beats

programmed from a computer.

But today's music lacks substance for more reasons than the poor quality of performance artists. The content in the songs has hit an astonishing low. Many rap songs contain lyrics that degrade women, children and different races, and welcome topics such as sex, drugs and alcohol.

The old argument that "rap is not good for children" because of the lyrics doesn't begin to describe the feelings these songs exude. In the 90s, America produced quality music with content that was friendly to most age groups. Today, parents are being forced to monitor what their children listen to in fear that they will be exposed to unsuitable content.

It is inevitable that college students will encounter the rap and hip-hop genre. On weekends, students dance to rap songs at parties and "sing" along to the lyrics. When asked what they like about the music, most students admit it's the great beats in the songs. "They're easy to dance to," one student explained.

Sophomore Logan Riddle is supportive of the rap and hip-hop decade. "Kanye West in particular, and Jay-Z, do really great work," she said.

Though this may be true, there is a difference between a great song and a hit song. Great songs have quality music and talent. Hit songs just have a nice beat.

# RATING RATE MY PROFESSORS

Shelley Russell  
Special Projects Editor

## Do you visit the Web site? If so, how often?

**Seinerth:** Occasionally, about once a year. I typically visit the site in the summer.

**Gaither:** Very infrequently — maybe two or three times each year.

**Ringelberg:** I don't visit the site as often as I used to. Now I'm down to once a year.

**York:** I have been to the site twice. Once when you sent an e-mail asking me to do an interview for this story, and today to prepare for the interview.

**Vandermast:** Every once in a while. There's no idea or plan to visit it every year, but I'm certainly aware of it, so I've definitely looked on the site to see what my ratings are.

## What are your overall feelings about the site?

**Seinerth:** I view the site like I view teaching evaluations: Everything has to be taken with a grain of salt.

**Gaither:** I'm not surprised a Web site like this exists. It's replacing something that's already there. Conversation among students about different teachers and classes has just moved onto the Web. I am ambivalent toward the site. When people talk about professors in person, they usually have a context for their comments, or they provide examples. On RMP, there is typically no context to the posts.

**York:** I guess I'm indifferent to the concept of the Web site itself — the idea that students would create the site to help other students. If I could somehow claim Buddhist indifference, then I would claim it. But I'm not sure that I can, because that isn't very Buddhist.

**Vandermast:** I think it's fine that students have a place to vent their frustrations and write down things they think about a professor, but I also think that it's such an instantaneous thing that every student that feels like they have an ax to grind can say anything they want. That can cause problems because a student who just happens to be dissatisfied at a particular moment can say things that end up staying on the site that maybe in the long view they wish they hadn't said, or wouldn't have said it had they waited a little bit longer.

## Have you ever looked up other professors?

**Seinerth:** Yes, typically this will be when I have an advisee and they're maybe having a problem in the course. Then I'll see if this is a single instance, or if it's a long-term thing, so I can help advise them.

**Gaither:** Occasionally I'll look at job candidates almost on a tertiary level. It is not part of the hiring process, but it is helpful to provide additional information.

**Ringelberg:** I look at people who are applying for jobs, or adjunct professors, and I tend to be happy with the candidate if I see negative critiques about a professor being too hard.

**York:** No, because of my inclinations to look up L.D. Russell. I know his ratings will be really good, and they may drive me into the abyss.

## Elon professors respond, or

A B C D E F **G** H I J K L M N O

Professor's Name		Department
  RATE 	<b>Gaither, Kenn</b>	Communications
  RATE 	<b>Ringelberg, Kirsten</b>	Art History
  RATE 	<b>Sienerth, Karl</b>	Chemistry
  RATE 	<b>Vandermast, David</b>	Biology
  RATE 	<b>York, Tripp</b>	Religion

Note: All professors with mostly negative ratings who were asked to be interviewed.



**Kenn Gaither**



**Kirsten Ringelberg**



**Karl Sienerth**



**David Vandermast**

## What are some of your favorite comments on your thread in RMP?

**Gaither:** The best comments are the most constructive ones that address: "Are you learning?" "What are you learning?" and "Are you being challenged?"

**Ringelberg:** I actually like my negative comments because I am a professor who wants a high level of challenge and rigor in my classes. Students think I'm too tough and give too much work. I like that these comments will discourage students who will come in to my class with the wrong attitude.

**York:** My favorite was, "Brilliant, cute, I want to marry him." I would also want to read comments that said, "His new book 'Anesthesia' is brilliant." It's a novella that's coming out in a month or two. I don't care if you read it, just buy it or drop a check off for \$10.

**Vandermast:** I would just want to see things that were helpful criticism. I mean, criticism is a part of being a professor, and I think it is part of being human — especially once you get out into the world and you're working. I know that I'm not perfect, and I certainly think that if students had helpful criticism on the site, that would be fine.

## Do you think it's a good idea to visit the site before registering?

**Gaither:** My perception is that a lot of people visit the site before registering, but I would have talked to friends or others who have taken the questions. It's much more than a three- or four-line comment on an answer.

**Ringelberg:** I would look at the syllabus of a teacher instead of trusting those kind of comments. I give my syllabus on the first day of class so they will be prepared. If a student reads comments about a class, and leaves thinking that the comments are true, they probably shouldn't take the class.

**Vandermast:** I think it's fine, it's not a bad idea, but I think that they have to take it with a grain of salt because there's so many people who, after college, think back to the professor who was most meaningful for them, and that they skated through and got away with. I think they were challenged them, or frustrated them, and they think: "Well that was really an impossible situation. I would never have thought so at the time."

Elon students' RMP stats: 50 percent visit the site multiple times each semester • 63 percent

## Site stats for Elon:

**462** Professors with mainly positive comments. 😊

**200** Professors with positive and negative comments. 😐

**86** Professors with mainly negative comments. 😞

Statistics are unscientific and are based off of professors listed on RMP. Not all Elon professors are listed on the site.

## 5 highest-rated universities:



Brigham Young University



Southeastern Louisiana University



Christopher Newport University



Stephen F. Austin State University



University of Houston

## one comment at a time

**P** **Q** **R** **S** **T** **U** **V** **W** **X** **Y** **Z** | **Next**

Total Ratings	Overall Quality	Ease	Hot?	Tell a Friend
28	4.0	3.2	🌶️	✉️
17	3.7	2.1		
20	4.3	2.5		
19	4.1	3.2		
24	4.2	3.2	🌶️	

interviewed for this story declined the offer.



ast



Tripp York



See the extended interview with Vandermast and Sienerth at Pendulum Online.

### Idea for students to entering for classes?

of students do go on the hope that students would taken the class and ask effective than reading a anonymous Web site.

labus and talk to the nds of comments. I'm a students the final exam know exactly how to ts about me, comes to omments could still be y class.

ot like you could stop it o take the comments with ny people that I know lass or professor who it isn't always the one A. It's often the one that n. And they look back and rtant class for me, but I time."

### What types of postings on RMP are your least favorite?

**Seinerth:** I don't like the "easy-A" comments.

**Gaither:** The worst comments are "Your class is boring." Those students have an expectation to learn and to be entertained at the same time. Not every class can be exciting with fun activities and games.

**Ringelberg:** Positive evaluations can be unhelpful. The majority of comments are at the two ends of the spectrum. Very few comments are neutral.

**Vandermast:** I don't know that bashing a professor is any more helpful than just saying that they're great, because neither one really helps the professor. If they are great, why are they great? What are they doing that you should want to tell them about?

### Have you ever written anything about yourself or other professors?

**Gaither:** No, but I've heard of professors writing about themselves at other colleges and universities. I know some professors who don't want anything to do with the site. Teaching is difficult because as a teacher you are rarely in a position to engage in a dialogue with those who are most critical. RMP is a one-way street.

**Ringelberg:** I've been tempted to write a few negative critiques about myself, but I've never done it.

**York:** No, but that's a really good idea. I think I want to post about Dr. Jeff Pugh and start the rumor that he's my father.

### How accurate do you think the site is?

**Seinerth:** The people who are most likely to put things up on the site are mostly angry people. There is very little middle ground. At the same time, after 30 postings and 28 of them being negative, it says something.

**Ringelberg:** I taught an Italy study abroad class during Winter Term and I had my students write four hand-written, two-page essays in Italy, connecting a class theme with the city they were in. Students had an expectation that study abroad would be fun and easy and that they wouldn't have to do any work. One girl on RMP said she cried every night. I know it's a lie, but the students reading it don't know that it's a lie. Also, if you don't have up-to-date postings, you can't trust the comments. My teaching has changed and I've refined my teaching methods since I started teaching in 1993 at UNC Chapel Hill.

**York:** Given that I've gotten 18 out of 24 chili peppers, you could say that the site is apparently dead on. But there was one comment that talked about my homework policy and it was just completely inaccurate.

**Vandermast:** I definitely think about it relative to whether or not the comments for me are reflective of the ratings that I get from the evaluations that the students do in class. Any one student might be very dissatisfied, and that's certainly important, but with one out of 30 students, you have to look at what they say, and if it's just the numerical rating, or if there are comments associated with the rating.

### Any other coments?

**Seinerth:** Even if a professor has bad ratings and isn't good in the classroom, they'll help you one-on-one. Definitely look and read, but don't let RMP comments dictate or translate into a bad experience, because it doesn't have to be that way.

**Gaither:** I wonder if there's a particular type of student who's drawn to RMP — like those who rely on the Web more than others for information. I'm not entirely convinced that it appeals to all types of students.

**Ringelberg:** Instead of relying on the site so much, go to as many first-day-of-classes as possible, even if you are not registered. Really get a sense of what is going to happen throughout the semester. The first day is the most important.

**Vandermast:** You just have to remember that the comments can be a reflection of how that person feels at that moment. And if everything is fine, is a person as equally likely to comment about a professor as one that is really upset at a particular moment? The comments don't give you the full spectrum of what all students think. You should always judge a person, or a friend, or anyone, on the merits as you see them, and not what other people say.

cent have posted a comment on the site

● 50 percent are moderately influenced by the site

Statistics are based off of a voluntary and unscientific poll of 100 students conducted by The Pendulum between Sept. 24-29.

# Style

## The man behind the counter

Jose, the popular Sandy's cook everyone loves

Jay Kahn  
Reporter

Many Elon students pride themselves on knowing all about the menu at Sandy's Steaks & Subs or their long list of beer specials, but few know anything personal about the man behind the counter.

Jose Flores, head cook and night manager at Sandy's, keeps the restaurant running each night. He works 70-hour weeks, sometimes not getting home until 5 a.m., but he said he has grown to love his job.

"The college kids, man, they keep me young," said Flores, 34. "I always have a good time with them."

The college atmosphere also has drawbacks. Patrons often come in far too intoxicated, and Flores has to deal with them. This can be difficult at times, but Flores said he tries to find the comedy in each situation. He laughed as he talked about one student who always tries to come behind the counter and cook his own food, and another who tried to steal



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jose Flores, the head cook and night manager at Sandy's, is a favorite among the Elon student population. He said the college kids are what keep him young.

the microphone at karaoke night but tripped over the stand when he was running away.

It's Flores' food that keeps the students coming back. He considers himself to be more than a cook. He

says he's a "sandwich engineer." One of his creations is the Big Fat Bomb.

"It's got mozzarella sticks, chicken tenders, beer-battered fries, meat sauce, cheese and more," said Flores. He added that the most popular menu

item is still the cheese steak sub and estimates that he makes at least a hundred per week. Personally, he sticks to tortellini.

To increase Sandy's popularity, Flores has planned weekly theme nights. Wednesday is reggae night, and on Thursday, Flores acts as a DJ, playing new music popular with the college scene.

What is Flores' motivation to constantly work harder? His children. Flores is a single father of two, a 15-year-old daughter and an 11-year-old son. He hopes they will have a better childhood than he did.

Flores was born in El Salvador, but left the country in the midst of a violent civil war. He was only 12 when he left his homeland and moved to Washington, D.C. to live and work. Flores eventually moved to North Carolina in hopes of giving his children a better upbringing. His daughter attended the Elon Academy last summer and Flores returned to school as well. He is currently pursuing a business degree at Alamance Community College.

"Jose is a great guy, with a nice smile and one heck of a dad," said a co-worker.

Though Sandy's might not be the first restaurant students turn to when they want a bite to eat, Flores is worth the visit every time.



A participant waves a rainbow flag at the 24th Annual Gay, Lesbian, Transgender and Bisexual Festival.

## Paradin' PRIDE in the Piedmont

Colorful flags and floats speckled the streets of downtown Durham Saturday, Sept. 27, for North Carolina's 24th Annual Gay, Lesbian, Transgender and Bisexual Festival. Thousand of revelers, including Elon's own Spectrum, flocked to Duke University's East Campus to participate in the festival sponsored by NC Pride.

PHOTOS BY GRACE HELMS



ABOVE: One of the most popular elements of the festival is the parade. Brother Boy waves to the crowd from the float, 'A Tribute to Sordid Lives.'



ABOVE: The float, 'A Tribute to Sordid Lives,' based on a gay cult film 'Sordid Lives' traveled with the other floats along the parade route that took them down Main Street and in a circle along the eastern edge of Duke University East Campus.

LEFT: A parade-goer sports rainbow-themed flags and jewelry, a common symbol for the LGBT community.

RIGHT: Brother Boy (left), a character from 'Sordid Lives' stands with Brandon Rushing, a Charlotte native who claims Brother Boy is his favorite character in the film.

# Globetrotting professors

Professors traveling abroad face unique challenges, opportunities

Julie Halm  
Reporter

More than 70 percent of Elon students will study abroad, but this is only possible through the commitment of Elon's professors. When professors accept the responsibility of teaching abroad, they are faced with exciting opportunities but also many difficult challenges.

Elon does not allow its employees to bring along their significant others unless they are married and many professors will have to leave behind their children or spouses.

English professor Cassie Kircher got lucky when it came to her teaching abroad experience. A married mother of two, her husband was able to go on sabbatical and the two were able to travel to London and take their two children with them.

Kircher said positions on study abroad programs are highly-coveted among staff members. She also said she has heard of professors being on study abroad waiting lists for as long as 10 years.

"Most of the friends I have [at Elon], they want to go to London," she said.

Communications professor Dr. Kenn Gaither found his study abroad opportunity away from Elon. Gaither has taught on the Semester at Sea program eight times since he began teaching at Elon.

This program is run through the University of Virginia and Gaither said he feels blessed that Elon has allowed him to go so many times.

Semester at Sea takes place on a small, refurbished cruise ship that Gaither says resembles a floating college campus. The boat is complete with classrooms, a library and two dining halls.

Trips take place during the fall and spring semesters and for a short summer term. Some common destinations for the program include Japan, China, India and Vietnam. The full semester programs actually circumnavigate the globe.

"It never gets old," Gaither said. "Every voyage is a little different."

So what is it like for professors to be surrounded by students for such a long period of time?

"You see things differently," Gaither said. "You see a part of it through their eyes."



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Kenn Gaither shakes hands with a 105-year-old chief of a village in Maasai Mara, Kenya that he visited in 2005.

Last semester, 734 students went with Gaither on the Semester at Sea.

Gaither said that although asking him to name a favorite destination from his eight experiences would be much like asking a mother to choose between her children, he did add that he had a particular affinity for Egypt.

But most professors do not get the opportunity to go abroad so many times. Kircher was a return visitor to London, but only because she was able to accompany her husband when he traveled there.

For her experience, Kircher said she and her family tried not to live like tourists while they were abroad. She and her husband enrolled their two children in British schools and tried to take them out of school for side trips as infrequently as possible.

Aside from her own two children, Kircher was responsible for 39 Elon students, which she said left her very little time to relax.

"It wasn't a vacation, I wasn't totally relaxed," Kircher said. "I had to be sort of 'on' all of the time."

Both professors said they would gladly teach overseas again if given the opportunity and that any of the difficulties that came with the job were well worth the overall experience.

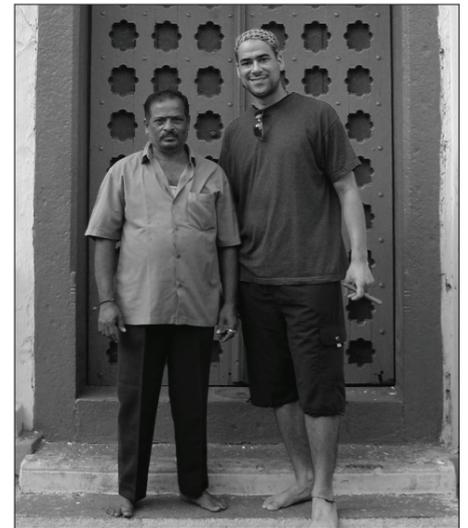


PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Kenn Gaither stands with the groundskeeper of a Hindu temple during Spring Semester at Sea.

## Bringing the fire and passion of salsa to El Centro

Maria Victoria Langman  
Reporter

"If you want to dance salsa, you have to have sabor [flavor] in your veins," Jared Koh, exchange student turned salsa teacher, said. He should know, after all, he's trained in ballet, jazz, contemporary and Afro-Caribbean dancing.

Koh is an exchange student from Singapore studying at Elon for the fall semester.

He's an engineering major, but hopes to share his love of dancing with the Elon community.

When he came to Elon, 23-year-old

Koh was disappointed to learn the nearest salsa club was in Durham. As a fan of the popular Latin dance, Koh wanted to create a "salsa culture" on Elon's campus.

"Salsa is all about passion and fire," he said.

In addition to teaching dance moves, Koh tells his students about the history and customs surrounding the popular Latin dance. At the first class, Koh explained how salsa was born in Cuba from a fusion of different genres of dances and rhythms.

Eventually, Koh wants his students to feel that they can go to salsa clubs

and dance with both talent and comfort.

A full house attended Koh's first class, held Sept. 25, in El Centro. Koh demonstrated basic steps, and helped students perfect their moves. While dance classes may appeal primarily to Elon's female population, Koh said that the passionate nature of salsa dancing requires both sexes.

"It's all about making girls look good and carefree and feel comfortable," he said.

Classes are scheduled for Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, & 16 from 6-7 p.m. Sign-up is in El Centro, Carlton 114.



MARIA VICTORIA LANGMAN | Photographer  
Anyone is welcome to sign up for salsa lessons in El Centro, Carlton 114.

### How to: Sew on a button

- 1) Find a button and thread that matches the color and style of the remaining buttons. Pass one half yard of thread through the eye of the needle and pull it so there is an equal length of thread on both sides. Tie the ends together.
- 2) Position the button on the garment on top of the pre-existing pinholes.
- 3) From under the material, push the needle up through the garment and pinhole, and pull until the knot is anchored against the material. Push the needle down through the next hole and in to the material.
- 4) Repeat three times so the button is secured by multiple strands.
- 5) On the fabric side of the material, wrap the thread around the stitch and cut off any excess thread.



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# Troupe brings Elon 'the luck of the Irish'

## Celtic Crossroads performs traditional Celtic music tonight

Amanda Kennison  
Reporter

Another unique experience stomps its way into Elon tonight at 7:30. Sponsored by Elon's Lyceum Committee, tonight's show blows into McCrary Theatre all the way from Galway, Ireland.

Celtic Crossroads, one of Ireland's most popular musical troupes, is returning for its second United States tour.

Boasting seven musicians and two Irish step dancers, the show promises to be an enthusiastic, energy-filled performance.

Playing a combined 22 instruments, the musicians showcase their talents on everything from the Celtic harp to classic guitar to uilleann pipes.

Weaving traditional Irish music with influences from all over the world, the audience will enjoy a medley of sounds and dances that will make them want to jump up and dance along.

"From start to finish you are captivated by a wonderful fusion of musical genres, such as eastern European gypsy, North American bluegrass, world classical and jazz," the group's press release said.

Although the group bases its music on traditions and pieces as old as the Irish hills, the youth of the musicians and dancers provides an edgy feel.

Fiercely traditional in nature, the group is also classically trained and enjoys incorporating contemporary techniques into its shows.

People who appreciate music or dance will certainly find something to like about Celtic Crossroads.

"This will be one of the most appealing shows all year for students," said George Troxler, dean of cultural and special programs. "It really appeals to both the young and old."

The group's craft reaches back to a time when community and music were priorities in life.

The name Celtic Crossroads pays homage to the idea of gathering purely to enjoy the company of one's friends and neighbors.

Before the pub tradition began, neighboring communities throughout



PHOTOS SUBMITTED  
The seven musicians of Celtic Crossroads play a combined 22 instruments, including the Celtic harp, classic guitar and uilleann pipes.

Ireland would congregate at crossroads to socialize and catch up on news.

Celtic Crossroads revives this custom, bringing people from all over the world together to enjoy each other's company and artistic talent stemming from centuries of traditions.

If hesitant about the idea of traditional Irish music and dancing, this group introduces the audience to it in a modern manner that reflects worldwide influences.

"[The Lyceum Committee] likes the idea of authentic world music," Troxler said. "Celtic Crossroads' music reflects our own culture. Irish music has shaped a lot of American music."

While Irish tradition is at its core, Celtic Crossroads exhibits just how much Irish music has evolved throughout the world.

Moreover, this group shows how Irish music continues to reinvent itself.

"The live concerts are a spectacle of talent, displaying how Irish music influenced the global birth of a multitude of musical genres," the group's press release said.

"This show is redefining Irish music by going right to the heart of its

### Want to go?

What: Celtic Crossroads

When: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1

Where: McCrary Theatre

Admission: \$12 or free with Elon ID

rhythms. The inventive arrangements and bass-driven grooves are steering Irish acoustic music into surprising new territory."

The grooves and rhythms have moved audiences to standing ovations in the past. Celtic Crossroads mixes its shows with upbeat jigs and haunting ballads that cover the wide array of lyrical and musical talents the Irish culture possesses.

If the music isn't enough to keep the audience engaged, then the mid-song swapping of instruments and blazing footwork of the step dancers will.

### A&E IN BRIEF

**Film Screening: 'Running in High Heels' Oct. 1 and 2**

This week, Elon's Women's and Gender Studies program will present the documentary "Running in High Heels." The film focuses on a young woman as she runs for office and explores the leadership roles of women in politics on both sides of the political spectrum. The film will screen at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1 in McEwen 011 and at 12:25 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2 in Yeager Recital Hall. A discussion will take place after the screenings.

**Documentary screens about service and Hurricane Katrina**

"Making a Difference: Service learning post-Hurricane Katrina" is a documentary of the GST 271 Winter Term course. In Volunteerism, Social Justice and Civic Engagement in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina, students learned about disaster relief by going to the gulf coast and helping with rebuilding efforts. The film will screen at 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1 in McEwen 011.

**Triad Stage presents new adaptation of 'Dracula'**

Triad Stage in downtown Greensboro is currently running a new adaptation of Bram Stoker's "Dracula" as part of its UpStage Cabaret series. The UpStage Cabaret is an 80-seat space featuring bold and offbeat plays, starting with this new adaptation by Preston Lane, Triad Stage's artistic director. The show will run through Nov. 1. For more information, visit [www.triadstage.org](http://www.triadstage.org).

**Cat's Cradle presents the Old 97's**

This week Cat's Cradle will feature the Old 97's, an alternative-country rock band based in Dallas. Their music has been featured in TV shows like "Scrubs" and "Veronica Mars" and in films like "The Break-Up." The Old 97's will play at 8:45 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3 at Cat's Cradle in Carrboro. Doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$18.

### MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★★

## 'Eagle Eye' sheds a new light on an old fear

Adam Constantine  
Reviewer

What happens when the few things you hold dear in your life are taken away from you?

How do you respond when your life is threatened by an unknown danger and you only have two choices: comply or die.

In the new film "Eagle Eye," Jerry Shaw (Shia LaBeouf) and Rachel Holloman (Michelle Monaghan) must complete the tasks they are assigned or suffer the consequences.

Jerry has never been the one to walk down the straight and narrow, always seeming to rebel against what would be best for him — or so his parents would tell him. Living in the shadow of his twin brother Ethan, he was forced into the background while Ethan took center stage. Both born with IQs off the charts, Ethan possessed the motivation and determination that would help him excel in all types of fields while Jerry was the complete opposite. As they got older they grew apart, Ethan going to the Air Force and Jerry settling for odd jobs here and there. It isn't until his brother is found dead that everything begins to crumble in front of Jerry.

Rachel only has one thing in the

world that matters: her son, Sam. After a bitter divorce, she wants to make sure Sam is the happiest kid on the planet. She has been doing an excellent job of keeping him on the path to success, as he becomes her only pure source of joy in the world. But all that changes with a single phone call.

Jerry is heading home from another unfulfilling day at work when he stops by the ATM and finds an outrageous amount of money in his bank account. He foolishly takes some of the money and runs home as quickly as possible. He gets home, only to have his enjoyment vaporized when he finds military grade weaponry filling his tiny apartment. He gets a phone call from a woman who tells him exactly what to do, and he quickly finds out that whoever she is, her control reaches far greater than his cell phone. She uses everything from electronic signs to other gadgets to get the message to Jerry.

The woman, who also contacted Rachel, leads the two of them together. With the help and forceful guidance of the mysterious woman on the phone, they evade law enforcement and continue her bidding. As they get closer and closer to figuring out the truth, they begin to realize they may not make



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

it out alive.

This film brings many different elements together to put on a suspenseful action thriller ride that will keep your attention the whole time. There is tension that keeps you on the edge of your seat, but there are certain points in which comedic relief eases the tension and still lets the audience enjoy each passing moment. With each new film, LaBeouf seems to be maturing as an actor without losing any of the boyish charm audiences have seen in the past.

"Eagle Eye" really makes you think about the different elements that many people don't even consider in terms of our national government. Difficult decisions that are executed by the government can have consequences if they are incorrect. This is one of the top five entertainment movies of the year. But if you are a conspiracy buff or paranoid about Big Brother watching your every move, this probably won't help ease any of that discomfort. Catch "Eagle Eye" at Carousel Cinemas at Alamance Crossing.

# 'Pink' exhibition in Arts West explores femininity

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

Libby Rowe may have been a tomboy when she was growing up in the 1970s, but don't say she isn't feminine.

In her exhibition, "Pink," which opened at Arts West Gallery on Sept. 29 and will run through Nov. 3, Rowe explores the idea that femininity is not a black-and-white system.

Through all kinds of images, objects and media, Rowe said she wants to expose and challenge traditional standards of femininity, such as the idea that if a woman wears lipstick then she is feminine and if she doesn't wear it then she isn't.

"This work especially is a bit eclectic," Rowe said.

The "Pink" exhibition stemmed from her photography piece, "Not a Sir." Rowe said when she first moved to the South, people would call her "sir." Though she has a deeper voice and shorter hair than some women, Rowe said she doesn't see herself as masculine at all.

Her artist's statement for "Pink" reads: "My artistic interests reside in defining and redefining women's issues in ways that are both informational and confrontational, and yet accessible to a diverse audience. In my current work, I bring together anatomy lessons with intentionally charged imagery and text to produce a new forum of discussion on what it is to be a woman — physically, socially and psychologically."

Though Rowe said her favorite piece changes all the time, her current favorite is "Womb Worries," which

## Want to go?

What: "Pink" by Libby Rowe

When: Sept. 29 through Nov. 3

Where: Arts West Gallery

Admission: Free

Online: View images from "Pink" at [www.libbyrowe.com](http://www.libbyrowe.com)

depicts 28 sock monkeys and can be seen on the front of this semester's cultural calendar.

"They're such characters but they're made to have some sort of deformity," Rowe said. "They have charm, humor and sweetness, but something is not quite right."

Originally from the Midwest, Rowe said she found art naturally through her grandmother's and mother's abundant stashes of craft supplies.

"My whole life I've been artsy, but before college I was involved in visual arts, theater, dance and music," Rowe said. "I didn't hone in on the visual arts right away but I've always made things."

In ninth grade, Rowe decided she wanted to attend the University of Northern Iowa to study art, but she discovered her love for photography through her uncle.

Rowe's uncle used to draw for her and her siblings and gave them cameras and other photography supplies.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.LIBBYROWE.COM

Artist Libby Rowe's current favorite piece of artwork is "Womb Worries," consisting of 28 sock monkeys. Rowe's exhibition, "Pink," opened at Arts West Gallery Sept. 29.

"It piqued my interest in how you could be creative in that way," Rowe said.

Rowe received a bachelor's degree in photography from the University of Northern Iowa and a master's degree in photography from Syracuse University.

She is now a senior lecturer at Vanderbilt University and travels across the country for exhibitions and installations.

She was approached about bringing "Pink" to Elon by Samantha DiRosa,

assistant professor of art.

DiRosa first met Rowe 10 years ago and their paths have continued to cross through jobs and conferences. She heard Rowe speak about "Pink" at The Society of Photographic Education conference in March and wanted the exhibition brought to Elon.

"The work is confrontational, yet humorous and accessible," DiRosa said. "I hope students consider the gravity of the issues behind the project, and participate in the interactive pieces."

## Elon's art put in order for archiving project

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

As students walk through the library and other buildings on campus, many of them are likely unaware that they are walking past pieces from Elon's art collection.

But any piece of art on campus with a label is part of the collection. Senior Alaina Pineda and Assistant Professor of art Evan Gatti are spearheading a project that should bring Elon's art to the forefront of campus.

For the past two years, Pineda and Gatti have been working on archiving and cataloging Elon's art collection.

Some pieces in the collection have never been seen, and people in the art department have stumbled upon them or heard about them by word-of-mouth.

Elon owns 680 documented artworks with an estimated value of more than \$1 million.

"What we're attempting to do with this inventory is get a better idea of what we have, because everything is spread out," Pineda said.

Right now Pineda and Gatti are taking photos of the works, writing descriptions and working with the PastPerfect software program to catalog the holdings. But they want to find a way to apply more established practices to the project's organization.

"We've been advocating for someone with a degree in this type of work to help on a temporary basis," Gatti said.

Pineda and Gatti received a grant for the project last year, and now they are hoping to find a graduate student in library science or museum studies who could potentially use the project as part of a thesis.

"I think we've been fairly successful in figuring out how to move forward," Pineda said. "But we don't have the time or the energy to move forward alone."

Pineda and Gatti both work on the project several hours a week in

addition to their other responsibilities. They said they need the help of a professional who can anticipate the issues that could arise with an archiving project.

With hired help, the project would take about a year to finish, but Pineda and Gatti said they don't know how much longer it would take without help.

Pineda is using this experience as a case study for her Elon College Fellows project, and Gatti immediately approved of the idea.

"I knew the African art collection had been inventoried by a previous faculty member and I saw how helpful that was," Gatti said.

The pair is currently working on curating six projects across campus, but once Pineda and Gatti are finished with those, they said they will need to take a break and dedicate more time to inventory.

Once the inventory of the collection is complete, Pineda and Gatti said it will greatly benefit future exhibitions of Elon art.

Gatti said right now they are the "gatekeepers" of the art, and they want to make it more accessible to the rest of the Elon community.

"I think we live in a visually-defined culture," Gatti said. "Because of that, it seems to me that having an art collection can only enhance that type of learning."

Even though there have been frustrations at times with the lack of help and small budget, Pineda and Gatti said President Leo Lambert and Steven House, dean of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences, have been very supportive and good things are happening with the project this year.

"I believe that art is so much more than decoration," Pineda said. "It's a form of communication and expression, and people are realizing how important art can be to the fabric of this community."

## BOOK REVIEW ★★★★★

### Meyer's 'The Host' just as exciting as 'Twilight' series

Mary Nease  
Reviewer

Unless you live under a rock, you've probably heard of Stephenie Meyer and her "Twilight" series. It has been said that she writes vampire books for people who don't like vampires, and in her book, "The Host," she does the same thing with science fiction.

Picture this: Earth, just as we know it, only violence has disappeared. You turn on the TV and it's all good news and heart-warming stories. No one curses, everyone is helpful, no one lies and you can't help but wonder, what has happened. You soon come to the realization that the planet has been taken over by an alien race of parasites that steal people's bodies and make everything "better." To keep from having your mind and body taken over, you're forced to go into hiding as perhaps one of the last true humans left.

This is the situation in which Melanie Stryder finds herself.

Unfortunately for her, she is caught and one of the parasites is placed into her body. That should have been the end of her, but Melanie refuses to just fade away like the other humans. Wanderer, the parasite inside of her, is not happy about this at all. Melanie starts bombarding Wanderer with thoughts of the man she loves, Jared, who is still in hiding. She attempts to get Wanderer to find him so they can reunite. Her plan works too well when Wanderer not only sets out to find Jared, but falls in love with him as well.

So what do you get when you have a love triangle with only two bodies? One heck of a story. Truly earning its number one spot on the New York Times Best Seller List,

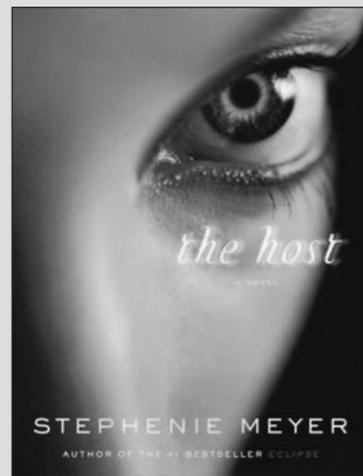


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.TOWER.COM

"The Host" is an engrossing story that takes you far away from Earth without ever leaving the planet.

If you aren't familiar with the "Twilight" series (and if that is the case, you should make yourself familiar with it), Meyer has a knack for creating tales of darkness and despair, and yet at the same time, her stories are infused with incredible hope. She tells love stories featuring characters who are faced with insurmountable odds. They overcome them, but in the most unexpected ways. "The Host" incorporates these undeniable elements of Meyer's prose, creating a story that makes you question what exactly it means to be human and blurs the line between good and evil.

But to give you fair warning, don't read it during exam time, because as soon as you pick it up, you will not be able to put it down. "The Host" will take hold of you and leave you possessed, just as sure as Melanie is, well after you've finished it.

# Elon instructor's films screen at annual Triangle showcase

Corinne Ayoub  
Reporter

Sunday, Sept. 21 was an exciting day for instructor of communications Nicole Triche, who had two of her thesis films shown at filmSPARK 2008.

The film festival is an annual showcase of works from Triangle artists in the Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill areas.

The two films showed, "Experiment 002: Thaumatrope" and "Experiment 003: Wire," are parts of a five-film series called "The Bars & Tone Experiment."

The series was created for Triche's thesis for her Master of Fine Arts from UNC Greensboro.

For the experiment, Triche had local bands give her one of their songs which she interpreted and put on film.

The local bands had no say in the outcome.

Images of birds are combined with music from Wembley to create motion pictures in "Experiment 002." "Experiment 003" features pieces of wire, which appear to dance over changing backgrounds, set to the music of The Octobers.

"They're short, weird films," Triche said. "I like to create things from scratch."

For example, in one of the films, she took a film leader and painted on it, making film with no camera imagery, with cracks and circles and, according to Triche, "all sorts of weird trippy imagery."

Triche said she enjoys the experimental asset involved in filmmaking.

"I think it's a creative pursuit, and in our daily lives we don't get creative that much," Triche said.

The emcee of filmSPARK was Godfrey Cheshire, a film



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
School of Communications instructor Nicole Triche combines images of birds and music in "Experiment 002," which was showcased at a film festival for Triangle artists on Sunday, Sept. 21.

critic from New York with an international reputation for his distinctive writing.

Cheshire recently did a documentary called "Moving Midway," which is showing in the Triangle area.

Triche said she enjoyed having Cheshire here to interview all the filmmakers.

"The most exciting part is that he's a big time film critic," Triche said.

Triche started teaching at Elon in September and currently teaches communications in a global society.

She said teaching is her number one priority right now, but she will definitely continue filmmaking.

"One of the great things about teaching is you can do both," Triche said. "It's a form of scholarship."

She said she wants to do animations and documentaries in the future.

Triche had her short film "Metacarpus" shown as a part of the Hi Mom! Festival on Sept. 5.

This film, along with her animation "MELT," was screened on Sept. 27 when the Flicker Film Festival received the Ava Gardner Film Festival Achievement Award.

All five of the films in the "The Bars & Tone Experiment" series had their Triangle premiere at the Cat's Cradle in July along with the bands that are featured.

They also screened at the 100 Mile Film Screening Series on Sept. 23, and will be playing at the Cucalorus Film Festival in November.

## Marketing to the Bubble

# Students can win a trip to Australia through Set to Screen series

Colleen Callahan  
Columnist

Oscar-nominated director Baz Luhrmann ("Moulin Rouge!," "Romeo and Juliet") wants you.

One of the recent ways film marketers are trying to reach students is through education. This includes the Apple Set to Screen Series. Apple, Bazmark and 20th Century Fox have partnered together in creating a podcast all about making the upcoming epic "Australia," starring Hugh Jackman and Nicole Kidman.

These podcast episodes allow educators and students to go behind the scenes of "Australia" through production design, photography and more. Subscribers can learn the different elements of filmmaking guided by a motion picture production team.

Here's where students come into the process: five of the podcasts have an additional creative challenge. Challenges have included photography, movie poster design and costume design. The grand prize winner of all the contests wins a trip for two to Australia, a chance to go along on the U.S. promotional tour of the film and a feature on the DVD. For each contest, the top 10 students can win an iPod or MacBook Pro. Remaining contests in the series pertain to editing and music composition.

Besides the contests, there are other benefits from the Set to Screen Series. Educators can download a series of lesson plans to correspond with each podcast episode. The site also aids students with their own productions by offering filmmaking resources such as Lynda.com, an online training library for programs including Final Cut and Photoshop.

The Set to Screen series shows an innovative way marketers are trying to reach a core audience of students. With the clutter of Facebook applications, commercials and movie posters trying to grab attention, studios are finding new means to promote motion pictures. If this can be done through educating and helping achieve high grades, then it will surely accomplish its goals.

Visit [www.apple.com/education/settoscreen](http://www.apple.com/education/settoscreen) for the Set to Screen Series.

*Marketers and advertisers are constantly trying to gain young adults' attention using new technology and innovative ideas. This column will discuss campaign strategies and tactics, and why college students should care.*

## TV REVIEW ★★★★★

# 'The Office' returns with facial hair, romance, fruit

Alexa Johnson  
Reviewer

After a slightly subpar season marred by the writer's strike, NBC's resplendent Thursday night favorite, "The Office," debuted with more delicious wit and wicked humor than ever before.

During last season's shocking finale, bumbling boss Michael found out his ex had chosen to artificially inseminate herself and charitably decided he would raise the cuddly little fetus as his own. Scranton welcomed a new human resources employee to replace Toby.

In the last five minutes, Andy stole Jim's thunder by proposing to Angela, who awkwardly accepted before heading back to the office with Dwight for a "business venture" of sorts.

Now, with Jim's support, Pam is finally pursuing her dreams by going to art school in New York. In a delightful twist, she was replaced by the goateed, former temp-turned-corrupt CEO drug-addict-rehabilitated-temping Ryan.

In addition, Phyllis is now the president of the party-planning committee after witnessing a scarring

Dwangela paper consultation.

The episode begins with a weight challenge issued by corporate, where the branch that loses the most weight will receive five days of paid vacation.

The competition is intense. Dwight replaces the snacks in the vending machine with fruit. He also suggests surgery to the heaviest employees and abandons Phyllis in a shady part of town so she can burn off calories by walking back to the office.

Hilarity ensues as the challenge is pushed to the extreme when Kelly goes on a diet of maple syrup, pepper, lemon juice and a Mexican tapeworm from Creed, who gleefully explains that no, it was not a tapeworm.

Romantically, "The Office" has never been more adorable, or more twisted. Pam and Jim, everybody's favorite couple, are forced apart for a few months, which proves to be very difficult for the Big Tuna. Every time they try to catch up, there is always someone or something that ruins the trademark moments that make every female watching swoon and squeal.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, Andy is enamored with

"his little lady," and tries to plan their dream wedding. It is almost painful to watch Angela disagree with every suggestion and crush any idea that will make their union a reality (she insists that they dance to "The Little Drummer Boy"), before scampering off for a total of three business conferences with Dwight.

As usual, "Weight Loss" is a hysterical and endlessly quotable episode. Particularly memorable moments include the revelation that Kevin is not mentally challenged and Jan's pride in her candle commission for a missing girl's vigil.

But the best part of the episode takes place at a gas station. Frustrated and out of his mind missing his favorite secretary, Jim asks Pam to meet him halfway between Scranton and New York.

Then the completely unexpected happens. In the pouring rain, Jim gets down on one knee and proposes.

For a moment it seemed that Pam was going to say no, but it was an unnecessary fear — she accepted and the pair shared one of the sweetest moments shown on television.

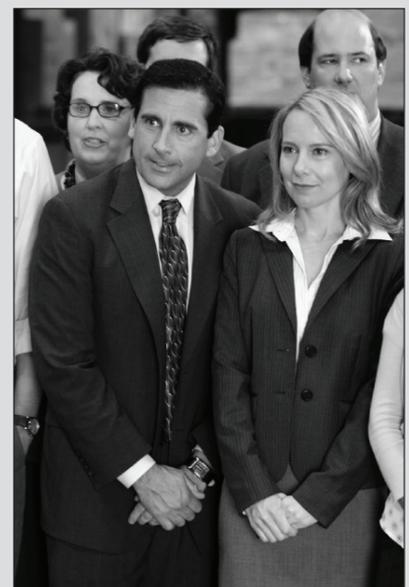


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.OFFICETALLY.COM

If the premiere, which was filled to burst with surprises and trademark caustic absurdity, is any indication, this should be the best and most Shrute-licious season yet.



# Physical play dooms club lacrosse against in-state rivals

Conor O'Neill  
Reporter

Since winning the conference championship last spring and playing in the National Tournament in Dallas, all Elon's club lacrosse team really wanted to do was get back to playing. Amid numerous accolades from the South Eastern Lacrosse Conference, the club was finally ready to dig into the action.

On Friday afternoon, the team took the field against the University of North Carolina Tar Heels and suffered a 7-6 loss.

Entering halftime, the Phoenix trailed 4-3 but the team came out firing after the break and quickly tied it up with a goal from Mike Pacicco. North Carolina then took a one-goal lead just before the end of the third quarter when a Tar Heel charged from end-to-end to beat Phoenix goalie Andy Kestermann.

The game was played back and forth, with neither team able to establish a two-goal lead. A Phoenix goal with eight minutes left in the game gave the Phoenix a 6-5 lead, but the Tar Heels came back and tied up the game just inside four minutes. Then, with just 30 seconds remaining, the Tar Heels scored the game-winning goal off a cut to the goal from the crease.

Each team played physically, but the Phoenix was more noticeably penalized

for its play.

"We played with a lot of heart but we also made some bad penalties," said Chris Kanoy, sophomore midfielder.

Leading the way for the Phoenix was Jeff Criswell and Pacicco, both with two goals a piece. Dennis Moore was in goal for the first half for the Phoenix and Kestermann in the second half.

Moore, who is also the club president, said there were advantages to opening the season against a Division I club team.

"With only a couple weeks of practice under our belts and adjusting to new players and a new coach, I was pretty satisfied with our performance against Chapel Hill," Moore said. "Sure we made some mistakes, but I think the only way to go from here is up."

Due to the rain last week, the field was soggy and slippery, creating many botched pick-ups. Both teams had to adjust to the wet conditions, resulting in less scoring opportunities from fast breaks. Despite the conditions, the Phoenix was able to dominate the face-offs and often take advantage of the possession.

Also undeterred by the rainy conditions, many students and parents came out to support the league defending champions.

Coming up next for the team is a trip to UNC Greensboro on Oct. 11 and a home game on Nov. 7 against North Carolina State on Homecoming Weekend.



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor

The men's club lacrosse team lost to UNC Chapel Hill on Friday night. Last season, the team made it to the NCAA Regional Tournament in Dallas.

## Club basketball starts strong



LAURA BRADFORD | Photographer

An NC State guard dribbles past Elon club basketball defender Jillian Watts in the Phoenix loss Saturday afternoon at Jordan Gym.

## Experience pays off for women's club team

Pam Richter  
Reporter

Fans packed into Jordan Gym Saturday morning to watch as the Elon women's club basketball team played North Carolina State University for a 27-19 loss.

This was the second time this season the Phoenix faced NC State, losing the previous game in overtime.

Two weeks ago, the team participated in a tournament and went 2-1. In this tournament, only returning players participated. The team had two victories against two different University of Mary Washington teams and had the close overtime loss to NC State.

"We had a really successful tournament," Rachel Dailey, club president, said. "We had a better showing against [NC State] in our last tournament."

Saturday, the team faced a new challenge: Working many of the 12 freshmen into the game.

"At any time when we have that many players there is always going to be an adjustment period," Dailey said. "I think what we need to do is just work out the kinks. We have a lot of young players, but a lot of enthusiasm."

The team practices three times a week. Dailey said playing time is determined by who is at practice and how many practices she attends.

Next weekend the team heads to UNC Charlotte for another tournament.

Dailey said since the next tournament is away, there are not as many girls that can travel for an entire day.

There is also a possibility that the team will split into two so more people could receive more playing time.

The team hosts a tournament the weekend of Oct. 25 and 26 in Jordan Gym. The team will finish off its fall semester season with a league tournament at the University of Maryland Nov. 8 and 9.

## This week's club sports round-up:

Men's rugby vs. Guilford — Lost, 18-14

Women's soccer vs. Eastern Carolina — Tie, 1-1

Women's rugby vs. Duke — Won, 36-0

Women's basketball vs. N.C. State — Lost, 27-19

Men's lacrosse vs. UNC-Chapel Hill — Lost, 7-6

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Wilcox keeps SoCon Player of the Week title

For the second time in as many weeks and the third time in his career, Elon senior kicker Andrew Wilcox was chosen as the Southern Conference Special Teams Player of the Week.

In Saturday's game, Wilcox scored 11 points, going 3-for-4 in field goals and 2-for-2 in PAT kicks. He averaged 61.5 yards on his six kickoffs in the Phoenix's 23-17 conference victory against Samford. He now ranks third in the league and 17th in the country in scoring with 9.8 points per game.

Wilcox currently ranks among the SoCon's all-time leaders in career points scored by kicking (sixth with 257), field goals attempted (tied for sixth with 69) and field goals made (tied for seventh with 48).

### Women's soccer team falls short in second SoCon game

The Chattanooga Mocs women's soccer team held off a valiant comeback effort by the Elon Phoenix to grab a 2-1 Southern Conference win of the season and drop Elon to 4-4-1 overall and 0-2-0 in SoCon action.

The Lady Mocs improved to 4-6-1, 1-1-0.

Elon's leading scorer last season, Katina Boozer, tallied the Phoenix's lone goal. It was her first score of the year. The Phoenix had another five shots in the game, three of which were on goal and one that was blocked, but none could capitalize and even the score.

Sydney Little finished the afternoon with two saves.

Elon will play next on Friday

night when it hosts the College of Charleston at 7 p.m. from Rudd Field.

### Volleyball splits weekend games

The Elon volleyball team went 1-for-1 in last weekend's Southern Conference games.

In the first matchup, the Phoenix defeated Appalachian State in five sets. Elon bounced back after losing the first two sets to claim the final three and the win.

Elon had three players with double-digit kills. Sarah Schermerhorn tallied a team-leading 15 kills. Freshman Traci Stewart recorded 11 kills while Caroline Lemke finished the match with 10.

Elon was back in action Saturday, visiting SoCon foe Western Carolina. The team played five sets again but came out with a loss this time. The Phoenix dropped to 1-1 in conference play and 12-6 overall.

Lemke posted 14 kills in 29 attempts with two errors. Mandy Wilson finished the game with a team-leading 16 kills, followed by Stewart with 13 kills and 14 digs for her fourth consecutive double-double.

The Phoenix will be back in action Oct. 4 when the team welcomes Furman to Alumni Gym in the home-conference opener. The match is slated to begin at 7 p.m.

### One-on-One Sports

Check The Pendulum Online for this week's One-on-One column with Joey and Chris. The topics are the biggest college and NFL upsets of the year.



# Walk-ons play key role in varsity sports

**Michelle Longo**  
Sports Editor

From walk-on to scholarship athlete to captain, cross country star Colleen McCarthy has had an interesting ride through Elon athletics.

McCarthy, now a senior, decided her freshman year to try out for a varsity team, even though she was not recruited.

"I thought running would be a good way to keep my life organized going into college," she said. "I couldn't imagine not being on a team [during school]."

Then Elon Head Coach Jackie Sgambati held the traditional walk-on tryouts a week after school began. Sgambati decided to take a chance on McCarthy, along with a few others, to see what she could do.

"Initially, it was difficult because as a walk-on you have to earn your respect socially more so than a recruited athlete," McCarthy said. "I also missed the first week of practice where the recruits and other team members had time to train and bond together."

But by McCarthy's sophomore year, her showings at the meets, her leadership on and off the track and her versatility earned her scholarship money as a competing athlete. Last season, it was also announced that McCarthy would take over as captain of the women's team going into her senior season.

"It's very rewarding to know that I have come from being a walk-on to being an athlete on scholarship and a scoring member at our champions meets," McCarthy said.

This season, new cross country Head Coach Christine Engel also conducted tryouts for the 2008 campaign. Three men and two women contacted Engel with interest in running for the team.

Engel set up a time and conducted time trials on the track, evaluating the prospective athletes.

"I was looking for anyone I thought could come in and impact the team," Engel said. "I only wanted to add people I felt could train in the group

**"Initially, it was difficult because as a walk-on you have to earn your respect socially more so than a recruited athlete."**

— Colleen McCarthy

that is on our team already. I wanted it to be an enjoyable experience for [the athletes] as well."

Engel ended up selecting one freshman walk-on to the men's team, Conor O'Brien. Even though O'Brien showed up to the time trials late, Engel allowed him to show off his talent.

"We sometimes joke about the tryout now," O'Brien said. "But it certainly was not funny at the time."

Two weeks ago, O'Brien competed in his first varsity meet, helping his team to a third place finish at the Asics/Winthrop Invitational. Out of a field of 122 athletes, the freshman ran the 8K race in 27 minutes and 1 second, good enough for a 55th-place finish.

Men's and women's cross country are the varsity teams most influenced by walk-ons. Non-scholarship athletes comprise about one third of each team.

"It is nice to say that I have worked my way up," McCarthy said. "It has helped me realize how important walk-ons can be and I hope it helps other walk-ons to realize they could do the same and make a difference in our program."

## Upcoming Cross Country Meets:

10/4 — Hagan Stone Classic  
9 a.m., Greensboro, N.C.

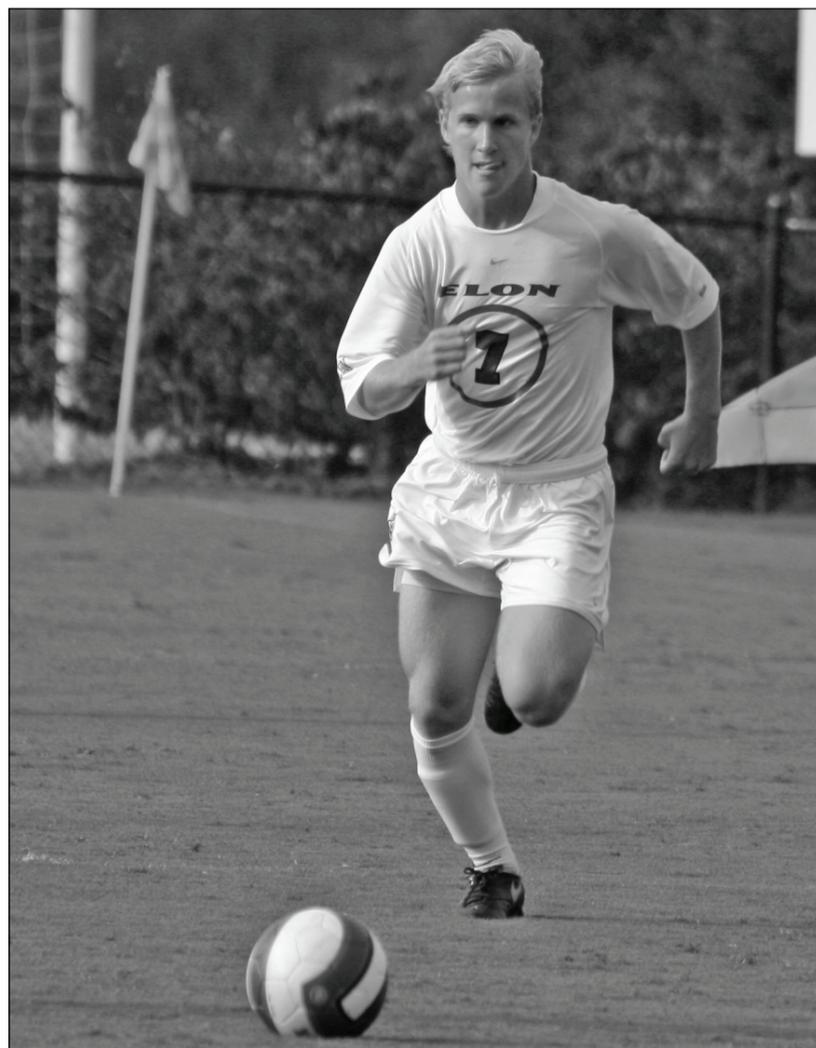
10/17 — Blue Ridge Open  
9 a.m., Appalachian State



KATY BURNS | Photographer

Senior captain Colleen McCarthy walked on the cross country team as a freshman and ran to a 36 place finish in the Conference meet last season with a time of 19:21 in the 5K.

# Phoenix gears up to face No. 1 team in nation



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore midfielder Brad Franks races after a ball in a soccer match at Rudd Field.

**Michelle Longo**  
Sports Editor

The men's soccer team has now lost its last three games by a 2-1 score. The College of William and Mary, No. 15 UNC—Chapel Hill and the UNC—Charlotte all downed the Phoenix, the Charlotte 49ers taking the game in overtime. Of the three games, only the first game against W&M was at home.

Now, the Phoenix will gear up and try to get back on track as it welcomes the No.1 team in the nation and the 2007 defending champions, Wake Forest, in a 7 p.m. contest today at Rhodes Stadium.

"We're always looking forward to the next game," Head Coach Darren Powell said. "What happened has happened and we need to keep looking forward to Wednesday's game."

Elon enters the game 2-6-1 with an unblemished Southern Conference record. Junior midfielder Justin Wyatt leads the Phoenix with four goals and nine points. He has scored in back-to-back outings this season. Erfan Imeni is second on the squad with two goals and five points.

In goal, Kyle Boerner has a 1.68 GAA and has tallied 24 saves in eight games for Elon.

Last season, Elon captured a 1-1 tie with Wake Forest while it was the No. 1 team in the country. It was the first blemish on the Deacons' record that season. This season, Wake Forest enters the contest 8-0-0 coming off its 4-2 defeat of No. 2 University of Maryland.

All the players are looking forward to [the game], Powell said. "It is exciting to play the best college team in the country on your own field. I'm sure that generated all the motivation

we need."

The main goal for the Phoenix is to concentrate on goal scoring and stop the explosive Deacons' offense.

"We are going to concentrate on what we refer to as details in the game," Powell said. "There are going to be key moments in the game and we need to execute during those moments defensively to keep from losing."

For the biggest games of each season, the men's soccer team plays in Rhodes Stadium instead of on the usual Rudd Field. Powell said he and his squad are excited because the game is predicted to have the highest soccer attendance in Elon history.

"Being at home and being able to sleep in your own bedroom the night before and dealing with familiar surroundings is important," Powell said. "We appreciate all the support we can get from students and the local community."

## Upcoming Men's Soccer Games:

10/4 — 2 p.m. @ Georgia Southern

10/7 — 7 p.m. @ App. State

10/15 — 7 p.m. @ Davidson

10/21 — 7 p.m. vs. Duke

# Samford disappoints in first SoCon game

Michelle Longo  
Sports Editor

For the past two seasons, Samford University's football program has finished 3-13 in the Ohio Valley Conference. This year, it was formally inducted into the Southern Conference, the Football Championship Subdivision's toughest league.

With that welcome came a tough test. The newcomers were slated to face No. 8 Elon in their first-ever SoCon football contest. This is the same team that barely competed in the OVC against a rising Elon team that leads the league in all passing and receiving categories.

And yet, the Bulldogs only lost to the mighty Phoenix 23-17 and held the SoCon's leading quarterback to 291 passing yards — 91 of those off a pass and run. They also picked Riddle off three times and sacked him just as many for a loss of 16 yards.

"I wasn't looking for a good showing," Samford Head Coach Pat Sullivan said. "I came here to win a football game."

Despite being a close game, the Bulldogs walked away with a tally in the loss column and a defeat in their first-ever SoCon game, while the Phoenix escaped with a win and its second conference victory.

"We knew Samford would come in very well prepared and obviously they are very well-coached," Elon Head Coach Pete Lembo said. "It's a neat position for them to be in coming into the league and not getting as much respect as they deserve. I'm sure that is great ammunition for them to fire up their kids."

In the preseason coaches' poll, Samford was picked to finish ninth, last place, in the

SoCon. Elon was picked to finish second, receiving one first place vote, seven behind Appalachian State.

The FCS standings prove the additional tests Samford will have to face in its inaugural season. Six of the Bulldogs' 2008 opponents are ranked in the top-25 of the current Sports Network Poll. Appalachian State is ranked third, Elon is ranked eighth, The Citadel stands at 13, Wofford at 14, Furman at 16 and Georgia Southern wraps up the standings at 24.

"I guess I found out what the Southern Conference is like," Sullivan said.

A bright spot for Samford as it looks to build its program in the SoCon is its plethora of youth. Quarterback Dustin Talliaferro is a true freshman, putting up bigger and bigger numbers as the season progresses.

Twelve of the 22 starters Saturday afternoon were underclassmen. Additionally, the majority of the substitutes were also on the younger end of the spectrum. On Sept. 13 against Ole Miss, Samford played 55 players, 34 of whom were freshmen or sophomores.

Sophomore Chris Evans is at the top of the league in rushing yards with 98.3 yards per game and freshman Riley Hawkins leads the SoCon in kick return average with 30.2 yards per return.

"They are going to be a very good football program in this league," Lembo said. "Coming into the league, they are very well prepared from a resource standpoint and the facilities they have and the ones they have coming. Obviously, they are committed to doing this thing right and doing it the very best they can."

Saturday, Oct. 4, Samford will be back in action visiting



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor

Sophomore running back Alex Barnett, No. 30 tallied 80 all-purpose yards in Saturday's game against Elon.

Western Carolina University at noon. Western Carolina lost its conference-opener this past weekend 34-14 to The Citadel. The Catamounts were predicted to finish eighth in the SoCon this season. On Oct. 11, Samford starts a three-game home stand hosting defending champions Appalachian State, The Citadel and Furman University.

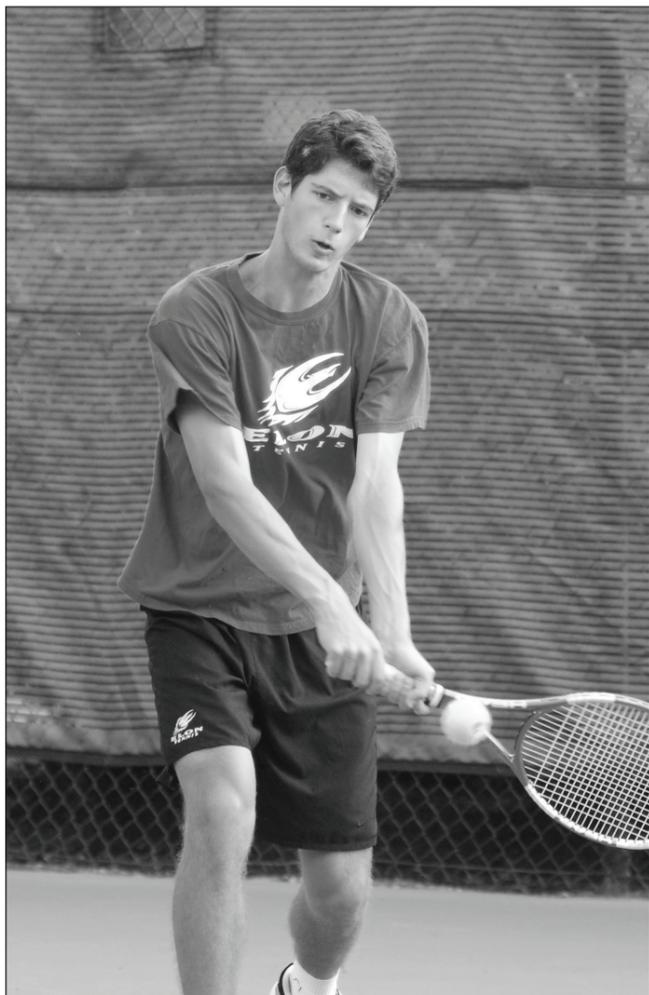
"[Overall] I was proud of our guys," Sullivan said. "I thought we had our chances, but we made some critical mistakes that we can't make. We're all kind of hurting right now but we need to get up and work tomorrow and get ready for Western Carolina next week."



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Harris Johnson, No. 32, rushed for 18 total all-purpose yards. Johnson is a red-shirted junior running back for the Samford Bulldogs.

## Men's tennis enjoying successful fall campaign



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Sophomore Oscar Podlewski, from London, has had the one of the best individual performances of the 2008 Phoenix fall season.

Paul Billings  
Reporter

Falling just short of gaining an NCAA Regional birth last season, the Elon men's tennis team came into the 2008-2009 season as a more experienced and hungrier bunch of athletes.

The players worked hard in the off-season with a target in mind: to avenge their loss to Furman in last year's Southern Conference tournament final.

The enthusiasm surrounding this year's team is obvious and unprecedented, men's coach Michael Leonard said.

"I'm pretty excited about this group of guys," he said. "Last year, we had a very young team and some guys were just learning what it takes to be successful in college tennis. It was very encouraging to see those guys come back to Elon well-conditioned and really ready for competition."

So far, the team has not disappointed. Because team competition within the SoCon does not begin until the spring, each fall consists of smaller individual tournaments such as the UVA Invitational and the UNC Wilmington Invitational.

Elon was represented in both this past weekend, as nationally-ranked senior Damon Gooch and sophomore Oscar Podlewski played at Virginia, while sophomores

Chris Spalding, Cody Stauffer-MacDowell and freshman Carlin Murray played in Wilmington.

In Virginia's tournament, a prestigious "ranked plus one" invitation where each team with a ranked player (Gooch), may bring one unranked player with him (Podlewski), the sophomore Podlewski arguably had the best tournament of his young college career, as he won three matches, including one against a ranked opponent from the University of Southern California.

The win marked the second time Podlewski has beaten a ranked opponent this season.

"Oscar had a really good tournament," Leonard said. "For him to play so well in such a prestigious tournament was impressive."

Meanwhile, in the UNC Wilmington tournament, Chris Spalding lead the Phoenix as he reached the tournament's consolation finals.

Next up, the team will host its own tournament at Elon as the Phoenix takes on Campbell, Longwood and USC-Upstate.

The tournament will start a week from Friday and conclude Saturday evening.

"Fan support really helps us, and we've got some good teams coming to town, so hopefully we'll see some Elon students in the stands," said

Leonard.

In the men's tennis world, a team doesn't really find out how good it is until the spring rolls around.

Right now, Elon is just trying to address its weaknesses, so when SoCon play starts in the spring season, the team will be ready.

"We're really trying to think positively right now in our individual matches so we can do better and be ready for the spring," Spalding said.

Regardless of how good the team is playing right now, no one thinks getting that coveted NCAA regional birth come spring will be easy as the team will have to win the SoCon tournament or put itself in the top 50 nationally.

To win the conference, the Phoenix will most likely have to beat Furman, the dominant program in the conference right now.

Coach Leonard understands the obstacles he and his squad face.

"Furman lost no one from last year's team, so we know they will be a good squad," he said.

"But there are plenty of other good teams in this conference as well. The important thing is that we know where we have to get this fall to be able to beat teams like Furman."

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# Sports

## Phoenix grabs win but offense is chaotic

Pam Richter and Michelle Longo  
Reporter and Sports Editor

On Saturday afternoon Elon pulled out a 23-17 victory over conference opponent Samford University. The Phoenix racked up 409 yards of total offense, but only scored two touchdowns in the game.

"I never felt like we got in sync. It seemed like we took two steps forward and one step back," Elon Head Coach Pete Lembo said. "The turnovers and dropped balls were frustrating. It seemed like everyone took their turn at making a miscue or losing focus. It was one of those days."

Elon quarterback Scott Riddle completed 18 of 33 passing attempts for a total of 291 yards. He was also sacked three times and threw three interceptions.

This season, a Phoenix team originally characterized by its aerial game has made a transition to running the ball more. In Saturday's game, the offense ran the ball 33 times and passed an equal amount. Alternative Brandon Newsome ran for 100 yards averaging 5.4 yards per carry.

"It isn't a change in philosophy," Lembo said. "Every week we go into a game and take what the defense will give us. Within a game plan there is enough flexibility built in based on how somebody's playing you, you want to try to attack them where they give you good numbers."

Red-shirted freshman A.J. Harris has been regularly contributing to the running game as well. With 1:48 left in the half, Elon quarterback Scott Riddle threw a screen pass to Harris. Ninety-one yards later, Harris marched



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Red-shirted freshman A.J. Harris carries the ball as the Phoenix marched to one of its two touchdowns Saturday afternoon. Harris led the Phoenix with 117 all-purpose yards and one touchdown in the Elon conference win.

into the end zone. It was the second longest pass-play in Elon history.

"[Harris] has been a real good asset to this team," Riddle said. "He has done a really good job so far. I like getting him the ball."

Although performing well in every game this season, Lembo insists Harris is still a reserve for Dontay Taylor. Taylor was out some of last season with an injury and is out recently with another ankle contusion. Lembo said once Taylor heals and is ready for action, Harris will once again become a reserve.

Coming into the season, polls, media critics and just about every other source were talking about the combo of Scott Riddle and Terrell Hudgins. In five games, Hudgins has racked up 570 all-purpose yards, three touchdowns and averages 114 yards per game. On Saturday, he had five catches for 75 yards, but no touchdowns.

Game-to-game, Hudgins' numbers have gone down since last season and his overall impact has deflated as of late. Because of excessive coverage on Hudgins, Riddle has been forced to turn to other receivers, such as senior Captain Bo Williamson.

Williamson, who has played in four games this season, has recorded 257 total offensive yards, four touchdowns and averages 64.2 yards per game.

"Hopefully this [last game] will get us refocused as we move forward," Lembo said. "It is nice to know you have some guys who can step up and make some plays when the team is not playing great and enable you to do enough to win."

Hailed as the best offensive team in the SoCon last season and one of the best in the Football Championship Subdivision, the Phoenix's offense has changed, and faltered.

Two weeks ago, Elon scored 22 points in a tough Southern Conference victory over Georgia Southern. For the season, Elon has averaged 30.2 points per game. In only one game this season, Elon has scored more than 30 points, the historic 66-12 win over

Presbyterian College.

Contrastingly, last season, the Elon offense put up impressive numbers against opponents arguably tougher than newcomer Samford. The Phoenix scored 32 points in a loss to Appalachian State, the eventual FCS champions.

The Phoenix, its offense and its defense, still has tough SoCon opponents, Furman, The Citadel and Appalachian State, among others to tackle this young season.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Terrell Wilson, No. 27, intercepts the ball in the Bulldogs' endzone. He tallied the lone interception of the game and ran it back for 68 yards.

### Football Notebook

- Elon's family weekend drew the second largest crowd in Rhodes Stadium history, collecting 11,149 fans.
- Andrew Wilcox missed his first field goal of the season on a 40-yard attempt. He is now 11-for-12 on the season.
- Samford played its first-ever Southern Conference football game after coming to the SoCon from the Ohio Valley Conference this year.
- A.J. Harris received a five-yard screen pass from Riddle and ran 91 yards down the field to the Phoenix end zone. It was the second-longest pass-run play in Elon history.
- Riddle finished the game completing 18 of 33 passes for 291 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions.
- Receiver Terrell Hudgins managed 75 receiving yards.