

Baseball starts season strong

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Elon alum running for re-election as N.C. state senator
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THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2010 | VOLUME 36, EDITION 5

www.elon.edu/pendulum



There are four LabCorp locations within 10 miles of Elon University. The building above is located on Westbrook Avenue in Burlington.

LabCorp injects jobs into the Triad

Rachel Southmayd
Senior Reporter

In an era of continual economic hardship, one Fortune500 company, the Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings Inc., has found a way to create 346 jobs in the Triad instead of eliminating them.

These positions will be in a new billing facility in Greensboro, providing employment opportunities for residents of Guilford County and the surrounding area.

According to David P. King, chairman and chief executive

officer of LabCorp, the company has always had a very close relationship with the region. Its corporate headquarters is currently located in Burlington.

"We are proud to underscore LabCorp's commitment to supporting economic growth in the Triad, Burlington and Alamance County," King, said.

This new project is possible partially because of a grant from the One North Carolina Fund, a discretionary grant program run by the Department of Commerce to encourage companies to create jobs and invest in North Carolina.

Corporations selected to receive a One North Carolina grant have three years to create jobs and invest a planned amount of money. If their goals have been met, then the corporation receives the grant money as reimbursement instead of at the start of the project. The LabCorp facility earned a \$275,000 grant.

"There is a larger mission for North Carolina discretionary grant

See LABCORP | PAGE 4

Unemployment benefits to stop at month's end

Jack Rodenfels
Senior Reporter

At the end of February, unemployed citizens throughout the state could be denied unemployment benefits previously furnished by the state of North Carolina.

The North Carolina Employment Security Commission, a government agency that reviews unemployment benefits cases, is based in Raleigh. The current unemployment program ceases at the end of the month. Congress is looking to pass an "emergency unemployment benefit extension" before the current program expires.

According to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, up to 6,000 North Carolinians would lose their current unemployment benefits within the next 60 days if U.S. Congress' extension plan is not unveiled by the end of the month.

Larry Parker, a spokesman for the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, said that when the current unemployment benefit program ends at the end of the month, it doesn't necessarily mean the unemployed will stop receiving funding from the government. Rather, unemployed cannot apply for additional "emergency extension

funding."

"When you first are granted unemployment benefits, you can receive payments for up to 26 weeks," said Parker. "The program that is expiring at the end of this month is an emergency extension on those 26 weeks."

The Employment Security Commission estimates 112 people in Alamance County would lose their current benefits program.

"If you are in a specific tier, you will continue getting payments from that tier," Parker said. "You will just not be able to move into the next tier because the program will be over."

This "tier" system is part of the Employment Security Commission's current effort to give aid extensions to unemployed citizens who qualify for funding.

The Employment Security Commission states that the extension unemployment funding is divided up into four tiers. The first provides funding for up to 20 weeks, the second tier provides funding up to 14 weeks, tier three provides funding for a potential 13 weeks and tier four provides funding for a final six weeks.

Qualified persons for unemployment benefits include people who have lost their job with no fault of their own, and their previous employer in not fighting their claim for

See UNEMPLOYMENT | PAGE 6

Student charged with filing false police report

Sophomore suspected man following her, police arrest her for calling in a false report

Pam Richter
Editor-in-Chief

An Elon University student was arrested for filing a false police report after calling 911 from the Moseley parking lot. The Elon sophomore felt she was being followed by a man in the parking lot.

Sophomore Emilia M. Sotolongo called the police after that evening.

According to Town of Elon Police

Chief LaVell Lovette, Sotolongo gave a description of a male similar to the description of the man who is a suspect in the most recent indecent exposure incidents on

campus.

"In her case, she reported a stalking incident that this guy was following her, and she instigated a thorough investigation," Lovette said.

Sotolongo made the call at 1:40 a.m. last Thursday and was called in for questioning later that day. She was arrested on charges of filing a false police report. She was placed in an Alamance County jail and released on

a \$300 secured bond on the same day, according to the Alamance County Sheriff's department.

"I was extremely scared for my safety," Sotolongo said. "The 911 call was me being scared and made with no malicious intent at all."

Director of Campus Safety and Security Chuck Gantos said during the process of the investigation, it was determined to be a false report.

"Anytime we have a person report a crime, we try to be thorough in our investigation," Gantos said.

Lovette confirmed after looking at the video footage it was revealed that "she fabricated the whole thing."

Lovette also said since it was the same description of the recent suspect

in the indecent exposure cases, the Town of Elon Police put a lot of effort and manpower into locating him.

In one week, vice president and dean of student life Smith Jackson sent four e-mails alerting students about incidents. Three of these involved indecent exposure incidents and one involved an alleged break-in.

In the e-mails, Jackson gave the suspect's description. On Feb. 15, a female student reported that while walking home from campus she saw a white male "masturbating as he drove by her in a champagne colored Honda."

See ARREST | PAGE 3



Top 10 Reasons Elon Students Are Applying TODAY...



1. "I pay only \$450.00/month and all of my utilities are included."
2. "Some people complain about the distance but here I can use my commuter parking pass to park in the middle of campus for class. These are the only apartments I've found to allow this."
3. "There is a heated outdoor swimming pool which stays a consistent 86°; I can't wait to have a pool!"
4. "I can use the hot tub all year long."
5. "The apartments are newly remodeled."
6. "My roommate and I don't have to share a bathroom because we each have our own."
7. "The high-speed wireless internet is great for my school work."
8. "Cable and HBO are also included in the rent."
9. "Since I don't have a car the Biobus is an easy way to get to campus."
10. "I was able to bring my new puppy since PW is pet friendly, I was afraid I wouldn't find somewhere this nice to live with him."

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Local nonprofit organizations to receive \$120,000 from federal government

Assistance to aid burden from rent, food and utilities

Caitlin O'Donnell
Assistant News Editor

The federal government has allocated more than \$120,000 to benefit local emergency food and shelter programs in Alamance County.

"The money is designed for agencies that help people with rent assistance, food and utilities," said Rans Triplett, executive director of the Piedmont Carolina Chapter of the Red Cross. "The money is meant to keep people from being homeless or losing their homes."

Each year, a national committee apportions funds to emergency relief programs around the country with money designated from the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

Originally created by Congress in 1983 to assist the needy and homeless around the country, EFSP now works as a partnership between public and private entities to deliver money to

communities that decide to use it as needed.

According to EFSP's Web site, the national board uses population, poverty and unemployment data to determine the eligibility of each area. Local agencies then decide where the money is needed most.

In Alamance County specifically, the United Way is in charge of managing the process, which includes putting together a team that collects grant requests and then distributes the money. This board consists of representatives from Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, among others.

In past years organizations including Allied Churches of Alamance County, Meals on Wheels and Alamance County Community Services have applied for funds.

In order to apply for a grant, the agency must be a private nonprofit organization that shows the capacity

to deliver emergency food or shelter programs.

"The committee now looks at allocating about half of the money to rent-assistance programs because there are very few available funds in the county to help with rent," said Ruth Pruitt, administrative assistant at the United Way of Alamance County. "After that, it is divided percentage wise between utility assistance and also food and shelter."

Pruitt explained it often depends on who asks for it, how much they are requesting and how much is actually available.

"Of course, the funds requested always total more than what is available," Triplett said.

Once the board has determined how much each agency will receive, the national committee allots the fund directly to the individual organization.

Brenda Ingle Allen, executive director of the Burlington division of Loaves and Fishes, said the agency received \$3,500

last year.

According to its Web site, Loaves and Fishes is a nonprofit, independent food ministry that provides groceries to feed insecure families in Alamance and surrounding counties.

"We wrote the grant and applied for two main reasons," Allen said. "The first portion is used to purchase additional groceries. The second is to buy food for our Saturday bag lunches for home delivery."

Allen said the organization plans to apply again this year.

According to a recent Burlington Times-News article, Alamance County received over \$156,000 last year and \$87,485 in 2008.

"Midway through last year, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act had excess funds and asked to administer them through this fund," Pruitt said. "And we have still received even more this year. Unemployment has definitely been the deciding factor."

Elon sophomore arrested

Police chief said false report 'throws off investigation'

ARREST from PAGE 1

On Feb. 16, Jackson sent another email detailing an incident involving two female Elon students who reported an intruder in their off-campus residence. "One of the students reported she was entering her bedroom after taking a shower in the adjacent bathroom (she was robed) to find an unknown male masturbating," the e-mail stated.

Later that day, Jackson sent another e-mail detailing another incident where a female student reported that she had been followed by a male in a beige hatchback car while jogging.

Most recently, Jackson sent an e-mail notifying the campus that an Elon student reported a man following her in the Food Lion parking lot.

The student described the male as heavy set with brown wavy hair. The car was a beige or champagne four-door Honda the report stated.

"The Smith Jackson e-mails have been frightening," Sotolongo said. "I would never want to interfere with the police investigation to catch this person."

Lovette said that a false report wastes a lot of the department's time.

"This throws our investigative pattern out the window," Lovette said. "There are no real viable suspects. We have a couple of leads we followed up on, but they didn't pan out. We are still tracking those down."

Mold not contributing factor in McEwen closure



Freshman, Zachary Guarino, gets food at Sunset Strips in McEwen after the buildings re-opening on Feb. 18.

Anna Johnson
Managing Editor

McEwen Dining Hall re-opened its doors after being closed for two weeks because of disconnected drainage lines.

Physical Plant Director Robert Buchholz, said more than 15 workers made repairs throughout the two weeks. The total cost of the repairs has not been released.

He said there was some mold found under the wallboard but it was not substantial.

"The biggest issue was the wetness in the basement area and fixing the pipes," Buchholz said. "(The mold) was not very extensive."

Students and McEwen Dining Hall employees said they were glad to have the building re-opened.

Jean Johnson, four-year-employee of Varsity, said she was very excited.

"It is great to be

back," Johnson said. "We were all ready for work. And the students were glad because there is really nothing else on this side of campus except Acorn."

The employees received unemployment during the two weeks they were out of work. A few employees worked at other locations on campus, but only for a couple of days.

Kyla Tiller, a sophomore who lives in the Oaks apartments, said she didn't eat at McEwen Dining Hall often but she did notice the closure.

"I eat at Acorn everyday after class," Tiller said. "When (McEwen) was closed the lines were ridiculous."

She also said she missed being able to choose what was on her wraps.

Health inspectors did examine McEwen Dining Hall before it was allowed to re-open. The current health rating is 97.5.

Outdoor pool up for student vote

SGA seeks student opinion

Alexa Johnson
Senior Reporter

SGA voted to put the decision to build an outdoor pool up for referendum and held an open meeting last Monday for students to voice their concerns.

Adam Walton, SGA executive treasurer, welcomed the questions and soothed many of the fears students had.

"A lot of these questions are things we can address later," said Walton, who offered to take down names of students interested in giving SGA student body input.

Members of the club swim team were enthusiastic, but had many concerns with details. Other students just had questions.

Lisa Bodine, a senior, was not enthusiastic about the new idea.

"Where was the survey asking if students wanted anything else? It doesn't seem fair," Bodine said. "I think this is moving very quickly, I had never even heard about this until last week."

Although many students voiced displeasure over the pool to fellow students in passing, very few have talked to SGA about the matter. Walton emailed the student body and held the meeting as a way for students to express their thoughts. However, the turnout was minimal.

One of the biggest problems students voiced about the pool was the proposed location, far

away from center of campus and without easy access.

"The reasons why you're doing it is great," said Chase Grange, a sophomore. "But the devil's in the details."

While some students voiced their concern about the location, the senate supported their reasoning: in the next ten years, Elon will be expanding outwards toward Danieleley Center. The removed location would allow for ample parking, in addition to keeping students from walking into Moseley and around campus in bathing suits.

If the referendum passes, the construction time frame may vary.

"Initially Vice President Whittington said construction on the pool could start as soon as this summer," Walton said. "But pending the votes of the student body and senior staff, it could be another year. It might not start until next spring."

Although SGA is trying to push the measure through, the senate wants students to know that this project was not born as a pet project. The pool is for the entire student body to enjoy and hopefully help unify the Elon community.

"Honestly, I really don't care if it pushes through," Walton said. "We're doing this for students, not for us. We're trying to work for them and to give them what they want."

Bringing a different perspective: Information and systems technology assistant director running for local education board

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

Elon University Information and Systems Technology Assistant Director is running for the Alamance-Burlington School System Board of Education this year on the platform of improving technology in the classroom.

For years, friends, family and people in the community have encouraged him to look into the board. Tony Rose is finally putting his ideas to use by running this year.

"When I started researching and seeing what was going on at the board level, I thought maybe there's something to (their suggestions)," Rose said.

Rose said he wants to contribute to the community and provide a public service.

"My aspirations are to be on the board, not to be a politician. I am new to the political side of things, but politics is necessary to get to it," Rose said.

There are three different perspectives Rose can draw upon in this position. Rose grew up in the presence of teachers in his family, he attended schools in the ABSS and his children now attend schools in the county.

"I grew up in an environment where education is important," he said.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
When he decided to run, Tony Rose created a media profile. He is running for school board this year.

Rose's career at Elon will continue even if he is elected to the board. "I intend to remain at Elon," he said, "(The board) will just be an additional role that I intend to play."

Rose plans to vote on issues and laws in a way that will best benefit the classroom. He said he feels it is important to be an advocate and voice for teachers and parents in the school system.

"When an issue comes up, a decision has to be made, I'm going to listen to parents and teachers and make decisions based on that" Rose said. "They want somebody who has the perspective they have."

Rose describes the classroom as the most important part of the school system.

"Teaching and learning, that's where it is, that's the thing we're doing in education," he said. "That's where the resources should go."

According to Rose, these include supplements to teacher salaries, resources to buy materials for the classroom and giving more freedom to teachers to instruct in effective ways.

"I don't think it's the best for the learning of children to encumber the styles of how teachers can teach, thwarting creativity," he said.

His platform will focus on improving technology in schools. He wants to be in a position to help support schools and introduce necessary technology. His focus is not only on teaching students to use technology to help them get ahead, but also on using technology in the classroom to facilitate learning.

Rose studied electronics for four years in high school, received a degree in Electronics Engineering from DeVry University in Atlanta and worked in the information technology industry for 20 years.

"Having a board member who is knowledgeable in the real world of information technology would be beneficial," he said.

Rose described an experience when he observed Woodlawn Elementary School, where a teacher won a grant providing Kindles for the classroom. The Kindles were integrated into the classroom and he saw students enjoying learning literature.

Rose remarks on the social aspect of learning. The students using the Kindles held technology in their hands and "just as some people learn better different ways, some people learn better with technology," he said.

He explained that making the learning experience interactive or live creates an environment more conducive to learning.

Working on the board would not be Rose's first experience with children and students. Rose is a former board member of the Hope House, a ministry which assists pregnant teenagers, has taught Sunday school classes and has two younger daughters.

"I think being close to kids helps me understand what they're thinking, what their needs are," he said.

Elections will be held Nov. 2 in Alamance County. Because the board is nonpartisan, the election will occur during the primary. There are currently three available seats on the board.

Students arrested for marijuana possession

Jack Dodson, Anna Johnson and Pam Richter
Executive Editors

In an undercover investigation, three Elon University students were arrested for possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

Spencer Thomas Martel, sophomore, and Tom Hodges-Copple, junior, were arrested from Oaks building B by the Town of Elon Police Department on Feb. 16. Both were charged with possession of marijuana, possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana, and paraphernalia.

Later in the afternoon, sophomore Jordan Luke McMahan, was arrested at the Crest Apartments and charged with felony possession of marijuana, possession with the intent to manufacture, sell and/or deliver marijuana, and maintaining a vehicle.

Between the three individuals, 199.3 grams of marijuana was confiscated.

Elon Police Chief LaVell Lovette said an undercover police officer was able to purchase marijuana from the individuals.

"We had some buys early on, that's when the search warrant was served and Spencer and Tom were arrested. That ended it," Lovette said.

Lovette said this was not part of a long-term investigation and said, "we're too small to do longer undercover things." She said drug arrests usually come in spurts.

"It's always been a cycling affect," Lovette said. "Once

we get one there have always been several arrests. What will generally happen is that we arrest someone and we get them to tell us who they buy from them and who is supplying them."

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said the campus police received a phone call from the Town of Elon Police Department five minutes before Martel and Hodges-Copple were arrested.

"We didn't have any indication that particular location was selling drugs," Gantos said.

According to Eric Townsend, director of the Elon University News Bureau, the Town of Elon Police contacted the university on Tuesday morning to say they would be carrying out search warrants on campus.

The school had no knowledge of the case before receiving the call, he said.

The move was one of cooperation, Townsend said, and the university was able to help police gain access to the building.

"I certainly think the town provided a professional courtesy and called us," Townsend said. "It makes everything easier."

Townsend said because the university and the town share jurisdiction on campus, the police didn't have to call in advance.

Lovette said an Elon officer assisted with the recent drug busts. She said the Elon Police often works and cooperates with Campus Safety and Police.

Both the school and the

town are conducting their own separate proceedings in punishing the students. Elon University will be looking into violations of its Honor Code, not from a criminal standpoint, Townsend said.

Gantos said since Jan. 1 there were three incidents where students were charged with possession of marijuana, one incident in Oaks C and two in the Danieley Center.

"(Marijuana) is an issue everywhere," Gantos said. "It is readily available in any community and Elon is no exception."

He said when they find students with marijuana they usually find less than an ounce.

All three students were held at Alamance County's Jail. Martel and Hodges-Copple were held on \$11,000 secured bond and McMahan was held on \$10,000 secured bond. These incidents are still under investigation.

McMahan has a previous charge of driving after consuming under the age of 21 in January. Hodges-Copple has a previous charge of consuming a malt beverage underage in February 2009. Martel has a previous charge of consuming a malt beverage underage.

The student arrests are not involved with the Alamance County Sheriff's Office yearlong street-level drug roundup called Operation Heartbreaker, through which 23 suspects have been arrested, said Randy Jones, public information officer for the Sheriff's Office.

LabCorp injects jobs in the Triad

346 new job to be offered

LABCORP from Page 1

programs," said Kathy Neal, department person. "It's to extend prosperity to all of North Carolina so that it is One North Carolina."

Some of the issues considered when assigning grant funds are the type of jobs being created and the sustainability of those jobs. Neal said that LabCorp is part of an industry that will always be necessary to the public.

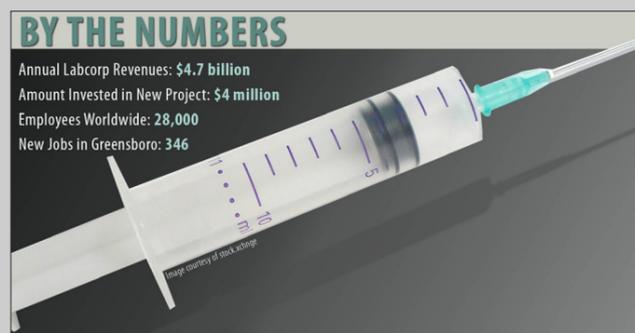
The One North Carolina Fund is part of Governor Beverly Perdue's larger "JobsNOW" initiative.

"Governor Perdue will

take any meeting and take any phone call if it could mean bringing jobs to North Carolina," said Chrissy Pearson, Spokesperson for the Office of the Governor.

The goal of "JobsNow" is to encourage employment by retraining workers, creating new opportunities for employees, promoting programs in universities as well as community colleges, encouraging economic development.

The new LabCorp facility will invest 4 million dollars in the Greensboro area over the next three years.



SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Elon's budget broken down

Gerald Whittington gives in-depth look at Elon's budget

Samantha King
News Editor

Each year, departments submit requests for resources and materials they believe are needed to offer students the best education available. The budget committee must sort through all the requests and determine the budget annually. Senior Vice President Gerald Whittington discusses the process.

Q: Who are the members of the board for the budget?

The budget committee is composed of the provost, Steven House, who is also the chair, myself, the executive vice president, Gerry Francis, a dean, Dean Paul Parsons, two faculty members, Tom Green and Joyce Davis, and the associate vice president for business and finance, Ken Mullen. The board oversees the budgeting process.

Q: What is the process?

The process begins with the president telling the committee what he would like to see in the budget for the year. The budget committee then sends out budget materials to the budget majors in every department.

The budget managers then talk with the department to create a budget request. The request is usually more than what the budget will allow.

Q: After a department submits a request, how does the board process it?

First, the necessities must be recognized. Even if a department does not make a specific request, like funding for the electric bill, it must be accounted for.

Then the committee looks at the requests that support The Elon Commitment strategic plan. For

example, if a department requests more financial aid, it will be funded.

Q: What are the top priorities when planning the budget?

Financial aid, faculty and staff salaries and benefits including health insurance, making investments for the endowment, and this year the university is adding 14 additional faculty positions. Part of our strategic plans to create reserve for building maintenance and embark on the large plan to add 1,600 beds to campus.

Q: Elon budgets very conservatively compared to other schools, could you tell me how this happens?

We do not budget for 100 percent of the total projected number of students. We hold back 2 percent of the total number of undergraduates. Many institutions that budget for all the students, must then make budget cuts in the middle of the year.

This year we are essentially flat in our enrollment. We did not hit the projected amount, but no one suffered because we didn't budget for all of the projected number of students.

Q: Elon had an increase in endowment last year when other schools saw 20 and 30 percent decreases. How did we do this?

We had excellent investment managers, who didn't lose as much compared to other universities. We were also promoting the EverElon Campaign that added, to the endowment. The amount of money that we added and not losing as much, made us come out positive.

Q: How is the budget going to fit with The EverElon Campaign and The Elon Commitment?

It fits closely together. For example, one of the major emphases of the endowment campaign is for scholarships. That is a big goal in The Elon Commitment to provide more money for scholarships from the endowment.

Q: How does Elon project revenue? Are there any budget cuts?

The university does not expect an increase or decrease in the number of students next year.

Some of the other revenue sources decreasing. Our short-term investment income is low. Short term investment when students pay room and board, we invest that to pay bills. Last year short-term interest rates were 2 percent. This year revenue is 1 percent.

Another revenue stream that is going down is the meal plan. More than 500 students decided not to take a meal plan. We lost \$1.5 million, therefore the food service budget has to be cut. We recognized that in the budget this year. Revenue from gifts is expected to go up as the economy gets better.

Economically speaking, we're not out of the woods yet but we're in a better place than most institutions.

Q: How do you determine the projected amount of students?

The two things we have to look at from year to year is the retention and admission rate. Our retention rate has been going up, but there is a point when it can't get any higher. We never know what the retention rate is going to be.

The other element is admissions for the freshman class. In admissions, so many offers are made to the freshman class, and a certain percentage, the yield rate, are expected to attend. The yield rate fluctuates from year to year. And then there is a wild card of transfers.

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Economy has little effect on admissions

Caitlin O'Donnell
Assistant News Editor

The U.S. economy has fluctuated during recent years, and Elon University is not exempt to the changes. The financial aid and admissions departments specifically have been affected by the general sense of alarm surrounding the economy, greatly influencing potential applicants to the university.

There are three deadlines for applicants, the last of which is in March.

"Early decision and early action applicants can be deferred until the final deadline," said Melinda Wood, associate dean of admissions. "The students who are waitlisted then have the opportunity to send in further grades, test scores and accolades from their senior year."

Typically, around 30-33 percent of applicants are deferred, 36 percent of which are eventually offered full admission.

Wood explained a student's ability to pay does not factor into their consideration as an applicant.

"We operate as a need-blind admissions community," she said. "Admission is based solely on academic ability and successes during a student's senior year, so the economy does not factor heavily into our decision."

What has been affected is the general number of applications being submitted to Elon.

"In 2009, there was a definite dip in applications because of the economy," Wood said. "People were panicked."

By May 1, accepted students must make a commitment to the university. When this count is low, deferred students are pulled from the waitlist to build the freshman class.

"When the application count was down, we had to pull 100 students from the waitlist in comparison to only 50 the year before," Wood said.

As the economy slowly improves, applications have increased. This year held an all-time record for the university, with 9,700 applicants for 1,325 spots in the freshman class.

While standards for admission have not

changed, the admissions office monitors trends within applicants, such as deposits, to make allowances as necessary. Though many students qualify, the admissions office tries to anticipate the need to pull more students from the waitlist.

"You always hope that the offers will yield what you are hoping for, and we have been pretty successful thus far," Wood said.

Once students are admitted to the university, often the most significant factor in their decision becomes their ability to pay.

"Thirty-seven to 38 percent of the student body shows documented financial need," Pat Murphy, director of Financial Planning said. "This percentage increased slightly last year because of the economy."

As the tuition increases each year, as decided by the Elon board of trustees, the amount of available financial aid is also raised. Though Elon's endowment rose by 1.5 percent this year, other federal and state grants have often been unable to meet the needs of many students.

"The federal government recently killed the ACG and SMART programs, which were designated for high-need students," Murphy said. "At the state level, Gov. Perdue ended the EARN program to save the state money."

This program in particular was cut halfway through the school year, leaving many students expecting the schools to pick up the cost, which often isn't possible.

Through the university's endowment and contributions from external organizations, Elon pays for merit and other scholarships. But, the school can't always meet all documented needs.

Murphy said he believes this year's tuition increase will not be as significant as past years, and more financial aid will be available to applicants.

"I feel certain, based on conversations and meetings, that any increase will be lower than 6 percent," he said. "We are still waiting for final information regarding planned giving and promises of donations, but the future should hold more scholarships."

NEWS BRIEFS

LEADStrong events promote leadership on campus

Today until Saturday, the Center for Leadership will sponsor the second annual LEADStrong week, celebrating leadership within Elon University's community. The week is meant to emphasize various characteristics of leadership which Elon students exemplify on campus. Today, Aldona Wos, former U.S. Ambassador to Estonia, will speak on "Diverse Perspectives in a Global Community" at 7:30 p.m. in McKinnon Hall. Wos served on the board of the United Way of Greater Greensboro and has particularly strong ties to the region.

Other events throughout the week continue:

Feb. 25 — Nancy Midgette at College Chapel, 9:50 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. Midnight Meals, Irazu Coffee, 11 p.m., "I'm an Elon Leader" video contest winners announced

Feb. 27 — Leadership Development Institute (Visit Moseley 224 to sign up)

Elon screening of Congo film

Elon will screen Lisa Jackson's award winning film "The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo" in Whitley Auditorium Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m.

The film chronicles violence toward women in the war zones of the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 2006-2007, ending the silence of tortured girls and women from the country.

The film was awarded the Jury Prize at The Sundance Film Festival in 2008 and has aired on HBO's documentary series.

The event is sponsored the Liberal Arts Forum, General Studies and the Human Rights International Film Festival.

David Beahm to speak on event planning

David Beahm will share professional insight on event planning as a part of the Career Spotlight Leisure and Sport Management Society Speaker Series at 7 p.m. Feb. 25 in LaRose Theater.

Students will have the opportunity to speak with him after the event.

Beahm, an Elon alum, is the President of David Beahm design, which plans corporate and social events for clients around the world. He was recently named one of New York's Top Ten Designers.

Basketball game to benefit malaria prevention

Campus Recreation and S.M.A.R.T will host a single elimination basketball event in the Jordan Gym at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 26.

Tickets are \$5 and all proceeds will be donated to the Nothing But Nets foundation, which raises awareness of malaria and provides mosquito nets to disease-stricken areas of the world.

There will be both men's and co-ed division, with prizes for first and second place teams.

To register, visit the Campus Recreation Front Desk any time before the event. The event will be limited to 32 teams.

Corrections:

In the Feb. 17 issue of the Pendulum, beside the story "Elon's endowment grows, others drop," a graphic incorrectly labeled the endowment of Duke University in 2009. It should have read \$4.4 billion.

The story "SGA proposes outdoor pool to help students beat the heat," incorrectly spelled sophomore Katie Link's name as Kelly Lynk.

In the article "Smoking ban effects set in across N.C.," it was incorrectly stated that the law prohibits smoking in state buildings and vehicles, but this law was already in effect. Also, the article should have stated that local authorities are investigating the cases. The article also should have stated local governments cannot make laws that ban smoking on "live production sets."

Foriest strides for senate re-election

Anna Johnson
Managing Editor



North Carolina State Sen. Tony Foriest said he plans to keep representing Alamance and Caswell Counties in the upcoming two years.

Foriest, an Elon alum and Graham native, has announced his re-election bid for state senator. He was first elected to office in 2006 and will face his former opponent, Rick Gunn. Foriest defeated Gunn in 2008.

Foriest said he hopes the people of Alamance County will see he cares for the people and made hard decisions in their best interest.

"When I look at the votes I have taken in the Senate, I believe I have made the most of the information that was at my disposal," Foriest said. "I tried to make some of the hard decisions and when you do that not everyone will be pleased. I understand that. But I have done everything that I have done not to benefit Tony Foriest but to benefit this community. And I am standing behind that."

Foriest is the co-chairman of the Education and Higher Education Committee and said education is "the foundation" for Alamance County and for the state.

He said the state has to make educating every student and every adult a top priority. Foriest said with the global market, students were no longer competing with their neighbors, but with students from all over the world.

"Education is very important, and I believe in it whole-heartedly," Foriest said. "But that doesn't mean we don't have some issues within the education (system). As an example, we have a 30-35 percent dropout rate in Alamance County. This is not unique to us. It is happening all over the state."

Foriest said that with increasing pressures on the state, the education system has to reevaluate and learn to see what they can do without. Foriest voted for last year's state budget that cut funds across the board including cuts to the education system.

"As important as education is to



N.C. State Sen. Tony Foriest seeks another term representing Alamance and Caswell Counties. He said he plans to make decisions based on what he perceives to be best for his constituents.

me and this state and this country, as a legislator I can't ignore the rest of the state," Foriest said. "Education takes up about 55 percent of our total general fund budget right now. As important as education is, there are other things we have to look at. Education has to take a hit."

Foriest said he wanted individual school systems to decide where those cuts should be made and to decide "what they can do without if they need to."

At the Alamance-Burlington School System, there have been 130 teaching assistant jobs cut according to a Burlington Times-News article.

Foriest said the country is starting

to rise out of the recession, but the upcoming year will be also be a hard one and there could be another round of budget cuts.

Foriest said when it comes to the upcoming election, the main difference between Gunn and himself is how they view solutions to existing problems.

"One of the differences I see between us is that I don't believe in this trickledown kind of economic way of looking at things," Foriest said. "If you are going to build a base and make this economy strong you don't start at the top and give choice job and plump contracts to people already in business and making millions."

“Education is very important, and I believe in it whole-heartedly.”
-Tony Foriest
N.C. STATE SENATOR

Alamance County unemployment rates at all time high, 2 percent more than N.C. average rate

UNEMPLOYMENT from PAGE 1

benefits. According to Parker, such persons can begin receiving basic unemployment benefits in as little as two to three weeks.

"Requests for extensions on unemployment benefits are taken on a case by case basis," said Parker. "We look at previous employment and unemployment history and grant extensions for benefits accordingly."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Alamance County is at a 12.1 percent unemployment rate, above

the 10.9 percent average in North Carolina and 10.6 percent national unemployment rate, as of the most recent statistics, calculated for the month of January. Additionally, unemployment rates grew in 86 of North Carolina's 100 counties in the last month.

"The end of the month is quickly approaching, and a new extension plan hasn't been set," said Parker. "It doesn't mean that benefits will necessarily end, but a new wave of benefits would not begin until the congressional extension is put in place."

BY THE NUMBERS: Unemployment

For fiscal year 2010 funding, jurisdictions qualified for funding if they met one of the following criteria:

Number of unemployed: 13,000+ with a 7.8 percent rate of unemployment

Number of unemployed: 300 to 12,999 with a 9.8 percent rate of unemployment

Number of unemployed: 300 or more with an 11.0 percent rate of poverty

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Student provides free condoms

Ashley Jobe
Opinions Editor

The national community pleads with its youngest generation to be safe about sex, and Elon University students fall well within the demographic that receives that message, but safer sex options are not always readily available.

Two years ago, SGA was faced with a proposal to make condoms available in dormitories.

"This was voted through the Senate but vetoed by the Executive President Rob Saunders," Justin Peterson, current SGA executive president, said. "Since then the idea has not been discussed by SGA."

Because condoms are not conveniently accessed, students are left to their own devices.

One place where students can look to for quick protection is the R.N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center.

The Health Center stresses the importance of accessibility to the Elon community and availability in times of need. But sometimes seeking out the "rubbers" can be a bit embarrassing, and even taboo. Additionally, the Health Center is not open after business hours.

Joe Kiernan, a sophomore, participates in Advocates for Youth, an organization founded in 1980

that focuses its work on youth aged 14-25 both in the United States and in international communities. Kiernan's chapter is not affiliated with the university, but seeks to prevent consequences associated with unprotected sex.

"Some students voiced that they feel more comfortable asking a fellow student for condoms rather than an Elon staff member," Kiernan said. "I don't want students options to be limited to one location, one brand of condom or one set of office hours."

He and those who support this particular cause can create "SafeSites." SafeSites are individual condom distribution points. If students or an organization becomes registered as one, they are given condoms by the Great American Condom Campaign to make available to students to get protection, at any time, and they are recognized in their community as safe zones. Kiernan is given 500 Trojan condoms once a year to distribute to the student population.

"I haven't heard anything negative from the students and the sheer volume of students using the service makes me think I am helping out the Elon community," Kiernan said.

Information about sexual health awareness events and reproductive health issues are also available both by SafeSites and through the Web site. Information can be found there about

condom effectiveness, state profiles and tips for finding SafeSites near you.

Though Kiernan does not identify as a spokesperson for Advocates For Youth, he says that the organization realizes that abstinence is not a typical choice for college students.

"College students are adults and are able to make their own choices about sex, reproduction and reproductive health," Kiernan said. "Our goal is to inform and provide protection."

Condoms are available both at the Health Center and at Elon University's designated SafeSite.

Contact information for Joe Kiernan:

Cell - (704) 500-4116

Landline at Elon- (336) 792-4755

Home - (704) 878-9909

Text - (704) 657-0396

Zipcar responds to Toyota recall, repairs Elon Priuses

Alexa Milan
Senior Reporter

The two Toyota Priuses in Elon University's Zipcar fleet are up and running again following the recent Toyota recall.

The Priuses were taken to a local Toyota dealership for repair earlier this month and were made available for reservations Feb. 12, said Elaine Durr, Elon's sustainability coordinator.

Toyota recalled many of its models because of sticking accelerator pedals and faulty floor mats. The 2004-2009 Prius models were part of the floor mat recall, in which the car's floor mat entrapped the accelerator pedal and made the car difficult to control and stop. The 2010 Prius was also recalled because of inconsistencies with its anti-lock brake system.

Upon learning of the recall, Zipcar ceased reservations of cars impacted by the recall until all repairs were completed, the car-sharing company said in a press release. The recall affected about 5 percent of Zipcar's total fleet, and the company will continue to monitor its Toyota vehicles.

According to the press release, "The safety of our Zipsters is our top priority."

Study shows power of Internet

Jack Dodson
News Editor

The fourth in a series of studies through Elon University and the Pew Research Center tackling predictions about the Internet was released last week, and experts say the medium makes people smarter.

According to the study, which surveyed 895 Internet stakeholders and 371 experts on the subject, 76 percent felt the Internet has enhanced human intelligence.

The survey, The Future of the Internet IV, was a joint project between the university's Imagining the Internet Center and the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project, which have been working together for the series of surveys.

Janna Anderson, the director of the Imagining the Internet Center, said the studies are important to inform the public of the issues it looks into.

"We believe that assessing the public's current attitudes about the future of the Internet is valuable because it informs policymaking, and it helps identify key issues," Anderson said.

According to Anderson, the process takes about 18 months and comes principally from work of her and Lee Rainie, the director of Pew Internet.

"I spent quite a bit of time

identifying experts and getting their contact information so we can invite them to participate in each survey," Anderson said.

Rainie, the former managing editor of U.S. News and World Report, was on the Elon Parents Council in 2000 when he proposed the project to Anderson and Connie Book, the associate dean of the School of Communications and faculty administrative fellow.

Anderson said the idea was to be "collecting interesting predictions from the early 1990s about the future of the Internet, based on Ithiel de Sola Pool's book 'Forecasting the Telephone.'"

Anderson then worked with more than 60 students in her Media History classes to gather 4,000 predictions from people involved with the Internet in the early 1990s. The project led to developing the Imagining the Internet Center and creating a partnership with Rainie at Pew Research Center.

According to Anderson, the study shows how the Internet affects small communities, as well as the global one.

"There is still some push back from librarians and traditionalists who say that using the Internet is contributing to problems with human processing of knowledge," Anderson said. "But generally the overwhelming support ... is likely to help more people adopt Internet tools to further their goals in the future."

Students continue service tradition

Amanda Bender
Senior Reporter

For some students, the corporate world is simply not considered.

The Peace Corps added Elon University to its list of "Top Peace Corps Volunteer Producing Colleges and Universities" for having 15 alumni in the corps this year.

A college or university must have at least 14 alumni volunteering in the Peace Corps in order to be added to the list for the category of small colleges and universities.

Other students have been pursuing options with AmeriCorps VISTA, Teach for America and other non-profits.

Debby Wall, the assistant director for employer relations and experiential education, said more students have been getting internships with non-profit organizations.

"(Elon students) want some sort of satisfaction," Wall said. "And I think they get that with a non-profit."

Peace Corps has particularly had a lot of success with recruiting here at Elon, Wall said. Students from all classes, show up to the meetings with an interest in joining the corps after graduation. Wall said even some staff members come to the meetings and consider joining the corps after retiring.

Amanda Stamplis, senior human services major, is applying to spend two years of her life abroad serving the natives of third world countries with the Peace Corps, which is not an unheard of choice at Elon.

Originally, she said she had only heard negative views about it. Stamplis originally thought she would never want to join Peace Corps.

She said she changed her mind after a service trip to Guatemala, where she met several Peace Corps volunteers in and stayed in a community where Peace Corps had previously served. Some of the residents there would tell her how they wish the volunteers would return and help them.

"I made some really good friends

in communities that I would expect to have nothing in common with, and I had such a hard time leaving," Stamplis said. "So I came back and decided to join the Peace Corps against everything I had said about it."

Students like Stamplis, who are now working on their applications to Peace Corps, often go for advice to Jonathan Romm, a former Peace Corps volunteer and the North Carolina Campus Compact Program Coordinator. Romm helps students with their application and shares his experiences as a volunteer and teacher in Vanuatu a small island in the South Pacific.

"If you can tackle teaching volunteering, organizing or whatever service verb you want to use, in the third world for two years, you walk away with the confidence that you can pretty much accomplish anything," Romm said. "I felt that way."

Some of the other options students can pursue are the AmeriCorps programs. These programs provide opportunities to serve and teach within the United States of America. The three AmeriCorps programs are the VISTA, state, national and NCCC.

Another opportunity some Elon students are participating in is Teach for America, a program that places college graduates in rural or urban public schools to service low-income communities. Elon is developing a reputation for having a significant amount of applicants and participants in the Teach for America program. The volunteers commit to help these communities for two years.

There are also opportunities for students to work, intern and serve abroad. Heidi White, associate director of study abroad, teaches a transitions course for seniors interested in going abroad titled, "Go Global after Graduation."

White said there are opportunities for students to serve overseas through programs like the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships Program, which sends U.S. students as English teaching assistants to schools and universities in countries overseas.

Conclusions from The Future of the Internet IV:

- **Google won't make us stupid: "By 2020, people's use of the Internet has enhanced human intelligence. As people are allowed unprecedented access to more information they become smarter and make better choices. Nicholas Carr was wrong: Google does not make us stupid."**
 - 76 percent agreed
- **Reading, writing and the rendering of knowledge will be improved**
 - 65 percent agreed
- **Innovation will catch us by surprise**
 - 80 percent agreed
- **Respondents hope information will flow relatively freely online, though they expect there will be flashpoints over control of the Internet**
 - 61 percent agreed, though they said this is more of a hope
- **Anonymous online activity will be challenged, though a modest majority still think it's possible in 2020**
 - 55 percent agreed it's possible

Philosophy class has book of essays published

Gabriela Szewcow
Design Chief

Elon University philosophy professor Yoram Lubling was pleased to watch his philosophy students explore their connection to Ralph Waldo Emerson's thinking in his upper level American Philosophy seminar class last spring. The students were greatly inspired by Emerson's positivism and optimism and decided to publish a book.

The book is titled "The Only Sin is Limitation: Essays on R.W. Emerson's multi-faceted influence on America." Students found a publisher and were able to get the book published this past December, thanks to a helpful endorsement by professor of philosophy Arthur Lothstein at Long Island University, a professor who once taught Lubling himself.

Senior Elon student Jim Aguilar took a leadership position in the production of the book.

"I was able to work closely with Yoram over the summer, because I was actually painting his deck for him," Aguilar said.

The close relationship between Aguilar and Lubling was helpful in the process. Aguilar's mother also lent a helping hand.

"My mom designed the cover and helped format all of the text of the book," Aguilar said. The cover is what Aguilar describes as "a psychedelic shot of Emerson." The goal of the class was to demonstrate their new perspectives on an

old writer.

"I think there's a lot of value in paying attention to what fresh, young eyes can tell you about old issues," Lubling said.

Getting the book published was not solely a class project. Lubling said, "the project went well beyond the class. Half of my students had graduated but were still working hard to get the book published." Lubling said Aguilar was especially helpful in the process.

"Jim carried this project. He worked with me over the

According to Lubling the two most important points of the project:

1. American students have found inspiration in their own classical tradition.
2. They decided to express it in one of the most academic ways.

summer and into the fall," Lubling said.

The class was comprised, Lubling said, of 31 students, who were mainly seniors and philosophy majors. Each student wrote an essay, and the best nine essays were chosen to be published. Students were divided into editorial, publishing, publicity and editing sections. The students did all of the work.

"It was a group effort, and I'd really like to thank all of the class and Yoram for all of the hard work that went into it," Aguilar said.

The class met once a week for three and a half hours. The first two hours were devoted to the class material, and the remaining hour and a half was devoted to the project.

Lubling said, "the project became the class. Grading had to be creative, because the concentration became different."

Lubling said he was also happy with the change.

"It was the most successful class I have ever had. It was a motivated, conscientious group of students with academic interest and passion. Sometimes there are classes with a good energy, and you can't explain it. This was one of those classes."

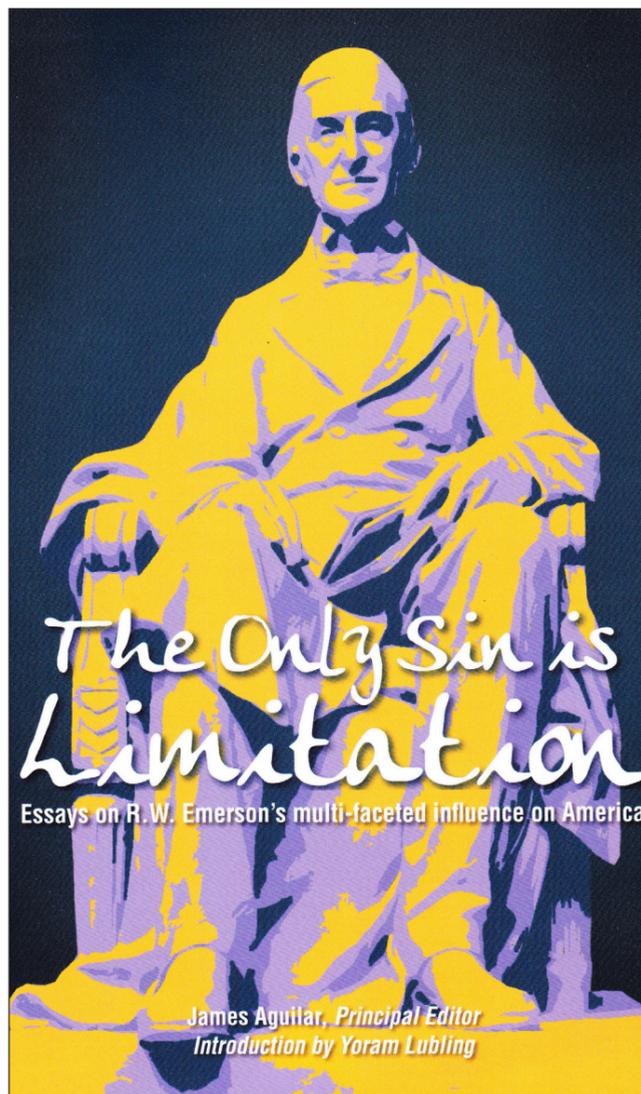
Aguilar described the class as "one of the best learning communities I've ever been a part of."

Lubling said this is something he'd like to continue doing in his other classes. Aguilar agrees that publishing the book was worth the effort.

"It's great to have a tangible reminder of the good times and hard work that we put into the class," Aguilar said. "It's obvious that there was a lot of passion that went into the book. It's different because when you aren't just turning a paper into a professor, you put more work and effort into it."

The hard work paid off. Lubling's students now have a hard copy of their work.

"I'm extremely proud of the class, and I'm glad that they now can leave college with something to show for it," Lubling said.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED
Yoram Lubling's spring upper level Philosophy seminar was what Lubling described as "a very special class." They made a decision as a class to write essays after being inspired by Ralph Waldo Emerson's philosophies and writing. Their book, pictured above, was published this past December.

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<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3344>
Is "Shutter Island" as suspenseful as it sounds? Or is the suspense thriller in general an overrated genre? Adam Constantine and Alexa Milan weigh in.

Sports Jam:

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3353>
Sam Calvert and Conor O'Neill discuss the most recent Olympic medals and other recent news in the sports.

Opinions Podcast:

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3354>
Smith Jackson e-mails send chills down your spine. But are you better off safe than sorry when calling 911?

THIS WEEK ONLINE

BLOGS

REEL TALK

"Shutter Island" may have been delayed four months, but Alexa Milan thinks it was well worth the wait.

pendulumreeltalk.wordpress.com

SWING FASHION

A crafty resolution leads to three projects. Check out Mari-Vicky's aspirations.

swingpendulum.wordpress.com

SNAP-CRACKLE-POP CULTURE

Patriotism, the worst band in the world fights back and the possible return of Conan!

pendulumpop.wordpress.com

THIS WEEK IN VIDEO

Interview with N.C. State Sen. Tony Foriest

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3349>

SUB reveals spring show concert

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3347>

Men's basketball: Elon vs. Appalachian State

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3352>

Sophomore shares experiences in the Philippines

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3348>

Chuppah, ketubah and mazel tov: Elon's Jewish wedding

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3350>

Piano man Bachmann discusses music, inspiration

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3251>

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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.

Support the Phoenix Elon's school spirit lacks commitment

The crowd slowly files toward the exit. Clumps of students cluster around the doorways, looking for their opportunity to escape. They've seen a good game, but now it's time to leave. Phone numbers are exchanged, along with the proverbial question, "What are you doing tonight?"

But the game hasn't ended yet — it's halftime.

In what is becoming a far too frequent occurrence at Elon University sporting events, most students treat games as if they are social events. Students stay for as long as it takes to drink a soda, see friends and perhaps cheer for a player they know.

It has become a rarity for an Elon student to come for an entire game. Some will show up "fashionably late," while others will show plenty of support for a short period of time until they realize they have something better to do. Only a select group of individuals stay for the entirety of a game.

And those people should be commended. They understand what it means to have school spirit. The teams appreciate the fact that those students offer their voices and cheers — that support is the best form of home field advantage that can be given.

These individuals are few and far between. More often than not, the stands at a basketball game will have about 200 fewer people in the second half than the first half. At football games this season, the same behavior could be observed. Once students think they have fulfilled their obligation to show some support to their classmates and shown a little school spirit, they opt for other activities.

It should be eye-opening when both coaches and players

notice the crowd after halftime is half the size of what it was before the break.

The season high in attendance for a men's basketball game this year was 1,624 fans. This also happened to be the night in which the game was sponsored by Elon's sororities, and for some, attendance was required. In that game, it was evident from early on that most of the crowd was more concerned with conducting personal conversations than cheering on the Phoenix. The team lost the game by one point, which raises questions as to what would have happened if the fans were a little more supportive of the Phoenix.

But that's the way Elon students view sporting events: show up to make a brief social appearance, then move on to the next option. Fans don't have to emulate West Virginia University or Mississippi State University students, two schools that have had to discipline their student sections at basketball games this year because of unruly behavior. Those students crossed the line.

But Elon students don't even know where that line is. A major factor in college sports is the home field advantage. It's a factor that means more to the collegiate athlete than those competing at the professional level.

It's not too much to ask to have students support their team for an entire game. Come, clap for the student athletes that you take classes with, and enjoy a sporting event.

Throw your hearts into it and give your full support to the Phoenix teams. They work hard and play hard, and they deserve nothing less.

Carrying extra baggage: When airlines declare large passengers too fat to fly



Dawn Peterson
Guest Columnist

There is no question that commercial airline cabins are small. We've all crammed bags into small overhead compartments and watched flight attendants squeeze through the tiny aisles.

The average legroom in coach is getting smaller. And with the current state of our economy, airlines are penny-pinching. Remember those complimentary blankets and pillows? Airlines now charge around \$7 for them. To combat the slow economy, many airlines have tightened policy on overweight luggage and, most of all, overweight passengers.

Last week, Kevin Smith, the director most famous for the "Silent Bob" character in "Clerks," boarded a Southwest Airlines flight. In accordance with Southwest's "customer of size" policy, Smith purchased two tickets, but

stood by for an earlier flight, that had one seat remaining. After he was seated, a flight attendant told him the pilot had determined him to be a safety risk and asked him to leave. Smith was given a \$100 voucher and put on a different Southwest flight where he used his Twitter account to chronicle his experience to the public.

The filmmaker was embarrassed and annoyed with the airline for making an example of him. But Southwest isn't the only airline with a policy for large passengers, and Smith isn't the only passenger who has encountered issues with airlines and their policies for customers of size.

With a growing number of overweight Americans, airlines have little choice but to charge hefty passengers. Passengers who cannot lower their armrest or require more than one seatbelt extender create hazards for other passengers. Not only do they encroach on the safety of other customers but they also infringe on their personal space. Flight attendants and other airline employees have no choice, but to address the complaints from passengers who have overweight seatmates.

It is argued airlines overlook the fact that seat size hasn't kept up with the increasing girth of passengers. The seat width remains unchanged in decades,

even as Americans get bigger. Still, there are laws to accommodate passengers who might find flying difficult because of disabilities beyond their control.

The federal Air Carrier Access Act, passed in 1986 by Congress, requires the Department of Transportation to develop regulations ensuring that people with disabilities be treated without discrimination in a way consistent with the safe carriage of all passengers. This act only includes handicapped passengers, such as a person with physical or mental challenges. Some overweight people may consider their weight a physical challenge.

But obesity is a controllable physical challenge, unlike cerebral palsy or autism. Why should airlines adjust aircrafts to accommodate those who choose to lead unhealthy lifestyles?

Smith is not the only overweight customer who feels discriminated against by airlines. But these same airlines have clearly communicated their customer of size policies to customers up front. Overweight passengers have the option to purchase a low-cost second seat if two open seats aren't available. Just because Americans are growing in size does not mean airlines must make special arrangements to hold the extra weight of passengers too big to fly.

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



MORGAN LITTLE | Cartoonist

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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Opinions

Strength endures through pain Politicians' wives cope with infidelity in the public eye



Caitlin O'Donnell
Guest Columnist

Late nights at the office, mysterious phone calls, a long blonde hair on his suit. These are all telltale signs of any wife's worst nightmare — her husband is cheating on her.

While infidelity within any marriage is distressing at best, the situation can be even more arduous for wives of politicians. In the midst of uncomfortable conversations with their spouses, hasty explanations to their children and plain

heartache, these women are thrown into the public spotlight and expected to react.

Some, like Dina McGreevey, whose husband, the former governor of New Jersey, came out as a "gay American" in 2004, stand by their spouses' sides at press conferences as their marital lives are put on display.

Others like Elizabeth Edwards choose to mend their relationships privately and release a limited amount of information to the public, as Elizabeth's husband John originally did in his 2008 interview with Bob Woodruff.

And still others choose to let their husbands

stand alone, as Jenny Sanford did this past year. After mysteriously disappearing to Argentina for a week, Mark Sanford confessed to adultery at a press conference alone, while his wife watched the scene on TV.

Though each responded differently to their respective situations, each of these women were scrutinized for their personal decisions almost as much as their husbands were for their mistakes. As these women grapple with emotional anguish, why do we tune in for each interview and read every story, carefully watching for their next move?

In many cases, these women come across as larger-than-life figures, women that we can only dream of emulating. Not only are they privileged as first ladies, but many also have built successful careers on their own.

Essentially, these are not the everyday women of society who drive a van full of children to soccer practice every night or take on a second job to help pay the bills.

But, when the bombshell hits and the truth about their lying husbands is splashed across tabloids and the nightly news, they instantly become the spokespeople for women across the country undergoing similar circumstances.

In years past, women affected by adultery often had nowhere to turn and were left embarrassed and confused. Support groups were practically non-existent and other women were hesitant to even

admit to a flaw in their marriages.

But with the onslaught of lying politicians came a new form of support for these grieving wives who could now find solace in the public figures who also have endured the trauma of infidelity.

When Jenny Sanford chose not to stand by her husband's side, the act alone sent a message and was immediately commended by women all over the country who viewed her as a role model.

"She chose to let Mark Sanford deal with the embarrassment and political fallout from his own actions while focusing her own efforts privately on raising their children to be men of character, even in the face of the lies their father has told," said the Ballantine Books Web site about her memoir "Staying True."

Increasingly, women who have dealt with infidelity are discovering role models not only in the news, but also on TV shows.

NBC's "The Good Wife" showcases a successful, confident woman who is able to move past her husband's scandal, return to work and lead her family despite the press encompassing her personal life.

Though these wives are the victims of the situation, each of their respective reactions can have an influence far beyond any they can imagine. Those alive in this era are audience to a group of strong women leading a new generation of independent women to exude strength through pain.

Comprehensive or abstinence-only education? The debate about effective sexual education in schools continues



Jasmine H. Gregory
Guest Columnist

When it comes to sex education, no method of teaching seems completely appropriate. Today, the debate rages on about whether schools should focus on abstinence-

only education or an all-inclusive type of education that encourages students to take the necessary precautions when and if they choose to have sex. Realistically speaking, it is impossible to measure the results of which method is most effective. Yet the abstinence-only approach can leave students in the dark about the necessity of being properly prepared before having sex.

The obvious difference between these two types of sex education is where the emphasis lies. Often with abstinence-only sex education, a religious angle is included to encourage students to wait until marriage to have sex. But when it comes to education in general, whether it is sex education or something like evolution, it is only fair to exclude a religious approach to help students best form their own opinions.

When the number of high school teens that have had sex is as alarming as it is today, proper sex education feels more and more like a necessity.

Of course it's unfair to completely rely on sex education in schools to hold students' hands and walk them to the perfect choice, but it should give them the tools to make the most positive personal decision. So few

people actually wait until marriage to have sex, so completely placing the focus on waiting until marriage feels a little oxymoronic.

What appears to be getting teens off track today is they don't seem to be forming the appropriate opinions or attitudes about sex before engaging. With the media glorifying sex and parents not knowing the best way to talk to their kids, a majority of teens' opinions are formed by what they see on TV or hear from peers.

Sex education has to give students the tools to best understand every aspect of the decision to have or abstain from sex. Needless to say, deciding to have sex is one of the biggest decisions a person will make in life. It is a memory that rarely leaves anyone and, unfortunately, kids today don't seem to understand until it is too late.

Although an abstinence-only approach can provide students with the concept of waiting to have sex, they deserve to be fully educated about the possibility of negative consequences after sex. Yes, the abstinence-only method divulges into the emotional side of sex, but the physical repercussions of having sex at any age can be significantly greater and need to be fully understood.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, one in two sexually active people will contract an STD before age 25. Students need to understand the harsher realities that also come with sex.

Of course an all-inclusive program doesn't have to scare them out of having sex, but students who seem to best understand every possible outcome of having sex seem to better grasp the concept of waiting. And in the end, this is what seems to matter universally.



David Gwynn
Guest Columnist

In short, to abstain from something is to not take part in it. If I were abstaining from eating watermelon, I would not eat watermelon. All in all, it is quite a simple concept. For Lent, I am

abstaining from Vitamin Water. I have to say it's difficult at times, but obviously not as difficult as the allure of sexual intercourse for today's middle school-age children.

Shocked? I was too, and horrified. According to a study reported in the New York Times and other news sites such as NPR and CNN, an abstinence-only education class delayed sexual intercourse for 70 percent of the students studied over a 24-month period. This is compared to only 50 percent of students in a general health class teaching only safe sex and 58 percent of those in a comprehensive sex education class.

These may seem like comforting statistics, but frankly, they aren't good enough for me. For the 50 percent that was not having sex during the 24-month period, there was the entire other half that was.

Even for the abstinence class where only 30 percent were having sex during that 24-month period, who's to say the other 70 percent didn't start having sex after the 24-month benchmark? Great job — we successfully proved that abstinence-only education can

delay 12-year-olds from having sex until they are 14. That is not a victory. That's incredibly sad.

To be honest, when I was in middle school, I didn't know what sex or anything sex-related was. Is that a bad thing? I don't think so. I had a blast playing backyard football, making friends and doing normal middle school things. I chickened out of kissing a girl at the end of eighth grade because I didn't think I was ready for that kind of scandalous action. So it boggles my mind that children — and yes, they are children — are having intercourse between the ages of 12 and 14. I'd really like to meet the parents of these kids.

Since when did the obligation of parents to teach their children about sex and the whole idea about bringing life into the world fall to the school system? I think too many people are blinded by the controversy over which type of sex education to use, abstinence-only or comprehensive, to realize it's the parents' failings that are the root issue behind these kids having sex.

The parents either don't properly set the example for when to have sex or they just don't address the issue, so the kids resort to their peers for examples.

The bottom line is parents need to step up and explain to their kids the social, psychological and emotional implications involved with having sex. Do I think an abstinence-until-marriage focus will work? No. I think a curriculum explaining the concepts of contraception, but reinforcing the idea of abstinence with sufficient guidance and explanation of moral and logical values from the parents at home is the best bet in the long run.

How much blog can a blogger blog...

www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com



DIAGNOSING *the future*

Sarah Beth Costello
Graphics Editor

In recent years, there has been a major push from in American politics to implement a health care bill and to reform the current health care system in our country.

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care," said the United Nations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

For months President Barack Obama has pushed health care and health insurance reform. If passed, the 1,000-page bill will dramatically alter the health care and insurance industries, two fields responsible for millions of U.S. jobs.

An average of 20 Elon juniors, seniors and alumni apply to medical schools each application season with plans to pursue careers in medicine. As the health care reform bill hangs in the balance, the future of millions remains unclear. While most agree change is necessary, some are concerned about the impact the bill will have on practicing doctors, physicians, pre-med and med students and others who depend or will depend on patients to make livings.

"The focus at (the undergraduate age) is to get into med school," said Robert Vick, adviser and chair of Elon's Health Professions Advisory Committee. "Medicine is a serving profession and hopefully all my kids will go into it for the right reasons, whether or not they get paid."

The average pre-med Elon student planning to become a physician will spend about four years in medical school, two to three years in residency and, depending on the field, several years in fellowship. With student loans, malpractice insurance, equipment costs, rent, employee salaries and additional services, the cost of running a private practice can be expensive.

"The average debt (for a med student) is about \$11,450," said Herbert House, associate health professions adviser. "Most people receive some sort of aid, but we tell students to go to med school where they get in. It is possible to pay off (debts)."

The Current System and New Plan

Physicians, patients, hospitals and insurance companies are the four major components that comprise the current health care system. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the health care industry was responsible for 14.3 million jobs in 2008. The industry comprises nearly 600,000 establishments and 76 percent of health care institutions include offices of physicians, dentists and other "health practitioners."

In July, Obama announced a shift in concentration from an overall health care reform to a renewed focus on health insurance reform.

"As we rescue this economy from a full-blown crisis, we must rebuild it stronger than before. And health insurance reform is central to that effort," Obama said in an August 2009 Physicians News Digest article.

According to HealthReform.gov, Obama's plan outlines a new system that will provide affordable health care to every American, reduce health care costs for businesses and the government, protect against bankruptcy and debt, and provide quality care.

"The proposed reforms are not nationalizing the health care system. They essentially leave the current system in place," said Dan Wurzelmann, a medical student at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. "They will add some new regulations, like preventing people from being dropped from coverage if they get sick, but largely things will remain the same."

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2008, health care provided 14.3 million jobs

Of the 20 fastest growing occupations, 10 are related to health care

Between 2008 and 2018, the health care industry will provide 3.2 million new jobs, more than any other industry

There are about 595,800 establishments in the health care industry

About 76 percent of establishments include the offices of physicians, dentists and other health practitioners



Information from Bureau of Labor Statistics

ALAMANCE COUNTY HEALTH

Alamance County was ranked 26th in a recent County Health Rankings report for residents' health. The report was released by the University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Clinical care: Ranked 24th

Uninsured adults: 19 percent

Rate of primary care providers per 100,000: 83

Hospital discharge rate for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions that could have been prevented per 1,000: 60

Diabetic patients undergoing screenings: 89 percent

Chronically ill patients who use hospice: 28 percent



Information from The Burlington Times-News

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, said the proposed bill would eliminate monetary waste and provide more stability for families. Health insurance reform will be funded by a \$995 million investment to provide health care providers in "underserved areas."

There will also be additional funding of \$290 million to U.S. health centers and \$80 million will be used to distribute health and technology information.

A shortage

Despite much anticipation for reformed health care and insurance, there are potential negative outcomes that could dramatically change the practice of medicine and the careers of millions employed in medical and health insurance fields.

"People are concerned with how physicians are going to be paid," said senior Julia Roberts, a pre-med Elon student. "There will be more work for physicians, but less money. Competition among health care providers will be required. So many other third parties control physicians' decisions. (We need) competition focused on value and quality of care."

If the bill is passed, millions of new patients will qualify for health care, creating an influx of patients and a limited number of doctors and physicians. According to a November 2009 Wall Street Journal article, Rep. Joseph Crowley, D-N.Y., and Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., proposed to add a contingent to the bill that would allow for the additional training of 4,000 new physicians to add to the 25,000 that already enter the medical field annually.

The Robert Graham Center reported a shortage of doctors by 5,000 to 13,000. If millions of "previously uninsured" Americans suddenly have access to health care, the shortage could expand to as many as 50,000.

"They're starting to increase classes

in med schools," said senior Katie Stackhouse, a pre-med Elon student. "Ten years down the road when people my age are doctors, there won't be a shortage. There are so many highly qualified people who don't get into med schools now."

During the State of the Union address in January, Obama proposed extending student debt forgiveness in exchange for 10 years of service. With at least 10,000 applicants vying for an average of 220 seats at most medical schools, there is no shortage of individuals interested in medical careers.

As the baby boomer generation nears retirement and the health care reform bill draws close to a decision, the surge of new patients could greatly stretch the number of doctors currently qualified to practice medicine, said House.

"We are going to redefine the role of physician," House said he explained nurse practitioners, physician's assistants and the use of osteopathy (physicians qualified to perform the same tasks as doctors) will become more crucial roles as patient numbers increase.

Dilemmas

Uninsured individuals often resort to waiting hours for care in emergency for injuries or illnesses that may or may not be emergency situations. Most hospitals will not turn away patients in need of care, even if the patients lack insurance, explained Vick.

"I'd challenge anybody to go to a free clinic or sit in an emergency room and watch the people coming in. Which ones are you going to turn away?" Vick said. "It's unconscionable that we live in this country and can't even ensure that everybody has (medical care)."

Overflowing emergency rooms not only affect patient care, but also hospital costs, said House. When patients are unable to pay for care, hospitals often have to write it off so that the uninsured typically pay little to nothing, and the costs are divvied up among individuals paying for health care coverage, said

House.

"The debate is how to get everybody in (the system) without breaking the national budget," House said. "But the real issue is do we want health care for everyone and if we do, we have to pay up."

The Future

Obama presented a new health care plan on Feb. 22, launching more debate and discussion between Democrat and Republican lawmakers. On Feb. 25, Obama will hold a health care summit to continue negotiations and encourage final decisions toward reform.

"I'm just excited about the reform happening in the first place," Roberts said. "Ultimately, it's a basic human right. Reform means taking baby steps. We need to get something through at this point and have a tangible document or something to show health care reform is actually happening."

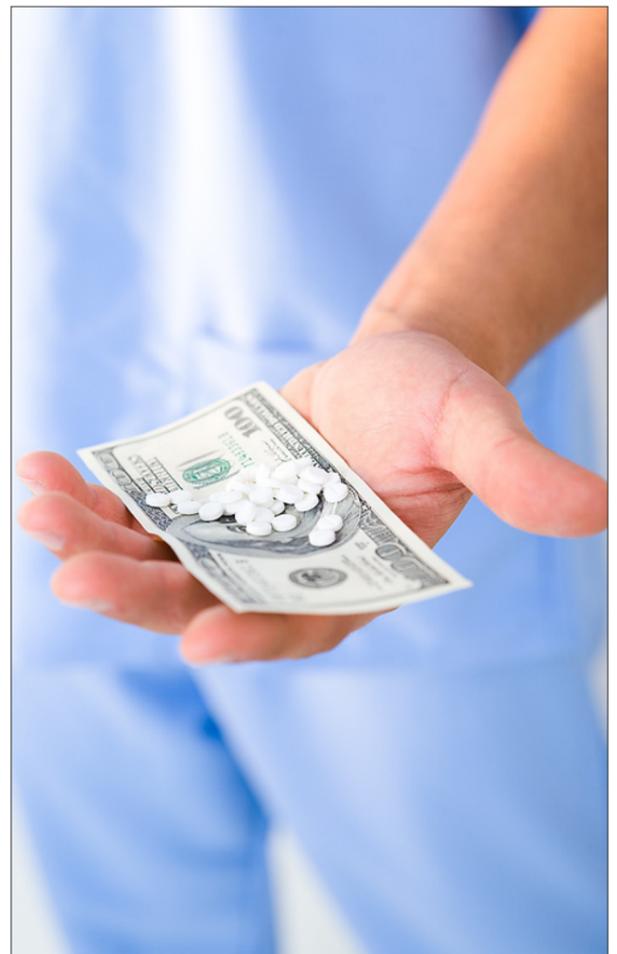


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

PIANO MAN

Patrick Bachmann: Senior piano major

MORE ONLINE

“With playing the piano, you’ve never reached your ultimate goal. That’s why I love it. I’m never bored, because there’s always more.”

Gabriela Szewcow
Design Chief

Everyone loves milkshakes — including senior piano major Patrick Bachmann.

“My two older brothers played piano, so that’s what got me into playing,” Bachmann said. “But I didn’t practice as much as I should have, so my mom bribed me with milkshakes. I practiced a lot, so needless to say, I really love milkshakes.”

All that practice paid off. Bachmann is now one of four successful and talented piano majors at Elon. He is currently preparing and auditioning for graduate school in addition to planning to become a college professor teaching advanced music students while performing on the side. So far, Bachmann has auditioned for six graduate programs and has gotten into all six.

His love for music began in high school. Bachmann sang in a choir, played piano and took part in his high school’s musicals.

Bachmann performs at Elon for the Truitt Center, as well as with other Elon students.



Senior Patrick Bachman is one of four piano majors at Elon and has been playing since he was 10 years old. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Bachmann’s practice time:

- 40 hours a week
- At least 3-4 hours a day
- It’s a full-time job

Why Bachmann chose to study piano at Elon:

“I like the closeness to the faculty that I receive at Elon. It’s an intimate and diverse musical education. I’ve had the opportunity to teach piano, to perform chamber music and duets and to partake in master classes. These are all opportunities that I would not have gotten at a larger, more competitive music school.”



Honors thesis rocks — literally

Melissa Kansky
Multimedia Editor

MORE ONLINE

“A Beautiful Disease” may sound like a contradiction, but then again, some may argue a rock opera is a conflicting term as well. Still, Andrew Pressley, an Elon senior and honors fellow, did not shy away from the inconsistency.

“It gave me an outlet for all this music and ideas in my head,” Pressley said.

Pressley created the play “A Beautiful Disease” for his senior honor thesis project.

“I didn’t want to write another rank-and-file paper,” he said. “I wanted to be different.”

Pressley’s rock opera tells the story of a theater janitor who successfully pursues Rabina, an older woman and the theater’s lead singer. Despite the age difference, the two secretly continue the relationship. When the director of the theater discovers the affair, he blackmails Rabina into having sex with him in exchange for secrecy regarding the illegal relationship.

“That’s about one-third to one-half of the story,” Pressley said. “It just sort of spirals out of control from there.”

Although the title refers to a perspective of love, the playwright assures us that the story is not cynical.

Aside from the story, Pressley is responsible for the soundtrack as well. As a member of the band The Topsy Bacchanals, Pressley has experience composing music, but his new project’s genre does not mirror that of the Elon band. “A Beautiful Disease” contains more classical music than the rock style that characterizes The Topsy Bacchanals.

“When I think of a rock opera, I think of ‘Tommy’ written by The Who, ‘Jesus Christ Super Star,’ ‘Hair’ and ‘Phantom of the Opera,’” Pressley said. “It’s something that is based in musical theater vein, but includes elements of music that are not so classical.”

Inspiration for his honor’s thesis came from Mozart and Bach. According to Pressley, in one piece Mozart changes tone to convey an instance of pedophilia, and Bach typically uses descending notes to indicate death or falling.

“That is one motif that became especially useful,” Pressley said. “The story is an important part. It’s what holds the piece together, but I’m much more proud of the

music that came out of this.”

Aside from experimenting with a new genre, directing and casting added some elements of difficulty.

“(The play) is something in the realm of what I wanted to do (musically), but something that was a step out for me,” Pressley said. “An honor’s thesis is supposed to challenge you.”

Background knowledge in some theater helped Pressley to format the script, but in terms of performance, he takes advantage of the talent at hand.

“When it comes to the best way to improvise on stage, I’m leaving that up to (the actors),” he said.

Aside from working with actors from the Elon theater program, two other members of The Topsy Bacchanals, lead singer Kevin Manship and drummer Jeremy Walter, contribute to the ensemble.

“Topsy Bacchanals still has influence over how the drummer interpreted his part,” Pressley said.

Despite the convergence between the band and the play, Pressley said he does not believe the two projects inflict any conflict upon the group. When writing for the band, the work is collaborative, in contrast to his own work for his honor’s thesis.

“The wall of separation is there,” he said. “It’s my project. It’s something aside from the band, but I utilize the fact that I have them available to work with me.”

Although the access to talent does not pose a problem, acquisition of finances causes limitations. The honors office, undergraduate research office, student government association and the music department have provided some of the funds.

“I’ve sort of had to scrape things together, but people have been very generous,” Pressley said. “I think they know no one here has done this before, so they are willing to help me to make it as good as it can be.”

Another honors fellow Chris Staskel has also decided to write a musical, but according to Pressley, Staskel was only responsible for the script.

“Technically the two of us are doing the same thing, but I wrote all the music and the story so it will be shorter and something the school has never seen,” Pressley said.

The final product will be performed on at 7:30 p.m. on March 13 in McCrary Theatre.

A new take on the Olympics: A critique of the opening ceremonies

Liv Dubendorf
Reporter

The eyes of the world turned to Canada on Feb. 12, anticipating Vancouver’s Winter Olympic opening ceremonies and debating whether or not the country with the 36th largest population could live up to the expectations left in the wake of Beijing’s incredible 2008 opening.

Naturally, comparisons were drawn between this opening ceremony and those of the last Summer Olympics.

The opening ceremony from 2008 in Beijing was an extraordinary show of incredible manpower, an extremely risky undertaking not without its own challenges and mistakes.

Despite piling in comparison to the Beijing show, Vancouver’s opening ceremony retained its own element of wonder.

With a fitting emphasis on the unique culture of the Americas, Vancouver gave the natives of Canada a groundbreaking role; the introduction and welcome of the various athletes.

The opening ceremony in Vancouver was an appropriate reflection of the culture, featuring the identity of all Canadians.

The ceremony also had a new take on the event. Instead of having the parade of nations after the performance, the

athletes were welcomed and introduced before the performance began, giving the athletes a front-and-center look.

“I liked the organization of the opening ceremonies. The athletes were introduced early on and able to watch the cultural ceremonies,” sophomore Lindsay Humbert said.

In terms of content in the program, the Vancouver opening ceremony was somewhat similar to those from Beijing. They both featured cultural elements native to their respective lands. Vancouver used various tribes and their native dances. China, on the other hand, used drums and calligraphy.

Although the ceremony was not as visually stunning as those during the Beijing games, the Vancouver opening ceremony was able to reflect the nation’s uniqueness in blending of its diverse cultures. Few other host countries in the past, other than Beijing, have done so as seamlessly.

Overall, the opening to the Vancouver games was successful. Although not as stunning or choreographed as its Beijing counterpart, the opening to the Vancouver games held its own, offering a new and unique perspective on the games as well as the culture of the host country.

The Anti-Oscars: the Razzies

Avery Lucas
Reporter

On March 7, many Americans will turn on their TVs to watch the 82nd annual Academy Awards. Actors and actresses will wait with anticipation to see which of their colleagues will take home the small gold man praising their achievements.

While these people are congratulated for their outstanding performances and works of art, what happens to those movies and actors who did not receive an Oscar? What about those actors who were so horrendous, people cannot understand how they were cast? They too get recognition, taking the form of a Golden Raspberry Award, better known as a Razzie.

The Razzies is an annual award ceremony for the worst actors, actresses and movies of the past year. Razzies.com hosts the expansive list of nominees and the ceremony itself. Many of the categories are similar to the Oscars with only a slight change, like "Worst Picture," "Worst Supporting Actor" and "Worst Director."

But instead of having awards like "Worst Composer" or "Worst Short Animated Film," more substantial categories like "Worst Remake, Rip-Off or Sequel" and "Worst Screen Couple" were created. When has anyone ever loved seeing two actors without any chemistry portray grossly love-struck teenagers Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart in "Twilight Saga: New Moon," ironically nominated for "Worst Screen Couple"?

Although some actors and actresses have been nominated in the past for an Academy Award, they may also be nominated for a Razzie for a movie they just did not put their hearts and souls into. John Travolta, nominated for an Academy Award for "Best Actor" for his work in "Saturday Night Fever" and "Pulp Fiction" is also up for the golden raspberry.

Perhaps Travolta has aged past his prime, lost his ability to be nominated for an Oscar — so he settled for a Razzie nomination in the category of "Worst

Actor" for his most recent movie, "Old Dogs." And while Sandra Bullock has been commended for her exceptional role as Leigh Anne Tuohy in "The Blind Side" and is nominated for "Best Actress in a Leading Role" for her performance, the Razzies took her other recent movie "All About Steve", and nominated her for "Worst Actress."

This year, the Razzies put out special awards that cover the past decade. The movies, actors and actresses for "Worst of the Decade" are based on how many Razzies the specific movie or person has won over the past 10 years.

There are five movies nominated for "Worst Movie of the Decade," including "Freddy Got Fingered," nominated for nine Razzies and winner of five, and Jennifer Lopez's flop "Gigli," nominated

for 10 Razzies and winner of seven, including "Worst Comedy of Our First 25 Years." There are nominations for "Worst Actor of the Decade" including Rob Schneider and Ben Affleck. Though both good actors in their own right, each have won at least one Razzie and been nominated for at least five.

The "Worst Actresses of the Decade" include Mariah Carey, Paris Hilton, Lindsay Lohan and Madonna. Perhaps the Razzies are trying to tell these women to stick with what they are good at — singing or inheriting their fathers' money.

Whether the nominees are good actors who just made a misstep, or are big budget films doomed to fall flat from the first trailer, the Razzies honor the worst in moviemaking.

THE RAZZIES

- 'Worst New Movie on DVD'
Sorority Row
- 'Best Bad Movie on Basic Cable'
Duel in the Sun
- 'Worst Left-Over Movie from Last Week'
Valentine's Day
- 'Worst Direct-to-DVD Movie of the Week'
A Dangerous Man
- 'Worst New Movie of the Week'
The Wolfman

Information from razzies.com
SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

★★★★☆

Peeling away layers of 'the Onion'

Alice Turner's production of 'Area Actors Perform Monologues'

Christina Brown
Multimedia Editor



Last weekend, senior Alice Turner was delighted to see the finished product of all her hard work come to fruition — in the form of onion rings.

"It's like onions are representative of the show, so these are like the finished product," one of the actors said, as real onion rings were thrown at the actress portraying Turner, the writer, producer and director of "Area Actors Perform Monologues: Taking the Onion from Journal to Performance." Her project attracted so much attention that Joe Garden, features editor of *the Onion*, attended the Friday night performance after receiving an invitation from Turner.

The onion ring scene was just one of many illustrating Turner's journey as she struggled to come up with a worthwhile idea for her culminating Elon fellows honors project.

"I was going to do something more intellectual like theater research," Turner said. "I wanted to do something more entertaining, so I decided to write a series of monologues based off *the Onion*."

The Onion is a satirical newspaper that poses as a real news source. Articles that Turner chose to base her monologues off of ironic titles such as "Minister Constantly Mentioning Teenage Son's Virginity" and "Cell Phone User Promises Girlfriend, Entire Post Office He'll Try To Change."

"The opinions articles tended to work pretty well, since they're already in first-person form, which presented



Actors Sean Liang, left, and Julia Gallagher, right, perform a monologue of befriending a man on a five-hour bus ride.

a challenge of trying to adapt the text without just stealing from it. "I tried to really make it my own," Turner said.

Sometimes Garden couldn't determine which jokes were his and which jokes were Turner's.

"It's weird to see something you wrote brought to life," said Garden. "I wrote the 'Five Hour Bus Ride' story and a lot of the time I was trying to remember, 'whose joke is that? Is that Alice's joke or did I write that?'"

Overall, Garden thought Turner did a great job transforming and interpreting *Onion* articles for the stage.

"I thought it was really good, and I'm flattered and honored that Alice

chose to do this," he said. "She did a great job of directing her actors and ripping apart these articles and restructuring them for a performance."

Both seasoned fans of *the Onion* and those who have never heard of the paper reacted well to the new production.

"I'd never even heard of *the Onion* before, so not only was this a great way to experience new writing and talent, it made a lot of people become aware of a publication that before they may never have heard of," sophomore Jenna Dawkins said. "Alice did an amazing job of formulating these funny, poignant monologues that really dug deep into everyday, yet odd, situations."

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

★★★★☆

BioShock 2: Nothing shocking, still a good game

Jon Moore
Reviewer

The original "BioShock" was one of the last examples of strictly single-player first-person shooting. It is one of the only remaining vestiges of a time before online multiplayer games, when even the shooters had to depend on a single-player campaign to carry them to critical acclaim. It was the natural evolution of games like "GoldenEye" and "TimeSplitters," drawing inspiration from action-RPGs like the "System Shock" series. Now, the job has fallen to developer 2K Marin to evolve this contemporary classic further and deliver a sequel that matches its popular progenitor.

Sequels are a risky endeavor to attempt. Developers must preserve enough of the original to please the fans the franchise has earned, yet they must change the formula enough to deliver an experience that necessitates a new title. This is perhaps "BioShock 2's" one true weakness: the game is, simply, very much like the original. Fortunately for its developers, the original is considered by many to be a modern gaming masterpiece.

The premise is this: 10 years after the events of "BioShock," a new force has taken control of Rapture, the objectivist Atlantis inspired by Ayn Rand and art deco. With its founder out of the way, the resulting power vacuum has allowed new theories, diametrically opposed to the last, to take hold. This time around the player is not just another random citizen of Rapture roaming the leaking halls. Players will now be donning the suit of a Big Daddy and will have all the powers thus implied.

Being a Big Daddy comes with a few gameplay changes worth mentioning, as well as a few apparent incongruities. Gone are the days of fumbling between weapons and plasmids, as Big Daddies can wield both simultaneously. This helps improve the flow of FPS gameplay that seemed awkward in the first, but while evolved plasmid powers seem appropriately impressive, "BioShock 2" does little to convince the players they should be counted among the imposing tier of baddies to which Big Daddies belonged in the original "BioShock." You may get to wield the rivet gun and the drill, which is undoubtedly cool, but the game still consists of the player struggling against stray splicers and Big Daddies.

In fact, the one significant change that comes with the new position is the addition to the moral choice mechanic. Where the original gave the choice between rescuing and harvesting the Little Sisters, as a Big Daddy the player now has the option to adopt them and let them gather Adam for you. Each gathering initiates a defense challenge, wherein the player must protect the little sister from scores of ravenous splicers. The trouble is a fitting trade-off for the extra resources, which are still necessary to purchase plasmid upgrades and gene tonics.

Adoption underscores the main thematic element of "BioShock 2's" new story. The original focused on the fall of an individualist ideologue, but the sequel pits the character against a collectivist obsessed with the idea of "family."

The tale doesn't have the mystery and grandeur of the first, but the story and accompanying audio diaries are much more focused. Everything the player finds is relevant, but there is no revelation that equals the one so important in the original. "BioShock 2" may not take it as far as the first, but the ride there is better crafted.

And the performer is...

Merissa Blitz
Reporter



As students patiently waited for the reveal of the artist for this year's spring concert performer on last Saturday, 20, a countdown from 10 played on a screen. A poster rolled up and taped to a board, hid the name of the artist. On the count of one, two members of SUB dropped the poster and revealed that Third Eye Blind will be the main performer with Shwayze as the opening act.

Through a survey in the fall, SUB asked what kind of show students would want this year. Questions were asked to determine whether the school wanted: one big name, a band, someone opening up for someone else or a few small-time acts in a festival format.

The survey asked students to choose which artist they would most want to come perform at Elon. During the reveal, SUB Music Chair Anna Davis said Third Eye Blind was the No. 3 choice of the students who took the survey.

Originally from San Francisco, Third Eye Blind has recorded three best-selling albums in its 12 years performing.

The band is best known for its big hit "Semi-Charmed Life," which came out on its self-titled debut album. The band also had other hit songs like "How's It Gonna Be," "Never Let You Go" and "Jumper." The band's most recent album, *Ursa Major*, came out this past August.

Although most of Elon's campus may have heard of Third Eye Blind, not many may know much about the opening act, Shwayze. Born in 1986 as Aaron Smith, Shwayze is famous for his hits "Corona and Lime" and "Buzzin'" featuring the lead singer of Whitestarr, Cisco Adler. Shwayze and Adler now have their own reality show on MTV titled "Buzzin'."

To advertise the show, SUB set up a scavenger hunt around campus so the student body could guess who the spring concert artist was going to be. A total of 197 students registered their cell phone numbers to get texts from SUB with clues about where to go on campus to find more clues



Winner of the scavenger hunt, Mark St. Cyr, stands on Saturday to receive his two free tickets to the Third Eye Blind concert.

relating to the name Third Eye Blind.

The winner of the scavenger hunt, senior Mark St. Cyr, explained one of the clues led him to McMichael 333, giving him the clue that the artist's name had something to do with the number three. As the winner of the scavenger hunt, St. Cyr won two free tickets to the concert.

The spring concert is scheduled to be held April 9 in Alumni Gym. Tickets can be bought online at www.elon.edu/sub with a credit card. Members of SUB will also be stationed at a table in Moseley from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. where Phoenix Cash will be accepted. Tickets cost \$20 for Elon students and \$25 for the public.

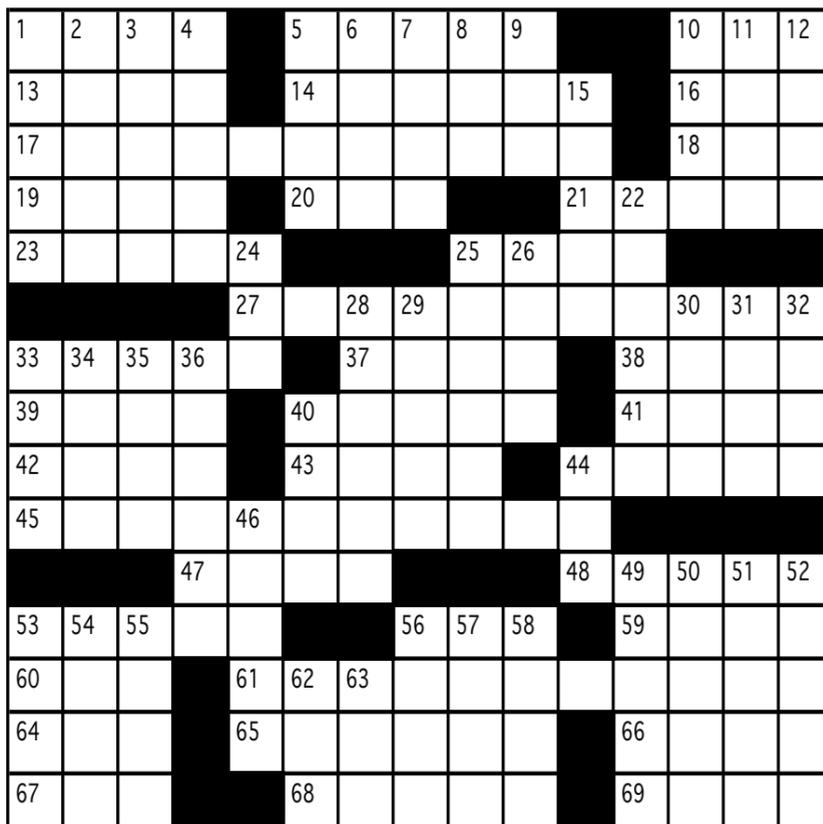
Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Red Alert

by Steve Ferguson, Class of 2011

ACROSS

- 1 Foolish
- 5 Univ. of Maryland students, for short
- 10 Tolstoy's "War ____ Peace"
- 13 New York canal
- 14 Like no other
- 16 Maker of honey
- 17 Brought up there one's whole life (3 wds.)
- 18 Container
- 19 Aha! (2 wds.)
- 20 Curve
- 21 2006 World Cup champs
- 23 Gives a pop quiz
- 25 Full of flavor
- 27 Arrange in advance
- 33 Islamic holy city
- 37 Flavored soft drink brand
- 38 Part in a movie
- 39 Skunk's feature
- 40 Does nothing
- 41 Leak, as a faucet
- 42 Stare at
- 43 Hawaiian dance
- 44 Positive quality
- 45 Uses feng shui in the home, e.g.
- 47 Take steroids, informally
- 48 Window components
- 53 Dance originating in Cuba
- 56 2008 French Open champ Ivanovic
- 59 Withstand the test of time
- 60 Day before Christmas
- 61 What a trusted person has
- 64 Tennis divider
- 65 Track obstacle
- 66 Ellipse
- 67 Ph.D people (abbr.)
- 68 Found in an art classroom
- 69 "We ____ soldiers"



DOWN

- 1 Credit's opposite
- 2 Seal's "Kiss from ____" (2 wds.)
- 3 Dismisses from a job
- 4 Principle
- 5 What Celine Dion carries?
- 6 Discontinues
- 7 Menu item at Chili's
- 8 16th-18th letters
- 9 Take to court
- 10 "Dancing Queen" foursome
- 11 Diamond or Armstrong
- 12 What Peter did three times
- 15 Proclamation
- 22 Bronze-medal finishes
- 24 Resort feature
- 25 Put back in the microwave
- 26 Egyptian goddess of fertility
- 28 Put up with
- 29 Reese of "Touched by an Angel"
- 30 Companion of neithers
- 31 "Night" author Wiesel
- 32 Section of a store (abbr.)
- 33 Dock a boat
- 34 Verge
- 35 Frigid
- 36 Belief systems
- 40 Common breakfast destination (abbr.)
- 44 Venomous snake
- 46 Athlete's mentor
- 49 Permit
- 50 Easily misled
- 51 "To be," in Spanish
- 52 Fashion sense
- 53 Transmit
- 54 Assert
- 55 "____ Make A Deal"
- 56 Sums up?
- 57 World's longest river
- 58 One of Adam's sons
- 62 Regret
- 63 Paleozoic, e.g.



LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Under a 'Blue Moon': New York Fashion Week in review

Despite starting out with the shocking death of Alexander McQueen and a blizzard over Manhattan, New York Fashion Week Fall/Winter 2010 went on to showcase lines full of serenity and surprise.

The Marc Jacobs show was live streamed last week from the Armory in New York, which allowed his vast array



Alexandra Johnston
Fashion Columnist

of followers to take in the show alongside Anna Wintour, Nina Garcia and other A-list fashion icons. The show began with Jacobs and president of the company Robert Duffy unveiling 56 stunning, but relatively unknown models, standing on platforms. "Over the Rainbow" carried

through the speakers as the models moved with grace through the room, which was arranged in a zig-zag pattern so every guest had a front row seat.

Long-term fans of Marc Jacobs would recognize his garments as an ode to all the places his line has been over the years, and a collection that was tamer than anything he has produced in recent years.

Although some critics viewed this as the "easy" way out, this clothing is more accessible to the fashion community than some past collections. Favorites among the collection included a long, silver dress with a sashed waistband and draped shoulders that flowed delicately as the model moved. Another was a golden dress featuring a square neck bodice with a skirt gathered on by a small belt. Hair and makeup was kept fairly natural and many of the models wore delicate neutral-colored socks inside their heels.

Sisters Kate and Laura Mulleavy of Rodarte also toned down their usually brash collection for this fall. The California-based duo, who live streamed their show from New York this year, graduated with degrees in art history, making their approach to fashion fresh and unusual. Inspiration for the show came from an exploration of the Mexican culture, and emblems such as birds and colorful patterns showed through in the line.

The show began with stunning draped, chunky knits over patchwork style pencil skirts. Dresses appeared out of dark floral twisted and draped over the models and skirts with layers upon layers of fringe. The trend of socks in heels continued with Rodarte in addition to knit leg warmers and tights. The most interesting features of the show, however, were the four stunning white gowns that ended the show. The four models lingered on the runway as the lights dimmed and "Blue Moon" began to play as the rest of the 35 models joined them on the runway. For the finale, the garments and shoes seemed to glow in the darkened room. This display of simplicity was a departure from what the sisters usually showed but was well received.

Young designer Erin Fetherston took a departure from her usual silky dress silhouettes and extended her talent to pant suits and blazers for the fall. Sheer neutrals formed flowing blouses with tight trousers and knee-high boots. Fetherston stuck to solid, single hue garments that added sophistication to her line. She looked to the '70s as an inspiration for the simplicity of the blazers that topped off dresses and the long necklaces that adorned them. Overall, the collection showed the fashion community that this young woman was ready to advance her line beyond her signature dresses.

This fashion week was all about stepping out of what was expected. Jacobs returned to his roots and provided the community with something accessible, Rodarte toned down its looks with fall florals and Fetherston proved she was more than simple dresses.

Despite the snow covering New York, the designs inside the tents were far from frozen.

HERE COME THE BRIDES

Chuppah, ketubah and mazel tov: Elon's Jewish wedding



Ashley Barnas
Senior Reporter

Glasses are smashed. Chairs seating the wedding couple are raised in the air as the attendees circle around them singing. Bread is passed around and food is in abundance. The best parts of the Jewish wedding ceremony are not the most meaningful to the Elon students who participated in Sunday's mock ceremony. It's all about the exchange of rings and the pronouncement that follows: "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine."

"The aspect of the whole ring, the ring that's not broken really strikes me because it's the whole idea of the never-ending circle," sophomore Michelle Wrightman said. "It's a consistent cycle between life and love. That, I love. I love the dancing, I love the food. For me, there's so many traditions and rituals throughout the thing, that it's so special. It doesn't age."

Wrightman played the role of the rabbi in Elon Hillel's ceremony. The Jewish group hosted a mock wedding to share the Jewish culture with others. In years past, Hillel has sponsored a mock bar mitzvah to accomplish the same goal.

"The best way to learn is to do," Nancy Luberoff, Hillel campus director, said. "This is a center of experiential learning and most of the students here haven't experienced a traditional Jewish wedding except what they've seen on TV, so it's a way to learn about what the Jewish traditions are in a fun way."

The contemporary Jewish wedding had a twist: two brides and no groom. Freshman Eva Yaffe and junior Traci Weisberg were coupled for the ceremony by default.

"Eva and I are both on the (Hillel) board," Weisberg said. "She had already wanted to do it and there were no guys that were available for tonight, and I kind of got nominated to be the other bride."

The processional began with the two officiants, followed by each bride accompanied by her mock parents, and then a handful of flower girls.

Sophomore and Hillel President Allie Solender represented Yaffe's mother. Unlike many of her fellow Hillel members, she has been to one Jewish wedding. She said her favorite parts were the dancing, music and food.

The brides stand under the chuppah, a wedding canopy as simple as a cloth or elaborate like the one used in the mock wedding: four large branches supporting a colorful woven canopy. Four close friends or relatives support the corners of the chuppah.

"The two things that seal the marriage in the eyes of Jewish law, which is now state law, is the placing of the ring on your beloved's finger and the signing of the wedding contract," Luberoff said.

The contract, or ketubah, is read by the officiant and signed by the couple. After, the marriage is affirmed, vows are conveyed, the wine is blessed and the rings are exchanged. The ring is placed on the pointer finger and it traditionally has no holes or stones in it. Seven blessings are recited by members of the audience before one of Weisberg's favorite parts — the breaking of the glasses.

When the time came, Weisberg daintily lifted her glittering pale blue gown to crush the glass with her black heel. Both brides were hesitant, but once Yaffe



Brides Eva Yaffe and Traci Weisberg smash their glasses at the end of the mock wedding ceremony, symbolizing their long-lasting love for each other.

heard her glass successfully crack, Weisberg gave her own another fierce stomp — the cue for the audience to shout "mazel tov!" The breaking of the glass is significant of the couple's love for one another and how it should last for as long as it takes to make the glass whole again.

The brides leave the room and have a few minutes together, a custom called Yichud, used to reflect on the moment they just shared. When they re-enter to greet guests, the party begins.

Challah, a sweet circular bread, sometimes with poppy seeds or sesame seeds, is blessed and passed around after the ceremony for everyone to eat a piece.

Yaffe and Weisberg sat in the middle of a circle on two chairs. They nervously waited to be lifted up, but once they were mid-air the laughter began. While in the air, they had to hold a handkerchief together and not let go as the wedding guests danced and sang around them.

Hillel's mock wedding was tailored to suit the needs of the two brides, but the theme of the wedding being a marriage between two families, remained. The wedding doesn't center on God or faith. It is more about how the participants live their lives.

"It's less about the religion and more about the togetherness," Weisberg said.

Members of the mock wedding said they hoped the audience would learn more about the culture and traditions of the Jewish wedding by attending their ceremony.

"And just see how much fun Jewish people actually have," Yaffe said.



Hillel hosted a mock wedding to share Jewish culture. Hillel board members Eva Yaffe and Traci Weisberg were wed on Sunday.

Elon ignites challenge for young alumna

Alumna challenges young graduates to transform school through donations

Sarah Carideo
Reporter

Elon University has teamed up with alumna and trustee Kerrri Brown Anderson, '79, former CEO of Wendy's International, to challenge young alumni to participate in the IGNITE Challenge for February. In an attempt to boost alumni participation in annual giving from graduates of the past decade, Anderson has agreed to match donations five-to-one of \$20 or more, up to \$100,000.

IGNITE is the group for young alumni of the past decade. Members join by making a donation. The group offers alumni IGNITE NITES, regional events hosted by a group of young alumni, and provide an opportunity to network and talk about Elon happenings. For February, young alumni can become members of IGNITE and take advantage of Anderson's challenge.

"As we graduate and we go out to our

lives, I think we have a responsibility to give back when we can," Anderson said. "I think it's a part of the values that Elon students have."

Alumni can participate through cash, online gifts, new recurring gifts and payments on pledges made after June 1, 2009. The progress of the challenge as of Feb. 17 was that 272 young alumni have participated and given \$18,139. Anderson has matched \$90,695. The total challenge funds are \$108,834.

Anderson was approached by the development board and worked for several months to plan a challenge they thought would be successful.

"A majority of Elon graduates are in the age group of the young alumni, and we need to cultivate that population to hopefully get them thinking about Elon and wanting to give back," Anderson said.

She said that as a member of the board of trustees, she recognizes that

one of the challenges the university faces is to be successful in the long term.

"We can't just function on tuition," Anderson said. "We can't have a growing, transforming university. We need support and it is critical to give student a great education and opportunities."

On a personal level, she said she is proud of the progress Elon has made since she graduated. It sparks her passion with helping to support Elon.

"It's fabulous that it's a university now," she said.

Anderson said she was also impressed with the law and graduate schools, the addition of Phi Beta Kappa, the improved facilities and the drastic changes made to campus.

"These great changes show the progress and strategic desire for this university to continue to excel," she said.

In the future, through more giving,

Anderson would like there to be more ways to allow students to study abroad. In general, through endowment and scholarships, everyone would be allowed to have more opportunities.

She investigated other similar challenges to help decide what aspects would be best to include.

"If we don't give something how do we get something?" Anderson said.

The IGNITE Challenge is "a real opportunity because it provides a challenge and every young alumni loves a challenge," Anderson said.

She said some might doubt that \$20 would make a difference, but the IGNITE Challenge makes it seem more meaningful and truly makes every donation count. Because of this Anderson says it's "hard to see a downside" to the challenge and simply hopes to "extend the population of young alumni that are giving."

Four days remain for young alumni to take on the IGNITE Challenge.

Vegetarians catch a break at Elon

Camille DeMere
Online Programs Director

It's not impossible to be a vegetarian at Elon, for both students who visit the dining halls for dinner and those who whip up a meal in their apartment's kitchen. Almost every meal at every dining hall offers some alternative for the veggie-inclined, and even discount stores are stocked with vegetarian friendly stock.

Going meatless can be easy and cheap and doesn't mean adherents have to give up taste. Use these tips to navigate a vegetarian lifestyle.



Eat your vegetables:

Plant energy usually makes up the majority of a vegetarian diet. Color and variety are key when it comes to food choices. Look for deep green, red or orange-colored vegetables like spinach, broccoli, carrots and squash to fill a plate rather than stuffing it with starches. They'll give you more nutritional value and less empty calories. Ease into making better vegetable choices. When grabbing a salad from McEwen Dining Hall or Acorn Coffeeshop, ask for spinach or romaine lettuce rather than iceberg.

Protein power:

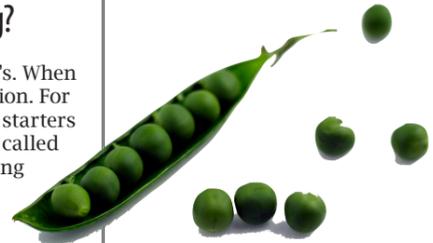
You can't just cut meat out of your diet and expect to be healthy. But making up for lost protein isn't difficult. Whole grains, beans and nuts are good sources of protein. Lacto-ovo-vegetarians, who eat dairy and eggs, can get their protein from animal products.

Try to avoid getting all protein from cheese. It's tempting to make a grilled cheese or Easy Mac for a quick, vegetarian meal, but cheese has way more fat and calories than the lean meat it's trying to replace.

Soy and vegetable protein meat substitutes are a great alternative. Some mimic the texture and taste of meat, while others taste more veggie. Check out the Colonnades' Dining Hall's menu online. Vegan tacos made with veggie beef are common dinner offerings and usually, when a dining hall's menu features an All-American burger, black bean or veggie patties are also available.

Want to use meat substitutes in home cooking?

Check the frozen section of Harris Teeter and Lowe's. When shopping at Wal-Mart, though, stop by the waffles section. For some reason, Boca and Morningstar patties and recipe starters can be found next to the Eggos. Meat offers something called a "complete protein," but no need to worry about missing out. In the "Vegetarian Food Pyramid," the FDA said it is not necessary to combine different vegetable proteins in one meal to attain a complete protein. The body's system will create the protein it needs, so long as it's eating a varied diet throughout the day.



Want to try some cheap vegetarian meals?

Check out The Pendulum Online for two easy dinners that won't break the bank.



Not just for vegetarians:

Don't think it's feasible to give up meat for good? Not a problem. But skipping meat every now and then is actually recommended. The FDA suggests varying protein choices from the standard chicken and beef and eating non-meat protein at least one meal a week.

Intern Queen helps students find internships

Lauren Townsend
Reporter

Eighty-four percent of students in Elon's graduating class of 2009 completed at least one internship during their time at Elon. Lauren Berger, known as the intern queen, completed 15 internships in her four years at University of Central Florida.

Starting the spring semester of her freshman year, Berger had at least one internship a semester and doubled and tripled them to fit in the most she could.

"A lot of companies are more flexible than you think and only require 10 to 15 hours a week," Berger said.

This allows students to make the most of their experience and complete more than one internship at a time like Berger did.

Berger completed internships in journalism, public relations and entertainment and she interned for companies such as MTV, NPR and FOX. Berger started her own company, Intern Queen Inc., when she graduated in 2006. Berger said she did not always know this was what she wanted to do for a career.

"I first realized it when I was about to graduate," Berger said. "I found that my friends didn't have internships and I wanted to help my friends connect with really cool internships."

Berger said she enjoys connecting with hundreds of students and helping them find internships. She said she wants other students to have the same opportunities she did and be able to get quality internships.

Berger's advice to students searching for internships is to "focus on more than one." Berger always tells students to look for and apply to a minimum of 10 internships a semester and double that to 20 internships in

the summer. She encourages students to keep searching and not be discouraged by rejection.

Although there are many internships available, they are currently in high demand. Both adults and high school students are searching for internships in addition to the traditional group of college students. Students should apply early and apply to many to give themselves the upper hand.

Berger's Web site, InternQueen.org, has a listing of internships available across the country that can be sorted by location, semester and industry. The listing has internships with companies such as Animal Planet, Marie Claire, Amateur Athletic Union and Beacon Pictures. There are also internships available with Intern Queen Inc.

Berger's website also has an internship tip of the day and her own blog where she talks about her experiences talking to colleges. Berger visited 7 colleges during the month of February.

Internships are one of Elon's five experiential learning requirements. In addition to the listings available on Berger's Web site, Elon has resources to help students find internships. Career Services has a job and internship search located on its Web site that can be sorted by major. Located in Duke 101, it also provides services such as resume and cover letter reviews and mock interviews. Elon also offers Elon in L.A. and Elon in N.Y., allowing students to live and take classes while completing an internship.

There are many resources available for students who are hunting for internships. Every student can find his or her perfect internship experience. Just ask the intern queen.



Tips and Tricks:

Samantha Parker
Reporter

The job application process can be intimidating. After having to meet deadlines, compose thorough resumes and consider potential interview questions, students often forget to request recommendation letters well in advance. But, the procedure behind asking for a recommendation letter is not as difficult as nailing the actual job.

When is soon, too soon?

Students are encouraged to take the initiative and begin applying to internships, graduate schools and job opportunities early. Consider deadlines in conjunction to your schedule in the weeks to come, allotting yourself and your reference plenty of time in advance.

"It's never too early to start," said Nagatha Tonkins, director of internships for the school of communications. "You need to have some kind of timetable, and you want to make sure that you are asking references for these letters at least three weeks and in some cases four weeks ahead of time. Professors especially are very busy, and it's helpful if you could give them as much notice as possible."

Adding the finishing touches.

Recommendation letters can serve as the deciding factor behind acceptance, and in order to show your appreciation toward your references and their kind words, remember to write a thank-you note. Showing appreciation presents proper etiquette and is always well received. Applicants should also take into consideration that references are interested in your success beyond a recommendation letter.

"Typically, your references are people that you want to keep in touch with for the long haul, so keeping them updated on your process is important," said Michelle Jones, associate director of Career Services. "If they agreed to be a reference for you, they probably want to know what you end up doing."

When applying for internships, it is important to examine what skills the company requires before deciding whom to contact.

"Find the person who can best articulate your skill level, your talents and your abilities," Tonkins said. "It could be professors, it could be the advisers of your campus organizations or it could be supervisors from previous internships."

When filling out graduate school applications, it is beneficial to consider faculty or supervisors who teach or have experience in the academic field you are interested in. If you share common interests with your reference of choice, it is easier for him or her to write a recommendation letter with an understanding of your background.

Where to begin?

"Students should ask faculty members that they've had close working relationships with for references," Jones said. "Pay close attention to what the program you are applying to asks for. Some will tell you who to ask and how many references they want. Some programs will give you a form to have your reference fill out, others will direct you to a Web site for the reference, while others just want a general letter of recommendation."

What additional materials are necessary to provide for a reference?

"When asking for a recommendation, give the reference an updated resume, personal statements that you are sending in to the graduate program, unofficial transcripts, any forms they need to fill out, as well as stamped and addressed envelopes, Jones said. Gentle reminders and following up on the progress of the recommendation is never a bad idea, but don't overdo it."

Because recommendation letters can be tedious and time-consuming, it is vital you supply your references with information that will efficiently help them get an idea of your work ethic, interests for applying and primary qualifications.

Worlds apart: Making Middle East accessible

New trip sponsored for Elon community breaks barriers

Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

This summer, a group from Elon University will visit the river where it is said Jacob wrestled with God, the mountain where Moses died and the forgotten city where Indiana Jones found the Holy Grail, as it takes a Middle East pilgrimage hosted by the school.

From June 28 to July 12, the group will journey through Jordan, Israel and Palestine as the travelers spend two weeks immersed in the cultures of the Middle East. The group will visit and learn about both religious and historical sites in order to understand the area better.

"It's not the ordinary packaged tour," religious studies professor Jim Pace said.

While Elon University President Leo Lambert and his wife are hosting the pilgrimage, Pace and Phil Smith, the associate university chaplain, will serve as the facilitators for the pilgrimage.

"(Pace) will be leading it from the academic and historical standpoint, and I'm there to kind of help facilitate the moving around and the logistics of things," Smith said.

During the last two summers, Pace has co-lead a similar trip for divinity school students through the Middle East Travel Seminar. His previous trips spanned three weeks, unlike Elon's two-week program offered this summer.

Smith participated in the METS program in 2000 and said he is excited about the opportunity to share his experience with others.

"There aren't many places you can go that have not just this rich history, but a history that involves these three faith traditions that definitely shape our present day world and reality," Smith said. "I feel like by going and being there, a person can become better informed and be a better world citizen."

Pace said people cannot fully understand what is going on in that part of the world until they have actually been there. He also said people often miss out

on a whole section of the culture in the Middle East because they only visit Israel and its religious sites.

"They don't get to see the Arab world on the other side," Pace said.

Pace can personally attest to how visiting somewhere can teach you a lot about the history and the culture of a place. He has been traveling to the Middle East since 1967 when he participated in his first excavation at Tel Arad in Israel.

"I consider Jordan my sort of second home — home away from home," Pace said.

Pace's experience in the Middle East is one of the biggest assets of the trip, Smith said. Because he knows the region so well, he can show the group things the average person would miss.

"He knows every rock there," Smith said jokingly. "He knows when it was put there, and why it was put there."

The trip idea began about a year ago, when Smith mentioned going to the Middle East in chapel. Immediately following the service, people began talking about how to form a group to go.

Lambert suggested putting something together through Elon, and it turned into a trip sponsored by him and his wife.

Trustees, alumni, faculty, retired faculty, administrators and parents of students make up the group. Smith said the ideal group size is 20 and there are still spots available.

Some people have expressed concerns about the safety of those going on the trip, but both Pace and Smith said it was not a problem.

"It's safer over there than it is on I-85," Pace said. "I always think the most dangerous part is getting to the airport."

Both men said they hope the program opens up to students in the future. Smith said he thought if this group goes and sees the value in the program, it could happen soon.

"I hope it gets to the students," Pace said. "Whenever I'm over there, I could just die because I can't show it to my students. It's the best classroom in the world."

ACCESSING THE MIDDLE EAST Israel | Jordan | Palestine

June 28: Departure
June 29: Amman, Jordan
June 30: Amman and Jerash
July 1: Amman to Petra
July 2: Petra
July 3: Return to Amman
July 4: Amman to Israel
July 4, 5 & 6: Three days in Galilee
July 7: Galilee to Jerusalem
July 7, 8, 9 & 10: Jerusalem
July 11: Depart Israel

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

More than an award: Interest in international child rights leads student to volunteer abroad

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

When sophomore Meagan Harrison, went to the Philippines she was able to help many children and in return they taught her valuable life lessons.

In order to travel to the Philippines and help children there, Harrison needed the funds. Last April, Harrison received the Ward Family Learning in Action Award for 2009. This and the Bruns Endowment for service learning covered her expenses and payment for her communications internship.

Harrison received \$3000 for the Ward award. She also received \$5000 from the Bruns Endowment.

The Ward award is given to students who have used their passion to help the community, Harrison said. Elon gives this award annually to a rising sophomore, junior or senior based on their experiential learning project, according to E-net. Projects can include undergraduate-research, international study, internships, service and leadership experiences.

"It covered everything," she said. "I was able to buy a Mac to bring there because they were lacking computers. We used it while we were there, for them, the research and photo editing, and then we left it there — one of our gifts to them."

For two months in Oriental Mindoro, Philippines, Harrison used her communications skills and advocacy beliefs to help children.

Harrison chose to travel to the Philippines because a friend of hers from Duke University had attended

school and volunteered there.

"A couple of friends and I were looking for a thing to do for summer. We were interested in child rights internationally," Harrison said.

The organization her friend participated with seemed like a perfect match. According to the Web site, the Stairway Foundation is "a learning and resource center for children's rights." The organization is located in Oriental Mindoro.

Their goal is twofold, according to Harrison.

She described the residential area. Filipino boys aged 9 to 14 live in a dormitory. Most come from jails in Manila and many have been sexually abused. Social workers and psychologists are available to speak with the children. The children are allowed to stay for 10 months and then are placed into another school, or if the situation allows, they go back to their families.

"They do a lot of creative therapy, they give them school, everything you need, a place to stay," Harrison said.

Another aspect is advocacy. The Stairway Foundation creates animations and videos they hope will prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation, according to the foundation Web site.

The animations make difficult situations, such as incest, sex trafficking and sexual abuse, easier to talk about, Harrison said. She said education about these issues is important.

"This component is pretty extensive. They've gone to the Geneva Convention. They're really active in advocating for



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor

Meagan Harrison traveled to the Philippines where she wanted to help the children. In turn, she said the children helped her more than she ever expected.

child rights," Harrison said.

During her time working with the foundation, Harrison created many multimedia projects for children's rights advocacy. She also took pictures, conducted research on sex trafficking in the United States and made a movie trailer. She worked in the creative advocacy department of the foundation.

"I was ... planning a campaign for them," said she. "I did research on U.S. cities. Sex traffic is huge in the United States and people don't know that."

Harrison has extensive experience working on children's rights. She co-founded Oasis, Outdoor Action for

Social and Intrapersonal Strength, a nonprofit organization in Durham for youth. The organization was set up in 2007 and offers a retreat program every year.

"We take ... at-risk youth to do outdoor activities, things that will build their self-confidence, make them better leaders. They can overcome their fears," Harrison said.

Harrison seems to put her beliefs into action.

"I really like to volunteer and with the kids it's easy to make relationships," she said. "They're always interested to get to know you. It makes work more rewarding."

Women's tennis undefeated at home

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

The skies were bright and sunny on Feb. 21, bringing in pleasant spring weather and foreshadowing luck for the Elon University women's tennis team. Continuing its undefeated winning streak at home, the team beat University of South Carolina Upstate Sunday 7-0.

The Phoenix now has an overall record of 7-3 with a spotless 5-0 record on its home court and will look to win its third-straight match at 1:30 p.m. today as it travels to East Carolina University.

"I am really proud of all of the girls today," head coach Elizabeth Anderson said. "We came out really strong and fought hard."

Anderson said the team has been working hard this past week with a home match against UNC Wilmington on Thursday in addition to Sunday's match.

"It will be good for us to rest since we have been going really strong for the past couple of days," Anderson said. "We'll have time to recoup and get ready for the matches ahead of us."

Along with its winning record, Anderson said the team is also experiencing individual strides this season. Senior Anna Milian is the first Elon player ever to earn a Division I regional ranking.

Milian was ranked No. 27 in the Carolina region starting the spring season and was recently titled the Southern Conference Women's Tennis Player of the Week for all matches through Feb. 14.

She improved to a 7-2 record in singles after Sunday's match.

In doubles, Milian and sophomore Elisa Simonetti won their fifth consecutive victory of the season to help clinch the doubles point against USC Upstate.

Sophomore Lauren Sessoms sealed the victory against the Spartans with the last win of the day, completing the seventh shutout of the season for the Phoenix.

"We were really focused today and played tough one match at a time," Milian said. "We know that every point and every match counts."

The Phoenix has played in a number of competitive non-conference matches that have helped prepare the team well for the matches ahead, Anderson said.

Among its non-conference competition have been No. 11 University of North Carolina, No. 39 Wake Forest University and No. 55 Virginia Tech.

"One of our biggest strengths is cohesion," Anderson said. "The girls show a lot of support for each other and it comes together nicely."

In the fall, the Phoenix experimented with mixing different players for doubles to see which players work best together. Not every pairing works out the first time. Now that the partners are set, the players can play to their strengths to defeat opponents in the strongest part of their game, Anderson said.

"Elisa and I have been playing together for a while and work really well together," Milian said. "I think that we have a really good chance to win all of our doubles matches this season."

During practice in the coming week, Anderson said the team will continue to focus on maximizing the potential of each individual player to improve all around.

"I want to continue to work on strategic play for the matches coming up and just do some fine tuning," Anderson said. "We want to stay on the right track."



No. 1 doubles partners senior Anna Milian and sophomore Elisa Simonetti compete in Saturday's match. The double's team won 8-1, helping the team on its way to a 7-0 victory.

HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer



ONE ON ONE

Christian Binder and Russell Varner
Sports Commentators

NBA trading market

The NBA trade deadline has passed and there were a lot of big moves. What was the biggest move that happened at the deadline?

Christian Binder: To me, the biggest move was the one that didn't happen. Amare Stoudemire stayed put with Phoenix even though he was being pursued by both the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Miami Heat. I felt like Cleveland didn't have a choice but to acquire him, not only to solidify their championship aspirations for this season, but also to keep LeBron James around, since he becomes a free agent after the season. The same can be said for the Heat and Dwyane Wade, although they have less of a chance of winning a championship this year. Adding another key player like Stoudemire would have definitely played a big role for both organizations to say they are committed to winning and to keeping their star players.

Russell Varner: While I do agree that was huge, the biggest move in my opinion is one that has gotten no love so far, and I don't know why. How can you not love the Houston Rockets getting Kevin Martin? Not only is Martin a Southern Conference boy from Western Carolina University, but he is one of the best scorers in the NBA that you have never heard of,

probably because he was stuck with the lowly Kings. Combine him with Aaron Brooks and a healthy Yao Ming, and the Rockets now have a heck of a lineup.

Christian: While all of that is true, the Rockets also lost Tracy McGrady at the deadline. Now, I know he hadn't been doing much, but he is still an impact player. Martin will fill in nicely and be a great complement to Brooks. The Rockets also have Trevor Ariza, who has been huge for them while flying mostly under the radar just like he did with the Lakers last year. I don't see Yao playing a big role for the Rockets from here on out just because his health is now such a big deal, but the Rockets did a good job at the deadline.

Russell: Yes, but T-Mac has become too injury prone to be a big factor in my opinion. He did have a great first game with the New York Knicks the other day, but I'm waiting to see when he will go down with another injury. We all know it is just a matter of time. The new K-Mart will have people in Houston forgetting all about Tracy McGrady in no time. And as for Yao, you do bring up a good point. He and McGrady have both become injury prone, which is why one of them had to go. But Houston has shown they can win without Yao, so he's just an added bonus.

ATHLETIC RESULTS

FEB. 17 - FEB. 22

Men's basketball

Feb. 17
UNC Greensboro 65
Elon 70

Feb. 20
Elon 79
Gardner-Webb 84

Feb. 22
Appalachian State 58
Elon 54

Women's basketball
Feb. 20
Elon 55
Furman 58

Feb. 22
Elon 64
Wofford 69

Baseball

Feb. 19
Towson 2
Elon 8

Feb. 20
Ohio 4
Elon 11

Feb. 21
North Carolina
A&T 14
Elon 0

Softball

Feb. 20
Rider 0
Elon 11

Feb. 20
Georgetown 4
Elon 8

Feb. 21
Georgetown 1
Elon 2

Feb. 21
Rider 1
Elon 5

Men's tennis

Feb. 19
Elon 0
N.C. State 7

Feb. 21
USC Upstate 2
Elon 5

Women's tennis
Feb. 18
UNC Wilmington 4
Elon 3

Feb. 21
USC Upstate 0
Elon 7

SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball games to be aired on radio

Throughout the spring season, every Elon baseball home game will be broadcast via either WPCM 920 AM or WSOE 89.3 FM. Select road games will also be aired with 33 total games on the radio. The road games that will be on the radio are at East Carolina University, Wake Forest University, University of North Carolina and North Carolina State University.

ELON ATHLETICS THIS WEEK

FEB. 24 - MARCH 2

Wednesday 2/24

Women's tennis @ East Carolina - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday 2/25

Indoor track (Southern Conference Championship) - All Day
Men's basketball @ Georgia Southern - 7 p.m.

Friday 2/26

Indoor track (Southern Conference Championship) - All Day
Baseball @ Rice - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 2/27

Softball vs. IUPUI - 1 p.m.
Men's tennis vs. Charlotte - 2 p.m.
Women's basketball vs. UNC Greensboro - 2 p.m.
Softball vs. IUPUI - 3 p.m.
Baseball @ Texas A&M Corpus Christi - 5:30 p.m.
Men's basketball vs. Davidson - 7 p.m.
Men's tennis vs. Lees-McRae - 9:30 p.m.

Sunday 2/28

Baseball @ Nebraska - 1 p.m.
Softball vs. IUPUI - 1 p.m.

Tuesday 3/2

Women's tennis vs. Charlotte - 2:30 p.m.

Golf teams play first tournament of spring season

Elon's men's and women's golf team kicked off the spring season this week, playing in tournaments in South Carolina.

The men's team began its season playing in the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate in Hilton Head, S.C. on Monday and Tuesday.

The women played in the Edwin Watts/Kiawah Island Classic in Kiawah Island, S.C. Sunday through Tuesday.

For more coverage of the tournaments, visit the Pendulum online.



Elon alumnus finds passion on racetrack

Rebecca Smith
Features Editor

Growing up, Elon alumnus Nick Igdalsky, would cheer for stock car drivers Richard Petty, Cale Yarborough, A.J. Foyt and Mario Andretti. Now, children can cheer on Igdalsky as he drives in the ARCA racing series.

Igdalsky, who graduated in 1999 and is now on the board of advisers, started his first full season in an ARCA car in the beginning of the month at the Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200. He raced against Danica Patrick during her first stock car race.

"I was directly behind her for a good portion of the race and even managed to make a wrinkle in her fender as we both avoided a wreck in front of us," Igdalsky said. "She did a great job and was very smooth. I was comfortable drafting with her and running door to door."

The ARCA Racing Series is a professional circuit that is considered by some fans to be a step behind the NASCAR Nationwide Series. There are two tiers in NASCAR — the Sprint Cup series and the Nationwide Series.

Igdalsky first got in a race car in 1994 at the age of 16. He took classes at the Bertil Roos Racing School at Pocono Raceway and learned to drive open-wheel Indy-style cars called Formula 2000.

"I didn't know how to prepare for my first ever race," Igdalsky said. "You don't know what to expect, so I just went out and tried to drive a



Photo submitted
Nick Igdalsky graduated from Elon in 1999 and is now in the ARCA Racing Series.

clean race with no mistakes. Now I see the benefit of conditioning and mental preparation before I get in the car."

He did not compete until 2003, after he graduated. He entered a SCCA Regional event and won by 22 seconds. A few weeks after his first race, Igdalsky competed in a SCCA National Event and finished in second place. This is when he decided he had the ability to pursue racing further.

"There is no time to hesitate or be nervous even when you are three wide at 185 mph," Igdalsky said. "I try to remain calm before a race starts. Typically, something will happen

on the track that will bring out the aggression and determination needed to win the race. It usually comes from another driver hitting or cutting you off, and it happens every race."

During the races, temperatures can exceed 120 degrees in the car on warm days. Drivers normally wear three layers of fire protection and a helmet, too.

Igdalsky said it is like sitting in a car in July with the heat on high while wearing a snowsuit, gloves and boots.

"I have lost close to six pounds in some races and have to drink plenty of fluids before and after races," Igdalsky said. "I even wear heat reflective shields on top of my fire proof shoes so that my feet won't blister and my shoes won't melt (to) the floor."

Igdalsky has grown up around racing and is the senior vice president of Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pa. His grandparents have owned the raceway for decades.

When he is not racing, he is responsible for the behind-the-scenes work. During the winter he sells scholarships, renews ticket orders and other paperwork. Once the snow melts, he repairs the grounds. He said the transition from being on the business side of racing to actually driving the cars was not that challenging.

"I was passionate about racing," Igdalsky said. "Anytime you have a passion for something, you will do anything to make it happen."

The Elon Games: Olympics on campus



Taylor Shain
Guest Columnist

Every four years, during the Summer Olympics, I am always inspired to jump off my couch and go run, swim or play any Olympic game. But when the Winter Olympics

roll around, I can't exactly play any of these games, mostly because I live in a place where it routinely reaches 70 degrees in the middle of winter. But don't worry, I composed a list of games we can all play right here at Elon University.

Fantasy Winter Olympics

Isn't almost every Winter Olympic event basically just a bunch of athletes going down a hill really, really fast? At some point this just stops becoming exciting. I think adding a fantasy-sports element to this game would be incredibly entertaining.

Everyone who plays fantasy football knows how much more thrilling Sunday is. Instead of rooting for one team, you can root for a dozen players. This would work for the Olympics. Let's start a system with 10 points for a gold medal, seven points for silver and five points for a bronze, with 20 points for a world record. If you were playing fantasy Winter Olympics, wouldn't you be riled up to watch even the most boring events, like the skeleton?

The Acorn challenge

You know those small meal order sheets you order from at the Acorn? Next time you go to the Acorn, just circle every item on the menu. And eat it. That's what I call an eating challenge.

The Cushman 500

I think this one is self-explanatory.

The search for snow and ice

It snowed weeks ago, yet we still have patches of snow and ice scattered around campus. For this game find all the remaining ice. Maybe then you could play some kind of actual winter sport.

Water gun fight

Getting slammed with a super-soaker in the summer is fun. But in the winter, it is just brutal. This game would combine strategy with overwhelming cold. Maybe they should try this for the actual Winter Olympics. I don't know about you, but if I had to choose between watching figure skating or a winter water gun fight, I'd take part in the water gun fight nine out of 10 times.

The tunnel race

For months, the construction workers have been hard at work building a tunnel under the train tracks. See if you can tunnel faster than they can. So grab your shovels and let the games begin.

Men's tennis falls in first home match



HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer

Junior Alberto Rojas secured one of Elon's two points at the No. 4 singles position in the team's match against No. 73 University of South Carolina Upstate on Sunday. Rojas won 6-0, 6-1. The team lost 2-5, earning its second point at line two in singles when junior Chase Helpingstine defeated USC Upstate's Javier Tori 7-6 (10-8), 6-4. Helpingstine and Rojas also competed together at line one in doubles but lost 8-3. Freshman Thomas Darling and sophomore Eric Turner also won 9-7 at the No. 3 doubles position.

The team will return to action at 9:30 a.m. Saturday when it takes on Lees-McRae College at home. Directly following that match, Elon will play UNC Charlotte at 2 p.m. These are the last two matches for the Phoenix before moving into Southern Conference play on March 6 against Georgia Southern University.

Phoenix nears season's end, looks to SoCon tournament



Jack Rodenfels
Senior Reporter

The men's basketball team hosted the Southern Conference North division-leading Appalachian State University Monday night.

Even though the Phoenix lost 58-54, heads will not hang for long, as the Phoenix has two conference games this week and the SoCon tournament on the horizon.

"If I was another team, I wouldn't want to play us right now—we keep fighting every time we go out on the floor," senior forward Adam Constantine said. "When everything's all said and done, we are going to be a force to be reckoned with."

Monday's game was a physical battle, much different than its previous matchup where the Mountaineers beat the Phoenix by 24 points. Neither team shot more than 38 percent from the field for the game, as evidenced by the grind-it-out 58-54 final score.

Two Elon players scored in double figures — Constantine leading the way for the Phoenix with 13 points and senior forward TJ Douglas adding 12 points.

With eight Phoenix in the scorebook, the Phoenix distributed the ball well, but couldn't hit the crucial shots when needed.

"We have confidence in ourselves and the coaching staff," junior guard Chris Long said. "We are getting better each day. Eventually shots will fall, and it will all come together."

The season has been a little bit of everything for



Junior guard Chris Long looks to make a pass against an Appalachian State University defender. Long finished with four points and seven assists in Monday night's game.

MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer

ELON IN THE SOCON TOURNAMENT

The longest-running conference tournament in the nation, the SoCon tournament will be held in Charlotte, N.C., March 4-8, at both the Bojangles Coliseum and the Time Warner Cable Arena, home to the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats.

This year's team is looking for similar feats of the 2007-2008 Elon team. The Phoenix entered the 2008 conference tournament with an 11-19 record, and knocked off heavyweights UT Chattanooga and College of Charleston as the seventh-seed in the tournament, getting within one win of the NCAA tournament, before losing to Davidson 65-49 in the championship game.

the Phoenix.

With an 8-20 overall record, there have been struggles, like when the Phoenix lost a span of nine games in a row mid-season. There have also been bright spots, as indicated by the Phoenix winning four out of six games heading into Monday's game against the Mountaineers.

The Phoenix looks to carry its recent momentum to its final two league contests and into the SoCon tournament.

"Our upperclassmen were thrust into a difficult situation with a brand new staff, and a brand new system," head coach Matt Matheny said. "Adversity slapped us in the face, but there are no excuses and no faltering. We will continue to improve and play the best basketball we know how."

In its last stretch before the tournament, the Phoenix will travel to Statesboro, Ga. to take on

Georgia Southern University. Then to end the season, the team will be back in Alumni Gym for senior night against Davidson College on Saturday.

Elon will honor senior starters Constantine, Devan Carter, Douglas and reserve guard Jon Ogolo on Senior Night against the Wildcats. The four seniors account for 40 percent of Elon's total scoring output, and 44 percent of the team's rebounding totals.

The SoCon race is a wide-open one, with six out of ten teams posting a winning record in league play. According to Matheny, anything's possible with the right mix of talent, execution and a little bit of luck.

"Our goal is to get better, and that's what we're doing," Matheny said. "We want to be our best in March. We are excited for the future because we are still yet to play our best game."

Women's basketball hopeful for season finale, looks to bring 'fight' to the SoCon tournament



Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

After a tough loss against Wofford College on Monday night, the Elon University women's basketball team will remember to do one thing as it heads into its last game of the season: battle.

The Phoenix was down by 17 points 10:33 left in the second half, but went on a 17-1 scoring run to bring that deficit to one in just more than eight minutes before eventually losing 69-64.

"As a team, nobody gave up," freshman forward Kelsey Evans said. "Nobody quit."

Just two days prior, Elon defeated Furman University on the road 58-55, but the team could not maintain its momentum.

In the game against Wofford, the team only had two players who scored points in the double-digits. Leading the team was Evans with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Just behind her was freshman guard Ali Ford with 12 points.

"We're preparing for the (Southern Conference) tournament, and tonight they showed me they could really fight hard," head coach Karen Barefoot said.

The team only has one more game before the tournament, when it plays UNC Greensboro at 2 p.m. Saturday at home.

Earlier in the season, Elon lost to UNCG 84-70, but Barefoot said the team is looking to end the season on a good note.

"This is what it all comes down to," Barefoot said. "We want to go out there, have fun and lay it all out on the line before the tournament."

The SoCon tournament will begin at 1 p.m. March 4 in Charlotte and will go until March 8. Currently the team sits at No. 7 in the SoCon, tied with Western Carolina University, with a conference record of 6-13.

Evans said the every little thing Elon does adds up, and so the team has to execute the small details well to win in the tournament.

"We have to really bring our defense," Evans said.

"That's who we are."

Going into the SoCon tournament last year, the team only had two conference wins and experienced a five-and-a-half-week losing streak.

Then, in the first round, Phoenix upset Georgia Southern University 57-54.

Evans said the team has the capacity to have the same kind of showing this year if it just remembers it can win the big games. Earlier in the season, the team defeated Samford University, who is currently No. 2 in the SoCon.

"It's a whole new season," Evans said. "Anything can happen."

“

This is what it all comes down to. We want to go out there, have fun and lay it all out on the line.

- KAREN BAREFOOT
HEAD COACH

”

SURPASSING LAST SEASON

The Elon women's basketball team finished last season with a 5-26 overall record and a 3-18 Southern Conference record. With only one game left in the regular season, the Phoenix has already increased its overall record by two and doubled its SoCon record.

Heading into Saturday, the Phoenix is looking at a 7-19 overall record, 6-13 in the SoCon.

"A lot of great things have happened this season," head coach Karen Barefoot said. "With all the games we've played, it's helped us gain a good chemistry."

The team looks to continue to out-do last year's record in its last game of the season against UNC Greensboro and into the SoCon tournament.

Sophomore guard Kallie Hovatter reaches for the basket in the Feb. 13 loss to Western Carolina University. In Monday's game, Hovatter scored nine points and had one steal against Wofford College.

FILE PHOTO

Bats bring wins to Elon, team prepares for 1,000-mile trip

Conor O'Neill
Assistant Sports Editor

As it approached a weekend in which it plays top-level competition, the Elon University baseball team needed to open its season on a positive note.

The team did just that last weekend, winning all three of its contests. The Phoenix combined to outscore its opponents 33-6.

Elon will continue its season this weekend when it takes on No. 6 Rice University, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi and Nebraska University at the Rice Invitational in Houston.

"It's a long season, so we just have to be consistent all season," senior outfielder Justin Hilt said. "If we keep having good at-bats, playing good defense and getting good pitching, we're going to win games."

Starting Friday afternoon, the Phoenix beat Towson University 8-2 behind six innings of one-run baseball from junior pitcher Jimmy Reyes.

In Saturday's action, the Phoenix jumped over Ohio University 11-4. To close out the weekend Sunday, the Phoenix defeated North Carolina A&T State University 14-0 — its first shutout since April 17, 2009.

"Our thinking coming in was that we have some older kids (from last season), and we got three quality starts," head coach Mike Kennedy said. "It's early, and we have to continue to get better, and we hope that because those guys are older they give us a chance to be in every game."

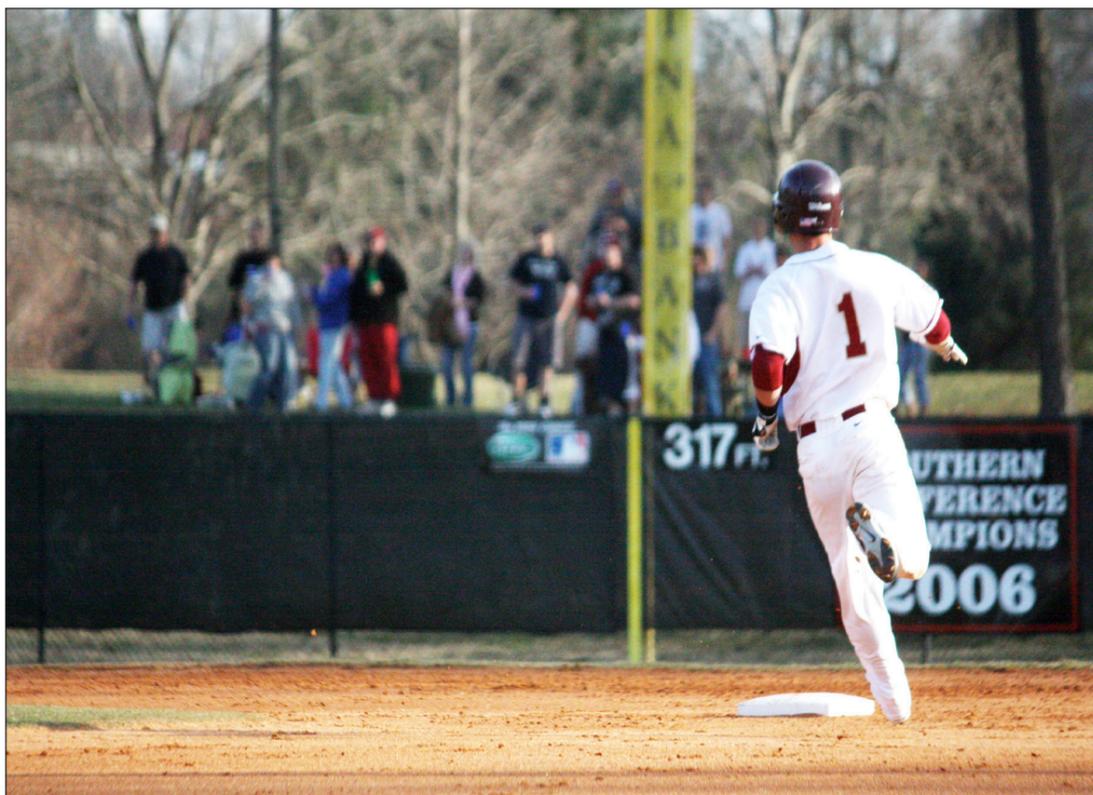
The Phoenix will look to continue its good pitching this weekend, as the team goes on the road.

The Phoenix will take on the Rice Invitational host school at 4:30 p.m. Friday. The Phoenix then plays Texas A&M Corpus Christi and Nebraska on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

Rice was ranked No. 6 in the country before the season began, according to the USA Today/ESPN Top-25 Coaches' Poll. But the Owls are coming off a weekend series at Stanford in which Rice dropped three games.

"I'd rather them have won three and be happy and feel good about themselves than be mad (about losing)," Kennedy said.

Senior catcher Mike Melillo also said he realizes despite the Owls' early season struggles, it will be



Freshman outfielder Niko Fraser rounds second base in the Phoenix's final game of the weekend on Sunday afternoon. The Phoenix shutout North Carolina A&T State University 14-0 and went 3-0 at the Elon Classic to start the season.

a difficult team to beat.

"They're coming off a tough weekend, and they're going to be hungry," Melillo said. "It's going to be a good matchup, and it'll be a good measuring stick for us."

Still, the opportunity for the Phoenix to take on a nationally recognized program such as Rice will help the Phoenix improve, Kennedy said.

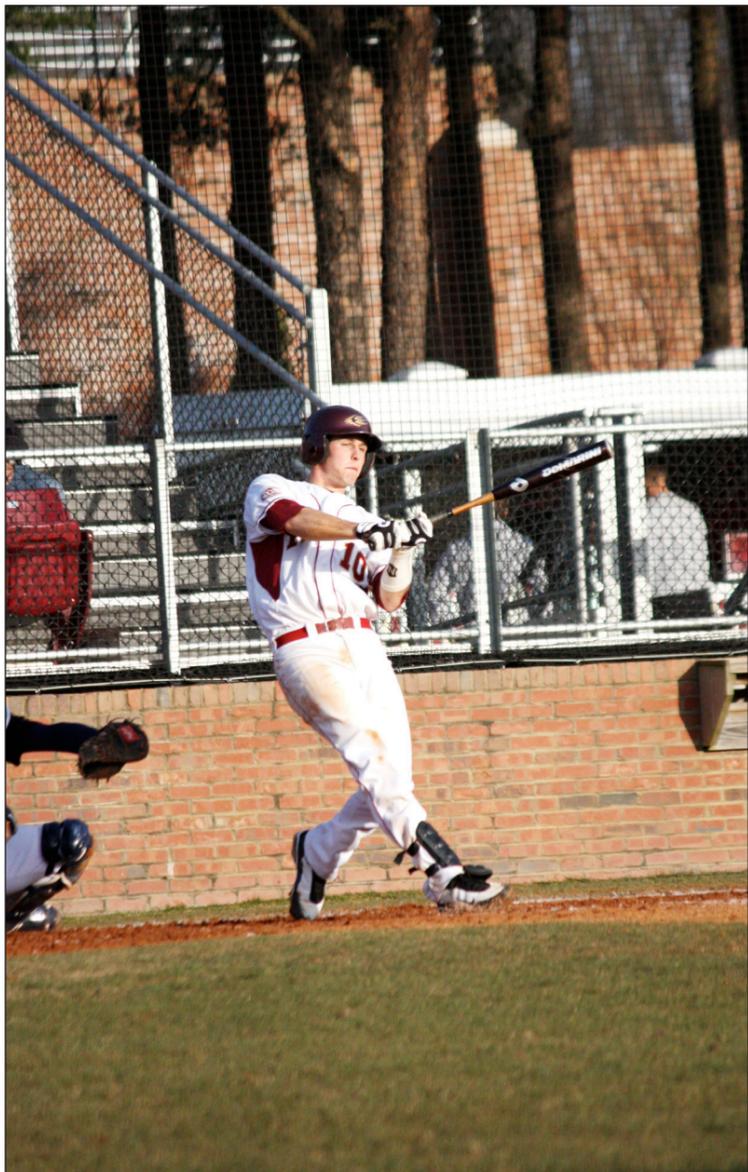
"We get to play Rice and Nebraska, and those are perennial regional teams," Kennedy said. "It gives your team the chance to see that level of competition early in the season so that hopefully at

the end of the season you're playing at that level."

Last season, Rice advanced to the NCAA Super Regionals and faced the No. 1 team in the country and the eventual champions, Louisiana State University.

Melillo said he feels the Phoenix can use this past weekend's games as a jumping off point for the season.

"We progressed as the weekend went on," Melillo said. "I think we got a lot stronger. It's good to see us coming along I thought we kind of formed an identity and we played real well."



Senior catcher Mike Melillo hits a single against Texas A&M University Corpus Christi. Melillo totaled four runs, four hits and two RBIs on the weekend.



Junior infielder Neal Pritchard snags a ball during the third inning of Sunday's game. At the plate, Pritchard recorded two runs on one hit in five at bats. The Phoenix had no errors the game.

WEEKEND WRAP-UP

Player	Batting average	Runs	Hits	Home runs	RBIs	Slugging Percentage
Alex Swim	.583	3	7	0	4	.667
Niko Fraser	.385	2	5	0	1	.538
Harry Austin	.364	5	4	0	3	.455
Seth Canipe	.333	3	4	1	4	.583
Justin Hilt	.313	2	5	1	7	.750
Mike Melillo	.308	4	4	0	2	.385
Neal Pritchard	.167	5	2	0	0	.250

* Numbers for players with 10 or more at bats

Sports



THERE AIN'T NO REST FOR THE PHOENIX

Justine Schulerud
Photo Editor

The word off-season to Division I athletes holds a different meaning than it does to most people. Division I athletes nationwide put in countless hours of work year round. The Elon men's soccer team is an example of that work.

The off-season for the team is an eight-week period that begins in Winter Term and spans through the first two weeks of spring semester. NCAA regulations state the team is only allowed to touch a soccer ball for two hours a week during its off-season. Because of this, the team spends most of its off-season in the weight room or

in the track.

"Our off-season is definitely not a vacation," junior goalkeeper Clint Irwin said.

The spring season is set up a teaching manner, focusing a lot on fitness, head coach Darren Powell said. During the spring season, the team is allowed to meet and play with a ball for up to 20 hours a week. Junior midfielder Brad Franks said training in the spring is a lot more useful than fall practices because of the number of games in the fall.

"The spring can be used as a proving ground for people to step up and get their name out there and improve," sophomore midfielder Drew Gardner said.

“These guys now compete at such levels that it’s a year round commitment.”

-DARREN POWELL
HEAD COACH”



“Our mind set is not any different. We work hard every day no matter what.”

-CLINT IRWIN
JUNIOR”



ABOVE: Junior goalkeeper Clint Irwin works in the weight room with teammates. He performs a power clean lift that is part of the team's weight lifting program. The program is broken down into three concentrations — size, strength and power. The team works year-round to build its strength. Twice a year the players test their improvement by lifting the maximum weight they can once in given exercises.

RIGHT: Freshmen midfielders Morgan Fleming and Gabe Latigue run during practice. In the team's off-season it runs three days a week at 9 a.m. The running usually consists of interval running where athletes vary their speed and distances. Fridays were called "Cross Country Friday" by the team because the players usually ran more mileage compared to other days.



LEFT: Junior midfielder Brad Franks warms up in the weight room by working on his footwork using the ladder drills. Ladder drills are incorporated in the power portion of the weight lifting program.

BELOW: The Phoenix warms up during its practice with sprints. During the spring season practices, Elon works on its team combinations and chemistry. Because of a lighter game schedule, practice time is deemed more intensive and the players can be pushed harder.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor

FALL SEASON vs. SPRING SEASON

1. The season spans from September to November.
2. The team played 22 games during the season, including the Southern Conference tournament, averaging two to three a week.
3. There are either practices or games six days out of the week.

1. The season spans from February to May.
2. NCAA sanctions five games throughout the season, but teams can add a sixth if it is a foreign team.
3. The team meets and practices three days each week and has inter-squad practices once a week.

Soccer team carries work ethic to the classroom

The men's soccer team isn't just busy with its soccer schedule; it's also busy in the classroom. The team earned the Team Academic Award in the 2008-2009 season with the team a 3.22 GPA. Four of the five rising seniors are planning to graduate a semester early. Because of this, many of the athletes take the maximum number of credits they can, Franks said.