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Elon University's Weekly Student Publication

# The Pendulum

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## Republicans talk tough on security

Angie Lovelace  
Photo Editor



Angie Lovelace/ Photo Editor

During the debate, Republican candidates focused on national security and family values. The debate was the first following the New Hampshire primary where John McCain finished first, picking up seven delegates.

**MYRTLE BEACH, S.C.** – The Republican presidential candidates appeared in the last televised debate before the South Carolina Primary to be held Jan. 19. History has shown that since 1980, the winner of the GOP primary in South Carolina has gone on to win the party's presidential nomination.

In the Jan. 10 debate, the candidates discussed their views on foreign policy and domestic issues at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

In attendance were Sen. John McCain, coming off of his recent win in the New Hampshire primary, former Gov. Mike Huckabee, who took the Iowa Caucuses on Jan. 3, former Gov. Mitt Romney, winner of the Wyoming Caucus, former Sen. Fred Thompson, former Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Rep. Ron Paul.

McCain said he is concerned that the Republican Party has steered away from the "Reagan principles and philosophy and practices." He said he felt that the party needs to "return to those principles of less government, lower taxes, strong family values [and] strong national defense."

Thompson emphasized his value of the American dream when he said he was proud to live in "a nation where a country boy from Tennessee or a country girl from South Carolina

can grow up and, if they obey by the rules, expect to achieve the American dream."

Giuliani said that he believed that "we have to pursue those principles of lower taxes, restraining spending, devolving power to people [and] getting power to governments that are closest to the people."

As a conservative, Giuliani also believes in a strong national defense.

"That's why my first commitment to the American people is to be on offense against terrorists."

Huckabee made one of the boldest statements of the evening when answering a question about the recent approach of an Iranian fast boat on an American vessel in the Strait of Hormuz, "I think we need to make it very clear ... that if you think you're going to engage the United States military ... be prepared that the next things you see will be the gates of Hell."

Thursday was also the one-year anniversary of President Bush's announcement of the troop surge in Iraq.

McCain said he supported the President's decision.

"We can win, and then these young people will come home and they will come home with honor."

Paul said that he did not agree with the President's actions during his trip

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## Elon remembers former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto

RJ Kraft  
Reporter

On the surface there doesn't seem to be much of a connection between Pakistan and Elon University, but one thread that unites the two is former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

Bhutto was assassinated Dec. 27, 2007, in a suicide bomb attack after returning to Pakistan two months earlier after she was granted amnesty from corruption charges. Bhutto had become the first female prime minister of a largely Muslim nation at age 35, as well as the youngest head of state in the world at the time. She served two terms as prime minister, from 1988-1990 and 1993-1996.

Bhutto spoke at Elon's fall convocation in 2002 and spent the day on campus, during which time she met extensively with President Leo Lambert.

"She was a guest in our home [Maynard House]," Lambert said. "I can remember welcoming her with a

cup of tea in our sun room, talking about our respective families. She was a very elegant speaker and spoke very poignantly about her family. I have often thought how people, no matter what their station in life, all share similar human concerns."

Lambert was thrilled that Bhutto accepted the school's invitation to come and speak.

"She was a very gracious guest and it was an honor to have her at Elon University if only for a short time," Lambert said.

Bhutto's visit was part of the Globalization Symposium in which she dedicated the Isabella Cannon Center for International Studies and held a question-and-answer session and a press conference in the McEwen Communications Building.

Janna Anderson, assistant professor of communications, was at the press conference and briefly met Bhutto.

"Few local media organizations thought she was newsworthy enough to cover at the time, and most of the questions were asked by my



Photo Submitted by Dan Anderson

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto greets student Katie Gosselin ('03) and President Lambert in fall 2002. Bhutto encouraged students to set a precedence for change during her convocation speech.

students," Anderson said. "It seemed as if we were getting an exclusive Q&A session just for my class. She was a commanding figure, she was a true leader and she connected with

people because she had an air of authority combined with an aura of approachability."

See BHUTTO/ Page 5

# Sew Perfect: Quilting class gives students a new look at geometry

Lindsay Fendt  
Reporter

Harry Potter, yoga and the culture of Disney are all Winter Term classes renowned for their uniqueness, but for the past two years there has been another interesting class in the long list of options: quilting.

This class focuses on the history and culture of quilting, and encourages students to appreciate the geometry and patterns involved in the art.

Professor Jan Mays was inspired to start a quilting class after discussing her favorite pastime with fellow math professor, Alan Russell. In past winter terms, Russell has taught origami to fill the need of an upper level GST mathematics course. He encouraged Mays to fill out a proposal for her class.

Mays began quilting 23 years ago. She claimed it was the mathematical aspects of the designs that sparked her interest in the first place.

"The geometry and contrasting elements are really what drew me to quilting and I want students to appreciate that geometry and symmetry," Mays said.

Although math is an important part of the class, she also wants the students to have "an appreciation for quilting as an art form and an expression of culture."

The class began with an examination of the history of quilting. Students will also look at the geometry involved in making a quilt, such as tiling and tessellations. By the end of the semester every student will complete one pillow sized quilt. Larger quilts take more time than can be afforded during winter term.

"If it was a full semester class I might have them do a full quilt, but there just isn't enough time," explained Mays.



Lindsay Fendt/ Photographer

Students in the quilting class will eventually produce a pillow sized quilt. Professor Jan Mays hopes the class will help students better appreciate the quilts that their older relatives might have made.

"I didn't know how much time it actually takes," added Brad Nock, a junior currently in the class. "Sometimes it even takes years to finish a quilt."

Despite the time constraints, Mays said she still wants students to get the experience of making their own quilts.

"I really want them to experience quilting as a social activity like it was

for women in the past."

Although students have only just started cutting patterns for their quilts, many have expressed interest in the other aspects of the class.

"I'm actually surprised by how interesting some of the history is," said Nock. "I never realized what a big deal quilting was in the past."

Nock was also stunned by how

difficult quilting actually is.

"I thought it was going to be way easier than it is, but there is actually a lot of work involved."

Mays thinks that the work involved will help students appreciate their old keepsakes a bit more.

"It is going to make students appreciate their grandmother's quilt."

## Los Angeles internship program expected to start this summer

Erica Oleske  
Reporter

The School of Communications is in the process of establishing a permanent study-abroad program in Los Angeles that will allow students to participate in an internship and earn college credit. Elon plans to run a trial of the program this summer, and hopes to enroll 15-20 students.

Students will earn four credit hours through an internship in Los Angeles or the surrounding area and will also take a two-credit-hour course on the business of Hollywood. The cost of tuition for the program is the same as Elon's summer rate. Extra expenses for housing and staffing will apply. No study abroad credit will be offered.

Connie Book, assistant dean of the School of Communications, recently visited Los Angeles to review successful programs offered by communications school leaders such as Ithaca College, Emerson College and the University of Texas at Austin.

Participants in the program will most likely be housed in Burbank's Oakwood Housing facility, which is within walking distance of Universal Studios. Students from other university programs also reside in the complex.

Book said that mostly



Photo submitted by Alex Walton

A group of communications students visit Los Angeles during Winter Term.

communications majors will enroll in the program this summer, although the Elon in Los Angeles program would be open to all students interested in working in Hollywood.

A professor within the School of Communications will go to Los Angeles and stay for the summer to administrate the internship program and teach the two credit hour class. Elon has not hired new professors for the program.

Plans for a Los Angeles program started when Book and others within the School of Communications noticed many communications majors

enrolling in Ithaca's summer course, which is open to students from any college or university.

More and more students are interested in the entertainment industry, Book said. She is enthusiastic about the program and said it will "be good for our students to connect the dots with the concepts and curriculum they are engaged in at Elon with an L.A. experience. The program also provides an opportunity for our alumni in Los Angeles to connect with and mentor the next generation of professionals heading their way."

## Candidates look forward to 'Super Tuesday'

DEBATE from p. 1

to the Middle East last week. "I think we get in the way too often. It would be a greater incentive for Israel and the Palestinians and all the Arab nations to come together and talk."

Romney was confident in his understanding of what the American people want.

"I know how to bring change. And I will change Washington. I will take it apart and put it back together simpler, smaller, smarter."

Candidates have started to look forward to "Super Tuesday," on Feb. 5 when 24 states will hold contests in either the Democratic, Republican or both parties. On Feb. 5 Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah and West Virginia are expected to make or break any candidate.

North Carolina holds its primaries on May 6.

On Jan. 21, the first democratic debate in the South will take place in Myrtle Beach, S.C., televised by CNN.



File Photo

About 75 Elon students, faculty and staff members gathered at a candlelight vigil held for missing Elon alumnus Kyle Fleischmann on Dec. 9, 2007.

# Students continue to search for Fleischmann

**Sarah McGlinchey**  
Reporter

This past Wednesday marked the two-month anniversary of the disappearance of Elon alumnus Kyle Fleischmann. As friends, family and authorities begin their third month of searching and fundraising, efforts to educate the public about Fleischmann's story has become crucial.

Fleischmann, a 2006 graduate of Elon, was last seen leaving the Buckhead Saloon in uptown Charlotte early Friday, Nov. 9. Authorities have found little evidence of the events that followed. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department is overseeing the case.

"At this point we are trying to do what we can to keep Kyle's story alive and get it back in the media," said Daniel Scagnelli, a close friend of Fleischmann's and also a 2006 graduate of Elon. "Students can help by continuing to spread the word, encouraging everyone to make donations, and keeping the hope alive."

Scagnelli encouraged Elon students to spread Fleischmann's story by contacting their hometown radio stations and news organizations and by supporting fundraising efforts at Elon. Both

Scagnelli and Fleischmann are alumni of the Elon chapter of Kappa Alpha Order, which has been actively fundraising in Moseley Center for the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation and which conducted a massive search in Charlotte in November.

The brothers of Kappa Alpha Order collected donations for the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation, a non-profit organization established to aid in the search efforts. During the search, which covered the area surrounding the Buckhead Saloon and was held in November, the brothers and many Elon students and community volunteers worked with Charlotte volunteers, Public Safety Dogs, Inc., and the Charlotte Fire Department to investigate the area surrounding where Fleischmann was last seen.

Scott Mackenzie, an Elon junior and a member and officer of Kappa Alpha Order who was actively involved in organizing the search, believes that though no clear evidence was discovered from the search, the efforts were beneficial because many possible locations were eliminated. The brothers do not plan to hold another search unless authorities deem it necessary.

Members of the police department are investigating the video footage from the Buckhead Saloon the night of Fleischmann's disappearance

and aim to speak with anyone who saw or had any contact with the alum that evening.

"Ultimately we just hope to find someone who may remember seeing Kyle outside of the Saloon after closing time to indicate which direction he may have walked in," Richard Fleischmann, Fleischmann's father, said, according to the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation.

Richard Fleischmann asked that anyone who was at Buckhead Saloon on the evening of his son's disappearance contact Detective Tuttle at 704-336-3949.

Donations made to the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation can help provide search supplies, hire private investigators and increase the monetary reward for any key information found regarding Fleischmann.

To aid in the search efforts, friends and family have also distributed flyers, created buttons, stamps, Facebook and MySpace groups. The Facebook group has close to 70,000 members.

"Speaking on behalf of KA, the Fleischmann Family and Kyle's close friends here at Elon, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support throughout this trying situation and remind all that we cannot give up hope," Mackenzie said.

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## Political Analysis

## Thompson, McCain shine in GOP debate

**Nick Ochsner**  
Commentator

Candidates gathered in South Carolina last Thursday to participate in a pivotal debate that took place just two days after the New Hampshire primary, five days before the primary contest in Michigan and a full 10 days before South Carolina voters go to the polls. With so much on the line, a good debate performance was critical for each candidate. Here's how the candidates matched up:

**Mitt Romney**

The former governor from Massachusetts needed to shine in this debate. Following disappointing, if not deafening, losses in both Iowa and New Hampshire, Romney must win Michigan and have a strong showing in South Carolina in order to continue a viable, successful campaign for the Republican presidential nomination.

That being said, this was not Mitt Romney's best performance. In the debate that took place on Jan. 6, prior to the New Hampshire primary, it seemed as though all of the candidates set their sights on the once front-running candidate. But in South Carolina, Romney was relegated to an afterthought throughout most of the event.

But Romney supporters shouldn't be too glum; there were positive notes from Thursday's debate. Most of the questions that were posed to Romney allowed him to either enunciate his position (in the case of the economy and jobs in Michigan) or clarify and strengthen campaign messages.

Overall, Mitt Romney was neither helped nor hurt by this debate. Although a strong performance could have helped him surge past John McCain in the polls in Michigan, he missed the opportunity and chose, instead, to maintain the status quo.

**John McCain**

This senator from Arizona capitalized on strong momentum from his New Hampshire win just two days prior and kept the pending Michigan contest in mind throughout the night.

Often throughout the campaign, many of the Republican Party's faithful have questioned McCain's Republican ideals. He has been chided

for co-sponsoring legislation with liberal icon Ted Kennedy (D-MA) that allowed for amnesty to illegal aliens, restricting campaign contributions with his Bicameral Campaign Finance Reform

Act in 2002 and his positions on spending and appropriations.

During Thursday's debate, McCain was able to focus on issues that worked to his benefit to make him seem like the candidate who could uphold conservative principles. Cutting government spending, supporting our military and having a strong background in national security were all points McCain touched on throughout the night.

Unlike Mitt Romney, McCain was the target of attacks and took center stage for much of the debate.

Were there any detractors? A few. Some of what came out of McCain's mouth Thursday seemed wrought with rhetoric.

Pair that with his assertion that he is known as "the sheriff" among his colleagues in the capitol and has never made a pork barrel earmark in his four terms in the Senate and you may find yourself questioning how authentic anything John McCain says actually is.

**Mike Huckabee**

Huckabee's record as a Baptist preacher and former governor of Arkansas for 10 years has not always been in his favor. Despite his upset victory in Iowa and his solid third place finish in New Hampshire, Mike Huckabee joins John McCain in still struggling to brand himself a conservative and must break free of his mold as the one-issue evangelical candidate.

He gave the quote of the night saying, "I think we need to make it very clear, not just to the Iranians, but to anybody, that if you think you're going to engage the United States military, be prepared not simply to have a battle. Be prepared, first, to put your sights on the American vessel. And then be prepared that the next things you see will be the gates of hell." The audience loved it.

Huckabee was the target of many attacks several times during the debate, including several digs by Fred Thompson, who pointed out that Huckabee was unwilling to sign the pledge against no new taxes earlier in his campaign—but then signed it several months later to align himself more with the Republican Party.

In addition, debate organizers reminded viewers of his divisive past as a Baptist preacher by asking about the declaration he signed in a full page ad in the New York Times declaring, "A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband."

**Rudy Giuliani**

The former New York Mayor participated in this debate much the same as he has participated in this primary election recently: low-key and in the background.

Although relevant at some points during the night, Giuliani joined Mitt Romney in the list of candidates that weren't worth attacking. Contributing

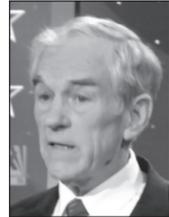
to his low-key performance is the fact that he has not been competitive in any of the primaries yet and does not plan to be until the early primaries move to Florida Jan. 29. Even there, John

McCain has overtaken his position at the front.

Giuliani's opponents have attacked his Republican values, pointing out that he favors amnesty, gun control and gay marriage. Luckily for him, social issues were not on Fox News' agenda Thursday night and he was able to paint himself as someone who will give Americans a major tax cut and be tough on national security.

**Ron Paul**

Representative Ron Paul, the 10-term Congressman from Texas, participated in the debate Thursday in his usual role: being the whacky candidate who is supported by Republican fringe and often-intoxicated college students. His performance Thursday exemplified his mentality that he must distance himself from his opponents on every conceivable issue, regardless of what they say.

**Paul**

The low point of Paul's performance this time came during the discussion on Iran, during which he accused his colleagues of being too eager to attack Iran. Even after moderator Britt Hume pointed out, rather embarrassingly, that every other candidate had endorsed the Navy's passive response, Paul still took the issue as an opportunity to chide Republican Party faithful, President Bush.

Particularly crippling was the question from Carl Cameron as to whether or not the Congressman thought he was a viable candidate. His response seemed devoid of the idea that his ideas were far from mainstream and he seemed almost offended at the suggestion that he receives little support across the nation.

**Fred Thompson**

Last is the former Senator from Tennessee, Fred Thompson. If there were to be a true winner from the debate Fred Thompson would take home the trophy.

Thompson's performance can be attributed to the fact that South Carolina is pretty much it for his campaign. After a distant third place showing in Iowa and a dead last finish in New Hampshire (even behind Ron Paul and write-in candidates), the South's native son must do well—if not win—South

**Thompson**

Carolina. This fact was evident in Thompson's performance Thursday night.

Pollster Frank Luntz—who conducted a focus group during the debate and shared them with Fox News' Hannity and Colmes during their post-debate coverage—found that even though only a handful of people supported Thompson before the debate, nearly all of the focus group ended the debate with a far more favorable opinion of him.

Among Thompson's brighter moments were the several parts of the debate where he took the lead in being confrontational. Following the debate, former Virginia governor and Thompson supporter, George Allen, pointed out that until Thompson took the initiative, none of the candidates were actually debating each other. But Thompson used wit and strong policy positions to get his message across.

Unfortunately for Thompson, his poll numbers have not changed. He is stuck in fourth place, behind Mitt Romney, with just 9.3 percent of the support, according to [realclearpolitics.com](http://realclearpolitics.com).

- Photos by Angie Lovelace

## Primaries kick off with a few twists

**Michael Heil**  
Commentator

The only thing that is certain after last week's presidential primary elections: is that we still have no idea who will win the presidential nominations.

A different candidate won each time, with Obama and Huckabee winning in Iowa but Clinton and McCain winning New Hampshire. A third Republican primary was held in Wyoming, with Romney as the winner.

Not only were the results varied, they were also completely unexpected. On the Democratic side, Obama won in historically conservative Iowa, despite an African American population of only two percent. He was then projected to dramatically win in New Hampshire, but Clinton won instead.

"Eight polls said Obama was up there in New Hampshire," said political science Professor George Taylor. "Hillary took the New Hampshire primary because of her emotions. That brought the women over."

Clintons showing of her emotional side in past weeks has worked as women voters rallied around her, allotting for 57 percent of total Democratic voters in New Hampshire.

"Victory really puts her back on the road map to running a very good campaign... and giving her some reason to believe she can win this thing," said Professor Hunter Bacot, director of Elon University Poll.

Sen. John Edwards, however, is in trouble as polls don't show him to be improving any time soon. He's projected to come in third in South Carolina.

"Edwards might carry South Carolina," Taylor said, with notable stress on the word "might."

The Republican race is even more hectic. Huckabee was thought to be in the background of the race until he pulled off a win in Iowa, and McCain rallied back from a dismal fourth place finish in Iowa to blow away the competition in New Hampshire, winning 37 percent of the vote.

McCain is quickly becoming a top contender in the race. His win in New Hampshire puts him in position to potentially win in Michigan, and then again in South Carolina.

"It's going to be be McCain and Romney and McCain and Huckabee, and the constant there is McCain," Bacot said.

Romney finished second in both elections, and won the Wyoming primary, but he may have a hard time getting back in the race unless he is able to win in Michigan, where his family lives.

"If Romney loses Michigan, he's out," Taylor said.

Former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani is in even more trouble, winning only four percent of the vote in Iowa and nine percent in New Hampshire. Once thought to be a potential front-runner, he now seems to be in over his head.

The most important primaries, however, are still to come. Super Tuesday is just three and a half weeks away, when over 20 states will hold their primaries in the same night, including California and New York.

"Super Tuesday will decide the winner," Taylor said. "We'll just have to watch and see."



David Wells/ Photographer

Resident Assistants Emily Stallings (middle) and Chinwe Nwoko (second from right) participate in Elon's SportsFest with their residents during fall 2007.

## Residence Life begins search for new staff members

Colleen Callahan  
Reporter

The time has come to find a new group of students to serve on the Residence Life staff for the 2008-2009 school year. These paid positions guarantee on-campus housing and free MicroFridges.

Applications to become a Resident Assistant (RA) are now available in Moseley 213, and are due Feb. 11. Applicants will then go through group processing sessions from Feb. 11-15, which include interviews with current Residence Life staff and team building activities. Two information sessions will also be held in late January and early February.

"We're looking for students who want to have a leadership experience," said Oaks' Assistant Director and Staff Selection Coordinator, Melissa Jordan. "We're not looking for perfect people, but those willing to learn and see themselves in community building."

RAs are divided into six on-campus staffs: North, West, East, Danieley Center and Apartments, the Colonnades and the Oaks. Those working in on-campus apartments are Housing Assistants (HAs). When applying for a position, the Residence

Life department factors students' living preferences, but divides individuals on what's best for each staff.

"I love the crazy, interesting staff dynamics," said second-floor Sloan RA Lindsey Altvater. "Nine people bring different personalities, and it's been cool to see how we can come together and work so well."

Becoming an RA requires students to "serve as peer mentors, develop floor community and address issues like roommate/suitemate conflicts, disruptive behavior and adjustment difficulties. They offer residents educational and social programming to foster community within the residence halls," as mentioned on the Residence Life Web site. Developing as a leader in these different aspects allows RAs to reap multiple benefits.

"They have access to people and resources that normal students don't have," said Jordan. "They have interactions with deans and build relationships. They feel more connected to campus culture as a whole. This gives them an edge above everyone else."

For more information, talk with your own RA or contact Residence Life at [residencelife@elon.edu](mailto:residencelife@elon.edu) or 278-7300.

## Bhutto knew that her return to Pakistan would be dangerous

BHUTTO from p. 1

Anderson said she thought Bhutto's presence was inspiring.

"She was iconic, representing an educated voice of reason, reinforcing the Western ideal that democracy can and will be embraced by people in countries where there is a struggle," Anderson said. "She was a strong woman, she was incredibly bold and that was inspiring whether you agreed with her ideas or not."

Bhutto had lived in self-imposed exile since 1998, when there was a military coup in Pakistan. While in exile, she lived in London and Dubai and gave numerous speeches about the value of democracy, while trying to gain political support. On Oct. 18, 2007, despite the possible danger to her life, she returned to Pakistan.

"I think everybody who saw her go back to Pakistan knew that [her death] was a possibility because of the danger, but it was still a terrible shock," Lambert said.

Even though the danger was evident, people were still stunned by her death.

"I had heard the news from a reporter who called me just after it happened," Lambert said. "It was certainly a shock."

"I was nearly brought to tears when I saw the words 'Bhutto assassinated' on the screen on CNN," Anderson said.

Bhutto's speech, titled "Democracy: The Never Ending Battle," left a lasting impression on most of the audience.

Among those in the crowd was Erin

Cunningham, a 2004 graduate, who covered the speech for The Pendulum in 2002.

"Anytime you have seen someone, their death makes you take pause," Cunningham said. "She spoke about the spread of democracy, the importance of democracy and continuing to fight for democracy."

The timing of the former Prime Minister's speech also provided for some reflection, since it was a year after Sept. 11, 2001.

"The messages were important for our students to hear," Lambert said. "She did not want people to judge the Muslim world for these acts of terror."

Nancy Midgette, associate provost, also recalled her powerful speech.

"She could identify with the United States having experienced such an attack," said Midgette. "She was able to understand how people felt so vulnerable. I remember thinking at the time of her speech that it was sad someone had to leave their home country because there were safety issues involved."

"Don't accept the way things are and that there is nothing you can do to change them," Cunningham said, noting the take-home message for everyone at Bhutto's speech.

When a world leader dies, their loss is felt around the world. After a little over 5 years since she spoke, the Elon campus has not forgotten former Prime Minister Bhutto and the impact of her visit.

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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.*



Photo courtesy of HollywoodJesus.com

## Violence vs. vulgarity

Over the most recent break I found myself caught in a Spike TV induced coma. Something about the endless and mindless violence seemed to blend so well with the holiday spirit. It took a real jolt to wake me up to the reality of what I was watching on the tube.

One lazy afternoon, I found myself flipping through the channels when my eyes caught the movie "Kill Bill" in its opening scene. The protagonist, played by Uma Thurman, had just woken up from a coma after being shot in the head and nearly dying. Distraught and frightened, Thurman begins to question a hospital worker to find the whereabouts of her past employer and would-be killer, Bill. I put it lightly by saying "question" as Thurman's interrogation method consists of slamming the worker's head repeatedly

in the door and yelling at him. Supposedly this can be quite effective.

Those who have seen the movie should know the scene I'm talking about. Thurman suddenly remembers the hospital worker, Buck, from an incident during her time in a coma. Cue Buck's infamous line "My name is Buck, and I'm here to f---."

What really surprised me was that Spike TV chose to censor the last word in Buck's quote, much like I have here.

Let's analyze the situation though. Here is a scene completely unedited where a man is getting his skull crushed against a door, leading to his eventual death, in a movie that seems to epitomize over-the-top violence. However, the moment an f-bomb is dropped, we have to run to the censor department and slap

on a couple of 'beeps.'

Am I the only one who sees a problem with this situation? Since when was it more acceptable to watch a guy get brutally killed than to hear him curse a few times?

What I found even more hilarious was the next scene. Buck, being the womanizing creep that he is, has an interesting name for his car. Again, I put it lightly. I won't delve too deep into the name Buck gave his car for the sake of the select people who may take offense to it, but Buck likes to advertise it blatantly, having it painted boldly on the back of the vehicle as well as having a huge key chain with the car's name. If you are really curious, Wikipedia exists for a reason.

What got me this time was that the movie was actually edited to change the car's name. The car was painted

differently and even the key chain was altered. Buck's truck had gotten its name changed to the aptly less offensive "Party Wagon." The fact that there was effort put into this alteration astounded me. They didn't have to just beep out a word, they had to digitally alter the image on the screen.

The fact that they had to go so far to change these scenes shows how vital it was for them to carry out the changes. It's something I really don't understand. It's something that is embedded in our culture. We're so nervous about not offending people with the occasional swear word, and yet we allow violence to carry on freely.

To pick from the endless wisdom of "South Park," "horrific deplorable violence is okay, as long as people don't say any naughty words."

## Take time for yourself

**Scott Van Dorn**  
Columnist

Seats and tray tables in an upright and locked position. Headphones on. Eyes closed.

This state is unfortunately how most students spend their flights to and from school. The flight is nothing more than an annoyance that gets in the way of the next destination.

This process is a symbol of how we act in our everyday lives. Always rushing from one thing to the next, trying to keep up with our busy schedules.

Our hectic lifestyle is no more apparent than in our disgust of airplanes and the inconvenience of traveling from one place to the next. If you took a break from that hurried lifestyle to look out your window, you would notice the irony of the situation – cars scurrying tirelessly here and there like mindless worker ants.

We usually do not have time – except now. Winter Term, like a plane ride, provides us with an opportunity to escape. With only one class a day, it is a temporary break from the rigors of a normal schedule. It offers an unheard of amount of free-time for some people who are used to jam-packed days of school, homework and sleep.

A lot of people have no idea what to do with the extra down-time. They are so startled by having nothing to do that they turn into perpetual couch

potatoes, with their eyes glued to the TV screen, hardly noticing the passing of another day.

My schedule last winter term went similarly. I would wake up at 12:30, go to class, eat, watch TV, maybe go out with my friends, go to bed and then repeat. My life followed the pattern of every distilled, uninspired American worker who has settled nauseously into the system. Pretty much like the guys from "Office Space."

While isolated miles above the fray a few weeks ago, flying back for Winter Term, something hit me just like it hit Peter Gibbons. Be the person you have always wanted to be. Do something you have always wanted to do and not something that will just look good on a job application or make you a quick buck. Read a good book. Play that sport you loved in high school. Sign up for that club you've always been interested in but never had the time to do. Just take some time for yourself.

A teacher here at Elon once gave an assignment where I had to spend 30 minutes outside completely alone – no people, no cell-phones, no iPods – nothing except myself. It was so simple, but it taught me the importance of taking time out of our busy schedules. And Winter Term is the perfect opportunity to get started.

What have I done? I signed up to write for The Pendulum.

### THE PENDULUM

*Established 1974*

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# In interest of the Union

*The presidential race in the wake of Iowa and New Hampshire*

**Morgan Little**  
Columnist

It's the first time since 1928 that the presidential election is free of incumbents. For the first time ever, four different candidates have emerged victorious in Iowa and New Hampshire. The playing field is more open now than it has been in recent memory. For the Democrats, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are the two primary candidates. For the Republicans, Mitt Romney, John McCain, Mike Huckabee and Rudy Giuliani all have legitimate shots at the nomination (sorry Ron Paul fanatics).

Time and time again, the media has told us just how important this election is, just like they do for every single election. Except this time, they're actually right. The country stands at a rare crossroads in which this year, 2008, is a convergence of a multitude of issues that are all equally important.

Gone is the grandstanding and exaggeration of social issues such as banning homosexual marriage that the Republican party fell prey to in 2004, and the single-mindedness with which the Democratic party pursued its Iraq war agenda in the same year.

Candidates are not simply divided between being pro-war and anti-war, or pro-life and pro-choice. Instead,

they are becoming the embodiment of belief systems, systems that would all radically change the political landscape of the country.

Obama brings his inspiring message of hope to the field, encouraging Americans that their problems are not insurmountable. Criticisms have been made, and will continue to be made, about his lack of experience, but such qualms are, for his supporters, relatively unimportant. His message, his youth and his ideas are what have been bringing increasingly large numbers of people to his side (despite his defeat in New Hampshire), not his role in passing so-and-so number of bills in the Senate.

Clinton is, despite being similar to Obama on several issues (all depending on which constituencies Clinton's pandering to), the old workhorse, running on experience that she gained while her husband was President and while she sat in the Senate waiting for her chance to run for the position on her own.

One of the most important differences between Obama and Clinton isn't, say, their health care plan, but instead their mentality. Clinton and her contemporaries are still stuck in the culture wars of the 60s, still shackled to the baby-boomer ideologies that have split

the country in two between those who sympathized with the liberal movement and those who went along with Nixon and Reagan in the culture wars. Obama is free of the scars the culture wars have left, giving him a different outlook, one that will prove to either be the cause of his victory or his glaring weakness.

As for the Republicans, as numerous as they are, the race is even more peculiar than its Democratic counterpart.

In one corner, there's McCain, the ancient (as he's keen to joke about) ex-maverick who lost in the 2000 primaries and has since been gravitating towards the far right. He's running on the strange mix of a continuation and expansion of George W. Bush's foreign policy, along with a more liberal stance on the environment and immigration.

Whereas McCain follows after Bush's mentality in regards to Iraq, Huckabee seeks to follow after Bush's religious attitudes and then some. Whether he's advocating turning the United States into a Christian nation under Jesus, or telling Iran that it will see the gates of Hell, Huckabee has been inserting his past as a Baptist preacher into his campaign (even if one is to ignore the notorious "phantom cross"). Huckabee is now

a national contender after his win in Iowa, and seeks to reinvigorate a religious right that feels betrayed by the Bush administration after it backed out of its 2004 campaign promises.

Romney and Giuliani both have similar advantages and weaknesses. Both have to re-invent themselves as red-blooded Republicans after working in primarily Democratic states and having enacted rather liberal policies on issues such as healthcare and immigration. Romney's massive stores of cash have helped him until this point, but after being a presumed front-runner who has won neither Iowa nor New Hampshire, his campaign is struggling to gain initiative.

As for Giuliani, after basically ignoring Iowa and New Hampshire, his campaign is in desperate need of a spark to help it last until the primaries in the likes of Florida and California, where most of its attention has been paid.

In the months to come, expect the typical Washington tricks and deception to become even more intense. The primaries are often compared to a horse race but this year, they're a gladiatorial free-for-all, battled with an intensity and importance that would scare off even the biggest of "American Gladiator" steroid jockeys.

## Bush travels to the Middle East

**Bryan Ray**  
Columnist

Last week, President George W. Bush visited Jerusalem and declared that Israel must end its occupation of the Palestinian territory it took in the 1967 Six Day War, as well as pay reparations to Palestinian refugees displaced by the Arab-Israeli Conflict.

During the Six Day War, Israel preemptively attacked Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Iraq, destroying the Egyptian Air Force and occupying the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula. Israel has since returned the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt, and the Gaza Strip to the Palestinians, but the West Bank and Golan Heights — which are predominantly Palestinian areas — remain in Israeli hands.

The President's statements shocked many as the United States has been a constant supporter of Israel, in both money and materiel, often at the expense of the Palestinians. Many have criticized the United States for its unquestioning support of Israel and turning a blind-eye to Israeli excesses when dealing with Palestinian militants. Many in the West see the President's statement as the first step toward a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that has existed in the region for the last 60 years.

Unfortunately, these people are mistaken. While at the surface it appears that the President's statements go against the United States' traditional support of Israel, it would be folly to believe that it was made without at

least a conversation between U.S. and Israeli policy makers to coordinate their positions. The president also met with Israeli and Palestinian leaders separately before he made the aforementioned statement. Can one realistically believe that neither party was consulted about the President's intended remarks?

In reality, it is highly unlikely that the United States would be willing to forsake Israel's interests in favor of a Palestinian authority that is facing catastrophic internal conflict, as well as economic collapse, unless the Israeli government was already prepared to make these concessions. We must not forget that, for the last five years, the Israeli Defense Force has been forcibly removing Jewish settlers from outposts in the Gaza Strip and West Bank; actions which have been unpopular among the Israeli people. If the prediction mentioned above is correct, then the removal of Israeli forces from the West Bank, and the paying of reparations to Palestinian refugees, is simply the next step in a larger trend of the creation of an autonomous Palestinian territory.

Any attempt at a resolution to the conflict will be tenuous at best. This is not new territory for the Arab or the Israeli diplomats. Over the last few decades, Israel has attempted to appease the Palestinians with multiple attempts to concede land. Neither side can come to terms with each other.

During the 2000 Camp David Summit, Ehud Barak, the Israeli Prime Minister, offered the largest concession ever made to the Palestinians, offering



Photo courtesy of WhiteHouse.gov  
*President Bush met with Prime Minister Olmert last week.*

all of the Gaza Strip and 73 percent of the West Bank, to extend to 90 percent in 10 years. Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, refused to negotiate unless Jerusalem was put on the table. Negotiations broke down immediately.

Though all leaders involved may desperately want to end the conflict and subscribe to the "Two State Plan," the divisions between Israelis and Palestinians are too great, and the suspicions too deep.

In its coverage of the President's trip to the Middle East, the BBC interviewed Israeli and Palestinian people to find out their views. The

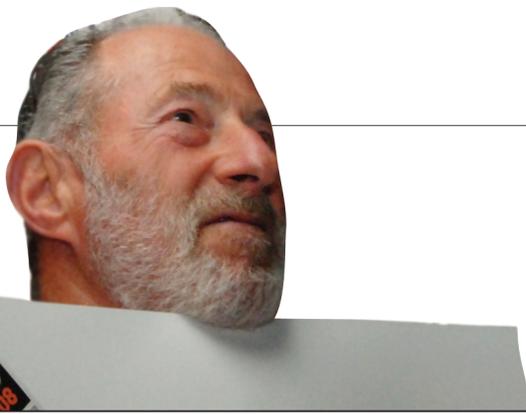
overwhelming similarity between the two groups is that although they wish for peace, they do not trust the other. And therein lies the problem.

As long as the mutual suspicion persists, and extremists are willing to kill and die, the conflict will continue. Both sides will continue to cite the most recent atrocity to legitimize their own, and the spiral of violence will continue to fuel itself.

While President Bush's plan may offer a glimmer of hope, the fact still remains to be that the Palestinian and Israeli people are not truly willing to do what is needed to achieve peace.

Story by  
Maggie Griffiths  
Reporter  
Bethany Swanson  
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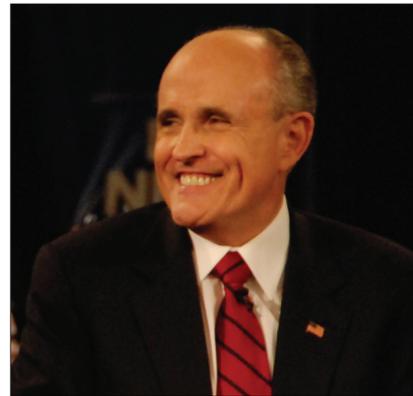
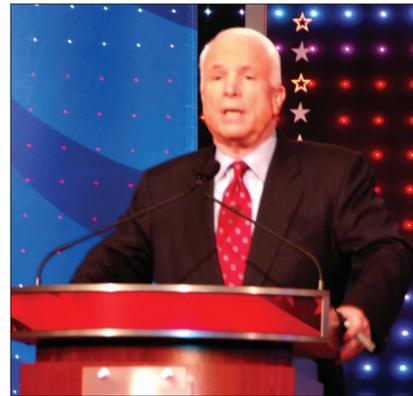
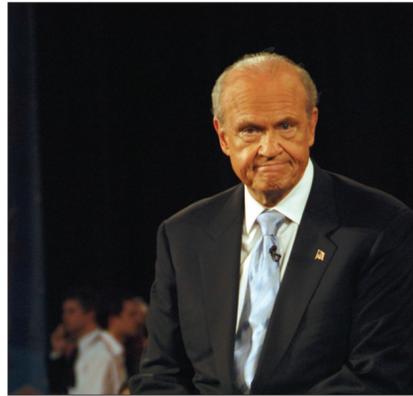
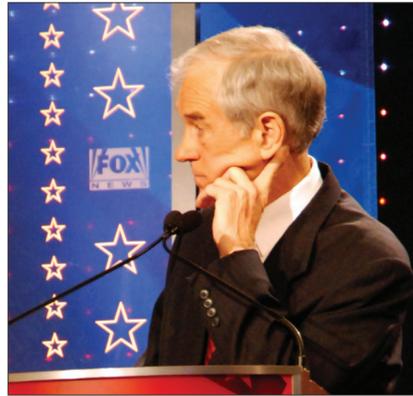
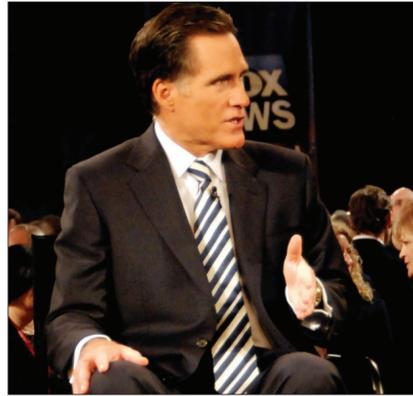
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# Meet the REPUBLICAN Candidates



Next week  
meet the  
Democratic  
Candidates



## Mitt Romney

Former governor of Massachusetts

**Foreign policy:** Romney wants to encourage other nations to welcome democracy. He hopes to eradicate the threat of leaders such as Hugo Chavez and Fidel Castro. He believes that the Muslim world will reject extremism if the United States encourages these nations towards modernity.

**Health care and Social Security:** If elected, Romney would encourage states to create their own private, market-based insurance. He supports subsidies for low-income individuals. He supports private Social Security accounts and has denounced an extension of the retirement age.

**Education:** Romney has publicly supported President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act. He also supports both abstinence-only education and English immersion for immigrant children. He believes that failing schools should be identified and reformed.

**Immigration:** Romney has denounced tuition breaks for illegal immigrants. He believes that illegal immigrants should "go home eventually" and hopes to enforce immigration laws against the 12 million illegal aliens who currently reside in the United States.

**Environment:** Romney encourages investing in research that would allow the United States to decrease its dependency on foreign oil. In 2002, he claimed that the environment would be one of his stronger campaign themes.

**Civil rights and domestic issues:** Romney is strongly opposed to both abortion and stem cell research. He has stated that gay marriage undermines the precepts of traditional marriage and encourages a constitutional amendment defining marriage as "one man, one woman."

## Ron Paul

Member of U.S. House of Representatives from Texas' 14<sup>th</sup> district

**Foreign policy:** In December 2007, Paul denounced all foreign aid to Israel and to Arabs. He has encouraged the United States to withdraw from South Korea and allow the peninsula to unify peacefully. He has stated that U.S. national defense will be stronger if its foreign policy is changed. In September 2007, he said that it is not the responsibility of the United States to oversee the abolishment of legal slavery in Sudan.

**Health care and Social Security:** Paul states that the current health care system has made health care unaffordable. He denounces socialized medicine and universal coverage and wants the U.S. government to refrain from protecting people such as Terri Schiavo.

**Education:** Paul believes that the Department of Education should be closed, but public schools themselves should not be dismantled. He supports the presentation of scientific facts that support creationism and voted no on state-wide testing in public schools.

**Immigration:** In September 2007, Paul claimed that immigration issues in the United States are a direct result of the overall welfare state. He voted yes on building a fence along the U.S.-Mexican border and on reporting illegal aliens receiving hospital treatment.

**Environment:** In 2004, Paul voted no on the Bush administration's national energy policy. He does not believe in criminalizing oil cartels (such as OPEC) and supports permitting new oil refineries. In 2000, he voted against the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol.

**Civil rights and domestic issues:** Paul does not believe that the federal government should be involved in deciding whether or not each state permits abortion. He does firmly believe that life begins at conception. In 2003, he voted no on expanding embryonic stem cell research and, that same year, he voted no on outlawing human cloning for medical research. He claimed in 2007 that he would not support legislation against "homosexual groups" who want to "enforce their way on us." He believes that allowing affirmative action for any group is unfair.

## Fred Thompson

Former U.S. senator from Tennessee

**Foreign policy:** Thompson believes that diplomacy is only effective if the United States is willing to use military force if necessary. He has described the U.S.-Canadian relationship as one that is important for the American economy and national security. On Cuba, he said, "[Fidel Castro] will probably be succeeded by someone who's no better than him, and that is Raul Castro. And we should treat Raul with the same contempt that we show Castro, including keeping the embargo on Cuba."

**Health care and Social Security:** Thompson supports removing some benefits for high-income Medicare beneficiaries in order to allow for low-income beneficiaries to have better access to health care. He denounces universal health care and supports free-market solutions.

Thompson also believes in private personal accounts for Social Security. In 2007, he noted that deficit financing is not a reasonable solution to the Social Security crisis and encourages the use of personal retirement accounts.

**Education:** Although he voted for the No Child Left Behind Act, Thompson now believes that its critics had valid arguments. He encourages voucher programs and charter schools. Thompson also hopes that parents will have an increased ability to choose the schools that their children attend.

**Immigration:** Thompson believes that allocating special status to illegal aliens is disrespectful to legal immigrants. In 2007, he vowed to veto any bill that stressed amnesty. He believes that an inability for the United States to secure its borders will result in a loss of sovereignty.

**Environment:** Thompson believes that the solar system is warming and therefore does not see global warming as exclusively confined to Earth. He encourages investment in alternative fuels research in order to cut down CO2 emissions.

**Civil rights and domestic issues:** Although personally opposed to abortion, Thompson believes that each state should decide its abortion policy. He opposes gay marriage but is willing to allow some states to enact civil unions. In 2000, he voted no on allowing hate crimes to include crimes related to sexual orientation.

## John McCain

U.S. senator from Arizona

**Foreign policy:** Although McCain believes that the issue in Pakistan is serious, he does not see the country as a nuclear threat. In December 2007, he stated that the U.S. should maintain its Cuban embargo and indict Castro. In February 2000, he stated the need for the U.S. to overthrow "rogue governments." McCain also believes in strengthening the One-China policy.

**Health care reform and Social Security:** McCain has spoken strongly against universal health care. He supports tax-free medical savings accounts and tax credits. In 1999, he said that it was necessary for the government to match funds for senior citizens' prescription drugs. In January 2000, McCain said, "We've got a ticking time bomb out there, and it's called the Social Security Trust Fund. Starting in 2013, there'll be more money going out than in." He encourages personal savings accounts rather than relying on Social Security.

**Education:** McCain believes that whether or not a science curriculum is structured around creationism should be left to individual school districts to determine. He is opposed to nationally imposed standards and, in 1999, said, "I don't see why a good teacher should be paid less money than a bad senator."

**Immigration:** In 2004, McCain stated that everyone in the world should have an opportunity to live in the United States. Although he believes that immigration reform is needed for national security, he said that Hispanics serve our country as every wave of immigrants has. In 2006, he voted yes on building a fence along the Mexican border. That same year, he voted yes on allowing illegal aliens to participate in Social Security.

**Environment:** In September 2007, McCain stated that economic and environmental interests are not mutually exclusive. He believes that nuclear power is a solution to climate change and that there should be pressure on the oil industry to research alternatives to fuel consumption. While he does not support the Kyoto Protocol, he does see a necessity for Clean Air and Water Acts.

**Civil rights and domestic issues:** McCain supports federal funding of embryonic stem cell research. He believes that outlawing abortions will cause women to seek illegal, dangerous operations. He does not believe in adjusting the "don't ask, don't tell" policy and believes that gay marriage should be an issue for each individual state. He has stated that the Confederate flag is a "symbol of heritage" and would allow the flag to be displayed in front of the capitol building.

## Rudy Giuliani

Former mayor of New York City

**Foreign policy:** Giuliani believes that an immediate withdrawal from Iraq would encourage future terrorist attacks. In the 2007 Republican Debate in South Carolina, he stated that the Republican Party has thus far been "fundamentally irresponsible" for proposing a timetable for retreat. He has stated in numerous debates that achieving stability in Iraq is more important than setting a specific timetable for withdrawal.

Although he has stressed the need to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power, he stated in December 2007 that he does not believe that "the military option is the thing that we want, if we don't have to."

**Health care reform and Social Security:** Giuliani has attacked what he believes to be the Democratic movement towards socialized health care. He wants to establish a private market that relieves the expenses of Medicare and Medicaid. In October 2007, he stated, "If we have 50 million people who bought their own health insurance, the price of health insurance would be cut in more than half." He also supports adding private accounts for Social Security, although he has been less descriptive about this aspect of his campaign.

**Education:** As mayor of New York City, Giuliani became frustrated with the inability of many families to decide to educate their children through parochial, charter or home schooling. He wants to privatize failing schools and believes that schools should be more focused on educating children than they are on protecting jobs.

**Immigration:** In 2007, Giuliani claimed that we should not be debating legal immigration but instead focus on illegal immigrants. He believes that the children of immigrants should be able to attend school or "they'll be on the streets." If elected, he will allow immigrants to work with tamper-proof ID cards.

**Environment:** Giuliani has claimed that signing Kyoto would move CO2 emissions to China and India. Instead, he wants to develop energy-independent technology. He has stressed his acceptance of global warming and hopes to work toward energy independence. In March 2007, he stated, "Nuclear power is dangerous—so is every other form of power—but nobody's died from nuclear power."

**Civil Rights and Domestic issues:** Although Giuliani opposed President Bush's ban on gay marriage, he opposes same-sex marriage in favor of domestic partnerships. In 2007, he said that he would not sign a federal ban on all abortions though he would personally advise women against abortion. Though he believes that the government should impose reasonable regulations on guns, he hopes to focus first and foremost on criminals themselves.

## Mike Huckabee

Former governor of Arkansas

**Foreign policy:** In January 2008, Huckabee stressed the importance of changing "Bush's arrogant bunker mentality." He believes that there is a need for the U.S. to earn respect abroad and claimed, "My administration will recognize that the United States' main fight today does not pit us against the world but pits the world against the terrorists."

Huckabee wants to focus on the genocide in Darfur and believes that there is no immediate possibility of a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine. In October 2007, he stated that bin Laden is hiding in Pakistan and that "the next terrorist attack is probably going to be postmarked Pakistan."

**Health care reform and Social Security:** Huckabee opposes mandated health insurance and universal coverage and believes that individually-controlled insurance is the best option. He has criticized the current health care system as being "upside down" because it focuses on intervention after illness.

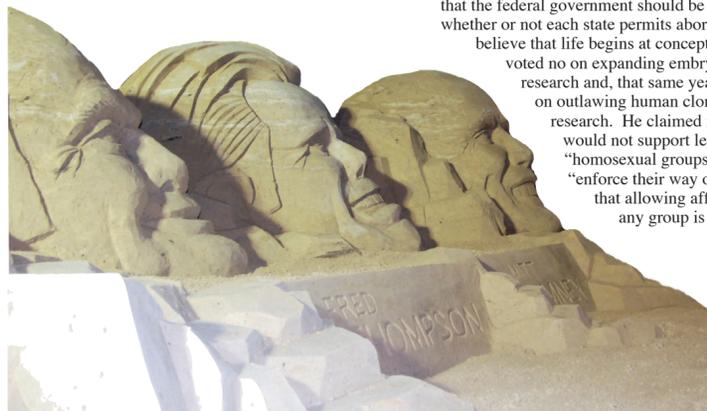
Huckabee also supports the personalization of retirement funds rather than privatization. He hopes to replace the payroll tax and fund Social Security with FairTax and does not believe in the allocation of Congressional pensions.

**Education:** Huckabee has claimed that ending school prayer is "one step in society's moral decay." He believes that the Ten Commandments should be displayed in public schools and wants to allocate equal funding for abstinence and contraceptive-based sex education. His first priority is raising teacher salaries.

**Immigration:** Huckabee believes that the pathway to citizenship should start before an individual enters the U.S. If illegal immigrants admit to their status and pay a fine, they will be placed on the path to citizenship. He has also advocated for a focus on demand and believes that employers of illegal immigrants should be penalized.

**Environment:** In January 2007, Huckabee stated, "My own personal faith reminds me that 'the earth is the Lord's' and that we are not its owners; merely its caretakers." In 2001, he supported the State Revolving Loan Fund for flexible Clean Water. In 2007, he claimed that Kyoto was a mistake but that "Earth in the Balance" is not. He wants to explore nuclear power and promote alternative fuel technology.

**Civil rights and domestic issues:** Huckabee has claimed that the GOP would be "arrogant" to ignore Hispanics or any group. In June 2007, he stated that gay behavior should be addressed if it is problematic, not gay attitudes. He does not support gay adoptions or civil unions. He believes that abortion is a "moral issue" and that there should be no state right for moral issues. He has stated that embryonic stem cell research creates life to end a life.



Organizers decide to have a little fun with the location of the debate, Myrtle Beach, by creating massive sand sculptures of each candidate on the beach.

# Burst the Bubble classes teach unique lessons



Photo submitted

Above: Logan Draughn and Taylor Lindsey practice tying fly fishing lines.

Below: Physical fitness classes like yoga are another popular Burst the Bubble option.

**Laurie Craft**  
Reporter

Winter Term is the one month at Elon where students are able to experience a different kind of learning. Many students leave the campus to participate in study abroad programs, some students take classes to fulfill necessary requirements and still others take classes that promote thinking outside the box and having some fun.

Aside from classes for credit, last year Elon introduced a new program called Burst the Bubble.

This program gives students an opportunity to share an interesting hobby of theirs with fellow students for the month, in a low pressure, non-credit class setting.

Junior Anna Kimmel was drawn to the program because it is “a free, fun way to meet different people and explore something new,” she said.

Kimmel and friend, junior Emily Paradowski, have been participating in the clogging class. They described it

as a type of tap dancing and have enjoyed their experience with it thus far. “I have always



Caroline Matthews/  
Photographer

been really interested in dance, but have had very few opportunities to do it so this seemed like an awesome choice,” Paradowski said. “Plus, when else can you learn how to clog?”

Senior Matt Steible decided to teach fly tying as part of the program this semester. For him, fly tying started as a hobby in high school and he realized this was the perfect time to share this with other students.

At first, Steible didn’t think anyone would even sign up for his class. Now, “we’ve got a roster of 10-12 students and they’ve been doing great,” he said. “I’m having a lot of fun teaching this class.”

Steible says he gives basic instructions on how to make a lure with a PowerPoint behind him to help the class see what they should be doing. Because it is in a laid back environment of just students, Steible says, “Obviously, we swap fishing stories during the process.”

Paradowski said one of the best parts of the clogging class is the fact that the instructor, sophomore Karina Thacker, doesn’t teach at one single level. She gives the more advanced and experienced students more steps to do, while helping those who have less experience.

Kimmel has enjoyed her time in the class as it is a nice relief from her busy winter term schedule.

“The class has been great, attracting an eclectic mix of people with positive attitudes and open minds,” she said.

Burst the Bubble courses are not for credit and are completely voluntary and require only a small time commitment. Paradowski said she could easily commit to the workshop

since her class is in the morning and she has free evenings.

Other classes being offered this Winter Term are an Argentinean Tango dance class, a literature class about the novel “Dune” and a culture course entitled “Around the World in Less Than a Month.”

Paradowski and Kimmel each agreed they would definitely participate in another workshop next year if they are still offered.

Because Steible will be graduating in May, he won’t have another opportunity to participate in the program, but has sincerely enjoyed the time he has spent teaching the workshop.



Caroline Matthews/  
Photographer  
Sophomores Laura Hallett and Suzi Rice learn from their yoga instructor.

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David Wells/  
Assistant Photo Editor

Karina Thacker (center) teaches students clogging steps to go along with hip hop music as part of her clogging Burst the Bubble class.

# “The Cherry Orchard” blooms Friday night

*The Performing Arts Department is set for the premiere of its dark Chekhov comedy, which chronicles the struggles of citizens in Revolutionary-era Russia*

**Molly McGowan**  
Reporter

When “The Cherry Orchard,” opens on Jan. 18, Elon’s Performing Arts Department will add to their impressive repertoire a play by Anton Chekhov, whom director Richard Gang calls “the granddaddy of realistic theory.”

Set at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Russia, “The Cherry Orchard” portrays a formerly wealthy family struggling to stay out of debt following the devastating effects of a frivolous matriarch and social changes that accompanied the Industrial Revolution.

The invention of the steamship brought “a new class of poor” to Russia, Gang said. Unlike the existing poor in Russia, this new class could not grow their own food in the cities to which they immigrated. Feudal Russia faced a growing population that it couldn’t afford to feed.

The play depicts the human struggle for survival, a theme that deviated greatly from the previous works of Chekhov’s era.

Before Chekhov, playhouses

were overflowing with maidens in distress from melodramas or reworked Shakespeare plays. After the steamship, Darwinian thought and Freudian ideas entered Russia.

“All of a sudden, people weren’t fated to be what they were, so playwrights had to start writing with a different kind of intent,” Gang said.

Chekhov’s works were about the common man and the small struggles of daily life that, though tragic, can actually be quite humorous. This concept may sound boring, and depending on the circumstances Gang might be inclined to agree.

tragedy of the play in mind; Chekhov insisted that it was, in fact, a comedy. In order to accurately represent Chekhov’s work as a comedy, Gang said, the actors and the audience must drop their preconceptions about nobility as being the typical uptight kind from England.

“You can tell about nobility by how they drink tea,” Gang said.

In Russia, there was no dainty sipping from the flowery teacup. They strained thick sludge and boiling water with sugar packed into their bottom lip.

“They were coarse, vulgar, earthy, stocky people,” Gang said.

**“There’s no plot. It’s four acts of these people being absolutely goofy.”**

**-Richard Gang, Director**

If done incorrectly, “it’s a slapstick farce that could be drudgery,” he said.

It can’t be performed or received with only the

When first performed in 1904, Constantin Stanislavski, producer and friend of Chekhov, only saw the tragedy in “The Cherry Orchard,”

while Chekhov insisted otherwise.

And while tragic in theory, its delivery is successfully overflowing with the humor of everyday occurrences.

One character ignores her heartsick friend to worry about hairpins. Another claims that he never complains about his very unlucky life, after just completing a diatribe against his squeaky boots. And the matriarch of the family gives money away to what she considers the “poor,” failing to realize that she is just as broke as the homeless

clutching at her purse strings.

From puns and plays on words to irony and innuendo, “The Cherry Orchard” forces the audience to see the humor in the obviously tragic, in the family onstage as well as in their own lives.

“The Cherry Orchard” will run from Friday to Wednesday, Jan. 18-23, and Tuesday through Friday, Feb. 5-8. Reservations for tickets are recommended and can be purchased for \$12 or with an Elon ID by calling 336-278-5650.

**What:**  
“The Cherry Orchard” tragic comedy

**When:**  
Friday to Wednesday, Jan. 18-23,  
and Tuesday to Friday, Feb. 5-8

**Where:**  
Performing Arts Centre

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# Broadway Cares Benefit premieres Saturday

## Concert spotlights HIV/AIDS awareness and 35 of Elon's most talented

**Jordan Frederick**  
Reporter

Elon hosted its third annual Broadway Cares Benefit Concert this Saturday in Yeager Recital Hall, with two showings to accommodate for anticipated crowds.

Hosted by ARAMARK, this year's concert was a full two-act production featuring 35 of Elon's most talented music theatre and acting majors performing in a combination of solo, group and ensemble songs from Broadway and popular culture.

Admission to the event was free, but through donations taken at the door, raffles at both showings and silent auctions for signed posters from shows like "The Color Purple" and "Les Miserables," the third annual Broadway Cares Benefit Concert was able to raise \$1,800 dollars for the cause.

Originally conceived as a class assignment by then-freshmen Matthew Masten and Brooke Morrison, this annual concert has grown into a school-wide campaign, bringing students and faculty together under the banner of a common cause.

What started out as a fledgling effort bringing in



Angie Lovelace/ Photo Editor

Sophomore Julianne Katz, juniors Chelsey Clark, Jess Wockenfuss and Katie Emerson perform "The 'Shoop Shoop' Song" as *The Satin Sheets*.

proceeds of around \$300, the Broadway Cares Concert series has grown over the past two years and amassed a sum of around \$3,000, 10 times the profit of the first year.

This year's theme was "Make a Difference," and was realized through the presentation of 21 separate musical numbers. Well-known songs like Paul McCartney's "Hey Jude" and Billy Joel's

"New York State of Mind" were instant crowd pleasers. Pieces from the Tony Award-winning musical "Avenue Q"—complete with stylized puppets—inspired rounds of gratuitous applause from an enthusiastic audience.

Among the talent represented at this year's concert was freshman Jared Loftin with a sentimental rendition of "Someone to

Fall Back On," Jess Elovsson singing the Mariah Carey hit single "Hero" and Ian Subsara with his spin on Billy Porter's "Time."

Richard Gang from the theatre arts department took the stage twice during the course of the event. Though Dale Becherer and Wendy Hiller, both of the arts department, were unable to give their scheduled

performance of "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," the slideshow they compiled and dedicated to global victims of HIV/AIDS was a hard-hitting reminder to everyone in attendance of the importance of their support.

"We perform every day just because we're lucky enough to do so," co-creator Matthew Masten said, "but this is the one opportunity a year where we really are raising money and helping others."

Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS is a national not-for-profit AIDS-fundraising and grant making organization maintained by the American Theatre community that has been raising awareness for the global epidemic of HIV/AIDS since 1988.

Elon's annual event is one of many student-led outreach programs around the United States that have helped the organization raise over \$140 million since its inception.

For more information on the various ways that Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS is providing service for those affected by HIV-related conditions and to find out how to give to the organization, please visit <http://www.bcefa.org>.

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# BEST of 2007

Every year the world of cinema has its ups and downs, and 2007 was no exception. This year there were critical darlings, fun family films, countless summer "threequels" and ridiculous flops, but a select few stood out above the rest.

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

- 1. Once:** This independent Irish gem, which tells the story of a street musician and a vendor who connect through their music, is beautiful, real, subtle and has more heart than any other film released this year. It features wonderful acting, superb writing, great direction and phenomenal music, all with a budget of only \$150,000.
- 2. No Country for Old Men:** Joel and Ethan Coen's chilling and gritty adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's novel is practically flawless. Javier Bardem is fantastic as the ruthless killer. Anton Chigurh, who seeks revenge against Josh Brolin's unsuspecting Llewelyn Moss. It's a suspenseful thrill-ride from beginning to end.
- 3. Juno:** Diablo Cody wrote the fresh and original script for this comedy about a wisecracking pregnant teen, played to perfection by 20-year-old Ellen Page. This film has lots of hilarity and plenty of heart. It does for the coming-of-age story what last year's "Little Miss Sunshine" did for the dysfunctional family tale.
- 4. Into the Wild:** Sean Penn successfully transitions from actor to director with this intriguing true story. Emile Hirsch does outstanding work as Christopher McCandless,

who graduates from college, gives away his money and possessions and journeys to the Alaskan wilderness.

- 5. Sweeney Todd:** Only Tim Burton could do justice to a story this dark, funny, tragic and mercilessly gruesome. Johnny Depp gives another award-worthy performance as the title character, a barber who slits his customers' throats as an act of revenge.
- 6. Atonement:** "Pride and Prejudice" director Joe Wright helms another beautiful period piece. James McAvoy, Keira Knightley and newcomer Saoirse Ronan shine in this tragic story of love, betrayal and misunderstanding.
- 7. Knocked Up & Superbad:** Judd Apatow and Seth Rogen have proved themselves to be comic geniuses with these two hilarious films. They manage to take inappropriate, raunchy humor and give it heart. They have proven with their comedic formula that audiences and critics alike can still appreciate a good R-rated comedy.
- 8. Before the Devil Knows You're Dead:** Sidney Lumet continues to make cinematic excellence with this story of two brothers whose plan to rob their parents' jewelry store goes awry. The film's non-sequential structure keeps the audience guessing



Photo courtesy of [www.gazette.uwo.ca](http://www.gazette.uwo.ca)

"Juno" stars the talented newcomer Ellen Page and "Superbad's" Michael Cera.

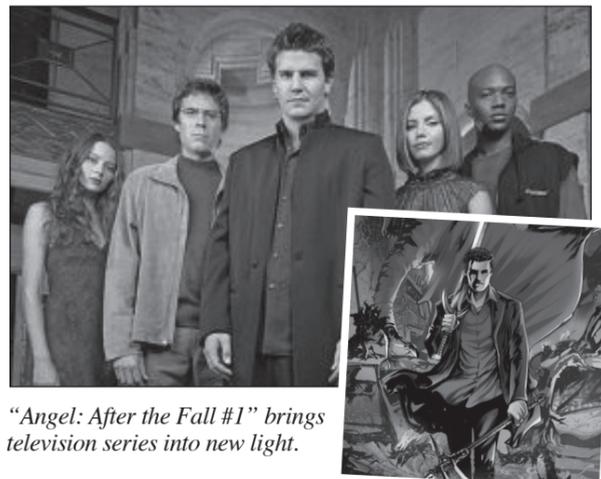
right up until the thrilling conclusion.

- 9. Zodiac:** David Fincher's dark crime drama tells the true story of the Zodiac, a serial killer active in the San Francisco area during the 1960s and 1970s. The case was never solved, making Fincher's portrait even more frightening. Jake Gyllenhaal, Mark Ruffalo and Robert Downey Jr. lead the talented cast.
- 10. Hot Fuzz:** Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Edgar Wright, the team behind 2004's zombie comedy "Shaun of the Dead," have done it again with this parody of buddy-cop action flicks. Their outrageous yet intelligent brand of humor keeps audiences roaring with laughter throughout the entire film.



Photo courtesy of [www.indiewire.com](http://www.indiewire.com)

"Once," directed by John Carney, won the World Cinema Audience Award at Sundance Film Festival.



"Angel: After the Fall #1" brings television series into new light.

Photos courtesy of [www.buffycomics.com](http://www.buffycomics.com)

## Fan-favorite vampire strikes again in new comic book series

Paul Mirek  
Reporter

On Nov. 21, 2007, as the still-ongoing television writer's strike was just beginning to attract attention, legions of fans of one show finally got their wish with the publication of "Angel: After the Fall #1," the comic-book continuation of the cult television show "Angel."

The series follows the adventures of its titular hero, a centuries-old vampire who regained his soul through a gypsy curse, which causes him to feel remorse for his years of debauchery, murder and otherwise bad behavior.

In the show, which spun off from the likewise cult hit "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," Angel roamed the city of Los Angeles attempting to atone for his past sins, occasionally saving the world in the process. The show's themes of redemption and a decidedly murky morality made it a hit among those weary of cookie-cutter sitcoms and family dramas.

At the height of the show's popularity (it ran from 1999 to 2004), a number of comic books sprung up around the franchise. After the series' thrilling, unexpected conclusion, which ended with Angel and gang facing off against dragons, demons and other agents in the employ of demonic law firm Wolfram and Hart, a number of other "limited" series emerged. But the outcome of the battle was never addressed until now.

"Angel: After the Fall" occupies an interesting intersection of comics and television. The main story comes from show creator Joss Whedon.

"It will definitely use Season Six's proposed stories as inspiration, but it's not exactly Season Six," Whedon said in an interview with Wizard Entertainment.

However, the book is written by veteran Angel comics writer Brian Lynch, with haunting art by Franco Urru. Whedon has always catered to his fans, but there was a legitimate concern that the series wouldn't translate over from the screen to the page. But Whedon had two points to his advantage.

His comic book continuation of Buffy, currently on issue #10, is receiving rave reviews. Also, the comic book format lacks the budget constraints of a television show. The only limits to the action are those of the creator, and Whedon fans know there's no danger there. But issue one is even quite shocking.

As mentioned, the issue begins with Angel, trench-coated and with sword in hand, rescuing a girl from a particularly gruesome demon—a familiar image. But a turn of the page reveals an apocalyptic vision hitherto unrivaled in the Angel myths.

It turns out that Angel survived the battle, but with a pesky catch: the entire city of Los Angeles has been cast into hell. The gorgeous two-page image of the city burning, with grotesque touches such as a skyscraper-sized gaping mouth standing amidst the Los Angeles skyline, is a lasting image.

Angel has always succeeded best in its mixture of horror and comedy, and this issue shows it at its best, particularly in the reintroduction of old characters. The return of charismatic street tough Charles Gunn must be seen to be believed. Granted, the reliance on old characters and the expectation of at least a limited acquaintance with the show's storyline may throw off readers who are attracted to the book by Tony Harris's beautiful painted cover.

However, the book actually begins a number of months after the final episode, meaning that at some point in the projected 12-issue story we'll be brought back to that alley, and interested neophytes who stick around long enough may find themselves wanting to seek out old episodes of the series anyway.

# Phoenix looks to regain early conference form

Justin Hite  
Sports Editor

After starting the conference season 3-0, the men's basketball team slipped to a 4-3 conference record. But after beating Furman University for the second time this season on Saturday, the team that was voted to finish last in the Southern Conference has hit the middle of the conference season with momentum.

After back-to-back losses to the College of Charleston and Davidson College, the Phoenix narrowly escaped a third consecutive loss against Furman, defeating the Paladins 60-58. Furman's Tony Anderson hit a last-second three-pointer to give Furman the 61-60 victory, but the shot was determined to have been released after the buzzer sounded.

The win at Furman gives the Phoenix its fifth conference victory and a third place standing in the Northern Division.

"We are definitely still here and other teams are noticing," senior guard Brian Waters said. "Almost all seven games I've had people from the other team come up to me and say, 'I hate playing you guys; you guys play really good D; you aren't the same team you were last year' ... We're a threat this year and people are scared to play us."

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga was the third loss for the Phoenix. Chattanooga is undefeated in conference play and first in the Northern Division. Elon won't be able to avenge the Chattanooga loss until March, but will get a second shot at Davidson in



A victory against Furman may give the Phoenix the momentum they had at the beginning of the conference schedule.

early February.

"It's really tough, but we know we have to play these teams over again," Waters said. "They showed some of our weaknesses and we're building on that. We are looking forward to keeping our record pretty clean."

During the next week the Phoenix will face off against Georgia Southern University

and rival UNC-Greensboro. The teams are ranked second in the South and North divisions, respectively. The next three days could prove to be an opportunity for the Phoenix to make a push towards second-place in the division.

Both games will take place in the friendly confines of Alumni Gym. The Phoenix has lost only one game in six

games at home.

"It's a long season, we know that," senior Montell Watson said. "We are one of the best teams in this conference, but we are on a skid in our away games. We are one of the best teams and we showed it tonight that we can play with one of the best teams, but we have to win on the road too."

## Sports in Brief

### Coach signs extension

Elon head football coach Pete Lembo has signed a contract extension that will keep him at the university through the 2012 season.

Lembo has led the Phoenix to a record of 12-10 through his first two years on the job, which included a 7-4 record this year, Elon's best record since 2000.

Lembo was named Southern Conference Football Coach of the Year for his accomplishments last season.

### Elon nabs multiple All-Americans

Sophomore receiver Terrell Hudgins and senior receiver Michael Mayers were named to the TSN All-American team, and Hudgins and freshman quarterback Scott Riddle were named to the CSN All-American team.

Hudgins finished the year with 117 catches, an Elon and Southern Conference record. Mayers ranked in the top ten in the nation in receptions, receiving yards, kickoff returns and all-purpose yards.

Mayers and Hudgins set the NCAA single-season record for combined catches. The two hauled in 207 catches.

Riddle was named as an honorable mention, but was named National Freshman of the Year by College Sporting News.

### Baseball announces schedule

The Elon baseball team announced its 2008 schedule, which includes 31 home games. The Phoenix will face off against national runners-up University of North Carolina and Clemson University. All in all, the Phoenix will play 16 teams that competed in the NCAA post-season last year.

The 2008 season will begin Feb. 22.

### Phoenix starts nationally ranked

The men's tennis team starts the 2008 spring season ranked 53rd in the nation. They ranked as high as 42nd last season in a conference that includes College of Charleston, 63rd, and Furman, 64th.

Junior Damon Gooch holds the highest ranking any Phoenix has ever had. Gooch ranks 72nd nationally.

## The Round Table

*This week's issue:*

Who will play in the Superbowl?



Jeff Bambrick

### Hite

*Packers vs. Patriots*

There's no question that the New England Patriots are the favorite to win the Super Bowl. But they may have become even more of a favorite after the San Diego Chargers knocked off the Indianapolis Colts last week. Gone now is the team that came the closest to knocking off the Patriots in the regular season.

And while the Chargers may have the momentum of winning their first playoff game in more than a decade and then knocking off the Colts, with a healthy Marvin Harrison, this is where the luck ends.

Quarterback Phillip Rivers has looked fantastic on arguably the most talented roster in football, but that trend will also end this week. Let's just say there's a reason the Patriots are 17-0.

In the NFC, the New York Giants are on a ride much like the Chargers. But in Lambeau,

in weather that will almost definitely produce snow, the Giants' hot streak will freeze. The win against the weak Dallas Cowboys team doesn't prove much and the Green Bay Packers are by far the class of the NFC.

The Packers will spread the field with five wide receivers and pick apart a Giants secondary that lacks depth, which will give the Packers an edge against the Patriots.

### Kraft

*Packers vs. Chargers*

During the past 10 years, one of the road teams for the conference championship games has won 8 out of 10 times. Look for the same thing to happen this year, with the Packers winning at home and the Chargers winning on the road.

Brett Favre and the Packers seem to be a team of destiny. While the Giants have been mighty impressive on the road, posting a 9-1 record, the

Packers have been equally tough in the comforts of home, going 8-1.

Favre has done an excellent job spreading the ball around and now has a steady running back in Ryan Grant. For the Giants, I just think three straight road playoff games will be too much for them. The last team to play three straight on the road in the playoffs was the Carolina Panthers in 2006 and that ended badly for them in Seattle. The same will happen here.

The AFC title game is a rematch of a week-two matchup that saw the Patriots crush the Chargers 38-14. The game is also a chance for the Chargers to avenge last year's heartbreaking loss to the Patriots in the AFC divisional playoffs.

San Diego showed tremendous grit and heart in beating the Colts despite losing running back LaDainian Tomlinson and quarterback Philip Rivers last week.



Justin Hite



RJ Kraft



Kris Moody

# Women's basketball set to rebound from early conference schedule slump

**Pam Richter**  
Reporter

Every team goes through its highs and lows during a season. Luckily for the Elon women's basketball team, one of their low points is occurring in the beginning of conference play and hopefully will not continue late into the season.

The Phoenix is 2-4 in the Southern Conference and 6-11 overall. The team started the conference schedule strong, winning two straight games before dropping their next four.

But the players and coaches are not ready to panic yet.

"It's not major things, it's the little things," Elon head coach Brenda Paul said. "You've got to stay confident and you just can't panic."

Fortunately for the team, they are hitting the bump in the road fairly early in conference play.

The Phoenix still has 12 more conference games to play, which is plenty of time to make a late season run.

One of the areas that the Phoenix needs to work on is rebounding. In practice, the team has been working on boxing out and other rebounding drills.

One player who has consistently rebounded for the Phoenix is sophomore forward Amber Wall. In a Jan. 5 loss to College of Charleston, Wall had 11 points and 11 rebounds.

In addition to Elon's inability to control the boards, the team has also been struggling because senior starting guard Nicole Allison has been out of the lineup for the past two weeks with an injury.

"What it does is changes our rotation," Paul said. "Our freshmen are going to have to play big minutes at the guard spot to rest [Tierra Bumbrey] and [Tiffany Davis]."

Allison is expected to return to the lineup on Jan. 19,



Angie Lovelace/ Photo Editor

Sophomore guard Tiffany Davis (pictured) and Tierra Bumbrey will continue to see more playing time due to starting guard Nicole Allison's injury.

when the Phoenix hosts Appalachian State University.

Elon's backcourt duo of Bumbrey and Davis has been playing strong for the Phoenix, but there are other

players who need to step up and make contributions.

Davis led the Phoenix in scoring in a Jan. 12 loss to UT-Chattanooga. She also had four steals.

"I think we're going to have to go out and play as a team," sophomore guard Tiffany Davis said. "We just struggled as a team. If we go out and play Elon basketball, we'll be okay."

Despite the early season struggles, Paul admires the fact that her team has not folded and given up.

"I think it's because of the seniors who want to go out with a successful season in the SoCon," she said.

One of these players is Bumbrey, who is the team's point guard and leader on and off the court. Bumbrey leads the Phoenix in scoring, averaging

12.3 points per game (as of Jan. 12). In the early season games, she has shown desire to lead this team to a successful season.

## Upcoming home games:

**Jan. 19 vs. App State**

**Jan. 21 vs. Davidson**



Steve Plantin/ Photographer

Sophomore forward Amber Wall (right) has provided consistent rebounds for the Phoenix all season.

## Defense already a strong point

Defense is one aspect of basketball that is often overlooked. When opponents play the Phoenix, they are unable to overlook their tough defense.

Elon is obviously struggling on the offensive end, but is making up for it with solid defense. When the women's basketball team played College of Charleston, Elon held them to only 44 points the entire game, but still could not come up with a victory.

"We are playing great defense for 25 seconds," said coach Brenda Paul, "but we are giving it right back to them."

In the loss versus Georgia Southern, both forward Amber Wall and guard Tierra Bumbrey had four steals.

If Elon can develop more consistency within its offense, the Phoenix could start winning more games and compete with the top teams in the Southern Conference.

# New women's soccer coach hopes to improve record

**Justin Hite**  
Reporter

Former women's soccer coach Chris Webb's resignation in the fall left an obvious void in Elon's athletic program. Athletic Director Dave Blank has filled that void with another Chris, former UNC-Wilmington assistant coach Chris Neal.

A new coach always comes with the fear of the wholesale changes that may take place. But Neal seems to be more than satisfied with his team.

"I don't plan on changing the style," Neal said. "It's a division one program, the athletes are pretty similar. We don't have to do anything different. I don't foresee any major changes in philosophy." Neal does have one goal for

the upcoming season, to improve on a 5-12-2 record.

"The goal now for us to get this turned around is to make this team better and inject a winning attitude into what they are doing," Neal said. "Part of evolving as a team is getting better and bringing in good players."

Neal comes from a UNC-W program that won 70 games in seven years. He was also a head coach at Pfeiffer University. He won 36 games in three years and the school's first ever NCAA Division II ranking when the team was ranked 13th in the country.

But even after such a long delay in head coaching opportunities, Neal didn't seem too worried.

"I assumed a lot of the roles that a head coach would

do anyway," Neal said. "He was very good in that way with me, so it's not that big of a transition for me."

In his first order of business, Neal retained last year's assistant coach Stuart Horne. His next stop will be any last minute recruiting; National Signing Day is in February. Neal and Horne spent a few days at the Disney Showcase in Florida two weeks ago, mostly scouting for the 2009 season.

"For 2008 there is nothing we can do personnel wise," Neal said. "From what I understand there are some pretty good athletes on this team already."

Due to Webb's surprise resignation, Blank wanted to ensure that the next coach fit the style that the players wanted and was someone who

could easily relate to them. Blank met with the team on multiple occasions before deciding whom to pursue.

"I tried to do the best job I could so that our athletes would know that I knew and understood what was best for the program," Blank said. "I think we found that in Chris Neal."

Even though the Elon women's soccer program has struggled in recent years, twice losing in the first round of the conference playoffs, there was a lot of interest in the opening.

Because of this, Neal wanted to make sure he was in the running early for the position.

"He had an early interest in the job," Blank said. "He was a great candidate all the way from the beginning of my

thought process."

The last two coaches of Elon's women's soccer team have had extremely short tenures, including the most recent to leave, Chris Webb, who only was in her position for two years. Neal doesn't seem to feel that there is going to be any problem for him.

"I hope it's not going to be a problem for me," Neal said. "I plan on being here for a while. You can't predict the future all you can do is try to do the right thing and get better and all that happens, happens. I'm not sitting here counting my days."

But Neal was quick to point out how many days he has been here, even if it was in a joking manner.

"I've made it two days, so that's a good start," Neal said.



David Wells/ Assistant Photo Editor

Davidson's Stephen Curry (left) defends senior guard Montell Watson (right) in Elon's matchup with the Wildcats last Wednesday. Elon lost 59-57.

# TV cameras capture Wednesday's intense match against Davidson

**Justin Hite**  
Sports Editor

Each and every one of the 1,662 fans who packed into Alumni Gym knew that the Mid-American Sports Network cameras were on and rolling during the Phoenix's 59-57 loss to Davidson College last Wednesday.

But when asked if the television cameras had any affect on senior guard Brian Waters' play, or the rest of the team, he had a simple response:

"I don't even know where they were showing the game. Did we get it around here?"

For most of the night, Waters drew the assignment of locking down on Southern Conference Preseason Player of the Year Stephen Curry, who had been averaging 24.1 points per game.

But Curry returned to his usual form in the final two minutes, scoring the final eight points of the game and leading the Wildcats to victory.

"That's what great players do; they make plays," senior guard Montell Watson said. "You can do well against them all game, but you can't give him anything in the end."

Curry hit two three-pointers and a lay-up over junior forward Ola Atoyebi to seal the victory.

"Through a loose ball I got an open lane to the basket and a lay-up," Curry said. "Atoyebi stopped my initial attack and I was in the air so I was kind of stuck. He was coming to my right side, but the only way I could get it up was with my left."

Curry, one of the nation's leading scorers, finished with 15 points to match his season low as the Phoenix kept a close eye on him all night.



David Wells/ Assistant Photo Editor

Davidson's Stephen Curry (center) covers Elon junior Brett James (right) in Wednesday night's game.

"He got open in the last two minutes of the game and that killed us," Waters said. "I tried my best to stay with him but he's a good shooter."

Even after Curry hit his game-winning lay-up, Elon had 18 seconds to tie the game and even take the lead.

Watson missed a three-pointer from the right wing and Andrew Lovedale blocked junior forward Brett James' put back.

On the ensuing inbounds pass the ball slipped through sophomore forward Scott Grable's hands, but Elon retained possession.

But when freshman guard Chris Long's three-pointer from 23 feet away clanged off the front rim Davidson completed the comeback.

Even in the loss, Elon showed that they are not the bottom-dwellers of the SoCon, as predicted.

"I'm glad everyone showed up and made Elon look good on TV, but other than that I

was just trying to get a win," Waters said.

Throughout the gym it was evident that the televised game had an impact. Whether it was the cameramen under each basket or the signs that read "assigned seating," it was obvious that there was energy in the crowd that translated to on-court success for the Phoenix.

"It definitely played a role," Waters said. "I wish there was a crowd like that at every home game."

Waters' backcourt mate, Montell Watson, said the cameras definitely added energy both in the stands and on the court, but it was just like any other game.

"I don't really pay attention to that stuff, I just play basketball and play for my team," Watson said.

Elon is rarely able to draw enough fans to pack the bleachers on the baseline or to fill the stands on both sides of the court, but when they do, there's no doubt it helps.

## Jump rope show wows crowd

Of the more than 1,500 fans in Alumni Gym Wednesday night, very few even noticed former NBA superstar Dell Curry walk across the court and partake in a televised interview only feet from them.

Instead, during halftime, the fans were distracted by a jump-roping extravaganza.

Once the television cameras were off, The SkipSations! wowed the crowd for 20 minutes with combinations of single jump roping, Double Dutch and other team routines.

But even with the cameras off, the crowd was still at heightened attention.

"It was a lot more nerve-racking than ever," junior John Schimmelfing said. "Then it makes us jump higher and jump better."

Schimmelfing is one of the members of SkipSations! and had a huge hand it getting the team to perform at halftime.

With the help of Associate Athletic Director of Marketing Tripp Durham, Schimmelfing and the rest of the team were able to show their talent and prove a point.

"It's really cool just to go out there and show everyone that jump roping is a sport," Schimmelfing said.

It's a point that Schimmelfing has been trying to prove for more than ten years after he followed his

sister into the sport.

"When my sister was in middle school one of the gym teachers was a coach of a jump rope team and that's how she got started," Schimmelfing said. "A couple months later, I joined through her."

Even though the team routinely performs halftime shows for the UNC and Duke women's basketball teams, the crowd of a little more than 1,500 was far from the largest crowd they have performed in front of.

Many of the older athletes on the team went to Turkey for a week last April and performed in front of up to 7,000 people for each performance.

But as far as halftime shows, the performance last Wednesday night ranks near the top of the list.

"For a halftime show this was the best crowd we've ever had," Schimmelfing said.

Schimmelfing, 19, may have been competing for more than ten years, but the jumper who kept the crowd at anticipation was the 8-year-old performer on the team.

"It was kind of nerve-racking, because I remember how I was at that age," Schimmelfing said. "But I know she is very skilled so she'll do fine."

While he was never asked, it is a rare occasion that an 8-year-old has garnished a larger crowd than Curry.