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THE PENDULUM

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Candidates campaign across the state



Senator Barack Obama addresses the Chapel Hill community about bridging the gap between political parties in an effort to bring order back to Washington. "[People] want the politics that are about lifting the country up," he said.

Obama calls for youth action at Chapel Hill campaign stop

Andie Diemer
News Editor

CHAPEL HILL—Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) continues to try to reel in the youth vote, most recently at the UNC Chapel Hill Dean E. Smith Center Monday night by revealing what he stands for and why he entered the presidential race.

Even though his opponent, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.), attempted to rally Elon voters last Wednesday when former President Bill Clinton visited campus on her behalf, Obama refused to let North Carolina — especially

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Clinton looks to rally a team around her in Charlotte arena

Camille DeMere
Reporter

CHARLOTTE—Democratic candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton rallied with supporters Monday afternoon at the Bobcats Arena in Charlotte. The senator seemed to channel the basketball team, telling supporters that as a team, "we're suited up, we're ready, we're competing and we're going to win!"

Clinton touted her stance on gas prices, job outsourcing and rising college tuition — always relating it back to her North Carolina supporters in the arena.

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Bill Clinton lauds wife as 'change maker'

Andie Diemer
News Editor

After almost an hour delay, former President Bill Clinton appeared on the steps of Powell at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

He made his way to the stage as the crowd roared and the sun began to emerge in typical Elon fashion.

With Fonville Fountain as a backdrop, Clinton acted as a mouth piece for wife Hillary Rodham Clinton's (D-N.Y.) presidential campaign and addressed more than 2,000 people from the Alamance and Elon communities.

Though he mentioned his own personal experiences in the White House, he wasn't slow to get to the meat of his argument: North Carolina is the largest state left to vote, and he wants each vote to count for his wife in the May 6 primary.

Clinton was traveling around North Carolina the day after Hillary captured the Pennsylvania Democratic primary over opponent Sen. Barack Obama (D-I.L.) 55 to 45 percent.

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The audience cheered as he complimented Elon by saying he not only enjoyed the area because of its beauty, memories from his campaign stop in 1992 or for always being a clue in his favorite crossword puzzles, but also because of the potential the community held.

He said he believes Hillary can make this potential materialize.

"She's the best to turn the economy around, rebuild our military, take care of vets," Clinton said. "Who will make the best future for you?"

He said he asked Hillary if she was fortunate enough to be elected president, how she would know when she had done a good job.

Clinton said Hillary would consider herself successful if more people were equipped to find jobs and handle the economy, more children had a brighter future and the country was coming together instead of falling apart when she ended her term.

"If you agree those are the tests, she is by far the best candidate," Clinton said. "And I want to tell you why."

While Hillary's 10 percent lead Tuesday was the third time she has prevailed during points in her campaign when she had to come out on top in order to continue, President Clinton tried to strengthen his wife's momentum as he spoke for almost an hour about her policies, covering everything from the economy to autism.

He outlined Hillary's major platforms, including creating more jobs, installing an all-inclusive health care plan, establishing more comprehensive educational institutions from preschool to college, bringing troops home from Iraq and working with alternative energy sources to soften the blow of the current economy and rein it under control.

City Fair connects alumni and students, offers direction

Ashley Barnas
News Editor

Being an alumnus means having a lifetime partnership with Elon. Walking on campus again last weekend reminded the visiting alumni that they were home.

Members of the National Alumni Executive Board, Young Alumni Council and Alumni Chapter presidents met to receive updates on campus changes, break into committee meetings to discuss future events and hold the City Fair to offer post-graduation advice to Elon students.

About 35 alumni traveled from around the country specifically to host City Fair and meet with students preparing for their futures.

"[Alumni] want to find out how they can help you find jobs, how they can get you acclimated to living in their city," said Cam Tims, president of the Young Alumni Council. "And this is a great opportunity."

The best way to keep in touch with alumni is through Facebook and E2, Tims said. More than 3,500 alumni are on the networking sites.

"It really just gives you a way to stay connected to the university," he said. "You'll be on the mailing list, you'll get the magazine. And that way, you'll find out what's going on in your area and what's going on, on campus."

Elic Senter, the "oldest young alumni" on the council and vice chair of the events committee, said the main purpose of City Fair was to give students the opportunity to visit with alumni from different cities in which



Seniors visit with members of the Young Alumni Council Saturday afternoon to learn more about potential cities in which they may live and work after leaving Elon.

they may live after graduation.

Visiting each of the 14 major city chapter tables allowed students to see what's going on in each of the cities and let them know they won't be alone once they arrive.

Senter said being on the YAC is a great opportunity.

"It's a lot of fun. Oddly enough, I'm actually reconnected with a lot of people that I knew when I was here but haven't seen in years."

Another perk in joining the YAC and other alumni associations is the opportunity to participate in intramural sports.

Senior Jake Emerson said he would most likely join an alumni association for that reason. Attending City Fair was most beneficial to him since he will be moving to Washington, D.C., after graduation.

"It's nice that they know the area where I'm going to be working, so it's giving me some ideas of where I should be living, what my commute's going to be like, how much I can expect to be paying for rent [and] where I should hang out," Emerson said.

Junior Karen Hartshorn

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Bill Clinton's campaign stop: Why Elon?

Amanda Duberman
Reporter

With Obama carrying a more comfortable lead against Sen. Hillary Clinton, former President Bill Clinton's April 24 visit begs the question, why Elon?

A confluence of Elon's rural location and student population is likely to have led the Clintons to Phoenix country for a second time, and the former president's emphasis on the economic quagmire is likely to resonate with Elon and Alamance County voters still fielding their options.

"I think it was apparent on Wednesday that the economy was extremely important to folks in the audience," Daniel Shutt, president of College Democrats said. "Clinton's speech focused primarily on issues like jobs, health care and gas prices and people responded well. North Carolina has been hit hard by this recession, and Clinton spoke to our concerns very effectively."

Whether or not Clinton's visit may have influenced Elon students, who are part of a demographic largely favoring Sen. Barack Obama remains to be seen.

"It is a very heated Democratic primary and I am unsure if Clinton swayed any Elon college students to vote differently," freshman Molly Heffernan said. "But he was most definitely persuasive, a great speaker and brought up many great points that all of our nation's citizens are concerned with."

Sophomore John Hitchcock said Clinton made Hillary a more relatable figure.

Obama maintains a 13-point lead in North Carolina polls, a level of support that may be difficult for the Clintons

to upset in the two weeks leading up to the May 6 primary.

Freshman Cece Fitzgerald placed her vote for Sen. Obama in Maryland, and is unsure how Clinton's visit will affect the outcome of North Carolina's primary.

"I think students were for the most part pleased he was coming, but the speech involved the sound bites we've already been hearing on the news for months," she said. "It's a bit odd that he came to Elon since most students here are not eligible to vote in North Carolina."

Still, according to the Hillary for President headquarters in Graham, a majority of those in attendance were community members from outside the school.

While the question of "Why Elon?" may loom over campus, the more pressing question will be if the Phoenix "rise from the ashes" distinction will translate to Sen. Clinton on May 6.

"I think it's very likely that former President Clinton changed some minds Wednesday," Shutt said. "No one else has his gifts for making a detailed, logical argument about public policy. By explaining some of Sen. Clinton's accomplishments and ideas in this area, President Clinton presented his wife as an experienced, knowledgeable and effective leader."

Hillary Clinton is endeavoring to pervade some of Obama's support among college students as well, having visited Wake Forest University on April 18 as well as dispatching daughter Chelsea to dozens of campuses state-wide.

If nothing else, President Clinton's campaign will increase political efficacy in the Elon area.

"President Clinton's visit gives the entire campaign a shot in the arm,"



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Bill Clinton reached out to students and people from rural areas last Wednesday with his speech on Elon's campus.

Shutt said. "Even if people didn't attend the event, they read about it in the paper, saw it on TV and heard about it from friends."

He said Alamance County, like most places in North Carolina, will be competitive on May 6.

"If the Clinton campaign continues to send the message that they care about people in this area, Sen. Clinton could do very well here on Primary Day," Shutt said.



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

A number of Hillary Clinton supporters on campus and from the local community turned out to Bill Clinton's speech to voice their opinions.

" [Hillary Clinton] is the best change maker I have ever known, and if I had never been married to Hillary but had just known her, I'd still be working as hard for her. We just need a better system, and Hillary will give it to you."

— Former President Bill Clinton



BRIAN FINK | Photographer



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

The crowd at Bill Clinton's speech last week consisted of students, faculty, staff and community members. Some had already voted, some were already supporting a candidate and others were still undecided.

Earth Week raises awareness

Farmers Market promotes local organic foods



Sandra Sarlinga, representing The Farm Fairy, shows her array of Fresh Market items to passersby. Sarlinga runs a bee farm in Burlington. DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Brian Mackey
Reporter

The Green Team, in collaboration with the Sierra Club, organized a Farmers Market Wednesday to raise awareness for Earth Day. The event was part of a weeklong campaign called Earth Week to promote environmental awareness.

The market included local store owners and farmers from Hillsborough and Burlington. Neighborhood vendors sold snack foods including ice cream, honey, jam and baked goods. The Sierra Club, an environmental activist group on campus, also sold Earth Day shirts at the market.

While the event was designed to raise awareness, vendors also promoted their all-organic products.

Allison Nichols represented the family-owned Maple View Ice Cream at the market. She said the ice cream was made from dairy that came directly from Maple View Farms in Hillsborough. Many other ingredients used in the ice cream are also bought from local farms.

"We try to buy everything in North Carolina," she said.

Like Nichols, other vendors have made efforts to keep their business

local. Tobi Reil, owner and operator of Tobi's Baking Goods in Hillsborough, said she buys every ingredient from other Hillsborough farmers except for spices that cannot be grown here organically.

Reil sells her baked goods exclusively at farmers markets.

In addition to the market at Elon, she attends the weekly market in Hillsborough on Saturday mornings. She prepares by baking all her goods the day before, so that when her treats reach the market, "It's as fresh as it can be."

These small stores and farms differentiate their products from larger corporations like Food Lion and Wal-Mart by selling goods that are organically grown.

According to the FDA, organic food products must "be grown and processed using organic farming methods that recycle resources and promote biodiversity."

The crops must be grown without using synthetic pesticides, petroleum-based fertilizers or bioengineered genes.

These local bakers and farmers refuse to buy from anywhere but local stores. Markets like the one in Hillsborough give local farmers the opportunity to sell directly to customers rather than to warehouses and impersonal grocery stores.

According to ConsumerReports.org, organic goods are one of the fastest growing categories in the food business and in 2005 nearly two-thirds of U.S. consumers bought organic foods and beverages.

Having this accessibility provides patrons with the opportunity to buy produce that was literally grown across the street.

The market brochure said this cuts costs since consumers pay for taste, not transportation of packaging.

Sandra Sarlinga represented The Farm Fairy at the market and also runs a bee farm in Burlington.

From the bees that she raises, Sarlinga sells honey, beeswax, candles and soap. She also makes jellies and jams to sell. Sarlinga said she buys her ingredients locally to maintain freshness.

"When we have access to organic [products], we use it," she said.

The market not only helps to sustain small business and farms, but also reinforces community and tradition.

"We try to support local businesses," Nichols said.

The Hillsborough market has occurred almost every week for more than 20 years, and small-scale vendors like The Farm Fairy and Tobi's Baking Goods would like to keep it that way.

Panel discusses homosexuality and Christianity

Pam Richter
Reporter

On the evening of April 22, students, faculty and community members gathered in LaRose Digital Theatre to listen to a panel discussion on homosexuality and Christianity.

The event was hosted by Spectrum, Elon's Gay-Straight Alliance as part of Pride Week. The panel consisted of the Rev. Phil Hardy, Dr. Lynn Huber and Clyde Zuber. All three are well-respected members of the Christian community and/or the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community.

The panel aimed to clear up misconceptions or misinterpretations people have about homosexuality in Christianity.

Hardy is a pastor at Grace United Church of Christ. He founded the church after his previous church was not willing to talk about GLBT issues.

"While we are proud advocates for gays and transgenders, our fundamental belief is that the table of Christ is open to all," Hardy said. "It's open to each person in the same way."

Hardy's parish is the first and only open and affirming church in Alamance County. Huber, a religion professor at Elon, explained to the audience that she approaches this issue from a variety of viewpoints because she is both a Christian and a lesbian.

As a biblical scholar, she notices that people often pick a few select lines out of the Bible as a way of viewing homosexuality negatively.

"We see that the ancient world has a greatly different understanding of gender, sex and marriage, and to apply these ancient admonitions in a literalistic way really perverts the text," Huber said.

Zuber, a gay man who attended Bible school in Chicago, strongly agrees with Huber. Zuber is a practicing Evangelical Christian, but he says that he was not always. He grew up in the Lutheran Church.

"I found that in my own Christian walk that most of my relationship with God has come through reading," Zuber said. "I became a Christian by reading the New Testament. I did not grow up in an Evangelical family. One of the biggest influences in my life has been C.S. Lewis."

All panel members agreed that more tolerance is needed in society.

Huber has faced resistance from some Alamance County residents about the position of his church.

"We're still in the South," he said. "We're in the Bible belt. I think in other geographic regions you have more churches that take the open and affirming stance that we do. But, we're in the South and for all the good that means, but also for all the things that we kind of lag behind in."

Moseley lawn gets trashed to reveal student recycling habits

Camille DeMere
Reporter

The Sierra Club used last week's Earth Week celebration as an opportunity to hold a mirror up to students' recycling habits.

Employees from Physical Plant deposited bags of trash from dining halls and residence halls on Moseley's West Lawn.

Club members, clad in bright blue "Hazmat" (hazardous material) suits sifted through the waste.

They found bags of unsorted recyclables that would have been sent to the landfill.

Volunteers and onlookers alike expressed surprise at the amount of water bottles, cardboard and cans found.

"We estimated that out of about 20 trash bags we went through, there were about 200 plastic water bottles," said Rachel Shain, a sophomore Sierra Club member. "I think it made a good impact on the people who walked by. I hope that the next time we dig through the

trash, we don't find any recyclables!"

See video of the project and students' reactions on The Pendulum Web site.



CAMILLE DEMERE | Photographer
T-shirts were sold in Moseley and at select events during Earth Week. The shirts were made with sustainable material and dyes.



CAMILLE DEMERE | Photographer
Moseley's West Lawn was piled with trash last week during the campus-wide Earth Week celebration. The demonstration was meant to make students more aware of what happens to unrecycled trash and its effects on the environment.



Students get lesson in leadership from senator

N.C. Senator Marc Basnight emphasizes honesty, cooperation, higher education

Julie Halm
Reporter

Men of influence are often thought of as privately educated, haughty and even perhaps a bit aloof. But long-serving and dedicated member of the North Carolina state legislature, Marc Basnight, is none of the above.

Basnight is a man with only a high school diploma, but he has taken his humble beginnings and made himself into an effective, influential and well-respected public servant.

The state senate president pro tempore sat down with Elon Professor David Noer to hold an open question-and-answer session in LaRose Digital Theatre on Thursday afternoon. The session opened with remarks from Matt Lewis, a senior political science major. President Leo Lambert and Alamance county's representative Tony Foriest were also in attendance.

Sen. Basnight shared various thoughts on how to be an effective leader, the current elections and how students can make a difference when they leave Elon.

He was asked a number of questions pertaining to his leadership abilities and

“If you are not dreaming, you are not thinking very well.”

Marc Basnight

his stellar record as a public servant. When one student inquired how he did it and how others could become as effective as him, he responded:

“You have to be your own leader,” Basnight said. “Blaze your own path.”

The themes of honesty and true cooperation also became evident as guiding lights to the senator's career as he answered questions.

Basnight cautioned with a smile and a laugh, “When you disagree, don't be disagreeable ... Then fight like hell and don't give any ground.”

Although Basnight does not have a college diploma, he is a student of history. He cited such figures as John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton during the session while both critiquing their stubborn ways and praising their leadership abilities.

The senator himself is a very important man in North Carolina's history. He is currently serving his 12th consecutive term in the state senate and his eighth as president pro tempore, making him the longest-serving legislator in North Carolina's history.

During his time in office, Basnight has been a major advocate of higher education. He has helped increase scholarship funding throughout the state, which Lambert described as the “base” of our own need-based scholarship program.

When the senator gave his thoughts on the current presidential race, he described this as an “exciting time.”

He mentioned both Obama and Clinton and said they are “two wonderful candidates.”

After such dedicated and effective leadership, one might imagine that Basnight would consider running for a higher office, but this is not the case. He said that there is a “fit” in the state senate for him.

He also cited his lack of a college degree as making him less qualified for a job, such as in Congress, than other potential candidates. When he mentioned this, he became the most somber he had been



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Sen. Marc Basnight meets with students after discussing effective leadership, politics and student activism in his visit to Elon on April 24.

throughout the interview and noted that not attending college was the biggest mistake he had ever made.

Basnight left students with words of advice on how to be a

good leader.

“Improve yourself daily, hourly,” he said. “[As a leader,] if you are not dreaming, you are not thinking very well.”

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CAMILLE DEMERE | Photographer

Hillary Clinton made several references to the Charlotte Bobcats during her speech Monday.

Clinton promises better health care for Americans

Clinton from page 1

She mainly focused on her platform, avoiding comments on the current administration. But she did mention “the world will breathe a big sigh of relief when [George Bush's] moving van leaves the back of the White House,” to the screams and cheers of supporters.

She suggested that America reinvest in manufacturing to regain respect and power in the world, especially in “green-collar” or environmentally conscious sectors.

“But it's not enough for the Bobcats to come out here and just play defense, you have to have a good offense too,” she said. “And we're going to have offense. We're going to create those new, good jobs. If a country doesn't make things it cannot remain a strong leading country.”

The former first lady recalled Bill Clinton's term in the White House “Sometimes in this campaign, I hear people come out against the 90s,” she said. “But what I want to know is what part didn't they like? The peace? Or the prosperity?”

She also tackled the health care issue, which has caused divide among the Democratic party.

“I don't speak with too many people without healthcare,” she said. “They're too busy waiting in the emergency room. But I do speak to an awful lot of people with health care that doesn't

cover what they need it for.”

Clinton told a story of a father in upstate New York with a steady job and health insurance who found that his coverage wouldn't pay for a \$400,000 surgery his son needed to reverse a rare disease. The senator said she and her staff called the insurance company repeatedly until they relented and paid for the surgery.

“But it should not take a United States senator for a father to get the health care he thought he paid for to take care of his children,” she said.

Clinton said her policy would allow United States citizens to buy into the insurance policy offered to government employees, including representatives for less than a policy obtained through an employer or the private market.

Also at the rally, Clinton campaign chairman Terry McAuliffe announced the senator had just received the endorsement of North Carolina Gov. Mike Easley. The endorsement could serve as a boost in the state, as Clinton trails Barack Obama about ten points in most polls.

According to her Web site, Clinton will be in Indiana for most of the next week. Indiana also has a primary on May 6, but is expected to be more competitive than North Carolina, according to the Associated Press.

Recent sexual exhibitions may be part of national trend

Reports in five states represent sudden surge in exhibitionism

Andie Diemer
News Editor

While Elon has been hit with at least five reports of sexual exhibition since Jan. 6, the community is not the only town across the nation experiencing a surge in reports.

Assortments of events have been reported nationwide, from Massachusetts to California, with some details mirroring those that have occurred on Elon's campus.

An incident on March 20, with a Penn State University Nittany Lions basketball player was reported in the school's library after the team's point guard masturbated in a section of the library in front of a woman. The next day a similar report was made in a stairwell at a dorm at Penn State.

On March 30 and April 1, a naked, white man in his late 20s broke into two apartments in Newport Beach, Calif., and began masturbating over a sleeping woman; again on April 1 a football player at the University of Massachusetts masturbated in a car while watching a woman jog nearby.

April 5, a 29-year-old man was accused of masturbating in a local bookstore in Oak Grove, La.

Most recently, on April 14 a 25-year-old off-duty correction

officer exposed his genitals while traveling along the New York State Thruway.

With so many degrees of exhibitions, it has prompted some to wonder where the root of the problem lies.

Rebecca Dnistran, a certified sex therapist at The Center for Sexual Health in Raleigh, said it is more likely that people are reporting these events than in the past so it may account for the "rash."

"Exhibitionism is considered a Paraphilia in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder," she said. "Often this disorder does not leave room for the alternative experiences of love and affection with a partner."

Sam Russell, captain of police for the Town of Elon, said no other reports have been made around the community since March 26. They are making some progress with tracking down the men responsible for the three sexual exposures, one suspicious person and one Peeping Tom incidents.

Dnistran said the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) — a common handbook that lists categories of mental disorders and the criteria for diagnosing them—says the men involved are usually between the ages of 18 and 40.

"Few arrests are made in the older age groups, which may suggest that the condition becomes less severe after age 40," the DSM said. "The essential feature of exhibitionism is that it is recurrent in that it occurs over a period of at least six months and may be necessary for erotic arousal or this behavior

may occur episodically, for example during periods of stress."

According to Dnistran, even though the experience is intensely exciting for the flasher, it does not necessarily mean it is also fun.

"It is compulsive and any pleasure gained from shocking the observer or arousal from the fantasy that others admire their genitals is short-lived," she said. "The emotional or physical release gained from masturbating in public and ejaculating is often followed by shame and self-hate."

To avoid these feelings, another cycle of exhibitionism begins, Dnistran said.

"It is important to understand that these individuals need therapeutic treatment and they often do not get treatment until they are caught," Dnistran said. "Treatment involves an understanding of what drives the behavior which often has a component of self-hate."

She said it is important to not categorize any particular behavior, since the reasons are often "driven by core beliefs about themselves or others, traumatic events, negative or positive emotions about the self or others and low self-esteem."

She said the behavior is categorized as deviant since it is done against and without the consent of the observer.

"The intent is not always to shock or offend the unsuspecting stranger," Dnistran said. "Sometimes the person exposing himself believes that the observers are sexually aroused by his behavior."

SECURITY BREACHES AROUND THE NATION

- Jan. 7, Elon, N.C.:** White, unidentified male entered a house rented by Elon students on Foster Avenue and began masturbating in the kitchen.
 - Feb. 25, Elon, N.C.:** Unidentified man made lewd remarks outside a house window, telling a female student and her roommate to look at him as he exposed himself.
 - March 17, Elon, N.C.:** White, unidentified male was reported exposing himself and masturbating at an apartment complex by West Lebanon Ave and Lee Street.
 - March 20, Penn State University, Pa.:** Stanley Pringle (Nittany Lions basketball player), junior, charged with public masturbation.
 - March 21, Penn State University, Pa.:** McElwain Hall at Penn State University, a man followed a woman up a stairwell and began to masturbate, no charges filed yet.
 - March 26, Elon, N.C.:** Unidentified white male exposed himself to a 20-year-old female student on N. Holt Street.
 - March 30 and April 1, Newport Beach, Calif.:** Unidentified white male in late 20s broke into an apartment, and began masturbating over a sleeping woman.
 - April 1, University of Massachusetts, Mass.:** Spencer Sinclair Ridenhour, 22-year-old junior defensive back who recently transferred from Penn State, charged with open and gross lewdness after a woman jogging claimed she approached Ridenhour in his car because she thought he needed help, but instead he flashed himself. He is also facing charges from about 30 minutes earlier in the day when a student reported an unidentified male grabbed her butt and another incident when a female reported a male driving slowly by her while masturbating.
 - April 5, Oak Grove, La.:** Edward D. Boyte, 29, charged for public masturbation.
 - April 14, Ontario County, N.Y.:** Michael Rhodes (off-duty correction officer), 25, charged with public lewdness after trying to get the attention of women by exposing his genitals while driving along the New York Thruway.
- If convicted: Some men could be fined between \$1,000 and \$2,500 or face imprisonment between six months and three years, depending on the state.

INFORMATION COMPILED BY ANDIE DIEMER

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Live Oak Communications starts first year with success

Ashley Dischinger
Reporter

Live Oak Communications, Elon's full-service communications agency, is wrapping up its inaugural year after successfully launching numerous campaigns and winning the Community Friend Award from Earth Share of North Carolina (ESNC).

Live Oak Communications is a student-run organization that mirrors a professional agency and allows students to practice their skills outside of the classroom.

As members of the agency, students learn how to write press releases and interact with the media and clients, in addition to learning management skills.

There are currently 30 students on staff, who are divided into teams with an average of four account executives per team. Team leaders oversee the accounts of their respective team projects.

Professor Lee Bush, Live Oak's faculty director, assists the teams with ongoing projects. "I was surprised at the quality and quantity of work the agency was able to produce in a short amount of time," Bush said.

Live Oak's most successful campaign this year was Campout! Carolina, an awareness builder for its client, ESNC.

The campaign persuaded families across North Carolina to camp out on a designated night, encouraging families to come together in recognition of North Carolina's environment.

Teams developed a Web site for the event, created a public service announcement and worked with media relations. More than 600 campers participated in the event, which was

featured on a FOX morning news program.

Emily Romans, student director of Live Oak, is especially pleased with the success of the Campout! Carolina campaign and is excited about the subsequent Community Friend Award, presented to Live Oak at this year's annual ESNC conference in Durham.

"It was a huge honor [to be presented with the award] and we couldn't be more proud of our accomplishment," Romans said.

Bush is pleased with the direction in which the program is heading.

"Our agency mirrors exactly the structure of a professional agency ... that's an important component," she said. "Research shows that student agencies lead to internships and career opportunities for students. [They] add creative pieces to their portfolios, while learning the professional behaviors that are required in the working world."

Live Oak has a great deal in store for the fall, including a new office on Williamson Avenue. The program has been working with an interior decorator to ensure an edgy, professional look for the office.

Live Oak anticipates recruiting more off-campus clients. Students will also improve the creative arm of the agency by improving skills in the areas of Web site design, graphic design and video production. The organization looks forward to achieving even more goals in the upcoming year.

"This year was really about defining who we are and what type of work we are going to be known for," Romans said. "I think we've set the bar pretty high."

THE PENDULUM

ELON UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Play games in front of Moseley for Nonchalant-a-thon

During the afternoon of May 2 on the grassy area on Young's Commons in front of Moseley, students can participate in Nonchalant-a-thon.

Aiming to raise money for United Way Alamance County, the event will include horseshoes, bocce ball, badminton, monster golf and corn hole played by teams of two for \$6.

The team with the highest scores can win a carwash, bowling, gym membership or golf jacket. To sign up, please e-mail Megan Backus at mbackus2@elon.edu.

Common reading for 2009 narrowed down

The Common Reading Committee has narrowed its decision down to three books for the 2009-2010 Elon common reading. The choices lie between: "Brother, I'm Dying" by Edwidge Danticat, "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini and "The World Without Us" by Alan Weisman. Their selection will be made this fall.

Donate to lower income students

Sigma Alpha Omega is doing a fundraiser for the Mosaic Center, an after-school program for elementary and middle school children from lower income families.

Come by Moseley today, Thursday and Friday to donate money, chapter books for fourth-through eighth-graders and board games.

President Leo Lambert to attend SGA meeting

President Lambert will be coming to the SGA meeting Thursday, May 1. He will be speaking and answering questions in Moseley 215 at 7:30 p.m. Students are encouraged to attend to voice their concerns.

Turn in service hours for Elon Experiences transcript

Students should submit validation forms concerning service they have done this fall, winter and spring.

Forms should be turned in before break to the Kernodle Center for Service Learning in Moseley 230.

Students can either pick them up at the office or go to www.elon.edu/service and click on the link on the right side of the page that says "Service Hours Validation."

Students with any questions may call x7250 or e-mail Katharine Bass at kbaas@elon.edu.

Construction closes HBB parking lot

The HBB lot was reduced by 50 percent for construction of the Lindner Building starting Monday, April 28.

Students who park in the HBB lot need to find alternate parking in designated student parking areas.

Site work and earth moving will start by May 5. By May 26, the remainder of the HBB lot will be reduced by 50 percent.

To review designated parking areas, visit: http://www.elon.edu/e-web/bft/safety/p_desigprk.xhtml

For a map of alternate parking options, please visit: http://www.elon.edu/e-web/bft/safety/Parking_CampusMap.pdf

Parking questions, or to report illegally parked cars: Call campus security at x5555.

OBAMA from Page 1

students — slip through his grip before the May 6 Democratic primary.

"I believe there's such a thing as being too late," Obama said. "And that hour, North Carolina, is almost upon us. We are at a defining moment in our history."

Creating awareness to vote was the backbone of the rally; the audience was called to action to participate in One-Stop Early Voting locations, which allow North Carolinians to vote at various locations between April 17 and May 3 by simply calling 1-888-NC-Early and typing in a zip code.

By calling the hotline, users are provided with automatic information about their county's closest voting location; those who are not currently registered to vote can register and vote at the same time.

Simply voting was not the only prod to spur change in the air.

Referring to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s notion of the "fierce urgency of now," which calls for immediate action instead of standing back, Obama applied its meaning to his platforms ranging from education to economics.

"In such circumstances we can't afford to wait," Obama said. "And that is why I am running for President of the United States of America."

Even though there may be massive complications abroad, he said it is the issues occurring on U.S. soil, such as health care, rising food prices and gas prices, that make the American people feel like they are losing the American dream.

"Nothing can stop us. No challenge is too big. No destiny is out of reach," he said.

To achieve this, a unity must be reached across all divides, including both political and non-political faults, he said.



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

"Ordinary people can do extraordinary things," Obama said. "Change happens from the bottom up, when the American people decide it's time for change."

"We know the challenges that we face can't be laid at the feet of just one party or just one person," Obama said. "Because the truth is that we have been dealing with some of these problems for decades. Despite the promises, despite the big plans, despite the unveiling approach nothing ever happens. Why is that?"

UNC sophomore Anneliese Gegenheimer said Obama excelled in relating to his audience by connecting his platforms with great examples.

"Every candidate is going to talk about how they plan to initiate change, but I think that Obama justified it well when he said he decided to run because of the American people and because of the 'fierce urgency of now,'" she said.

Obama's talk and vision and the way he presented himself with integrity."

Obama said he is not in the race to run against Sen. Clinton, but to change how business is done in Washington. This includes ending political game-playing and lobbyist agendas.

Former UNC student and current Chapel Hill teacher Laura Logan said she came out to see what all the fuss was about surrounding Obama.

"He wasn't overly critical of anyone, and he hit all of the things that we think about on a daily basis as a person," Logan said. "I was really impressed by the crowd that he drew."

Though she is an independent, Logan said hearing Obama made her "absolutely consider him" for the primary.

More Independents like Logan are attracted to Obama since he has a philosophy of disagreeing without being disagreeable. Here, he said, bridges can be built to attract the public to work together instead of working to tear each other down.

"We are Americans first. We are Republicans and Democrats and Independents later," Obama said.

When the media may play up certain events or candidates focus on the negative aspects of their opponents instead of what they themselves bring to the table, it is often forgotten that this election is about the American people, he said.

"We can make this country more just, and more equal, and more prosperous and more unified. That's why I love this country, that's why you love this country, that's what this election is about, that's what we're voting for," Obama said. "You and I will transform this country, and transform this world."



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

(left to right) North Carolinians Mary Greene, Evan Perry and Deanna Bryant Nichols cheer on Obama as he talks about his goal of unifying the nation.

Bridging students with alumni YAC from Page 1

attended City Fair "because of the raffle prizes!" she joked. And on a more serious note, "Because I don't know where I'm going to live after college."

Hartshorn noticed that a lot of students seemed to show up throughout the afternoon. She took advantage of opportunity and visited nearly all the tables.

"Everybody was very friendly and I didn't realize that these were all

Elon alumni," she said. "And that's really neat because they'll help you get jobs afterward, possibly. So, you have connections from Elon alumni, so that's really cool. I didn't realize the alumni association was this involved, so I really like it."

The council adds on 12 new members each year and meets biannually to discuss important issues on campus.

During their visit last weekend, the YAC and members of other alumni associations discussed ways to improve frequency and quality of communication among members, increase the number of alumni, support the university and make sure

the time alumni spend on a council is time well-served.

Over the past couple months, the council members have worked to bridge the gap between alumni and the university. They are trying to increase the number of alumni participating in their chapters and wish to work with students to increase the rate of young alumni giving.

As a follow-up from YAC's meeting in October, Sallie Hutton, director of alumni relations, emphasized the goal of extensive expansion of programming this year. They have a slot to deliver a "welcome to the alumni association" address at commencement and will help with distribution of oak saplings.



Where do they stand?

The candidates on the issues

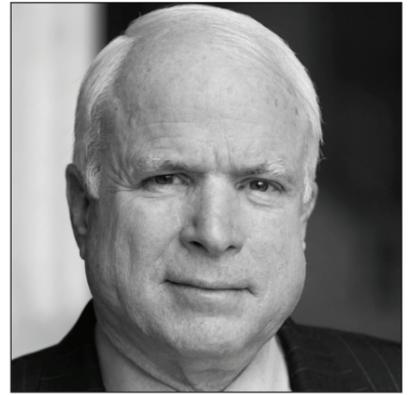
Laura Wainman
Reporter



Barack Obama
Senator from Illinois



Hillary Clinton
Senator from New York



John McCain
Senator from Arizona

The Iraq War

Obama has opposed a war in Iraq since 2002 and warned of “an occupation of undetermined length, with undetermined costs, and undetermined consequences.” Obama has been a consistent, principled and vocal opponent of the war in Iraq.

He also opposed Bush’s plan to send additional troops to Iraq, voted for a war spending bill that would have withdrawn most U.S. troops by March 2008, and supports a phased redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq.

Obama’s plan for withdrawal is a four-step process including bringing the troops home, pressing Iraq’s leaders to reconcile, launching an aggressive regional diplomacy movement and embarking on a humanitarian initiative.

In a campaign speech on December 20, 2007, in Manchester, N.H., Obama was quoted as stating that he “opposed this war in Iraq from the start, and as president of the United States he will end this war in Iraq. [He] doesn’t want to just end the war, but wants to change the mindset that got us into war.”

Clinton has stated numerous times that if President Bush does not end the war, when she is president, she will do so through phased redeployment.

She has created a three-step plan that would “bring troops home, work to bring stability to the region and replace military force with a new diplomatic initiative to engage countries around the world in securing Iraq’s future.”

Though she originally voted for use of military force in Iraq, Clinton now says she would have voted differently “if we knew then what we know now.”

Clinton opposed President Bush’s plan to increase the number of American troops in Iraq and voted for a war spending bill that would have withdrawn most U.S. troops by March 2008.

“If you look at what our military has accomplished in Iraq, they have done everything they were asked to do ... so I think our position should be that we have given the Iraqi people the opportunity for a new future, and we have done this because we believe that it was important that they chart their own destiny, but we cannot do it for them. Removal of troops from Iraq will begin within 60 days of my election to president,” Clinton said in a campaign speech in Clarion, Iowa.

McCain has supported the use of military force in Iraq since the beginning, and was an early proponent of sending additional troops to Iraq. He supported Bush’s veto of a war spending bill that would have withdrawn most U.S. troops by March 2008.

McCain believes that now, more than ever, “a greater military commitment is necessary if we are to achieve long term success in Iraq ... and more troops are necessary to clear and hold insurgent strongholds; to provide security for rebuilding local institutions and economies; to halt sectarian violence in Baghdad and disarm Sunni and Shia militias; to dismantle al-Qaida; to train the Iraqi Army; and to embed American personnel in Iraqi police units. Accomplishing each of these goals will require more troops and is a crucial prerequisite for needed economic and political development in the country. America’s ultimate strategy is to give Iraqis the capabilities to govern and secure their own country.”

The Economy

Obama said he believes that there are eight essential elements involved with restoring the economy.

These include providing middle class Americans tax relief, increasing trade with foreign nations, using technology and innovation to create new jobs in America, strengthening the ability of workers to organize labor unions, protecting homeownership by cracking down on mortgage fraud, and improving the balance between work and family across America.

Obama plans to “pump \$75 billion into the economy via tax cuts and direct spending targeted to working families, seniors, homeowners and the unemployed.”

He would also “provide an immediate \$250 tax cut for workers and their families, an immediate, temporary \$250 bonus to seniors in their Social Security check.”

Clinton’s economic stimulus plan centers around strengthening the middle class, as she said she believes the Bush administration has left the “middle class struggling to succeed in an economy that is leaving more and more Americans behind.”

Her economic blueprint to restore opportunity for all Americans includes lowering taxes for middle class families, ensuring quality, affordable health care is available to all, making college accessible and affordable to anyone wishing to pursue a higher education, returning to fiscal responsibility and balanced budgets and strengthening unions to ensure that trade laws work for all Americans.

Other aspects of her plan include a \$30 billion emergency housing fund, a 90-day moratorium on subprime foreclosures and a \$10 billion investment in improving unemployment insurance.

Last week in Pennsylvania, McCain outlined a Pro-Growth, Pro-Jobs strategy to get our economy back on track. It combines short-term and long-term steps to securing America’s economic prosperity.

The plan includes offering immediate help for American families, especially with confronting the higher living costs and dealing with the housing crisis, implementing a Pro-growth, Pro-jobs tax agenda centered around cutting taxes for the middle class, reforming Washington spending to regain the trust of taxpayers, bolstering job security and assisting displaced workers.

McCain has vowed to “lower the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 25 percent ... and establish a permanent research and development tax credit equal to 10 percent of wages spent on R&D.”

Abortion

Obama supports Roe v. Wade and opposes any constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court’s decision. Like Clinton, he also disagrees with the Supreme Court ruling to uphold the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act.

According to Obama’s speech about his views on abortion in Algona, Iowa, he believes “[abortion] is an important moral issue and to pretend that it is not a moral issue is a mistake... and women are in the best position to make that very difficult moral decision for themselves because the government can’t anticipate every single circumstance in which that tragic decision might come up.”

Clinton has maintained the position that she herself would never have an abortion, but does not believe the government has the right to tell a woman what to do with her body. She has stated that if elected president, she would sign into law the Freedom of Choice Act, which would codify Roe v. Wade into federal law.

Clinton would also overturn the global gag rule, which prohibits Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) from talking about abortion in the event of an unplanned pregnancy. In 2003, she voted against the Prohibit Partial Birth Abortion bill, but did not cast a vote on Prohibiting Funds for Groups that Perform Abortions Amendment in 2007. She disagreed with the Supreme Court’s decision to uphold the “Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act.”

McCain said he believes that “Roe v. Wade is a flawed decision that must be overturned,” according to his official campaign Web site. He vows to restore constitutional balance by returning the abortion question to individual states. He voted for the Prohibit Partial Birth Abortion bill in 2003 and “yes” for Prohibiting Funds for Groups that Perform Abortions Amendment in 2007.

According to McCain’s speech about his position regarding abortion in Greenville, S.C., he “would do everything within his power to ban the horrible procedure because those that believe in the rights of the unborn must do everything to protect those rights and make abortion an illegal act.”



Many voters still undecided on state and local races

The clamor from candidates running for state and local seats has largely been lost amidst the national commotion between Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. Yet, this year's state elections are expected to be some of the most divisive in recent state history. This November, North Carolinians will elect a new governor since Mike Easley is term limited and must step down. Sen. Elizabeth Dole will also face her first election since she was seated as U.S. Senator on Jan. 7, 2003. On May 6, parties will hit the polls and decide which candidates will make the November ballot. No matter what comes of the primaries, one thing is for sure — it's going to a very political year.

North Carolina's Biggest Races

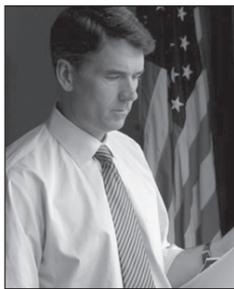
Governor:

Fifty-three percent of Democratic voters and 62 percent of Republican voters are undecided on who they will vote for as governor, according to a poll conducted for The News & Observer. In both parties, two candidates have risen from the list of contenders to be front runners: Bev Perdue and Richard Moore for the Democrats, and Fred Smith and Pat McCrory for the Republicans.

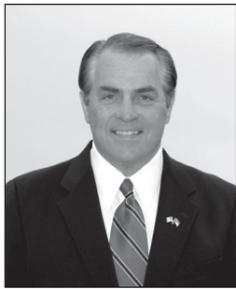
It's set to be a tough battle through the summer, no matter who comes out on top during the primary. Though North Carolinians have elected only three Republican governors since 1877, many speculate that this election year might make room for a fourth.



Bev Perdue (D)
Current lieutenant governor



Richard Moore (D)
Current state treasurer



Fred Smith (R)
Current state senator



Pat McCrory (R)
Current mayor of Charlotte

U.S. Senate:

The contest for the U.S. Senate seat is even more up in the air as 83 percent of voters polled were undecided on who would win their vote. Incumbent Elizabeth Dole is currently favored to win the Republican nomination. The Democrats have put up five candidates: Kay Hagan, Duskin Lassiter, Jim Neal, Howard Staley and Marcus W. Williams, and are hoping to derail Dole with one of their candidates. The most widely supported according to The News & Observer, are Kay Hagan and Jim Neal.



Elizabeth Dole (R)
Current N.C. U.S. Senator



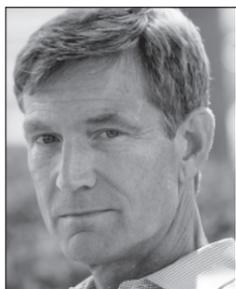
Kay Hagan (D)
Current state senator



Howard Staley (D)
First attempt at office



Duskin C. Lassiter (D)
Second attempt at office



Jim Neal (D)
First attempt at office



Marcus W. Williams (D)
Fourth attempt at office

Who's on the ballot?

These are the names that will be on the local ballot on May 6. Most candidates have Web sites that state his or her views on a variety of topics. Find the candidates who best represent your views.

Democrat Ballot

President:
Hillary Clinton
Mike Gravel
Barack Obama

U.S. Senate:
Kay Hagan
Duskin C. Lassiter
Jim Neal
Howard Staley
Marcus W. Williams

U.S. Congress District 6:
Johnny J. Carter
Jay Ovittore
Teresa Sue Bratton

Attorney General:
Roy Cooper

Auditor:
Beth A. Wood
Fred Aikens

Commissioner of Agriculture:
James Ronald "Ronnie" Ansley

Commissioner of Insurance:
Wayne Goodwin
David C. Smith

Commissioner of Labor:
Mary Fant Donnan
Robin Anderson
Tyrone "Ty" Richardson
John C. Brooks

Governor:
Richard H. Moore
Dennis Nielsen
Bev Perdue

Lt. Governor:
Walter H. Dalton
Hampton Dellinger
Pat Smathers
Dan Besse

Secretary of State:
Elaine F. Marshall

Superintendent of Public Instruction:
Eddie David
June St. Clair Atkinson
Treasurer:
Janet Cowell
Michael Weisel
David Young

State Senator District 24:
Anthony Emanuel "Tony" Foriest

State Representative District 64:
Henry Vines

Republican Ballot

President:
John McCain
Ron Paul

U.S. Senate:
Peter J Di Lauro
Elizabeth Dole

U.S. Congress District 6:
Howard Coble

Attorney General
Bobby J. Crumley

Auditor:
Leslie Merritt

Commissioner of Agriculture:
Steve Troxler

Commissioner of Insurance:
John Odom

Commissioner of Labor:
Cherie Berry

Governor:
Bill Graham
Pat McCrory
Robert F. "Bob" Orr
E. Powers
Fred Smith

Lt. Governor:
Timothy Cook
Greg Dority
Robert Pittenger
Jim Snyder

Secretary of State:
Jack Sawyer

Superintendent of Public Instruction:
Josiah V Johnson
Richard Morgan
Eric H. Smith

Treasurer:
Bill Daughtridge

State Senator District 24:
Richard W. "Rick" Gunn, Jr.

State Representative District 64:
Cary Dale Allred

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.

Editorial

Letter to the Editor

Everyone by now is well aware that Hillary Clinton is running a campaign based on her experience. The fruits of this experience, though, are questionable. What kind of experience is Hillary citing? Well, there was her heroic experience in Bosnia. Wait, she misspoke, sorry.

A portion of her experience that is undisputable is her voting record. Hillary Clinton, who claims that the Iraq War was misguided, voted for a resolution that authorized the use of force in Iraq. The fact that she voted for the resolution is disappointing, but what is really appalling is the fact that she supports her decision five years later. She doesn't support the decisions of President Bush, but when allowed to check his power, she turned it down. Even after seeing the result of unchecked power, she still supports her choice.

It's great to have experience, but when you don't learn from that experience is that experience really worthwhile? Actions speak louder than words, Hillary.

Amber Murphy
Elon '11

Have an idea or opinion you'd like to share with The Pendulum? Contact us at pendulum@elon.edu and we'll print what you have to say. Lengthy letters or columns may be cut to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

Will student political activism be maintained?

It certainly is an interesting year in politics. Will the next president be the oldest to ever be elected into office, the first black president or the first female one? It's a question whose answer will be finally revealed in November.

But what also makes this year's politics significant is the increase in the number of college-age voters and politically active students. Many politicians are recognizing the importance of the student's vote and are shifting their focus and catering their messages to draw in more young voters.

Take a look at the recent visit from Bill Clinton. The former president outlined not only a list of issues that are directly affecting students now, but also issues that will affect students in the future, such as the astounding number of home forecloses. He reiterated that his wife was the most suited candidate to handle the challenges of a grim future.

Many Democratic candidates are pushing that message of hope and change, something that appeals to the masses of disillusioned young voters in the United States.

A lot of students look to Barack Obama as a beacon of hope in a time governed by fear and insecurity about the future. The previous generations haven't done a stellar job keeping a

prospective future intact, and the young voters of today think that they need change to fix the nation's growing problems.

Enter the charismatic young Illinois senator whose message perfectly embodies what many young people in the United States desire: "Change you can believe in."

Many students support Hillary Clinton in an effort to help a female politician break through the glass ceiling and achieve the highest political office in

the country are encouraging their peers to take the initiative and take part in this year's elections.

How much of this involvement is real? And more importantly, will it last? There is a good amount of students taking action and acting out politically, but when next year rolls around and the new president is announced, will students remain as involved as they are now? Will students care about national and international issues as

nation and sticking to his or her policies is elected, then students will likely maintain their level of civic and political activism.

It all comes down to the main message that many democrats are preaching: hope for change. The presidency of George W. Bush has caused many people, young and old, have felt powerless and voiceless in politics; they lacked hope. Students are protesting the war in Iraq and the genocide in Darfur, but nothing is

"Students across the country are encouraging their peers to take the initiative and take part in this year's elections."

the nation. It's a statement that will encourage more equality between men and women in the United States.

A female president could build a bridge over the gender gap that many feel is still present. Others view her sometimes radical and unorthodox policies as what the country needs to get back on its feet and back on track.

Many students are being encouraged to vote and being reminded that their voice matters. Most of the people leading the revived movement to encourage students to participate in politics are students themselves. Students across

much after the deed is done and the election is finished? Is being politically active only a hip trend that many young people are buying into at the moment, or do they legitimately care about the issues?

The answers to those questions will be mostly determined by who will win the presidency. If another politician who only cares about pleasing their most prominent constituency is placed into office, young people will probably lose their political ambition like they have in the past.

But if a proactive politician who legitimately believes in changing the

being done about it and no change has been seen.

A presidency run by a candidate who listens to the needs of the people and acts as their tool for action is what the youth of the United States wants. The youth of today are much more politically conscious than many think and their apathy towards government is something that must be overcome. Hopefully, the swelling in young voter turnout will have a positive effect on the presidential race and the youth of the nation will see a politician in the oval office who legitimately holds their interests in mind.

Abusing art as a means of expression

Art is seen by many as the ultimate form of personal expression. Art can often act as a medium through which artists can raise awareness about pressing subjects in the world. It can also be a way for artists to express their sentiments about issues. But how far can art go before it becomes too controversial in its efforts?

Guillermo Vargas, a Costa Rican artist, stirred up a lot of controversy when he displayed a starving dog as a part of one of his exhibits. There are many rumors floating around as to whether the artist let the animal continue starving while on display or if he actually did feed it. There are also unofficial claims that the animal died while on display and some state that the dog escaped captivity after being displayed for a day at the exhibit.

Despite the mysterious fate of the animal, many were up in arms in disgust at hearing about the art display. This is apparently what Vargas wanted to see happen.

Vargas hoped to see the international community in rage against his statement. The dog Vargas used was a stray dog he found on the streets that was already starving. According to Vargas, there are thousands of sick, starving and dying dogs everywhere that people pay no attention to.

One Internet blog quoted Vargas saying, "If you publicly display one of these starving creatures ... it creates a backlash that brings out a bit of hypocrisy in all of us."

Once you put a starving dog in front of people's faces, then they start to care about it.

As inhumane and unethical as Vargas' display was, the statement he makes is one that cannot be denied. While the artist's methods were atrocious, his message is one that people need to recognize.

Situations like these make people question how far art can go before it goes too far. Some art can bring

controversies and problems into the eyes of the public, and it can often be necessary.

Abuse of art as a means of personal expression is a grievance that can be equally grave as well. The recent misuse of the walls in the Arts West building is an example of individuals abusing the space meant for artistic personal expression.

Some students decided to utilize the space on the walls to advertise upcoming exhibitions. While it is good to spread the word about future art exhibitions, the walls of the Arts West building was not the place to do so.

The wall space in the building is the ideal location for student murals and other showcases of the work of the talented art students of Elon. A good number of students have already used the space for their own work.

But the students who used the space for their own advertisement are abusing the opportunity they and the other art students share.

The staff, the students and the university could all benefit from a place where students are invited to express themselves artistically. Elon has a strong collection of students, many of whom are very artistically driven.

In the future, the walls of the Arts West building should be used more responsibly. They are a great medium for students to express themselves. Their misuse should not be tolerated, and students should think more about the possibilities for the wall beyond just a place for advertising.

These students could use the walls to express themselves on a whole new level. As in Vargas' case, lines could be crossed, sure, but that is one of the purposes art serves. Just please keep the questionable treatment of animals to a minimum.

THE PENDULUM Established 1974

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

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Opinions

Students for Peace and Justice stands behind its protest

A collective message from
Students for Peace and Justice

Students for Peace and Justice has been organizing around the issue of sweatshops for five years now. We have held meetings with students and administrators, distributed petitions, staged conferences and all of the other soft tactics that should have worked, but didn't. We decided as a group that the time had come to be more severe. Our requests were simple and our steps gradual.

What we want now, and what we have wanted for years, is for Elon to join the Workers Rights Consortium (WRC), something that nearly 200 other schools have done. The WRC is a transparent, independent organization that inspects factories where client schools garments are made and then reports the findings to the world. The Fair Labor Association (FLA) is an organization started

by client companies and run by client companies. It inspects few factories, gives warnings before it comes and doesn't report its findings to the public. That's good enough for some but not for us and not for a university that prides itself on civic engagement.

Critics are legitimate in questioning the time and place of our actions and why they weren't officially sanctioned. SFPJ has been around for years. We understand that there are procedures, but we didn't want to run the risk of being told "No." We also didn't want to seem disrespectful when we did it anyway. In times past we have been denied actions because of time and place considerations and we needed to talk to incoming students.

Public protests are held when going through legitimate channels doesn't create the necessary change. Taking to the streets is fun but fun is

not the reason we do it. We are not special. We are not above reproach or regulation because every student group should be empowered to do what they think is necessary to ensure that the university remains a place where ideas can flow.

Our actions may have seemed attention-seeking and perhaps inflammatory, but we are OK with that. We wanted to start a conversation. We wanted to inform incoming students that they are entering an institution that has taken only the smallest steps to distance itself from sweatshops, while exciting incoming and current students about the possibilities for activism on campus.

The FLA is the easiest step imaginable aside from no steps at all, and in the information age, ignorance is no longer an excuse. Joining the WRC is another step in a long trip that will eventually, with Elon's help, invigorate local and foreign

economies. Sweatshops present a complicated question and there are no easy answers.

SFPJ is an activist organization. It is our place to start a fuss and to act out. We respect organizations like Elonthon, SGA, Invisible Children and Model UN; they have their place and we have ours. We are a network of activists and we embrace the difficult complexity of the issues we face. We are sure people were offended and affronted but we only told the truth: Elon does support sweatshops. If that's hard to digest we can help you change your diet.

We dream of and work towards a day when Elon is no longer complicit in oppression, when all Elon students understand their place in the world and when SFPJ can divert its energies into climbing trees, knitting, cooking and singing. Until then, we will do what we must to bring the changes that we can.

Your sex shouldn't affect your vote

Taylor Doe
Contributing Columnist

When studying abroad in Ireland this Winter Term, I encountered a strange phenomenon. Everyone wanted to talk politics with the Americans and inevitably, one of the first questions asked was, "Are you voting for Hillary?" When I would respond with a very adamant "No," a look of shock would be staring me back in the eye. "But you're a woman!" I would almost always hear in response.

This struck me as odd then and as the primary season has progressed, it has become increasingly more frustrating to me. Why, as a woman, am I expected to vote for Hillary Clinton? Am I supposed to ignore her various policy stances that I disagree with and support a candidate based on gender? And why is it that if I don't support Hillary that I am casting a vote against my gender and, as a previous columnist in The Pendulum stated, showing that I am "content with staying home and ironing my husband's shirts for the rest of my life"?

To me, this is the ultimate form of sexism. To assume based solely on my gender that I will vote for Hillary unfairly profiles me and the rest of the women across the United States. I feel like we've progressed to the point where we respect that women are strong, independent thinkers and can look beyond surface characteristics when we decide who to support. Are men ever accused of supporting John McCain because he is an old white guy? No, because the very notion of voting based exclusively on gender is absurd.

I recognize that women still face challenges and obstacles our male counterparts don't deal with and Hillary's candidacy is proof of just how far we have come as a society. The fact that a woman is in serious contention to take the White House is amazing. But, I also recognize that in this campaign she is not the best candidate and I give myself and women across America more credit than to look past the weaknesses in her record and vote for her because she's a woman.

I think it's time that we stop harassing the women who don't support Hillary Clinton. We are smart voters who cast our ballots for the candidate we believe can best address our problems and lead the country in the right direction, not based on who looks the most like us. Maybe in 2012 the most qualified candidate will be a woman and I can proudly give my support to her, but this time around I'll be giving my vote to Barack Obama.

Don't be quick to dismiss Mrs. Clinton

The highly-anticipated do-or-die Pennsylvania primary has come and gone. April 22, a date we waited six weeks for, has been replaced by May 6, when Indiana and North Carolina hold their primaries.

But when will it end? Will the "monster" that is Hillary Clinton take this thing all the way to the Democratic National Convention in

Denver as she has threatened?

Don't tell me that people actually want this thing to be over! If they did, why couldn't Obama win Pennsylvania? It could have gone one of two ways: Either the almighty Obama would



Derek Kiszely
Columnist

pull off an upset effectively ending this thing once and for all or Hillary the "horrible" would have to win by at least 10 points to die another day. And she did.

So I wasn't surprised to see Obama-maniacs start wearing "Stop the drama, vote Obama!" T-shirts after April 22. They're just bitter. And who can blame them? In the immediate aftermath of the Pennsylvania primary, instead of asking why Clinton won't drop out, reporters started asking "Why can't Obama close the deal?"

Now as much as I'd like to believe that North Carolina may play a more important role than Pennsylvania, North Carolinians shouldn't let it go to their heads. It certainly isn't as exciting as the News & Observer makes it. They sell more papers by making it seem like a competitive race.

Unfortunately that's not the case. Everyone expects Obama to win North Carolina. So even though North Carolina has more delegates, Indiana is getting more attention.

But it's not too late, North Carolina! We can still help Hillary Clinton pull

off the upset of a century! And if we help her win N.C., we're guaranteed at least another month of political drama!

All Hillary has to do is beat everyone's expectations by closing the gap just a little, and she'll make front-page news. At this point in the race, it's not just a matter of whether or not a candidate can win a state, it is how they win it. And Obama has to win big in North Carolina because polls have consistently shown him beating Clinton by double digits.

But when Hillary Clinton challenged Barack Obama to a debate in North Carolina, his campaign issued a press release that said the Illinois senator "wouldn't be able to fit it in his schedule."

That's a pretty flimsy excuse. And yet nine out of 10 voters in North Carolina value "trustworthiness" over experience, and Obama is somehow seen as more trustworthy.

It certainly is surprising that North Carolina voters trust Obama as much as the polls suggests. I feel much more comfortable with what I know about Clinton than what we don't know about Obama. No, I'm not suggesting "B. Hussein Obama" is a Muslim. It is just odd to think that a man no one knew two years ago would be viewed as more trustworthy than someone who's faced years of public scrutiny and is still standing after an all-out character assassination by the Republican attack machine.

Is it because he admitted that he snorted coke and smoked pot? Because if that's all it takes to be seen as an honest, upstanding role-model in society, I have a confession to make. Other than that he has no record to prove he can walk the walk. The fact that he refused to debate Hillary shows he's a man of words, not action.

Of course, I wouldn't expect anything less from Obama's campaign. His refusal to face Hillary in another debate is a sound strategic decision. To say he has a track record of less-than-stellar debates is an understatement. He often times looks like a stuttering

fool and his pathetic performance at last week's Pennsylvania debate probably cost him a percentage point or two.

Sure, the man can deliver a pretty speech, but he doesn't do so well candidly, which is why he doesn't want to have a conversation about the issues that matter to North Carolinians: He wants to tell us what matters, safe and sound behind his podium, with a pretty poster that says "Change You Can Believe In."

But how are we supposed to believe Barack Obama is an "agent of change," when he won't even let us see how he handles himself in a debate? Does he think it's going to get easier if he's the nominee? This extended primary is essentially a test. If Obama is complaining about having to debate Hillary, what should we expect when he has to debate John McCain?

I'm surprised he hasn't started complaining about how his hair has gotten grayer since he started campaigning. It's probably because he's too busy talking about how rarely he gets to see his family, as if he somehow deserves the sympathy vote for abandoning his two little girls at home so he can stage a publicity stunt at a bowling alley in Pennsylvania where he bowled a pathetic score of 37.

But does that mean he should deny North Carolinians and other Americans one last chance to see him on a nationally televised debate? It sounds like Obama's the bitter one.

Hillary, on the other hand, has said she'd meet Obama in a debate "anytime, anywhere." She isn't going to give up anytime soon. Whatever its outcome, the May 6 primary will come and go. Hillary will probably go on to win West Virginia, Kentucky, Guam and Puerto Rico. And Obama will have to get over his bitterness towards debates, because she's already challenged him to two in Oregon, which will take place on the soon-to-be highly-anticipated do-or-die primary held on May 20.



MYTHBUSTERS

Shelley Russell
Special Projects Editor

Sarah McGlinchey
Reporter

Submitted by students through questioning and a Facebook group, these are some myths that have been spread around campus for years. After asking authority figures about these issues, we were able to uncover the truth, once and for all.

Elon means "oak" [UNSOLVED]

Several Web sites have cited Elon to mean oak. Others have also said that Elon means terebinth, which is a different type of tree. According to the Jewish Daily Web site, the Hebrew word "alon" means oak, and "elah" means terebinth. In Genesis, "elon" combines each of these words. As a result, some translations cite "elon" to mean specifically and oak tree, while others say that it can also mean simply, a tree.

The hills in front of Moseley were put there to block out the road that runs through campus [BUSTED]

After contacting McBride Hess Design Group, the landscape architecture firm that designed Young Commons outside of Moseley, this myth is partially true; but obstructing the road was not the main reason for the construction of the hills.

"It was to try to give a relief and volumetric space so that you would feel like you were in a big green bowl, so to speak," said Ken Bark, of McBride Hess Design Group. "The hills were put there to bring down the size of the buildings and give the open space a park-like setting. The road was just one of a number of reasons to place the hills in Young Commons."

Elon's Bird Flu plan calls for a morgue to be set up on campus [CONFIRMED]

Dan Anderson said that in 2006, the university developed a plan to deal with quarantine or a major national flu outbreak.

"There was a very expensive pandemic plan that would include any sort of contagious disease," Anderson said. "If students died on campus and you wouldn't be able to transfer them to a morgue, there would be a temporary morgue on campus."

According to Anderson, the reason behind the plan to have a morgue came from the fact that Alamance Regional would be overwhelmed in the case of a flu pandemic.

In terms of the exact location of the morgue, Jana Lynn Patterson, assistant vice president for student life, said that the first option would be to use the space in McMichael, where cadavers were already stored. After this space was filled, the next option would be to bring in a refrigerated space, such as a tent.

[BUSTED]

Elon spends \$5 million a year on flowers and re-plants them as soon as they wilt

Tom Flood, superintendent of landscaping and grounds, was excited at the notion of having \$5 million in the landscaping budget, but said that the amount spent on flowers each year is only a small fraction of the rumored figure.

"We plant between 40,000 and 55,000 annual plants a year," Flood said. "But they are very small when we plant them and they don't cost all that much."

The landscaping crew rotates the flowers twice a year. They plant around commencement, replacing the pansies with summer flowers, and then again in October when the summer flowers are replaced with winter pansies. Flood said that it is very rare that flowers are re-planted in addition to the normal planting schedule.

"Sometimes we will have a disease problem that will cause a planted bed to fail," Flood said. "Once in a while we will just have to pull it out and put something back in its place, but that is unusual."

Students must wait 15 minutes before leaving class if a professor does not show up [BUSTED]

Whether the professor has a B.A. or a Ph.D., there is no required time that students must wait for a professor at Elon.

"There is no policy on this," said Dr. Steven House, dean of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences. "We expect our faculty to be in class when the class is scheduled. We also expect the students to be there. But things can happen, so I think the thing to do is to wait a reasonable amount of time, and then have a student try to contact one of the program assistants from the department or the department chair. If I know a faculty member is going to be late, we will have something posted on Blackboard."



Elon puts blue dye in the ponds on campus [CONFIRMED]

Pond dye is added to Lakes Mary Nell and Verona in the spring and summer, but it is not for aesthetic value. Flood said that pond dye reduces the amount of sunlight in the water, and therefore reduces the amount of algae that grows in the ponds.

Dye is added to the ponds during typical algae seasons. Flood also said that in addition to Mary Nell and Verona, Elon Homes Pond will also require an occasional pack of pond dye.

If something happens to your roommate, you get a straight A's [BUSTED]

While Patterson said that if a student is left on medical withdrawal because of a roommate, these students do not get credit for this absence. She further confirmed that the myth is a student's roommate is not connected with their grade.

But this urban legend has spread through campuses around the world for decades, and was the plot of the 1998 film "Dead Man on Campus" where two students attempt to help a depressed roommate to get a straight A in order to raise their GPA.

Elon West art building used to be a supermarket

[CONFIRMED]

According to Tom Flood, Elon West was a Winn-Dixie grocery store until the mid-90s when the university bought the property.

If you get hit by a car on the crosswalks, you automatically get free tuition

[BUSTED]

Multiple sources denied there being any truth to this myth. While one may collect enough insurance from an incident to pay for tuition, there is no connection between a pedestrian accident and university tuition.

In addition, North Carolina is a contributory negligence state, meaning that a pedestrian would not automatically be the innocent party in the case of being struck by a vehicle.

"We would certainly encourage students to look both ways even if they are at a crosswalk," House said.

If a brick is taken from a walkway, it will be replaced within the hour

[CONFIRMED]

Brick mason Travis White has quite a job on his hands. On campus at 7 a.m. each day, White rides the five miles of brick walkways in his Cushman utility vehicle, looking for missing bricks and working to replace them before 8 a.m. when classes begin.

"The main reason is for safety," White said. "We document each brick we replace."

Keeping a document with replaced bricks insures that White will not be held liable for an injury from a missing brick.

White said that he replaces about 20 bricks each week, with the most jobs coming around graduation and before holiday vacations.

And the job isn't as simple as it looks. White carries about six different sized bricks in his Cushman, because not every path has the same sized bricks.

"Some walks have different thickness and length," White said. "You also have to cut and saw any shaped bricks that are missing. It is a lot more complicated than just putting one brick back."

In one case, some students from a residence hall stole the same brick in front of McEwen for two straight weeks. White said that since the brick was a cut brick, he would have to saw it to fit. After three days of sawing the same brick, he cut some in advance before the students eventually called a truce. Since then, they have not taken bricks from the area.

With an estimated two million bricks on campus (including the walkways and patios), the job can be tedious, but White doesn't see the harm in students taking bricks home as souvenirs.

"After what they pay to go to school here, we can't get mad at students because they take a brick," White said. "They could be doing a whole lot worse."

White said that in several dorms, students like to paint the bricks and use them as doorstops. He said that over the past few years, he has taken old bricks to dorms to let students paint them after requests for bricks were called in.

[BUSTED]

Elon spray-paints the grass

While many students feel that the grass is spray-painted, Flood said that this is not true. If this were the case, the grass would be dead.

"On the main campus areas, we re-seed the lawns every fall to maintain a thick, dense stand of turf that will stand up to wear and tear on a college campus," Flood said.

At the athletic fields though, dye is used at the time that the fields are fertilized in order to keep track of where fertilizer or herbicides have been applied.



There's a ghost on the third floor of West dorm

[UNSOLVED]

The myth of the West dorm ghost may never officially be solved, but for Jo Williams, special assistant to the president, the ghost never appeared during her stay at West.

Williams lived on the third floor of West in the 40's when she was a freshman at Elon.

"I have heard different rumors through the years that there is a ghost in West," Williams said. "But it was not part of my legacy."

Meaghan Britain, a current resident on the third floor of West, said that she has experienced a few strange occurrences.

"One night I went to bed after my roommate," Britain said. "My desk is right next to my bed and as I was falling asleep it sounded like someone was opening and closing my drawers."

Other third-floor residents said they have heard footsteps above them, and several girls said they have felt the presence of a ghost in the room a few times.

The ghost of West is listed as a haunted place of North Carolina. The Web site, <http://theshadowlands.net>, explains the history of the ghost Mary, a student who tried to escape the fire of 1923 by jumping from a third story window. She now haunts West.

Everyone has a squirrel story

The irony of this whole thing is here I work at Elon at a place where the oak is the symbol and the meaning of the word Elon. But I happen to hate oak trees and squirrels because the oak pollen just gets me.

The real reason I don't like the trees is because my house is located on a lot full of oak trees, and I am cleaning up acorns, pollen and leaves all year long.

As a result we are over-run with squirrels at our house. They dig in my flower pots and gardens. Fifteen years ago, we got a "Hav-a-Heart" trap that traps squirrels and does not harm them at all.

We got so good at it. They liked to eat sunflower seeds (they were raiding my bird feeders). We could catch about three squirrels a day at our house.

I would come to work in the morning with the "Hav-a-Heart" trap and a big leather glove. I would park at one of the faculty-staff parking lots at the corner so no one would see me in my suit and high heels hauling this squirrel out and letting it out at Elon.

At the time it was a joke that I was really responsible for building the squirrel population at Elon. I haven't transported any squirrels for years now, so I am sure my generations are long gone now.

—Susan Klopman, Vice President of Admissions and Financial Planning

What happens to you get

[BUSTED]

that people have after the death accidents have not. Anderson the health of in no way des. has floated and the country e subject of on Campus," mpt to get their commit suicide As.

It is a \$75 fine per limb if you enter a fountain on Elon's campus

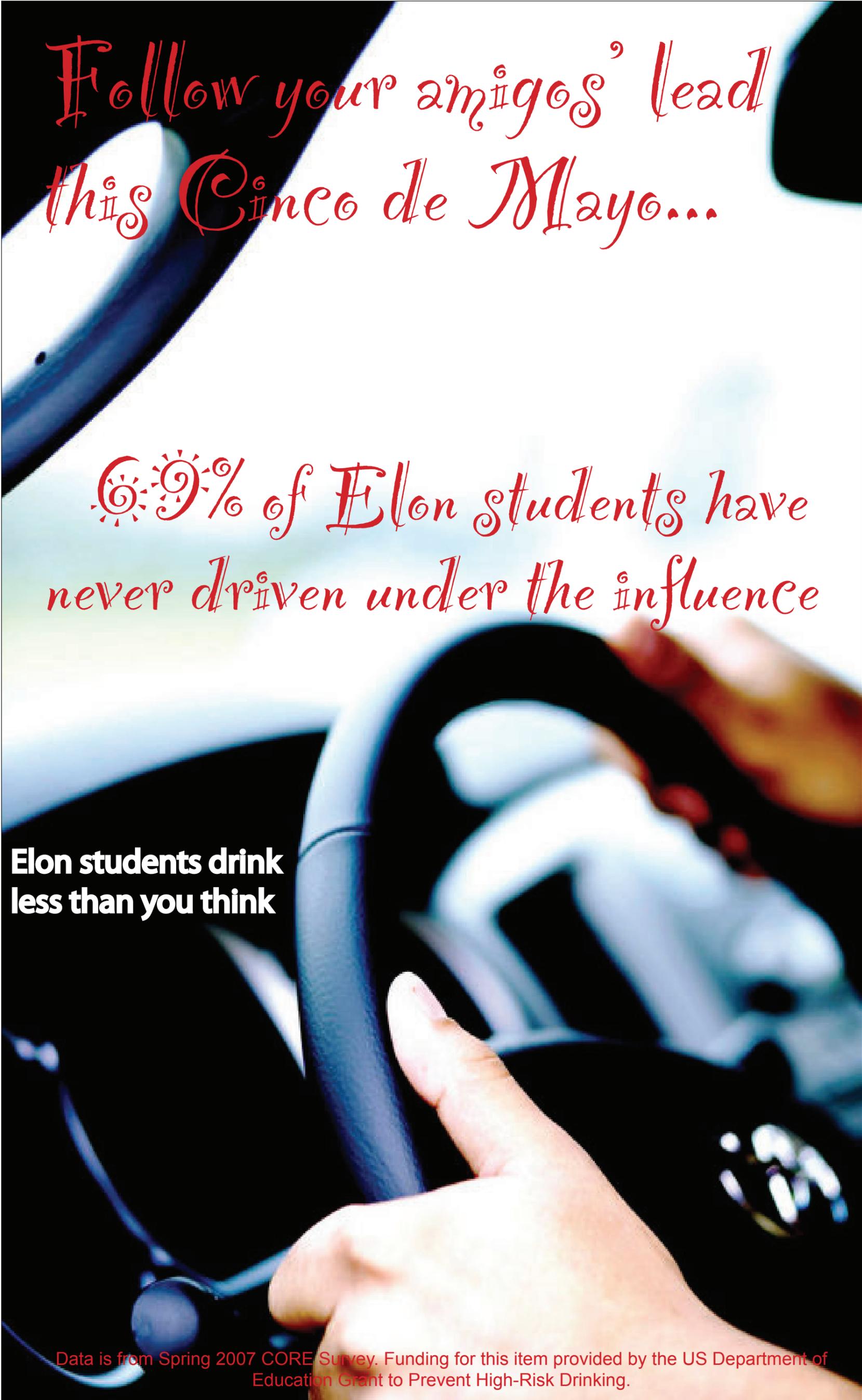
[BUSTED]

Myths on campus have put the exact dollar amount for an arm or a leg in a fountain at Elon as high as \$200. As it turns out, there is no particular fountain penalty or infraction that charges students by the amount of limbs they have put in the fountain.

Patterson said that there are sanctions if a student is found swimming in one of the fountains.

"It would fall under disorderly conduct," Patterson said. "You would have to physically be in the fountain to be charged. We have little kids who sit on the side and play in the water all the time."

According to the student handbook, swimming, wading or skating in any of the fountains or lakes on Elon's campus can result in "an official warning and campus restitution hours." The possibility of disciplinary probation is also listed as a sanction; but there is no fine listed.



*Follow your amigos' lead
this Cinco de Mayo...*

*69% of Elon students have
never driven under the influence*

**Elon students drink
less than you think**

Data is from Spring 2007 CORE Survey. Funding for this item provided by the US Department of Education Grant to Prevent High-Risk Drinking.

Opening EYES to the FACES of the homeless

Laura Wainman
Reporter

On April 23, The National Coalition for the Homeless brought a panel of speakers who have been or are currently homeless to share their experiences with Elon students. They educated students about the truths and myths of homelessness.

This was the second year for "Meet the Faces of Homeless" and this year's panel consisted of four speakers: David Harris, John Harrison, Nelson Jefferies and Pricilla Jones. Though each story was different, all of the speakers commented that the lack of respect they received while being homeless was the worst hardship to endure.

"For me, a college educated man, it was not waking up cold and hungry that hurt the most," Harrison said. "It was simply the way I was treated while on the streets. People would walk by me daily and refuse to look me in the eyes.

They ignored me as best they could and justified it by accepting that the stereotypes surrounding the homeless defined me. I became invisible and it was like I was less than human."

Harrison was left homeless after he had been laid off from his job as a purchasing manager when his company went under new management. Before he was able to get adjusted to being unemployed, his house burnt down.

He said he "would have been homeless right then had it not been for the kindness of a neighbor who let [him] live in the shed behind their house."

He was fortunate enough to get a grant that allowed him to go to college. He worked as a courier during the day and went to school at night. Unfortunately for Harrison, his car broke down during this time and it cost several hundred dollars to fix - money he did not have.

"I spent my last hundred dollars getting the car towed off the highway and into a parking lot and that's where I stayed that night," Harrison said. "When the car was towed away a few days later, I became homeless."

All four of the speakers emphasized that the biggest misconception surrounding the homeless community is that it can only happen to certain types of people.

"I never in my life thought I would be homeless," said Harris, who found himself homeless after a series of illnesses left him unable to perform at work. "I was a smart kid. So smart, I got a 1440 on my SAT in high school. I was college-bound and everyone knew I was going places in life. But unexpected things can happen to anyone, and that is what happened to me. Homelessness can happen to anyone."

The event, sponsored by the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, was part of the Homeless Awareness Week at Elon. Many members of the organization have also been collecting

spare change from students in tin cans to donate to Allied Churches of Alamance County, which will be used to help the homeless.

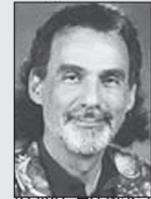
The National Coalition for the Homeless was founded in 1982 and "is a national network of people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness, activists and advocates, community-based and faith-based service providers, and others committed to a single mission: to end homelessness," according to its Web site.

It works simultaneously to create attitude changes necessary to preventing further homelessness and also to offer immediate help to those who have already been made homeless.

"What I really hope everyone here tonight has learned is that people who are, or have been, homeless are our neighbors and still members of our community," Harrison said. "Just treat us with the same respect that you would want us to treat you with if you fell on hard times. And maybe next time you see someone who is on the streets, instead of looking at your shoes as you pass, give them a smile."

Did you know?

- There were 744,000 homeless people in America in 2005, according to the first national estimate since 1996.
- A little more than half were living in shelters.
- 1.35 million children are homeless on any given night
- 44 percent of the homeless population did paid work in the last month
- 22 percent have been physically and 7 percent sexually assaulted



Ken Hassell

today see Ken distinguished, intelligent passion for teaching that society didn't always shine his light. Hassell had just an Francisco area with name and no place to live. He was forced to live on the streets and often ate at a Catholic free

documentary photographer." Hassell said. "The most devastating aspect of the experience was how I was treated. I felt like I wasn't even a person anymore, which is one of the many reasons I chose to become a documentary photographer."

Though he dedicated most of his time to finding a job, his lack of an address proved to be a hindrance. Hassell said the lack of resources available to homeless people is one of the biggest strikes against them, and actually further perpetuates their situation.

"The biggest thing college students can do to help rectify the growing problem of homelessness in America is to suspend their judgment of others and simply be compassionate," Hassell said. "No one chooses to be homeless, and there needs to be a community of people willing to help those who have fallen on hard times. Use the privilege of an education to do some good for this world."

Alli: controversial diet pill

Joi Mayo
Reporter

America is a country seemingly fixated with two conflicting ideas: eating and being thin. While Americans are encouraged by advertisements to eat out, the media presents those same consumers with ideal beauty as being thin. With such conflicting messages, it's easy to see why so many Americans turn to diet pills.

Dieting Americans now have a new option: Alli, the first-ever dietary weight loss supplement that has been approved by the FDA for over-the-counter use.

Alli is different from other diet pills in that it works to prevent the body from absorbing fat that is consumed. Many believe that this idea is revolutionary because fat contains double the amount of calories as carbohydrates or protein. GlaxoSmithKline, the makers of Alli, claim that the pill, along with exercise and a diet that is low in calories and fat, can help people increase the amount of weight that they lose by about 50 percent more than diet and exercise alone.

Many people are already familiar with Alli's main chemical, orlistat, a drug that has been used in Xenical, a weight loss drug that has been used in 145 countries around the world, including the United States.

GlaxoSmithKline's Web site says that unlike Xenical and other weight loss drugs, Alli does not affect the nervous system, brain or heart. Users of other diet drugs have experienced a dramatic increase in heart and brain activity.

Despite Alli's promising claims, the

drug does come with side effects.

"Most medical and health professionals agree that an effective weight loss drug that can be used over time without adverse side effects does not exist," said Resa Walch, a senior Health and Human Performance lecturer at Elon. "Past weight loss drugs, prescription and over the counter, that showed promise were later found to have dangerous side effects resulting in recalls."

Users of Alli are cautioned to limit sodium intake and to only ingest 15 grams of fat per meal because the drug makes it difficult for fat to pass through the body. Following a meal high in fat and sodium, dieters may experience gas with oily spotting and diarrhea. In fact, the company has recommended that women wear panty liners after they begin the Alli program.

Because Alli can be bought over-the-counter, it has the potential to be bought by anyone without the recommendation or approval of a doctor. Critics worry that Alli may be abused by teenagers or generally healthy people who do not need to shed any extra pounds.

Walch worries that college students may be more susceptible to misleading advertising regarding weight-loss drugs.

"The college environment is a place where many students struggle with body image, body satisfaction, and weight issues," said Walch. "[College students] should practice extreme caution related to the use of these drugs ... The key to reaching and maintaining a healthy weight is through the development of sustainable lifestyle choices around healthy eating and activity levels."

Former Elon athlete makes a difference for Burlington youth

Malik Daronce Daniels
Reporter

The bond between teammates is one that is rarely duplicated. It is a connection based on trust and understanding, and the belief that even through adversity, team members can rely on each other. This lesson is one that some student-athletes at Elon are using both as a foundation and a teaching tool to help the youth of Burlington.

Sophomore Kyle Johnson became involved with the Boys & Girls Club of Burlington when a football coach approached him, offering him the opportunity to do community service throughout Burlington. Johnson felt that the best way to make a difference was by working with children.

"I was nervous at first working at the Boys & Girls Club," said Johnson, a former Elon football player. "Football helped me be able to open up to the kids more, because I'm so used to being around people who are so different from me."

During the past few months, Johnson has become a mentor to Robert, a local teenager who is a member of a juvenile correction

organization. Robert is an aspiring basketball player, and Johnson hopes to show him that with hard work, he can overcome the adversity of his past to succeed in the future.

Johnson has brought Robert to numerous sporting events at Elon, and introduced him to members of the football, softball and women's basketball teams. Johnson also took him to one of the men's basketball practices so that he could see what it takes to excel in his sport.

Robert now has dreams of coming to Elon to play basketball, an opportunity that he feels can be reached thanks to the help of his mentor.

"It made me realize the power of a college student, and how much influence we have," Johnson said. "And we never really realize how much [kids] listen."

Johnson now wants to reach out to other youth and try to pass on skills that he has developed by playing football.

"I'm going to try to bring some more kids from the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford down to some game as well," Johnson said. "Hopefully inspire some more people to want to go to college."

Beyond the hype: a look at Mormonism

Sarah Beth Costello
Reporter

The Yearning for Zion (YFZ) Ranch near Eldorado, Texas, has appeared in the news for several weeks. The members of this Mormon sect have received extensive media coverage regarding alleged child abuse and polygamy among its members. This Texan sect is not recognized by the Mormon Church, also known as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and is certainly not representative of the religion as a whole.

The community members of YFZ dress in pioneer-style garb and use no modern technologies. They believe that Christ has commanded the men to practice plural marriage, or polygamy.

According to the official Web site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, polygamy was practiced in the early days of Mormonism after the founder, Joseph Smith, claimed to have received a divine revelation to pursue

plural marriage because of Biblical examples of polygamy.

Later, polygamy was banned and many Mormons left or were excommunicated from the church because of their desire to continue practicing polygamy. Some descendants of these individuals continue to live conservatively, abstaining from modern commodities, dressing modestly and practicing polygamy.

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints embrace technology and modern appliances. They do not recognize polygamous groups as part of their church.

"The polygamy sect in Texas is not associated with the mainstream Mormon church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," said senior Caitlin Magidson, a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"I'm a convert to the church, actually," Magidson said. "I was baptized my



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.LDSCHURCHTEMPLES.COM

North Carolina's only Mormon temple is right outside the city of Raleigh. The temple was opened in 1999, becoming the 68th operating temple in the United States.

freshman year."

Before coming to Elon, Magidson visited Mormon churches with her family but never joined because of her mother's Jewish background. But Magidson now attends services on a regular basis, even attending some while she was studying abroad in Costa Rica. She says a typical service lasts three hours.

"The first hour is called the Sacrament meeting, where they partake of bread and water and listen to talks prepared by the congregation," Magidson said. "The second hour is like Sunday School." For the third hour, the men and women have separate Bible studies. They then meet together to discuss scripture and things they have learned.

While Mormons believe that men and women are equals, they also view the genders differently. Mormons believe that men and women have different responsibilities. Though the Texan sect has been criticized for promoting

child marriage and rape, the mainstream Mormon church treats women as equal beings, and they do not practice abuse, rape, child marriage or polygamy.

"The men of the church hold the priesthood, which is the power to act in the name of God," Magidson said.

Women are involved in The Relief Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one of the largest relief organizations in the world. The church is ministry-oriented and members have served in hundreds of countries. Magidson is applying to work as a short-term missionary after college, though she does not know whether she will be sent abroad or somewhere in the United States.

Though Magidson is unsure of her future missions within the church, she is sure about one thing; the Texan sect is not representative of her church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"Ever walked in on a conversation and wish you hadn't? Overhear a comment that made you wonder just how rigorous Elon's admission process is? Here's the place to share."

Sophomore Nick Massa created "Overheard by Elon U," a Facebook group that highlights ridiculous comments made by Elon students. The group features daily posts and hosts nearly 600 members, a number that has been growing at least 100 per week.

After finding out that the pool had turned brown and the drain was clogged up with mud:

"But how do they know it was someone from Festivus?"
-overheard by Amanda Gross

"I swear this tree was not here yesterday. I think they moved it during the night!"

-overheard by Laura Beth Goodman

"I mean, at the beginning, giving birth must be kind of pleasurable, right?"
-overheard by Matt Blalock

"I have to write down my hobbies. Is tanning a hobby?"
-overheard by Michael Allen

"I am a flamboyant gay man trapped inside of a girl's body!"
-overheard by Sarah Barrett

During Clinton's visit to Elon:
"Oh my God! What if Bill came to Greek Week Dance!"
-overheard by Beth Shannon

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Elon graduates stick around

Cynthia Pope
Reporter

While most graduates are busy mapping out their post-graduate plans far away from Elon, a surprising number of graduates have stuck around throughout the years.

During the past 10 years, a few Elon graduates have gained positions as full-time faculty or staff members at the university.

As soon as they received their diplomas, they instantly entered the workforce without going far from campus. People might ask how, but a lot of alumni's full time jobs are closely related to the part-time jobs they had on campus as students.

Melisha Chamra graduated in May 2003 and started working as an assistant director of annual giving by June. As an undergraduate, Chamra worked in the annual giving department, and was interested in working in the alumni and advancement office. Chamra said she loved the students at Elon and being able to work with them is a great benefit. But on many occasions, she is still mistaken for one.

"The funniest thing was when I first started working here, everyone thought I was a student," Chamra said. "People still think I'm a student now, and I've been here for five years."

She said getting people used to not thinking of her as a student was her biggest issue.

Denard Jones had a similar experience. He graduated from Elon in May 2003 and became an assistant director of admissions in June.

"I worked in admissions for two to three years so I knew the people," Jones said. "I just thought it would be a good opportunity for me."

As an Elon staff member, Jones can stay connected to the university more than other alumni can, especially with athletic events. But with the social benefits, his difficulties are similar to Chamra.

"I guess one of the harshest things is making the transitions from being a student to being a professional member," Jones said. "It's one of the toughest hardships, but I'm glad to still be here."

Chamra and Jones both came to Elon in the fall of 1999 and have witnessed many changes on campus since then.

"I know there are a lot of new study abroad programs," said Chamra, who studied abroad during her junior year at Elon. She also noted big changes like the development of the Koury Business Center and the Elon University School of Law.

Jones has noticed that Elon is more nationally recognized. When he travels to areas like Washington, D.C., Maryland and Delaware, he runs into a lot more alumni than he did before.

Along with Jones and Chamra, class of 2007 graduate Clifton Johnson has joined the Elon workforce.

Johnson worked as a Moseley Center staff member since his freshman year in the fall of 2003. He is now an assistant director of Moseley Center facilities scheduling and conferencing — a position specifically created around his area of expertise.

"When I was job searching, I heard about this job opening and it was kind of similar to what I did here when I was an undergrad," Johnson said. "I thought about going into higher education and student affairs ... so it was the perfect job for me."

Since his first year at Elon, he said, tuition has increased drastically. There are more dorms, dining options, and buildings, along with new minors and course offerings. Like Chamra and Jones, the transition from a student to an employee is challenging for Johnson.

"I would say it's kind of hard because I'm professional now, so I really cannot hang out with students as much," he said. "I have to be more conscious of my actions."



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photo Editor

Junior Brian Hahn sings "Shine" by Take That, one of Rip_Chord's classic songs that was revamped with new choreography for their spring concert Friday and Saturday nights.

Rip_Chord ends the year on a high note

Ashley Barnas
News Editor

As Max Korn peeped out from behind the wall flap on the stage of Yeager Recital Hall, the audience burst into raucous cheers and applause.

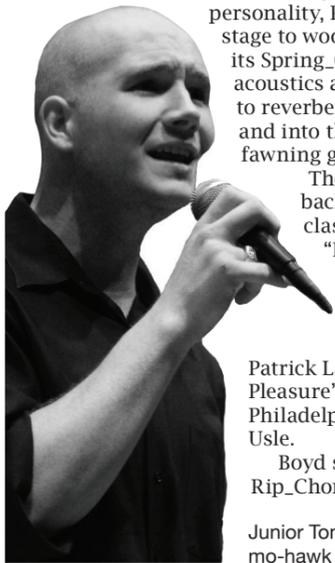
He timidly approached the mic downstage and sang in a slow and soulful tone: "My milkshake brings all the boys to the yard."

The rest of the Rip_Chord guys sheepishly entered the stage through the same flap, one-by-one, looking around innocently as though they were lost. Progressively, they joined in the slow song and landed in their usual half-moon formation. That's when things picked up into the usual tempo.

Clad in khakis, dress shirts, ties and shoes that matched each guy's individual personality, Rip_Chord took the stage to woo the audience in its Spring_Concert. The hall's acoustics allowed each syllable to reverberate off the walls and into the hearts of the fawning girls in the audience.

The group brought back some of its classics, including "Imagine Me and You" with Tom Boyd, "Gavin's Song" with Korn, "Mad World" with Patrick Lane and "Instant Pleasure" and "Streets of Philadelphia" with Justin Usle.

Boyd sang another Rip_Chord classic, "Chasing



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

Junior Tom Boyd surprised the crowd with his changing hair: He started the show with a mo-hawk and shaved it off during intermission.

Cars." Before he could sing a second line of the song, "Yea, Tom!" was screamed by a girl from the back of the hall. "Sorry," she threw in a moment later.

Patrick Lane joined Boyd for gorgeous harmonies so typical of the all-male cappella group.

Korn arranged and sang "Apologize," with resounding eerie monk-like harmonies in the background and strong stomps on the wooden floors, ridden with claps.

Philip Zakas, holder of the pitch pipe, led the group in its ever-popular "Real Men of Genius" along with Alex Lane's phrase repetition in rocker style.

"Today, we salute you, Koury Fountain," Zakas began. "It must be nice to be the biggest fountain in North Carolina ... you shoot water over two stories high. Lucky for you, size does matter." The audience erupted in laughter as Lane and Zakas slyly smiled.

"I can't think of a better way to spend \$1 million," Zakas finished with a pinky on his lip, imitating Dr. Evil from the Austin Power movies.

The group dedicated one of its final songs, "Drops of Jupiter" sung by Dan Rickershauser, to Darrick Penny, a member of the group who graduated last year and returned for the concert.

The group revamped "Ain't No Sunshine," sung by Boyd, with a reggae beat. The sound of steeldrums was produced by beat-boxer, Alex Lane, making the tinny, plunking sounds.

When the concert seemed to have ended, the group received a standing ovation. To the audience's surprise, Rip_Chord had one more song to sing and Zach McGee broke out into "See You Again" by Miley Cyrus.

The guys were bouncing around and jogging in place, clearly enjoying themselves and their finale.

"It was a week before the show and I threw it together," John Ed Planisek said of his arrangement of the group's surprise ending song.

After Rip_Chord's final performance of the year, Zakas said, "Everything's changed." The guys have changed the way they practice, warm up and arrange songs. And they've changed as a group.

"We've found our strengths and our weaknesses," Zakas said. "We're building off what we can do and what we do well."

Zakas said they pick songs that sound rich and balanced, and work well with harmonies. "Basically once we've found our audience, we pick what we know will be received well," he said. They also pick "some tear-jerkers and heart-breakers."

When Rip_Chord formed in fall 2006, the guys practiced together three times a week. When members passed each other around campus, they said hi and acknowledged each other's presence, Josh Tate said. Now, they still practice three times a week, but spend countless hours hanging out after rehearsal.

Their performances reflect their friendship, Zakas said.

Each week, they "go over old songs and mess around with them," Zakas said. "Minor tweaks are easy to do, but they make a heck of a difference."

Rip_Chord will begin recording its first CD during fall break, aiming for a CD release during its spring concert in 2009. The CD will be a demo with six of the group's best songs.

Unfortunately, the group does not have enough money to produce a CD with more than six songs, Zakas said.

"All the money we have is from fundraisers and donations." And they make about \$1,000 from concerts like this one, he said.

How can people give Rip_Chord money toward its CD?

"They can take it out of their wallet and hand it to me," Zakas said, smiling. "Any time, any place."

"Or we accept checks," Planisek added, also grinning.

"They can make it out to Rip_Chord," Zakas said. "Don't forget the underscore."

BARACK N' ROLL



Alexa Milan
A & E Editor

Barack Obama's campaign is taking a musical approach to promoting the One-Stop Early Voting drive with a series of "Change Rocks" concerts. "Change Rocks" will feature indie bands Arcade Fire and Superchunk in Greensboro on May 1 and in Carrboro on May 2.

The goal of the One-Stop Early Voting

campaign is to get first-time voters out to the polls. The process allows people who have never voted and people who are not registered to register and vote at the same time. Obama's campaign hopes that the concerts will particularly encourage students to vote.

After holding concerts in Ohio in small concert halls, Obama's campaign decided to hold the concerts in North Carolina outside so as many people who want to attend can attend. According to Craig Schirmer, the North Carolina state director of Obama's campaign, the One-Stop Early Voting process has brought out new, young voters in every state so far, and he is confident the same will happen in North Carolina.

"Our focus here is to educate and inform and encourage young people, and people of all ages, to go out and participate in democracy," Schirmer said. "Whoever they cast their vote for, [they can] be a part of changing politics in Washington by being a part of this process."

Arcade Fire's Win Butler agrees that

getting people to go out to the polls is the most powerful way to make change.

"This is a defining moment for this country," Butler said in a press release for "Change Rocks." "We want to encourage people to get up, get out and go vote."

According to Superchunk's Mac McCaughan, music is a great way to get young people's attention and raise awareness of key political issues.

"People are incredibly excited about this election and this primary," McCaughan said in the same press release. "Our music is a unique way to get people involved and participating."

Arcade Fire is a Montreal-based indie rock band who earned Grammy Award nominations for its first two albums and recently completed a worldwide tour. Superchunk is based in Chapel Hill and has released eight albums since it formed in 1989.

Tickets to the "Change Rocks" concerts are available at Obama campaign locations in Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Alamance,

Orange, Durham and Wake Counties. Tickets are free but are required to get into the concerts, and only one ticket can be picked up per person. For more information, visit www.nc.barackobama.com or call 1-888-NCEARLY.

"Change Rocks" coming soon

GREENSBORO
Thursday May 1 at 1 p.m.
Greensboro Coliseum Complex Pavilion
Parking Lot
1921 W. Lee St.
336-332-0028

CARRBORO
Friday May 2 at 1 p.m.
Carrboro Town Commons
301 W. Main St.
919-929-3460

BLACK BOX THEATER

Performing arts students showcase two new productions as part of CELEBRATE! 2008

The cast rehearses for Elon alumnus Chris Miller's untitled new musical, which will premiere as part of the Black Box Festival during CELEBRATE! week. The musical tells the story of a prodigal son returning home to Depression-era Alabama.



ALEXA MILAN | Photographer



ALEXA MILAN | Photographer

Alexa Milan
A&E Reporter

The Black Box Theater will house two very different productions this week as "How I Learned to Drive" and a new untitled musical tentatively called the Musical Theater Project, run April 29 through May 3 on alternating days.

The Musical Theater Project is not a traditional musical but rather a presentation about the process of creating an original stage production. The show will involve the original work of Elon alumnus Chris Miller, whose "Fugitive Songs" recently ran off-Broadway.

The first part of the show, or frontpiece, is comprised of a variety of songs that Miller has composed. The second part is a staged reading of Miller's new musical.

"It's a total blessing to have such talented people bring [the story] to life," Miller said.

The students participating in the production all agree that getting to do the show is a big deal. This is the first time that Miller's musical has been performed anywhere. No other performers have done the show and no other audiences have seen it before now.

"For this show, we only have the material and what it means to us," senior Jeff Ostermueller said.

The musical tells the story of a prodigal son character and what happens when he returns home to Alabama during the Great Depression.

Since this production will be a staged reading, there will be minimal sets, costumes and props. It is an opportunity for musical theater students to have a professional workshop experience, which will include feedback from the audience at the end of the show.

"They're getting the chance to do something they may not get to do until they've been in New York awhile," said Lynne Formato, assistant professor of dance and the show's director.

The cast agrees that Miller's music is something special. Sophomore Mike

Sherry described it as "rock meets pop meets folk" and freshman Barrett Weed called it "unreal." Weed first heard Miller's music in high school and instantly fell in love with it.

"It's the most beautiful song I've heard in my entire life," Weed said. "And I'm not exaggerating."

When the Musical Theater Project isn't being performed this week, students can see "How I Learned to Drive," a completely different kind of play. Directed by sophomore Sarah Pace, the play is a dark comedy about a girl who is molested by her uncle. It is told from the perspective of the girl looking back on what has made her who she is, as she goes from hurt to acceptance to forgiveness.

Pace said she was attracted to the play because it portrays the situation as "devastating and real" while also showing that sometimes all a person can do is laugh.

"It's a different story and a really brave story," Pace said.

"How I Learned to Drive," written by Paula Vogel, is rooted in the style of Greek theater, including a chorus in addition to the principal actors. It was inspired by Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita," which details a man's sexual obsession with his teenage stepdaughter. It was difficult material for Pace's first experience directing a play, but she said she was up for the challenge.

Pace spent the last two months working with her peers to present the play's content in a way that people could relate to.

She said that while abuse is not something everyone can relate to, "Drive" is primarily about relationships. Pace also said she hopes that students will walk away from the play thinking about its content and message.

"Theater is something that should spark discussion and challenge you," Pace said.

Though "How I Learned to Drive" and the Musical Theater Project are completely different stories, both productions should do just that.

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PLAY REVIEW ★★★★★

Shakespeare in the 60s: 'Midsummer' is a hit

Amanda Kennison
Reviewer

In the span of approximately two hours, Elon's theater department managed to redefine a 400-year-old classic. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is one of William Shakespeare's most popular comedies, but the students' performance certainly brought a unique, humorous and lively spin to the Renaissance favorite.

It's difficult finding a new take on a centuries-old play, but under the guidance of director Fred Ruback the cast and crew of "Midsummer" found an interpretation all their own. Keeping the Shakespearean dialogue and original plot outline, Elon's production infused a new energy with the help of a five-person live band and a 1960s setting.

To open the show "The Topsy Bacchanals" provided a concert that hyped the audience up. Throughout the play it performed classic hits, which perfectly reflected the themes and emotions being portrayed by the actors. This production offered more evidence to the fact that 1960s music can make anything better, even Shakespeare.

Much praise should be given to all the actors involved. Casting for the show hit the center of the bull's eye. The chemistry between the young lovers Hermia (sophomore Chelsey McGinnis), Lysander (junior Christopher Kiley), Demetrius (sophomore Edward Schmit) and Helena (sophomore Joanna Bateman) was overwhelming.

Their personalities richly complemented each other. Equally powerful was the bond between bickering fairy royalty Oberon (sophomore Mark St. Cyr) and Titania (senior Emily Golden).

These two portrayed the love/hate relationship of their characters with biting precision.

Other ensembles of the cast provided a dynamic performance. The fairies proved perfectly in sync. Their spontaneous dance numbers and flitting across the stage gave the show jolts of energy exactly in the most deserving places.

Particularly impressive was the play-within-a-play troupe. Headed by Nick Bottom (sophomore Justin Wooten) and Peter Quince (freshman Jeffrey Masters), the hapless group performed with a hilarity Shakespeare only wished he could have had.

Special recognition must be given to the stage crew and costume designers. The visual aspects of the play were absolutely amazing. Granted, more than a few audience members probably felt like they were experiencing an acid trip. But, this only added to the appeal of the performance.

One thing that was particularly impressive about the show was the multiple functions the costumes served. Lysander's disheveled, hippie-inspired look contrasted nicely with the button-down Demetrius, who was considered a better match for Hermia. Helena and Hermia's school uniforms nicely captured the innocent yet rebellious nature of the characters.

Despite the starkly different periods the production was working with, the group was able to merge them together quite smoothly. Even the most die-hard Shakespeare fans could find something to appreciate in Elon's rendition. The mixture of music, comedy and aesthetic appeal made this twist on Shakespeare quite unforgettable.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

Nick Bottom, played by sophomore Justin Wooten, finishes a dramatic monologue in the play he performs with his troupe of acting roughnecks.



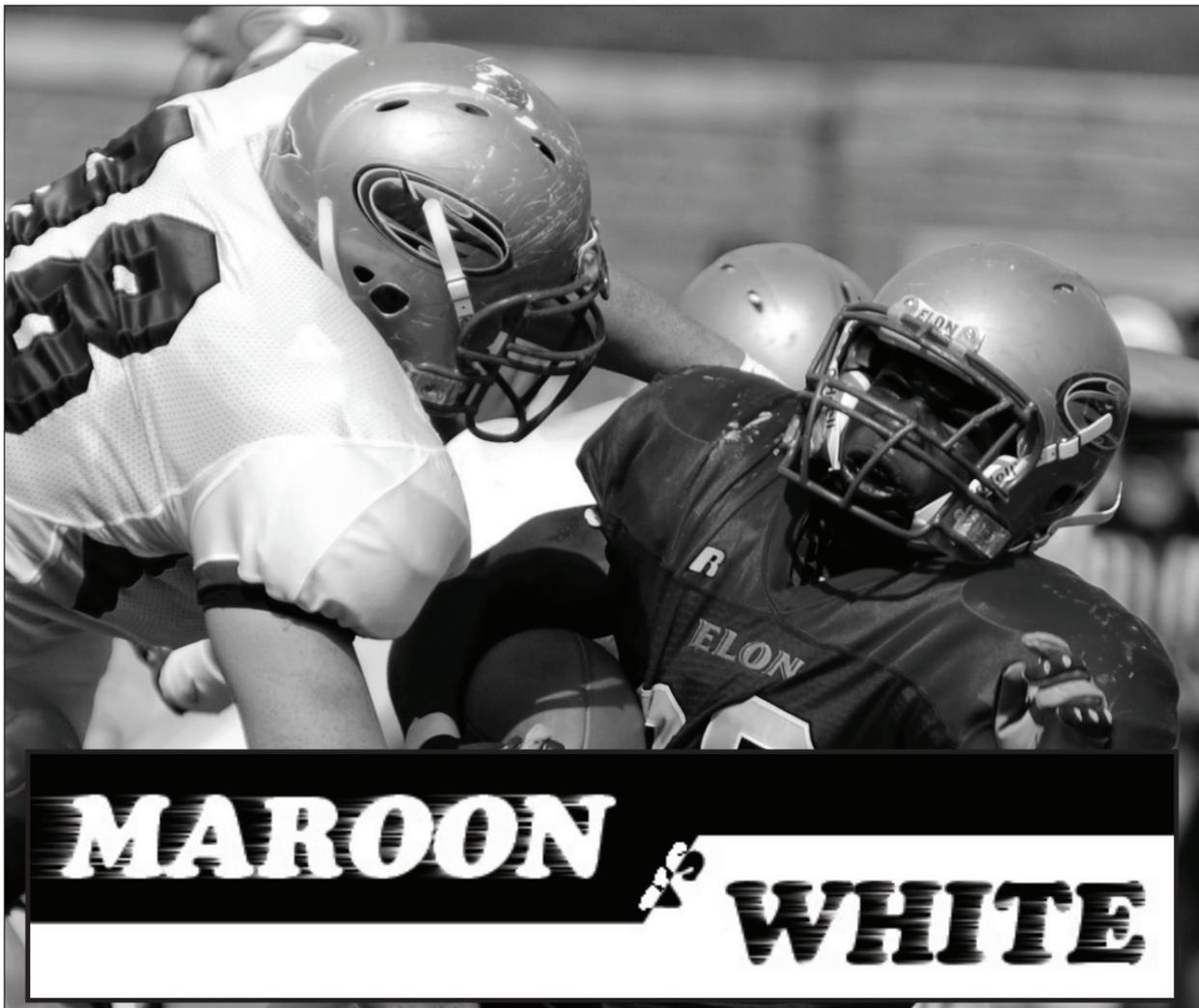
ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

ABOVE: Demetrius (center, played by sophomore Edward Schmit) fights with Lysander (right, played by junior Christopher Kiley) for the hand of Helena as Hermia (left, played by sophomore Chelsey McGinnis) looks on in horror.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

LEFT: Puck (played by sophomore Laura Baker) causes all the trouble in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" when he places love potion on the wrong man's eyes.



Running back Dontay Taylor is taken down by defensive powerhouse Walker White.

ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

Defense springs to life, defeats offense for the win

Michelle Longo
Sports Editor

If the slogan "offense wins games, defense wins championships" holds true and the spring game is a precedent of what is to come for the Elon Phoenix football team, next fall should be an exciting showdown.

Burning from its defensive slump toward the end of last season that ultimately left them out of the playoffs, the defense was determined to show its best.

And the best it showed as the defense defeated the record-breaking offense 31-20 in the spring game at Rhodes Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

"I was pleased with today in terms of the basics, like being in position," head coach Pete Lembo said. "We did the basic things well that we usually struggle with in the spring."

The rejuvenated defense, decked in white, held the maroon offense, a nationally-ranked unit in the Football Championship Subdivision last fall, to just one touchdown coming into the final seconds of the scrimmage. The men in white also forced four turnovers, three interceptions and a

SPRING GAME SCORING CARDS

OFFENSIVE SCORING		DEFENSIVE SCORING	
Touchdown for Gain of 25+ yards	3 points	Interception of Fumble Recovery	3 points
First Down	1 point	Pass Breakup	1 point
Defensive Pass Interference	1 point	Offensive Pass Interference	1 point
Field Goal	1 point	Force Offense to Punt	1 point

fumble.

The defense was led by sophomore free-safety, Cameron McGlenn, who tallied all three of the defense's interceptions, two of which were caught in the end zone. He also recorded three tackles and a sack.

"[In the off-season] the defense worked hard and got better to help the team," McGlenn said. "We know we have to finish and not give up for the next season."

After going the entire fall with no pick-offs, McGlenn almost recorded five in the scrimmage. Two potential grabs were just out of his reach, including another one in the end zone.

McGlenn said he was just "working hard because Coach Lembo tried to make it like a game situation."

In addition to the defense, the special teams unit also enjoyed

success. Junior kicker Andrew Wilcox hit nine of his 10 field goal attempts, including one from 48 yards out. Junior Brandon Lane booted six punts

for an average of more than 40 yards per punt.

"I was very pleased with our punt unit," Lembo said. "Lane crushed the punts into the wind and Wilcox was solid."

An offense that broke record after record and received a multitude of awards last fall was limited to 261 total yards, 11 first downs and only one touchdown in 78 plays.

Sophomore starting quarterback Scott Riddle completed just 15 of 36 passes for 138 yards with one interception and one touchdown. Terrell Hudgins grabbed seven balls for 62 yards and one touchdown.

"If there is any disappointment it is that we never got in sync offensively," Lembo said. "We never got in rhythm. This should leave the offense humble."

Phoenix enjoys cool down time

After a rigorous battle between offense and defense, it was time for the Phoenix to have a little fun because, after all, it is spring football.

At the conclusion of the scrimmage, Scott Riddle, Terrell Hudgins, Nolan Ward, Corey Weaver, Tim Applegate and David Harrison marched up to the entrance of Rhodes Stadium and took their seats behind a long wooden table decked with blue and black Sharpie markers.

Everyone was already waiting. Fans, family and friends had already assembled a neat line waiting for their favorites to come up and give their autographs. The audience was well-equipped with new 2008 football season posters in their hands, gleaming brightly from the sun and the finishing gloss. All the posters seemed to be screaming, "sign me."

Sign them is just what the Phoenix did. For more than 20 minutes, the Phoenix sat and chatted and joked with the audience as they let their hands do a different kind of talking.

All enjoyed the process, especially parents who seemed to fuel the never-ending line. Just as it seemed the line was dwindling, players' parents would find those extra posters and capitalize on the opportunity exclaiming, "Oh just one more, I promise."

Of course, sometimes the posters piled up too fast and Weaver, being first on the systematic table, was caught off-guard and forced to rush.

"Ah, I messed that one up," he said. "See, I start with the O and go up to make it look good. But I messed up that time."

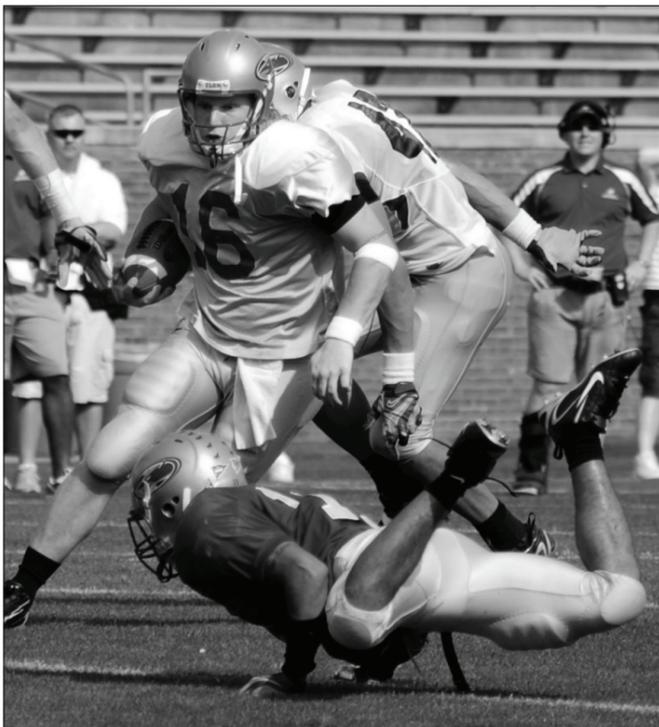
All-in-all it was a productive day for the Phoenix, on the field and off.

The usually explosive duo of Hudgins and Riddle was kept quiet by the defense, never tallying too many yards at a time. On the last play of the scrimmage with less than 40 seconds left, Riddle and the offense scored their only touchdown, an eight-yard pass, to Hudgins.

"It was good to get the monkey off our back, even if it took all day to do it," Riddle said. "It showed how much the defense has improved from last year."

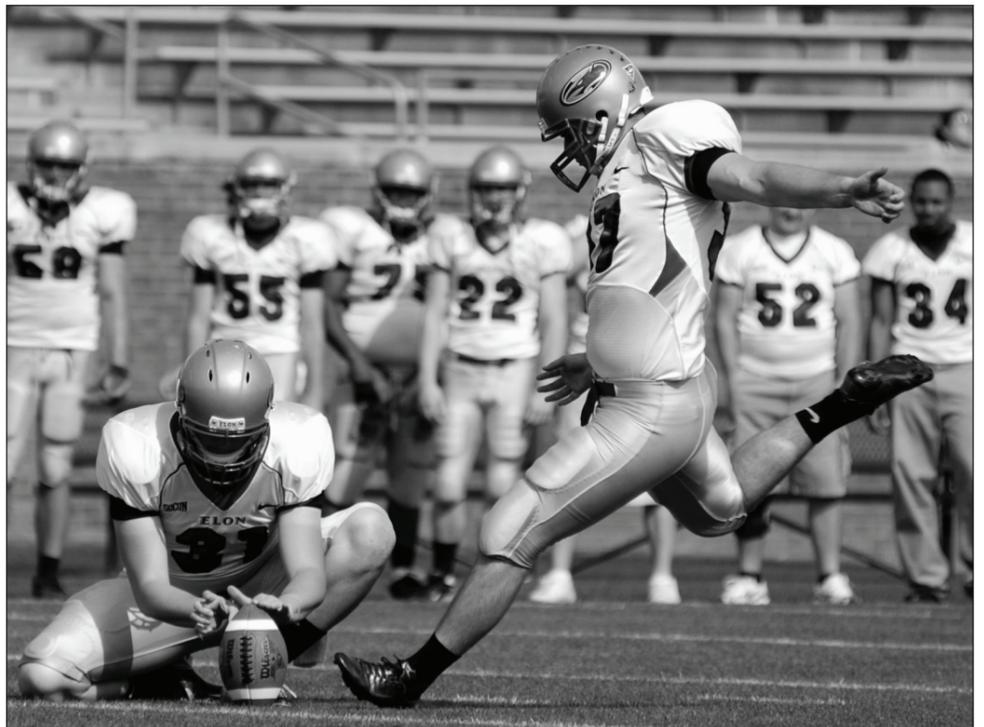
A team plagued by injuries at crucial crossroads during last season, the Phoenix has emerged from spring football unscathed.

"We were able to get through the game without injuries and through the entire spring," Lembo said. "It is a really good thing and is somewhat rare. That is a credit to Aaron Walker



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

Sophomore quarterback Scott Riddle runs the ball, trying desperately to gain yards through the improved defense in Saturday's scrimmage.



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

Junior Andrew Wilcox kicks the ball through the uprights in Saturday's scrimmage. He was 9-for-10 that day.

Men's lacrosse team may miss nationals

Final exams conflict with dates of national tournament, Elon may have to miss out

Michelle Longo
Sports Editor

Winning a championship is the ultimate feeling for any athlete. It is a feeling often said to be indescribable but epitomized by words like pride and joy.

It makes all the wind sprints, suicides, push-ups and calisthenics worth the time, energy and sore muscles.

It stands as living proof of the hard work and commitment a team has put into a season — through the trials and tribulations and through the wins and losses.

The trophy stands as a constant reminder of the greatness achieved in one season.

The men's club lacrosse team earned that trophy two weeks ago as it won the South Eastern Lacrosse Conference.

As would any team, the members celebrated their victory with smiles on their faces and happiness in their hearts.

That happiness would soon turn to hope. Hope for their team's immediate future and continued success, also known as the lacrosse national tournament in Dallas.

By winning the conference tournament, Elon's lacrosse team received the automatic bid to the Nationals. But, the Nationals are held the same week as Elon's final exams.

"We are working with the



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Elon men's lacrosse team holds the SELC trophy in the air. The team won the trophy two weeks ago, but may miss nationals due to final exams.

school right now to see if there is anything we can do to go," club president Chris Nolan said. "Maybe we can take our exams earlier or later."

The Club Sports Council, that oversees all club sports for Elon University, is in the midst of speaking to the upper faculty, such as deans of schools, deans of the university and President Lambert.

Many parents of the team's members have sent letters to Dean Smith Jackson and President Lambert showing their support for the team, the success they have enjoyed and the opportunity to play in the national tournament.

"The only thing we really need from the school is their support," Nolan said. "Financially, we can handle the expenses. We have provided our own coach and manager and found, designed and bought our own equipment. We are just looking for support."

The team is also concerned about any sanctions the league may impose if it fails to participate in the national tournament.

"We have gotten letters from league officials that were at first encouraging us and saying how well we can do," Nolan said. "But now they are starting to say we pretty much need to go to the tournament."

The road to the national tournament: the SELC tourney

The road to the national tournament was marked by a 7-1 regular season record, including a flawless mark in their division.

The conference tournament, held in Atlanta, played host to the top two teams from each division of the SELC: the North, middle and South.

Representing the North, Elon quickly racked up victories against Coastal Carolina University and Savannah College to propel the team to the finals, where it faced Emory University, its only defeat of the regular season.

"We knew Emory would be a tough battle," Nolan said. "Emory was the reigning champion and is well-funded. It is a well disciplined team and we knew it was going to be a tough battle."

Emory came out strong, controlling almost all of the game, dominating on the offensive side and possession time. Once leading 5-1, Emory did not see Elon come alive until it was too late.

Elon tied the score

6-6 with 30 seconds left.

Freshman goalie Andy Kestermann made an outstanding one-on-one save to preserve that tie.

Then, with 2.6 seconds left, captain Patrick Brooks scored the winning goal to seal the victory and the championship. He also made history.

With the defeat of top-seeded Emory, Elon became the first Division II team in the SELC lower than a second-seed to win the championship. The team also became the first in Elon's history to win the lacrosse championship and be invited to Nationals.

"I'm proud of the way our team has matured," Nolan said. "Four years ago, we were in trouble with the school, had sanctions from the league and had a bad reputation. That has gradually changed over the years, from the school's perspective and the league's. I think we deserve to go to Dallas because of all our hard work and how far we have come, together."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Athletes get awards for brains, not just talent

Elon's men's basketball, women's cross country and women's golf and volleyball teams have received recognition awards from the NCAA Division I for its multi-year Academic Progress Rate. The awards are part of the broad Division I academic reform effort.

For the second consecutive year, the cross-country, golf and volleyball teams earned perfect scores, while the basketball team narrowly missed by five points.

The four teams rank in the top 10 percent of all teams in the nation in their respective sports. Elon ranks third among Southern Conference schools in receiving public recognition accolades.

Phoenix takes series from UNCG

After losing the series opener 10-9, the baseball team came alive to take two straight wins from the Spartans.

Steven Hensley got his first loss of the season after surrendering five runs on four hits and two walks. He struck out three to break the tie and now sits atop Elon's career strikeouts list with 277.

In the last game of the series, the Phoenix refused to give up, winning an extra-inning battle 4-3.

After losing a two-run lead in the bottom of the eighth inning, the Phoenix fought back. Thomas Girdwood picked up his second victory in two days. He threw a career-long 2.2 innings, giving up just one hit. Starter Ken Ferrer got a no-decision, but threw a career-best 7.1 innings, allowing three runs on four hits.

Softball team loses series, takes final game

On a Saturday afternoon in Greensboro, the Phoenix was swept in a double-header against UNCG to begin a conference series.

Elon lost the first game 5-4. Leading up until the eighth inning, UNCG grabbed two runs in the bottom of the inning. The Spartans capitalized on Elon's only error of the game to plate the game-winning run.

The Phoenix fought back in the last game of the series, earning the win 4-2. Carol Lilley pitched 6.2 innings, allowing four hits and seven walks. She also added five strikeouts.

Fifth-place finish at outdoor track championships

The women's outdoor track and field team recorded a fifth-place finish this weekend at the Southern Conference Championships at Western Carolina University.

It is the highest the team has finished since joining the SoCon.

Fourteen athletes finished in the top five and 26 finished in the top 10.

Jennine Strange posted a second-place finish in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:15.05.

Katie White also recorded a second-place finish in the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:52.85.

Katelyn Ealer got a fourth-place finish in the 10,000-meter run and Andrea March finished third in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:05.22.

Emily Fournier finished fourth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Tamara Burnett Reporter

The Elon women's golf team made its name known at the Southern Conference Championship, finishing third overall and naming two players to the 2008 All-Conference Team.

Junior Danielle Mills helped lead the way for the Phoenix, finishing second overall (71-75-76-222). Mills, along with senior captain Samantha Widmer, was chosen for the All-Conference team. Widmer is a three-time All-SoCon player and tied for eighth (75-78-76-229) in the championship.

"When you are a senior, you really have to trust your ability to play a great game of golf and reflect on the good rounds you have had at Elon," Widmer said. "In order to play well at the conference, I made sure my mental game was up to par and that I was focused."

The three-day, three-game tournament was held at the Links at Stono Ferry in Hollywood, S.C., from April 20-April 22.

Furman University won the championship, followed by UNC-Greensboro in second. Elon finished ahead of the College of Charleston and Chattanooga.

"Even though we did not win, we tried our hardest and that is all a captain can ask for," Widmer said.

In her first season with the Phoenix, freshman Tara McFadden broke the top 20, tying for 18th overall.

Junior Taylor Johnson, who tied for 26th and sophomore Kelsey Johnson, 30th place, rounded out Elon's top five.

The SoCon Championship concluded the Phoenix's

Women's golf grabs SoCon bronze



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Samantha Widmer, senior captain of the women's golf team, tied for eighth in the SoCon championship. Elon finished third overall.

season. Highlights of the year include first place finishes in both the Sea Trail Invitational in September and the Wofford Invitational in March and second place finishes in the Great Smokies Intercollegiate and the Campbell Invitational.

"I think that our team had a good spring season, finishing with a few top three results," Mills said. "I would have liked to have won the conference championship, but that's definitely a goal set for next year."



EDITORS WANTED!

The Pendulum is hiring for several positions that will be opening in the fall. All positions require five office hours a week and come with a weekly stipend. Come by our office on Williamson to pick up an application.

Call 336-278-7247 or e-mail oallen@elon.edu for more information.

Opinions Editor

Do you have things to say? Are you the type of person who always has an opinion on everything? Then, join our staff as the opinions editor. We're looking for someone who is highly motivated and dedicated to accuracy to lead our editorial and opinions pages. A qualified candidate would have strong writing and research skills, an ability to work well with others and lots of opinions!

Design Editor

Do you dream of text boxes, well-placed pictures and awesome infographics? Are you loving the Pendulum's new look? Then join our staff as a design editor. We're looking for someone who is creative, fun and pays a high attention to detail to join our design team. A qualified candidate would have strong InDesign and Photoshop skills. Headline and cutline writing skills are important too! Spelling abilities are a bonus! (Colombia vs. Columbia - it's a toughie!)

Graphics Editor

If Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign feature in your ideal way to spend an afternoon, then you'd be perfect for The Pendulum. The student newspaper is looking for an energetic, artistic student to join our team of designers and editors. Duties will include designing anything from pie charts to creating graphic art for articles. A strong candidate will have an artistic eye and a be creative with a mouse.

News Editor

Are you someone who always likes to be in the know? Are you willing to drop everything for a breaking story? Do you consume the news like none other? Then, join our staff as a news editor. We're looking for someone who is focused, driven, responsible and intelligent to serve as one of our co-news editors. A qualified candidate would have strong writing and editing skills, work well with others and be comfortable in a leadership position.

Photo Editor

Do the terms toning, rule of thirds and shutter speed mean anything to you? Do you carry your camera everywhere? Then, join our staff as a photo editor. We're looking for someone who can wield the camera like none other. A qualified candidate would have strong photography skills, be talented with Photoshop and have a superior knowledge of how to work a camera. Click!

Multimedia Editor

Convergence! The Pendulum is looking for a web-saavy student interested in running the multimedia arm of the newspaper. The new multimedia editor will be responsible for assigning and creating multimedia and interactive content for the Web site. Interested students should have photo and video production skills, as well as a knowledge of multimedia authoring. Flash skills would be great, but aren't necessary.

Golf teams compete in SoCon tournaments

Tamara Burnett
Reporter

Senior Jimmy Lytle was named to the 2008 All-Conference Team for the third consecutive season as he led the Phoenix to a sixth place finish in the men's SoCon Championship.

The three-day, three-round tournament took place April 20 through April 22 at the Country Club of South Carolina. Lytle (75-68-73) tied for fourth with College of Charleston's Harrison Moore with a combined 216.

"There's no doubt that this season has been bittersweet," Lytle said. "We won a couple tournaments but we have had a lot of struggles as a team."

No. 12 Chattanooga won the SoCon Championship, one over par followed by the College of Charleston and Western Carolina University in third.

Sophomore Jayson Judy tied for 27th (74-

74-78-226), senior Justin Newton finished in 31st (79-76-74-229) with sophomore Phil Bartholomew just behind, tied for 32nd (77-72-81-230). Elon freshman Steve Dressel finished 35th (73-80-78-231).

"This was my last chance to play in the SoCon tournament," Lytle said. "It was kind of a weird feeling but at the same time I have plenty of tournaments under my belt."

In addition to Lytle, the team will also graduate Justin Newton, who earned the team's Coach's Award this season. Newton tied for second at the Wofford Invitational, his season-best finish.

"Our team is one of the most talented, and we wanted to show everyone what we could do," Bartholomew said. "We are all very close and have confidence in each other, so playing well for the team is always on our minds."

The Phoenix's season has

fluctuated throughout the year, with highlights including winning the Sea Trail Invitational in September and the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate Tournament in February and then finishing second at the Lonnie D. Small Spring Classic.

"As with any season, we have to take positives out of the experience; we did win two tournaments and came in second in another," Bartholomew said. "We just have to prepare for next

year and be ready to play our best on a consistent basis in order to get our program to the next level."

Jimmy Lytle has been the most consistent player for the Phoenix all season.



Sophomore Jayson Judy finished tied for 27 in the tournament.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Leonard brings international tennis stars to Elon



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Assistant Coach Anuwat Dalodom congratulates freshman Alberto Rojas after winning his match in a game earlier this season. Rojas is from Atlatlhuacan, Mexico.

WEB from page 24

A new era

There was a time when international tennis players could be recruited at the college-level with very little effort.

That time has passed.

"If you get a kid nowadays that's a top junior, most of the schools know about him," Leonard said. "So you have to sell him."

Leonard uses the Internet, a new standard recruiting tool, in search of good players.

Along with the Internet, Leonard recruits by watching nearly endless video of potential players.

The same way that Leonard finds the players in the same way that players find Leonard.

"You aren't going to trick an international kid now," Leonard said. "There's too much they can find out."

Leonard can't simply pick any foreign player to invite to the school because there isn't enough money.

He is constantly strapped for scholarships and funding to bring in some of the world's top high school juniors.

Only when a player has narrowed his choices down to a few schools is Leonard able to bring potential talent to the campus.

"It was completely the coach, completely tennis," Gooch said. "I liked what the coach had to say, and I liked the tennis program and the potential for the program."

That potential has turned into success, but some things have changed.

Gone now are Dalodom, Asplund and Bredberg.

Gooch is all that remains from the early years of Leonard's international exploration.

Replacing the Swedes and Dalodom are players from slightly closer countries: Canada (Philip Nemeč), Mexico (Alberto Rojas) and Great Britain (Oscar Podlewski).

Rojas said that while playing on the professional tour as an amateur, multiple players hinted at Leonard and Elon.

"They told coach about me and my interest about college," he said.

It wasn't long before Rojas was walking the Elon campus. To find a player like Rojas, Leonard filters through reports of potential candidates

"I've probably talked to 40 kids before I get one," Leonard said. "I'm talking to kids from all over the world. There's not a country that you don't

talk to someone."

Leonard scans hundreds of players and with a unique eye for talent, he finds future Phoenix.

"[Leonard] knows a lot about tennis and he knows a lot of people," Rojas said. "He's got really good eyes for the talent."

Developing new correspondence

Leonard's recruitment of overseas-talent has a domino effect.

Graduates Dalodom and Bredberg for example now serve as liaisons to their home countries.

Dalodom serves as Leonard's eyes in Southeast Asia and Bredberg can join Asplund to form a Swedish recruiting tandem.

But Leonard's greatest future scout may still be at Elon.

"Sometimes your best recruiting can be former players," Leonard said. "Hopefully a kid like Damon is a good contact in South Africa in a few years."

Gooch, a three-time All-Southern Conference performer, has had unrivaled success while at Elon.

As tennis stalwart, student of the business school and a guy with a South African accent that the girls can't help but fall for, Gooch has found a home hundreds of miles from his former residence on the southern tip of Africa.

Leonard, along with help of others, plucked Gooch from obscurity, molding a tennis squad around him that ran off a double-digit home winning streak into this season.

"Once you are immersed in the tennis world you sort of get a feel for guys your age and younger," Gooch said. "I could be a help to coach for sure, sort of return the favor."

Gooch has been on campus for three years learning more in person than he ever did on the phone or across the Internet.

Soaring miles above the Atlantic almost three years ago, Gooch was nervous and anxious about coming to Elon.

But now he is content. "Everything's right," he said. "[It's] more than I could ask for."

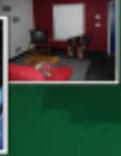
Three years ago the talent may have come from South Africa and this year there may have been a North American influence, but in the years to come there's no telling where the next Gooch will pop up.

"You never know where it's going to come from," Leonard said. "I wish I could tell you there is a science to it, but there isn't."



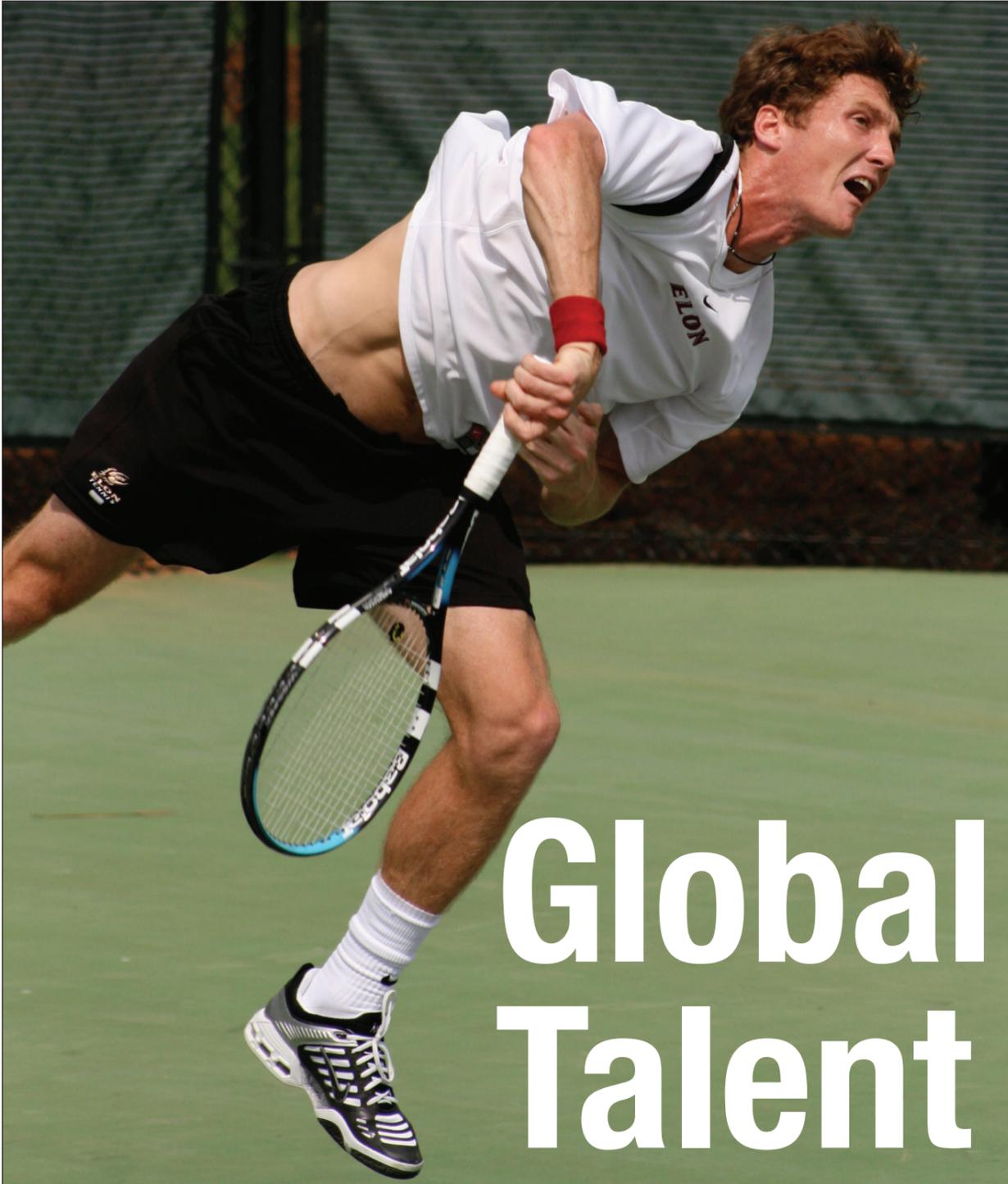
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Sports



Global Talent

DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor



International players in the SoCon

Georgia Southern: 90

The Citadel: 83

UNCG: 57

Chattanooga: 55

Elon: 40

Appalachian State: 36

College of Charleston: 21

Furman: 20

Wofford: 10

Davidson: 8

International tennis scouting imports athletes

Justin Hite
Reporter

He had never seen the campus before. All he knew about the university was what he had heard on the phone and read on the Internet. But still he came.

And even miles above the Atlantic Ocean on a flight from South Africa, junior Damon Gooch still had his questions.

"I was nervous, but also anxious," Gooch said. "I wanted to see what I had gotten myself into. I wasn't worried, just going with the experience and letting it happen."

The South African tennis phenom had always wanted to leave his home country after he finished his secondary schooling but it was always a question of where. Whether his choice was at a university in Europe or in America, playing tennis, attending college, and leaving South Africa was always in the back of Gooch's mind.

"Ultimately, I wanted to play tennis in the States but I had a lot of other things going on," Gooch said. "Tennis was first and foremost I was always practicing tennis because I needed to keep that up if my ultimate ambition was to come to the United States."

He had spent years playing alongside his hitting partner Neil Smith, but he never could have imagined the type of reference Smith would be.

Gooch didn't know it while he was

hitting with Smith in the hot summers of South Africa, but he had walked into men's head tennis coach Michael Leonard's international web of tennis scouting.

Weaving the web

There wasn't much of a tennis team to speak of when Michael Leonard accepted the job as head coach. As a former professional tennis player, his instincts told him this was a tennis team that was going to need a lot of work. After piecing together as many parts as he could find on Elon's campus, his first season was not a success. It was just his quick fix. It wasn't a good idea; falling short of the team's needs. So Leonard decided on a more long-term approach, courting teen tennis players and developing them in collegiate players.

He had allies in this task. Former college teammates, international players and other tennis professionals he'd met on the pro circuit would serve vital in his search-and-find.

"It can be hit and miss," Leonard said.

Flying in players from across the globe can get a little expensive, making Leonard's faith that much more important. Without the trust of the many connections he has around the world, Leonard may not have been able to build the Elon Phoenix into a Southern Conference powerhouse. He was so successful that the Phoenix made it to the conference finals this

spring and had five players honored with conference awards.

"Sometimes you have to take a jump of faith and trust that it's the way it's going to be," Leonard said.

That jump began three years ago during Leonard's foray into South Africa, a place not necessarily rich with talent, but where the former tennis pro had connections. There he perhaps took the biggest gamble yet. That was signing Gooch, a boy he had never seen play in person.

"There's a lot of trust there," Leonard said. "I watched the video and learned a lot about him. I talked to a guy who I trusted in South Africa he hit with him and said 'Look this kid is going to be really good.'"

That confidant was Smith, Gooch's hitting partner. By luck, Gooch had stumbled into the crossing paths of Smith and his future coach.

"I didn't ask him to be my reference, but he was a great reference for me," Gooch said. "Coach Leonard asked for someone he could call, who had played a lot of tennis. He said, 'I know this guy who I practice with why don't you call him?'"

Leonard had sighted a new star.

The arrival

Gooch had spent nearly eight months trying to get to the United States. After e-mailing coaches, researching schools and teams on the Internet, getting his visa and speaking with coaches for longer than an hour

every day, Gooch finally found a potential home.

"Then through the grapevine I heard of Elon and Elon heard of me," Gooch said. "Then I came."

When he arrived here, he had never seen the university and never met Leonard in person.

The moment Gooch arrived on Elon's campus he was sold for the same reason that garnered the interest of generations of other students. It's a beautiful campus. But at the end of the day it was tennis, not beauty, that closed the deal.

"I never doubted it from the very first tennis practice," Gooch said.

Gooch was hooked by Leonard's intense and focused practice sessions. And Leonard was hooked because finally he had a central player upon which to build a team. The international momentum continued. Leonard added Anuwat Dalodom from Thailand. Gustaf Asplund and Sebastian Bredberg, both from Sweden also joined the team.

"Those guys kind of started the trend," Leonard said. "We were fortunate enough to get the right kind of kids, the right kind of attitudes."

The trend continued to build as Leonard stretched his wings, taking the team from last place in the Southern Conference to first place in only one year and gaining more international publicity in the process.

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