

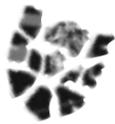
**Elon Mythbusters**  
Secret underground passageways on campus? You asked. We found out.

**PAGE 12**

**A team all their own**

Faculty and staff take on students in intramurals

**PAGE 14**



# THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 | VOLUME 34, EDITION 30

[www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum)



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Elon alumni and current students gathered at Rhodes Stadium for the Homecoming football game against Western Carolina on Saturday.

## Elon honors Fleischmann one year after disappearance

**Andie Diemer**  
News Editor

When Elon alum Kyle Fleischmann went missing on Nov. 9, 2007, many of his family members and friends never thought they would be gathering together a year from that day with almost all of their questions unanswered.

The cause for convening was the 2006 graduate's disappearance after a night out in Charlotte. But those who met to remember Fleischmann worked to create more awareness about his situation and raise funds for his charity, the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation.

Senior Ryan Stimmel is the President of Kappa Alpha Order, Fleischmann's fraternity while at Elon. KA was one of several groups to sponsor events last weekend in Fleischmann's honor.

"We're continuing to keep him fresh in people's minds," Stimmel said. "By no means have we forgotten, but we'll keep making an effort in the hopes that someone out there will notice and come forward with information that could lead us to information about finding out what happened to Kyle."

At the young alumni party at Lighthouse on Friday, a table was set up to pass out information, collect donations and hand out Kyle Fleischmann Foundation wristbands.

On Saturday morning, a vigil sponsored by Elon's religious life met at the National Pan-Hellenic Council garden. More than 30 brothers and alumni attended and used the event as a forum to reflect on their relationships and time spent with Fleischmann, Stimmel said.

Before, during and after the football game against Western Carolina, more information regarding his situation was passed out and more donations were collected.

While there was no specific goal set, the group raised more than \$500 for the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation this past weekend.

"We didn't have any idea what to expect from people or what kind of reception we were going to receive," Stimmel said. "It was amazing how many people came up and remembered the same thing from last year and how many people remembered his story. They are obviously sad it wasn't resolved, but they were glad to see we're still out there a year later trying to find some resolution to his situation."

Stimmel said KA will continue to work with the foundation and assist with any event they may be sponsoring. A golf tournament was held in his honor in Charlotte on Saturday, and KA sponsored a hole on the course.

Fleischmann's father, Dick, attended the tournament Saturday in his son's honor. He told Phoenix14News he still misses his son.

"We take it day by day. It's very

**See FLEISCHMANN | Page 3**

## an elon homecoming

Alumni flood campus to celebrate

**PAGE 2**

## Distinguished alumni receive honors during halftime

**Miriam Williamson**  
Design Editor

When alumni returned to Elon for Homecoming 2008, one of the most interesting things to learn was what they had done with their lives. Five graduates have made large impacts in their chosen professions and brought honor to Elon University. To show its pride, Elon honored them at the football halftime show with Alumni Association Awards.

The Distinguished Alumnus and Alumna of the Year Awards are given to Elon graduates who are prominent in their professions and communities. This year, the award

for Distinguished Alumnus of the Year went to Noel Allen, a member of the class of '69. Bonnie Baxter of the class of '88 received the Distinguished Alumna of the Year award.

The Young Alumnus and Alumna of the Year Awards are given to alumni who have graduated within the past decade, but still possess the same qualities as the Distinguished Alumni of the Year. The Young Alumnus of the Year Award went to Laith al-Majali, an '05 graduate, and the Young Alumna of the Year Award went to Lundon B. Sims of the class of '02.

Joan Summers Drummond, a '52 graduate, was awarded the Alumni Service Award. It is given to an alumnus or alumna who has dedicated service to the community.

**See ALUMNI | Page 5**

## Two students involved in hit and run

Senior charged with DWI, felony hit and run; no serious injuries

**Whitney Bossie**  
News Editor

Two Elon students were involved in a hit and run accident early Saturday morning.

Senior Elizabeth Creekmuir was driving on Haggard Avenue around 2:30 a.m. when she was rear-ended.

Creekmuir had slowed her car near Belk Library to offer a ride to Mason Barker, a junior, when her car was hit.

"She asked me if I wanted a ride, and before I even realized who it was, another car slammed into her," Barker said. "The other car revved up, backed up and sped off. I was in complete shock."

Senior James Williams was driving the car that rear-ended Creekmuir's. According to a police report, Williams was apprehended near Colonnades and charged with DWI and felony hit and run.

Creekmuir was not seriously injured, but was taken to the hospital by ambulance as a precaution. She said she has a concussion and whiplash, but was released around 7 a.m.

"I was shaken up," she said.

Creekmuir was driving a rental car at the time of the accident because her car was being repaired. She was recently involved in another accident.

"I was really upset," she said. "I had just been in an accident, and then this happened. I also knew I needed to get up early in the morning because I was the maid of honor in my sister's wedding, and I needed to do things for her."

The rental car was "pretty damaged," Creekmuir said, but wasn't totaled.

Creekmuir said a police car sped by shortly after the incident, and Barker flagged it down to ask for assistance. The policeman left, but

sent other officers to the scene, along with an ambulance.

"He [the officer] said he would be right back," she said. "I don't know if he was trying to catch the person who hit me or was on another call, but another police officer showed up right after that."

Barker said the officer's response time was quick.

"A cop must have been nearby and heard or saw the accident when it happened," Barker said. "They were there pretty soon after to get our information and to check on Elizabeth."

Creekmuir said she has spoken with Williams and that he has been cooperative with police.

"He [Williams] sent me a really kind apology letter," she said.

Williams declined to comment for this story.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

The Phoenix beat the Western Carolina Catamounts 33-14 on Saturday during the last home game of the season. Elon has two games left in the season and is second in the league.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Chase Rumley and Sarah Findle were crowned 2008 Homecoming King and Queen at halftime during the football game.



LINDSAY FENDT | Asst. Photo Editor

Joan Summers Drummond '52, Lndon Sims '02, Laith al-Majali '05, Bonnie Baxter '88 and Noel Allen '69 receive Alumni Association Awards at halftime during the Homecoming football game on Saturday.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

At halftime, the Phoenix led the Catamounts 13-0. The final score was 33-14 Phoenix.

  
 Visit [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum) for a slideshow on the Homecoming events

RIGHT: John G. Truitt wore a smile as he caught up with alumni on Homecoming weekend.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor



## Career Fair 2008

**Monday, November 17, 2008**  
**1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Airport Marriott, Greensboro**

70 participating organizations – great opportunity to find out about internships and jobs

Go to [www.nccareerfair.org](http://www.nccareerfair.org) for more information

Questions? Please contact Career Services in Duke 101 or at 336-278-6538

# Students raise money to help missing 2006 alum

**FLEISCHMANN** from page 1

painful because there's still no closure for him," Fleischmann said. "I believe he was killed. There's no doubt in my mind."

While Stimmel hopes there is some type of resolution before another year passes, he said the group will continue to sponsor events in his honor annually if no conclusion is reached.

"He's a brother of ours and we know that he'd do the same thing for us, if any one of us were in this situation," he said.

"The fact that both alumni, who knew him a little better than the people at school, care so much about his cause and that we're continuing our efforts speaks to the strength of the brotherhood we have."

Stimmel said many alumni and members

from the foundation were thankful they were able to continue to spread the word about Fleischmann and other missing young adults situations.

"He'd be doing as much as he can if it was any one of us. That's something we're pretty proud of. We've come together, even though there's no resolution, and can still demonstrate strength by coming together and supporting his cause."

There is a \$50,000 private reward for anyone with information leading to the resolution of Kyle's case and his whereabouts.

Anyone with any information on Kyle's disappearance is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at (704) 334-1600.



Brothers of Kappa Alpha Order gathered Saturday morning to honor of their missing brother, Kyle Fleischmann. PHOTO SUBMITTED



Kyle Fleischmann

## Kyle's story and the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation

Kyle Fleischmann, then 24, was last seen leaving Buckhead Saloon in Charlotte around 2:20 a.m. on Nov. 9, 2007. Shortly after that, he was identified as buying pizza at Fuel Pizza in uptown Charlotte around 2:25 a.m.

He has not been heard from since.

Fleischmann graduated from Elon with a business administration degree in 2006. He volunteered with the Special Olympics, the Boys and Girls Club and was an officer of

the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity.

Established in November 2007, The Kyle Fleischmann Foundation works to spread public awareness and educate others about missing persons and support families missing loved ones.

They focus on education and prevention and train speakers, including Fleischmann's father, to travel and talk about their experiences and offer tips on how to stay safe.

The Foundation marked the one-year anniversary of Fleischmann's disappearance with a charity golf tournament and banquet in Charlotte to raise money and awareness.

On Dec. 13, members of the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation will race the Thunder Road Marathon Relay in Charlotte to raise awareness as well.

To learn more or donate, visit: [www.thekff.org](http://www.thekff.org).

# Student struggles with attacker in London flats

Police capture suspect within four hours of incident, possible link to other crime in area

Ashley Barnas  
Reporter

LONDON — In the early hours of Friday, Nov. 7, an Elon student's phone call to his brother turned sour when he was attacked during an attempted robbery on the front stoop of the university flats in London.

The student was relatively unharmed and a suspect has since been taken into custody and is now being linked with numerous other robberies in the neighborhood.

Between 4:10 and 4:25 a.m., the student, a male junior who has chosen to withhold his identity for security purposes, stepped outside the Elon flat in London to make a 10-minute phone call.

He then saw two men on bikes about 100 meters away. The men were weaving back and forth and seemed suspicious, so the Elon student turned around and walked back to the flat's front door.

The student saw the men speed up, but said he remembers focusing on the guy in the front, who dropped his bike as the student dug into his front pocket to grab his keys to get in the front door.

The attacker jumped on the student's back as the student pounded through the door. The student's body slammed to the ground and the attacker screamed for the student to pass over his phone. The cell phone was underneath the student and the attacker grabbed it and put it in his pocket as the student held the attacker back two feet from his face.

"I just made a lot of noise and the guy tried to hush me, but there was no way that was happening," the student said.

The attacker chased him to the stairwell and grabbed his leg but failed to drag the student down. As the attacker ran off, the student sprinted up to the first floor and began banging on doors.

"It was probably one of the most surreal experiences of my life," he said. "I feel like it was all acting, just

instinctive survival."

He came away from the experience with only a scratch on his eyebrow and the battery cover of his cell phone — the attacker got away with the rest of his phone.

He was let into the flat of Elon girls, where he was able to use one of their cell phones to call 9-9-9, the British equivalent of 911. He joined the police for a 25-minute drive around the area, but could not find the attacker.

He returned to the flat around 5:30 a.m. and was informed three to four hours later that the police found the attacker. By noon, he was called into the Charing Cross police station.

"The fact that they found the guy was really impressive," he said. "And the fact that they found him within four hours of me reporting it."

The police were able to reach him through the phone they confiscated from the attacker. When the student walked into the station holding the back of his phone, it was a Cinderella slipper moment. The battery cover fit perfectly to the body of the phone now held by police.

On Saturday, the student, along with six other witnesses from other incidents, went to the Victoria police station to identify the attacker from nine men shown on a screen.

The Elon student said he looked the attacker in the eyes twice during the morning of the incident and was able to give the police details without being prompted for them. The student could tell details down to what embroidery was on his attacker's shirt. Somehow, the student said he subconsciously knew how to act in the situation.

"I'm just glad it wasn't one of the girls or anything on this trip because all of the girls were like, 'How did you not shake when you were trying to get the door open?'" he said. "My main priority was just — I need to get this door open."

The suspect will be held for seven months without bail until his court case.

It is likely that the student will get an all-expenses-paid trip back

to London with one other person in late May or early June to testify as a witness in the trial because he got the best look at the attacker.

Junior Jenny Cupero, who heard parts of the encounter from her apartment on the basement level, said that though the incident was unfortunate, she isn't more concerned about her safety than she was before.

"I have been taking extra precautions from the beginning

and that has not changed," Cupero said. "I believe that as long as we do everything we can to practice caution at night we will be safe."

The victim's scab is disappearing and he is now recovering from the draining experience of filing police reports. He has been able to get a little more rest and talk through the experience with people. All the Elon students on the trip are gathering for a mandatory safety meeting tonight.

**Science Matters**

## Anatomy of fighting back

*People learning self-defense are taught that if they cannot run away immediately, to strike their attacker at these vulnerable points, giving them enough time to escape.*

**Throat and windpipe**



Strike fist downward onto attacker's nose

**Nose cartilage**



Drive heel of hand into nose; warning — this injury can kill

**Eyes**



Grab attacker's head; rake thumbs across eyes

**Groin**



Knee, punch or kick testicles to cause intense pain  
Strike from below, if possible, to make blow harder to block

**Knee and shin**



Rake side of your shoe along attacker's shin ...

**Eyes**



Grab attacker's head; rake thumbs across eyes

**Groin**



Knee, punch or kick testicles to cause intense pain  
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**Throat and windpipe**



Strike with thumb and fingers held in a "V"

**Nose cartilage**



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**Knee and shin**



Shift weight to your rear foot and kick attacker's knee; bring leg back quickly and be ready to kick again

**Eyes**



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**Groin**



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**G**

# Educating the community about Sri Lanka

## 2011 Periclean Scholars hold week-long cultural education event

Anna Johnson  
Reporter

Sri Lanka, located off the coast of India, is a nation torn apart by civil war and environmental challenges. Thirty Elon students have taken it upon themselves to raise awareness for this small island.

This week, the 2011 Periclean Scholars are hosting Sri Lanka Week, filled with cultural events with a common goal: raising awareness about the small country.

On Monday, an opening ceremony was held in Moseley to kick off the week. Dancers performed a ceremonial dance and offered a blessing for the event.

Monday evening, Colonnades served a special Sri Lankan dinner that featured a chicken dish and a variety of desserts. A student panel was held in Whitley Auditorium where students discussed Sri Lankan garments and answered audience questions.

Tuesday's College Coffee was changed to College Tea. The scholars passed out pamphlets about Sri Lanka, and traditional food and drinks were served.

On Tuesday evening, a diplomat from the Sri Lankan Embassy visited the Oaks to speak about the country's civil war.

Tonight, a screening of "August Sun" will be held in The Zone at 7:30 p.m. The movie, filmed in Sri Lanka, highlights the lives of three ordinary people whose lives are drastically altered by the effects of war.

On Thursday, three Buddhist monks will visit Elon to perform a traditional Buddhist ceremony. The ceremony will take place at the amphitheatre in the Academic Pavilion from 9:50 to 10:20 a.m.

Corrine Holder, a 2011 Periclean Scholar, expressed her excitement about the event.

"I personally know very little about



Sisters Dushani Palliyaguru, a senior at Clark University, and Nipuni Palliyaguru, a graduate student at WVU, spoke to the Elon community about growing up in Sri Lanka on Monday night during a student panel. The event was just one of many featured in Sri Lanka Week.

Buddhism and I feel a lot of Elon students fit into that as well, so it is a great way for students to really learn and experience a different culture," she said.

On Thursday evening, the rapper DeLon will perform in McKinnon at 8:30. DeLon is from Sri Lanka and is known for his politically charged lyrics and his feud with M.I.A, another Sri Lankan singer.

The controversy between the two performers is caused by their different political alignments. DeLon supports the Sinhalese government and M.I.A has aligned herself with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who are involved with Sri Lanka's civil war. Each performer has publicly announced dislike for the other.

To wrap up the week's events, a

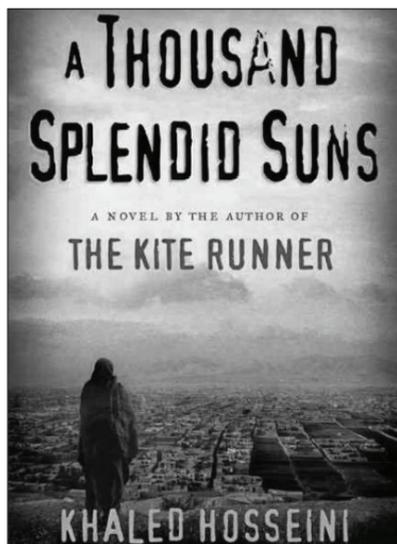
silent auction will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday in Moseley 215.

Crista Arangala, the mentor for the 2011 Periclean Scholars, spent most of the summer in Sri Lanka and brought back items to be auctioned. The items range from pieces of art to ceremonial masks, purses and painted jars.

The Periclean Scholars hope students, staff and faculty members will attend the events and gain cultural experience during the week.

"I really hope that we raise a lot of awareness about Sri Lanka and about our cause," said Robert Anderson, a sophomore Periclean Scholar. "We are trying to build a school in Paragola, Sri Lanka. Our goal this week was to really educate everyone about Sri Lanka and how they can personally make a difference in the country."

## Next year's common reading provides real world application



Andie Diemer  
News Editor

The Common Reading Committee has chosen Khaled Hosseini's "A Thousand Splendid Suns" as Elon's required reading selection for the 2009-2010 academic year.

After asking the community for nominations, the committee chose Hosseini's novel after much consideration because of its real world application, said sophomore Sara Baker, the committee's student representative.

"We thought Hosseini would be a compelling author to come to Elon's campus, as each year we try to have the author of the book make a visit," Baker said. "I think this reading will affect Elon students as it will engage them through the novel's fiction to become involved in real world events,

like America's relationship with the Middle East."

Heidi Frontani, geography professor and GST 110 representative, said the book was selected because it addresses important issues in Afghanistan, a country in which America is quite involved but knows very little about.

"The common reading could help add to students' potentially limited knowledge of Afghanistan, a country which is likely to be in the news quite a bit in the coming years," Frontani said.

Hosseini also wrote "The Kite Runner," which was a popular read. But Frontani said "Suns" offers students another perspective on gender relations in Afghanistan, which was not a main topic in "The Kite Runner."

Baker said even though the book is a fictional read, many professors at Elon will be able to use it in their classrooms to analyze the text for its literary contribution and then foster discussion of Middle Eastern and American relations.

"Given that this book is interesting, filled with a compelling and rich story-line, students will be affected and hopefully moved to take actions in our global society," Baker said.

The Common Reading Committee is comprised of representatives from many departments, including English, global studies, Elon 101, Belk library, cultural programs and students.

### Correction:

In last week's "Homecoming" theme is racially insensitive," the article incorrectly stated Erick Marin in a senior. He is a junior.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Junior class meeting tonight

A junior class meeting will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. tonight in LaRose Digital Theatre. A panel of recent Elon graduates will speak to students about their lives post-graduation, and a Career Services representative will talk about graduation requirements.

The meeting's theme is Fresh Prince of Bel Air. The first 200 people to arrive will receive free T-shirts and food will be provided.

#### Interview skills workshop tomorrow

Ross Wade, the Career Services Counselor for the School of Communications, will conduct an interview skills workshop at 4:15 p.m. tomorrow in McEwen 011.

He will cover topics such as preparation for interviews, appropriate dress and steps to take after the interview.

#### Faculty member elected president of professional organization

Peter Felten, director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, has been elected president of the Professional and Organizational Network in Higher Education.

He will serve as president from March 2010 through March 2011. The organization is the professional association for teaching and learning centers at colleges and universities in the United States.

#### Elon Law hosts Racial Justice Week

This week, Elon Law is observing its first Racial Justice Week. The Elon Law ACLU and the Black Law Students Association are co-sponsoring the week.

At 12:15 p.m. today, Rebecca Headen, Racial Justice Project Coordinator for the ACLU of North Carolina, will speak about racial profiling and immigrants' rights. The event will be held in room 207 of the Elon Law School.

At 7 p.m. tomorrow, a screening of "Four Little Girls" will be held in room 204 at Elon Law School. The film is about the 1963 church bombing that killed four young black girls.

Filmmaker Spike Lee tells the story through testimonials from surviving members of the victims' families and insights from high-profile figures.

#### Mock interviews with Career Services

Elon Career Services will host mock interviews as part of its new Employer in Residence program. A variety of companies will conduct mock interviews tomorrow and Nov. 18 through Nov. 20.

Representatives from the City of Burlington will visit tomorrow, representatives from Credit Suisse will visit on Nov. 18, representatives from Volvo will visit on Nov. 19 and representatives from Northwestern Mutual Financial Network will visit on Nov. 20.

Students who participate will meet with a recruiter for 30 minutes to gain feedback on interview skills.

Students from all majors are encouraged to participate, but space is limited.

For more information on signing up, visit <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/career-center/>.

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# Distinguished alumni receive awards during Homecoming

## ALUMNI from page 1

### Noel L. Allen '69 — Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Allen has become one of the nation's top attorneys and legal scholars after graduating with a bachelor's degree in history from Elon.

He is now a president and founding and managing partner of Allen and Pinnix law firm.

He focuses on public policy, occupational licensing and administrative, antitrust and trade regulation law.

He was named North Carolina's "Legal Elite," in Business North Carolina magazine, one of the state's top lawyers by North Carolina Super Lawyers and received the International Service Award from the N.C. Bar Association's International Law and Practice Section.

He claims his greatest honor is that he has served as a member of Elon's Board of Trustees since 1985, during which time he has served as board chair for a few terms. He was important in the board's decision to open the Elon University School of Law in Greensboro, where he serves on the board of advisers.

He has also been an adjunct professor at Campbell University of Law and published articles on ethics, the use of expert witnesses and legal challenges for regulating Internet practice.

### Bonnie Baxter '88 — Distinguished Alumna of the Year

Since she graduated in 1988 with a degree in biology, Baxter has made revolutionary discoveries in biology and astrobiology.

"My career path was really influenced by where I grew up, where I went to college and all the professors who were here," Baxter said.

Baxter is internationally known for her DNA cell repair research, especially at the Great Salt Lake where she found multiple species of microorganisms called "halophiles." This evidence contradicted the theory that life cannot exist in a high-saline environment.

Her work has been used as a



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

left to right: Bonnie Baxter, Noel L. Allen, Ludson B. Sims, Laith al-Majali and Joan Summers Drummond received alumni awards last weekend.

starting point for studying the possibility of life on other planets, particularly Mars.

Baxter was awarded the Utah Governor's Medal for Science and Technology and was also profiled in Salt Lake magazine in a story titled "Five Women Changing Utah."

### Joan Summers Drummond '52 — Alumni Service Award

In 1952, Drummond graduated from Elon with a degree in biology and chemistry and began working for Vick Chemical Co. as an analytical laboratory chemist. She was the first woman to be promoted to manager at Vick Chemical. Even when the company was sold to different companies, Drummond remained an important asset to the company.

She retired in 1990 and has since worked with the Hospice League of Alamance/Caswell counties, and now serves on the league's board. She has also spent a lot of time working at the Women's Resource Center of Burlington, the Humane Society of Alamance County, Residential Treatment Services of Alamance

County, Democratic Women of Alamance County and Meals on Wheels, where she is a coordinator.

Drummond and her husband gave back to Elon in 2006 when they donated \$25,000 to establish the Joan and James Drummond Endowed Scholarship in Chemistry. There is now a research lab in McMichael named after them.

### Ludson B. Sims '02 — Young Alumna of the Year

Since graduating in 2002, Sims has used her history education and Spanish degrees to further her career and help others.

After graduation, she spent more than two years in Nicaragua with the Peace Corps, where she trained school teachers and taught students.

Since returning from the Peace Corps, she has taught Advanced Placement World History and Spanish II at R.J. Reynolds High School in Winston-Salem, N.C.

She also helped develop R.J.R. W.O.R.L.D., a program that encourages students in the honors world history classes to volunteer in Forsyth County. She has assisted her students

in finding these opportunities by bringing the Kiva.org Project to Reynolds High School.

Sims is also a translator at the Centro La Comunidad/Community Care Center.

### Laith al-Majali '05 — Young Alumnus of the Year

Ever since he was a student in the Elon School of Communications, Majali has shown tremendous potential as a filmmaker.

Majali was the first King Hussein of Jordan Scholar to come to Elon in 2001. He was active in campus organizations and media groups.

While still an Elon student, Majali interned in Los Angeles, where he collaborated with Amin Matalqa, also from Jordan. The two recently produced "Captain Abu Raed," the first feature film to emerge from Jordan in 50 years. The film received the World Cinema Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival in 2008.

He has recently been working on a sitcom for the Showtime network. It is based on what he experienced as an Arab student in the South.

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# An evening of self-discovery and identity with 'Bohemia'

**Bethany Swanson**  
Managing Editor

The Women's and Gender Studies program partnered with the Performing Arts department Monday night to explore identity.

A pet project of Lynne Formato, assistant professor of dance, and Lynn Huber, assistant professor of religious studies and WGS program coordinator, "Bohemia: A Downtown Look at Identity" sought to open up conversation among students about issues of self-discovery, feminism and diversity. It highlighted the program's presence as an activist discipline on campus.

"We wanted to create a sort of Greenwich Village-inspired, downtown fun thing to get the word out that women and gender studies is not what people perceive it to be," Formato said. "We wanted students to start to question the nature of the issues, and what it all means."

Formato worked as a faculty liaison for the program, putting out the call at the beginning of the semester for performing arts students who were working on pieces that dealt with questions of identity, sexuality and gender.

"One of the motivations for this was Lynne Formato," Huber said. "We think it's important to highlight the interdisciplinary nature of WGS, which spends a lot of time thinking and working and focusing on the body. It seems like a natural connection with the performing arts department, especially dance."

Senior music theater major Carly Casey performed "I Am a Woman" with Ashlea Potts, Chase Brown and Brooke Morrison. The song, made famous by Bette Midler, is something these students had performed for Collage and Grand Night.

"It seemed all too appropriate to perform again here," Casey said. "It's about female empowerment. Each character boasts about all these things she can do, and she can only do them again because she's a woman."



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Left, sophomore Chelsea LeValley performs a monologue about being a single woman for the Women's and Gender Studies program. Right, junior Courtney Markowitz sings "Maybe I Like it This Way" about an abusive relationship.

The song was called on for an encore at the end of the evening.

Casey and the rest of her group were joined by a number of other performing arts students, including the program's emcee, senior Will Amato as "Goldie," a straight-talking aging feminist from New York on her fourth marriage. Other pieces included a monologue performed by sophomore

Chelsea LeValley about being a single woman attempting to register for a bridal registry and a song about an abusive boyfriend, "Maybe I like it This Way," performed by junior Courtney Markowitz.

"They're all working on so many things," Formato said. "For them to give up their time to talk about these things, that's so great."

## Candidates for dean of international programs to visit campus

### A search committee has selected three final candidates to make campus visits during November and December

**Whitney Bossie**  
News Editor

Three candidates for dean of International Programs and director of the Isabella Cannon Centre for International Studies have been selected to visit campus.

Woody Pelton, director of the International Center of Winthrop University in South Hill, S.C., will visit on Friday, Nov. 14.

Chunsheng Zhang, special assistant to the president and provost for international affairs at the University of Oregon, will visit on Dec. 1.

Karen Jenkins, assistant provost for international and off-campus programs and summer school at The College of New Jersey, visits on Dec. 3.

A search committee was put together to select a new dean. The committee consists of faculty members and one student representative.

"We sought applicants who could provide visionary and innovative leadership for international education at Elon," said Brian Digre, professor of history and search committee member.

Digre said the committee looked for applicants with international experience, a Ph.D. or other advanced university degrees, leadership and administrative experience in an academic setting, a commitment to working with colleagues in many departments and programs and strong managing and communication

skills.

"We had over 150 applicants for the position," he said. "I believe the strength of the candidates reflects Elon's nationally recognized study abroad and international education programs."

A search committee was appointed last summer to find a successor to Laurence Basirico, the current dean of International Programs and director of the ICCIS.

Basirico has been at Elon for 25 years. He took the position in March 2005 after serving as interim dean since the summer of 2004. Prior to accepting the dean position, Basirico was chair of the department of sociology and anthropology for 10 years. He will return to teaching full time in the department.

Basirico spent much of his time as dean working on pre-departure programs for Winter Term courses. This fall, he implemented a pilot program of four 1-credit courses preceding Winter Term courses in Ireland, Ghana, South Africa and Belize.

During campus visits, the candidates will visit with Elon's administration, staff, faculty committees and students to get a better feel of the community. s

"[After the visits] The search committee will seek campus feedback and then provide the administration with our views of the candidates," Digre said.

Search committee members are: Bird Stasz, associate professor of education; Sylvia Munoz, director of the Spanish Center; Mary Gowan, dean of the Martha and Spencer Love School of Business; Brian Digre, professor of history; Rebeca Olmedo, assistant professor of Spanish; Jeff Stein, assistant dean of students; Heidi Frontani, assistant professor of geography; Martin Kamela, associate professor of physics; Heidi White, assistant director of study abroad; Vic Costello, associate professor of communications; Russell Gill, professor of English and Bonnie Harvey, student representative. Mike Sanford, professor of art, is serving as committee chair.

## Obama begins to assemble team, meets privately with President Bush

**Whitney Bossie**  
News Editor

President-elect Barack Obama has begun to create his administration and familiarizing himself with his future home.

Obama named Illinois Rep. Rahm Emanuel as the White House chief of staff. Emanuel, a veteran of the Clinton administration, has been a close advisor to Obama.

Emanuel, 48, is the Democratic representative for the 5th Congressional District of Illinois. In January 2007, he was elected to serve as the Democratic Caucus Chair, which is the fourth-ranking Congress post.

Obama chose John D. Podesta, who served as White House chief of staff under the Clinton administration, to lead his transition team. Longtime advisor Valerie Jarrett and Pete Rouse, his Senate chief of staff, will also spearhead the team.

On Monday afternoon, Obama

and his wife, Michelle, visited the White House. The president and the president-elect discussed the challenges facing the country, including the economic downturn and security issues.

The two met in private, without aides or other staff members.

Obama urged Bush to provide assistance to the auto industry, which is reeling from the economic crisis. So far, the Bush administration has not allowed struggling automakers to benefit from the \$700 billion bailout package.

Obama has said he supports emergency aid for the sector, but has suggested that long-term assistance is dependent on automakers' agreeing to develop greener, more energy-efficient vehicles.

On Monday, General Motors' shares dropped dramatically. It closed down 23 percent, at \$3.36 a share.

The meeting between the current president and his successor came

sooner than past sessions, possibly because of the urgency created by the country's economic condition.

It came just days before the economic summit of international leaders, which Bush will host in Washington.

Obama has yet to name a Treasury secretary or any other top positions in his economic team. His advisors are concerned that naming people to these positions too early may force Obama and his senior staff to get involved with the upcoming summit, which Obama does not currently plan to attend.

President Bush gave Obama an abbreviated tour of the White House, while Laura Bush gave Michelle a full tour, showing her all 33 rooms on the second and third floors.

Bush and Obama walked along the colonnade near the Rose Garden and waved to photographers and onlookers, but made no other public appearances or statements.

#### Fast facts about Rahm Emanuel

- Graduated from Sarah Lawrence College
- Received master's degree in speech and communication from Northwestern University
- Representative for Illinois 5th Congressional District
- Served on House Ways and Means Committee
- Elected as Democratic Caucus Chair
- Worked to strengthen national security, increase minimum wage, expand stem cell research and cut interest rates on student loans

# Students engaged in discussion about intersection of religion and the brain

Maggie Castor  
Reporter

A full house was present for the discussion, "Spirit and Synapse: Did God Create the Brain, or Did the Brain Create God?" on Nov. 6. The classroom where it was held overflowed with people. Jeffrey Pugh, head of the religious studies department, and Mathew Gendle, assistant professor of psychology, led the discussion.

The professors have been working together for two years on an honors course titled "Consciousness and Religion" and were inspired to put together the presentation.

From the beginning of the presentation, both professors stressed the interactive nature of the discussion and encouraged audience members to share their ideas and thoughts.

"This is one of those topics where the more you seem to know, the less you understand," Gendle said.

The discussion was opened with a brief description of neurons, which send signals from the brain to other parts of the body. For the past 20 or 30 years, research has been conducted to determine the neurobiological effects of religious practice.

Throughout history, there have been cases of people experiencing seizures that they claim are a result of profound religious experiences. Studies are currently being conducted to determine which part of the brain is used and affected during religious practice.

It's been found that when some people are exposed to small amounts of electromagnetic pulses, a "religious

experience occurs." This varies depending on the individual, as some people experience nothing when exposed. The religious experiences that do occur always relate to a concept that the subject was exposed to prior to the experiment.

This raises the question of whether religion is used as a man-made tactic to cope with life's big questions. Pugh clarified that the research does not prove or disprove that religion is a creation of the brain, only that it affects the brain.

Pugh discussed two philosophical positions regarding the soul or mind. The first concept is the idea that the soul and mind are separate from the body.

This is a common theory among Western perspectives that views the body as a "container." The second concept views the soul or mind as a neurobiological process.

"Although I must say, for me personally, I would love to see an intellectual community at Elon that generated the type of excitement that many of the people in the room seemed to have," he said. "So, the realization that we could be that university where ideas are debated, talked about and studied does excite me greatly."

Scientists are now searching for a specific "God spot" in the brain. As of now, a specific area has not been identified, but several areas of the brain are affected during religious experiences.

A concept called "emergence" suggests that religious experiences may not be related to something tangible, but instead achieved through the specific inter-workings of the

"This is one of those topics where the more you seem to know, the less you understand."  
— Mathew Gendle

brain as a direct result of human inquiries.

Sophomore Michael Zimmerman attended the discussion as a requirement for his world religions course but also because he had an interest in the topic.

He said he would have liked to see the professors go deeper into religions that have died out and discuss whether the brain works differently for individual religions. If the effects of the brain vary from one religion to the next, this would assist in backing up the survival tactic theory.

Jenny Schnaak said she found the discussion very informative and interesting, but left without concrete conclusions.

"The concept of a 'God spot' in the brain is intriguing, and I gained insight on several other concepts as well," she said. "However, no conclusions were made by the end of the seminar."

The reaction and involvement of those attending pleased both professors.

"My hope is that students can learn to wrestle with intellectually complex issues with civility, openness and an understanding of the complexity of the issues," Gendle said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sorority recruitment event tomorrow

Elon's Panhellenic Council is hosting a recruitment event at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow. A comedic pageant, called Miss Recruitment 2009, will be held in Yeager Recital Hall. Any women who are interested in learning more about Elon's sororities and recruitment week are welcome to attend. Contact Michele McGraw at mmcgraw@elon.edu with questions.

### Battle of the Bands on Friday

SUBLive will present the Battle of the Bands on Friday, Nov. 14. The event will be held at Lighthouse, beginning at 9 p.m. The cover charge is \$3 for students who are over 21 and \$5 for students who are under 21. Bands can sign up in Moseley 207.

### Photo exhibit begins Monday

Amnesty International will host a brief opening for Scott Langeley's photo exhibit on Monday, Nov. 17. The exhibit will be held in Belk and Grey Pavilion in the Academic Village and will run until Nov. 21. Langeley, an acclaimed photographer, photographs things he perceives as unjust.

### D.E.E.P. Thanksgiving dinner tomorrow

D.E.E.P. will host a Thanksgiving dinner honoring the men and women of the military tomorrow. The free dinner, which will be catered by Cracker Barrel, will be held in McCoy Commons 212 at 6 p.m. To RSVP, contact Joy Baxter at jbxater3@elon.edu.

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# Student charged for disorderly conduct by Elon at Palin rally

**Andie Diemer**  
News Editor

When sophomore Andy Milne showed up at Gov. Sarah Palin's campaign stop in Latham Park on Oct. 16 with Obama flyers in hand, he had no idea that later that day he would wind up in jail or eventually be charged with disorderly conduct by both Elon University and Alamance County.

Milne was arrested for disturbing the peace at the rally and later taken and released from Graham's Alamance County Jail on a \$500 bail.

But what came as most surprising to him were the repercussions the school took on him.

His parents were notified by the administration after the occurrence and asked to have their son contact them, since it was fall break. After that Milne received a notice of judicial action for disorderly conduct through e-mail.

Milne said he gained entrance to the rally while wearing a McCain button and holding a sign on top of his poster that said "The Bush Tax cut saved the economy four more years."

"I went in knowing I was not allowed to bring in the signs, but also knowing they were not following the rules across the board," he said. "It was specifically designed to make it so only Republican's messages could be displayed."

Milne said he began to distribute the signs to other Obama fans inside before Republican supporters working the event began to try to forcefully take his signs.

After the crowd started to chant "USA" at him, he began to chant it back, along with other phrases like "No blood for oil" and "Obama."

After College Republicans President Nick Ochsner called the police, Milne was arrested for disturbing the peace.

As they normally do with any Elon student, the police brought Milne's case to the school's attention, Coordinator for Judicial Affairs Whitney Pack Gregory said.

Gregory said once a report is in the school's hands, they have to determine if there has been any potential Honor Code violations as defined by Elon's Student Handbook. With each case that is turned over, judicial affairs then has to decide if they can deem a possible occurrence of a violation.

If so, the student is contacted to discuss the incident and possible violation and judicial charge, Gregory said.

"During this meeting, we ensure the student understands the judicial charge as defined by Elon University and not necessarily by the legal or civil system," she said.

Milne met with Jodean Schmiederer, assistant dean of students, about two weeks ago regarding his arrest. Schmiederer told him she had already viewed a video of the event as it unfolded and Milne did not bring any witnesses.

The Elon Student Handbook defines Disorderly Conduct as "conduct which is offensive or annoying to others or is disruptive of the rights of others."

Milne was told he was still "held responsible."

"I think that is so broad that you can basically charge anyone that is annoying at anytime," he said. "By those same standards it's not fair because saying 'A vote for Obama is a vote for killing babies' is offensive for anybody voting for Obama."

He said the administration also brought up the fact that he could have incited others to violence, but he found that frustrating as he viewed his actions as peaceful.

This is Milne's first offense and he is not facing suspension, fines or

restitution hours. But the occurrence will stay on his Elon record, which is one reason he appealed his case.

While he is waiting to hear back about his appeal, he also filed an incident report against Ochsner through Elon to share his account of the event, since he said the video did not show him being peaceful before being approached by Ochsner.

"His actions were clearly out of line," Milne said. "I think that it is ridiculous that they have filed charges against me and not against the kid that was literally grabbing onto me and calling the police and ripping the sign out of my hands,"

Ochsner said Milne acted inappropriately after Ochsner approached him about the Obama signs in his possession. He said the following conversation was disorderly and considers it the reason for Milne's arrest.

"He can say he just went through a rally with an arm full of Obama signs, but that does not make him an innocent bystander," Ochsner said.

Milne said he was upset the campaign was not following the rules of no handmade signs permitted into the arena. After seeing multiple messages on signs that were pro-Republican, Milne felt it was his First Amendment right to show his support for Obama.

While no one was permitted to bring signs in, Ochsner said it is not an uncommon practice for the campaign to distribute handmade signs to audience members.

"Unfortunately, people like Andy have a clear misunderstanding of the First Amendment," he said. "While people do have their rights to express themselves, they have to do so properly."

Ochsner said Elon has a set code of conduct and Milne clearly didn't obey

the law in this situation.

"Every other student is subjected to that honor code and so should he," he said. "I should be held to that standard and had I been arrested I hope the university would hold me to those charges too. He's the one that was arrested and that's why he's facing the repercussions."

Milne, whose parents offered to pay for a lawyer, said he doesn't feel comfortable having them pay for something he directly did. He plans to have a lawyer present on his court date and has been in contact with the district attorney's office as well as the American Civil Liberties Union.

He said he will plead not guilty to disorderly conduct at his Alamance County court hearing on Nov. 19 because he doesn't think he is guilty.

But until then, he is still fighting for his freedom of speech and his political beliefs.

As he was being ejected from the rally, Palin stopped speaking and requested the police officers leave Milne inside so he could learn something.

"In most cases I would be honored if a vice presidential candidate were talking about me," Milne said. "I wish I had had the chance to go back there and learn something from the crowd and had the chance to talk to her. I think I could have taught her something too."



## Academic departments undergo restructuring

News hires, programs and student opportunities open the door in several academic areas

**Shelley Russell**  
Special Projects Editor

While Elon is undergoing many physical changes in the shape of new buildings, brick pathways and solar-powered crosswalks, academic departments are making their own changes. Plans are underway for the business and education schools to make structural changes to their departments. The music department is also making adjustments, following the introduction of its new major that was finalized last fall.

### Martha and Spencer Love School of Business:

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business is currently divided into Business Administration, Accounting and Finance, and Economics departments.

"Initially, you would get a business degree with a specific concentration in management or marketing," said Gerry Francis, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "Now, you are going to be able to get a major instead of just a concentration."

The new plan for the school includes the division of the finance and accounting departments into two separate majors, and an addition of departments in both management and marketing.

The school is up for re-accreditation in February. A visiting committee will come to affirm that the school still lives up to its previous accreditation.

"We are not going to have to make any major changes," Francis said. "We just have to indicate that we are still meeting past standards."

With more programs comes the need for new faculty. According to Francis, the School of Business will be

making new hires in two positions. There will be a new faculty position as the chair of the finance department, as well as a position for chair of the management department.

"The university and the business school have been growing and are much more complex than in years past," Francis said. "This re-organization better reflects the institution and student expectations."

### School of Education:

In the past, the School of Education consisted of five departments, including education, physical therapy, leisure and sport management, exercise science and health and human performance.

The biggest challenge with the school's restructuring plans involves the placement of the four departments outside of education.

"The reason the other departments are there is because that is the way it has always been," Francis said. "But these departments have expanded over the years and now it's just too much to all fit under education."

Currently, the School of Education does not have a dean and various departments are reporting to Associate Provost Nancy Midgette.

The university is looking for a new dean who will focus only on education without the seemingly unrelated responsibilities of other departments.

"We hope that our new dean will add larger community initiatives to the education department," Francis said, mentioning opportunities to enhance programs and communication with public schools.

Francis is heading program planning for the School of Education, and said he hopes to determine major objectives during this or next academic school year.

"The reason the other departments are there is because that is the way it has always been,"

— Gerry Francis

### Department of Music:

While the music department may be physically separated from other academic departments on campus, it is very much a part of academic life.

The bachelor of science degree in music technology is currently in its second year and has 24 out of Elon's 76 music majors. Most of the growth in the music department took place in the last four or five years, according to Steven Futrell, associate professor and chair of the music department.

Students majoring in music technology have interests in anything from recording and engineering to composing.

"Technology has such a huge influence on our culture," Futrell said. "It's integrated in films and has had a huge impact on music."

The newest addition to the music department is the brand new digital recording studio with a ProTools platform. The studio also has an isolation booth. Futrell and associate professor Todd Coleman recently wrote the Ever Elon campaign theme song and recorded it in the new studio with the help of Elon students.

The music department is also launching its own label, called Majestic Oak Recording @ Elon.

"The idea is that the music

technology students will be able to have a hands-on experience in production," Futrell said.

In the past three years, four new full-time faculty members have been added to the university.

"The new department members bring new perspectives, new ideas and fresh approaches," Futrell said.

A lab in the Center for the Arts includes 23 stations with recording software such as ProTools and Garage Band, and music notation software like Auralia and Notion, which are used in music classes for the music technology major.

### Business School

**Currently:** Divided into three departments: business administration, accounting and finance and economics.

**In the future:** Will be divided into five departments: finance, management, marketing, accounting and economics

### School of Education

**Currently:** Divided into five departments: education, physical therapy, leisure and sport management, exercise science and health and human performance

**In the future:** Heavier emphasis will be placed on education. Other departments may be relocated



ANDREW DODD | Photographer

Chemist Catherine Hunt spoke in McCrary Theatre about innovation and sustainability.

## Chemist visits Elon, stresses innovation and sustainability

**Margeaux Corby**  
Opinions Editor

Catherine Hunt is the former president of the American Chemical Society and a leader of the Technology Partnerships, Emerging Technologies of the Rohm and Haas Company and was named one of Pennsylvania's "50 Best Women in Business" in 2007. Her son calls her the Hannah Montana of the chemistry world.

On Monday night, Hunt told a crowd in McCrary Theatre that everything has not yet been done. She stated that her generation has left plenty for the younger era to solve. Hunt emphasized that education, collaboration and innovation are needed to make substantial change. Everyone is responsible for achieving that change, she said. She pointed out the chemistries that affect daily lives, specifically those manufactured by Rohm and Haas, and need to be socially responsible.

"It's about prospering today without screwing up tomorrow," Hunt said. "It's about living thoughtfully, leaving this world in a better way, maybe better than when we got here."

Rohm and Haas is a Fortune 500 Company whose mission, according to the company's Web site, is to "pair creativity with sound knowledge" and help companies "meet ever-changing market demands." The company started from the premises that every accident is avoidable and chemical innovation can be green and work more sustainably.

She joked about the ubiquity of Rohm and Haas products, from the modifiers going into bumpers to the adhesives that go into food preservatives.

"Rohm and Haas makes everything from salt to chips," she said. "From

Morton salt to computer chips."

Hunt discussed the use of resources and the "right kind of chemistry" that will be a solution. She stressed that innovation can turn an idea into a real form that people use and produce results.

She encouraged the many students majoring in science with goals of becoming chemists, biologists, physicists, engineers and experts in technology.

"There has never been a better time to be a scientist or technologist," Hunt said. "We have more than enough things right now that need to be solved."

Hunt discussed the difficulty of speaking to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and emphasized the need to understand they often don't have the same scientific background.

"They don't read the American Chemical Society Journal," Hunt said. "They read the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and the Washington Post. We need to be writing for these types of newspapers."

It was made clear from her speech that collaboration of not only scientific schools but governmental and business fields is needed for any scientific goal or program to be successful, no matter if the agenda is sustainable catalyst chemistries or discovering new fuel technologies.

According to Hunt, it was not just a matter of discoveries in the scientific communities but the teamwork and alliance between industry and academia and legislators and researchers.

"I really believe that no one can do this alone and it's going to take all of these sectors working together," Hunt stressed. "It's not a question of whether you want to do it but how well you do it."

## Search for new provost is narrowed down to eight applicants

**Andie Diemer**  
News Editor

The university has narrowed down the list of candidates for the provost position to eight individuals out of the 110 applicants for the position of provost.

School of Communications

Dean Paul Parson said the search committee, which consists of faculty, staff and students, has selected the individuals for confidential interviews that will be conducted before Thanksgiving.

Parsons, who is a co-chair of the search committee, said based on the nature of the

conversations the committee will select around three finalists. They will then be invited to campus for public visits in early December. A public forum will also be held at this time.

In early September, the committee hosted three faculty and staff forums to help develop a better

understanding of the expectations for the new provost.

Gerry Francis is currently Elon's provost as well as the vice president for academic affairs. He will be stepping down from his position to move to the office of executive vice president early next year.

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

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# Editorial

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

## Student press freedoms should not be taken for granted

Elon University's many student media organizations exercise the right to print, broadcast and stream all stories they deem newsworthy without administration approval. We do not see this ability as a privilege granted on the whim of administrators, but an inherent right that is not questioned.

Unfortunately, there are other colleges that believe freedom of the student press is optional and not innate.

Quinnipiac University, a private school in Connecticut, states on its Web site: "Quinnipiac fosters partnerships among students and with faculty; we are a spirited, welcoming campus."

Quinnipiac, in addition to its friendly and jubilant atmosphere, fiercely battled the school's weekly newspaper, *The Chronicle*, after the paper began putting stories online before they were printed in the paper, a faux pas at Quinnipiac.

This rule was justified by university president John Lahey in 2007 when he stated: "The electronic version [of *The Chronicle*] would come out at the same time as the hard-copy version so at least dinosaurs like me who read the hard copy version get an opportunity to read it before the external world hears about it."

This rule, besides the absurd reasoning behind its establishment, is in conflict with the real world demand for instantaneous news coverage and society's exaltation of technological progress.

As a result, several frustrated student journalists broke from *The Chronicle* at the end of last year and created *Quad News*, a strictly online newspaper that was independent of the university. Quinnipiac's chapter of Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), which is a school-recognized organization, allowed the *Quad News* staff to share on-campus space after

SPJ meetings. When administration found out that SPJ was harboring such a dangerous enemy as the *Quad News*, they sent a letter to the group that stated their status as an organization was in jeopardy.

This audacious movement elicited a response from the national SPJ chapter and was the subject of a New York Times editorial, chiding the school's unjustified actions.

While this rule has rightly been recalled in recent months, Quinnipiac still has other regulatory practices that inhibit the free flow of information. Media organizations must go through the university's public relations office before talking to any school administrator. When *Quad News* was first established, the university not only barred them from campus but from contacting administration members as well.

"Until about a month ago, the university wouldn't deal with the *Quad News* at all," said Jason Braff, editor-in-chief of *Quad News*. "They wouldn't talk to us about anything."

The heated battle has cooled — Quinnipiac has relaxed its disturbingly strict regulations on contacting staff and is no longer threatening the status of the SPJ chapter. The editors at *Quad News* have no intention of becoming part of the university.

"We're not trying to be recognized as an organization, we are completely independent and want to stay that way," Braff said. "All we were asking is that we could be treated like any other outside newspaper."

Student journalists struggling with an outdated and almost tyrannical administration is a foreign concept to many of the recognized media outlets on Elon's campus.

"Our newscast is entirely student run, and that's

something *Phoenix14News* takes great pride in," said Leigh Lesniak, senior executive producer of *Phoenix14News*. "Ethical journalism is expected and demanded by the university, which makes for a staff of thorough journalists."

Elon is a private university and is not obligated by any of the laws that govern public universities to allow free speech to reign. The administration could demand to review every script of a *Phoenix14* and *ESTV* show before its broadcast, and require appraisal of every edition of *The Pendulum* before it hits the press. Instead, student media broadcasts and prints with only the restraints imposed by its own student executives.

"Elon may be a private university, but 20 percent of the students are communication students," said George Padgett, associate professor of communications. "Free speech is at the center of what we teach."

Quinnipiac is not the only university that has subjected its student media organizations to censorship, and the capability of that administration to yank funding and disorganize student groups is very real. It is important to recognize that Elon's administration's belief in the professionalism and responsibility of its student organizations when others obviously disregard the importance of student contribution.

College campuses are testing grounds for real world ventures in journalism, government, business, education and an abundance of other professions. Universities, whether public or private, should allow students to venture and boldly experiment with their chosen fields of interests, encouraging them to succeed and develop even if student goals do not match administration agenda.

### Letter to the Editor

#### Homecoming theme misunderstood

I wanted to take this opportunity to address some concerns raised about the Homecoming theme in last week's *Pendulum* Editorial. Let me begin by explicitly stating that SGA never intended to offend any member of the campus or surrounding community. It was never our intent to insult students, faculty, staff, or others, and we sincerely apologize if that was the case.

SGA took the necessary steps and procedures in selecting the Homecoming theme. The Homecoming Committee itself is the most diverse committee of representation within SGA. It is comprised of a member of each grade level, and a member of all three councils on the SGA Senate. This diverse representation of students is mandated within the By Laws of our organization. The committee spent many hours developing the schedule and theme: *Phoenix Fiesta*.

The committee chose the "Fiesta" theme as it represents a celebration, not because it represented a specific culture. The committee consulted and presented the Homecoming 2008 packet to El Centro de Espanol, who helped identify a charity/philanthropy group for the Penny Wars Event. Through consultation with El Centro de Espanol, SGA selected Centro La Comunidad, a non-profit organization which works to benefit the well-being of the Latino population within Alamance County. El Centro de Espanol and other programs on campus were properly informed of the theme and helped to offer advice, support and

critique to produce the Homecoming theme and events.

Additionally, there was an opportunity for all students, faculty, and staff to come to the SGA Meeting on September 11, 2008 to speak on the contents of the packet before it was voted upon by the entire SGA Senate. We continually encourage students to speak on issues that arise before SGA, and welcomed comment on this issue as well.

This can be a teachable moment for our community. As an SGA, the issues raised in the editorial last week provides an opportunity for all students and organizations on campus to look at our thematic programming, and to ensure that we are not overtly offensive of any culture. While it will often be hard to please every single member of this campus, there are certainly ways to ensure that future programmatic themes minimize any cultural insensitivity issues.

I want to assure the student body that SGA did not mean to offend any members of our community and that we followed proper procedure in creating the Homecoming theme. I also want to extend our apologies again if any part of the theme did indeed offend anyone. I encourage those who are still concerned to visit our Senate Meeting on Thursday, November 20th at 7:30 p.m. in Moseley 215 to address the entire Senate.

Chase Rumley  
SGA Executive President

Have an idea or opinion you'd like to share with *The Pendulum*? Contact us at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto: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.

## Christmas season comes too soon for some consumers

As Wal-Mart customers shopped on Nov. 1, picking through half-priced Halloween candy and costumes that only 24 hours ago had been hot items, faint music from the overhead speakers started putting them in a different mood. That is because, a little less than two months early, the store was playing "Silver Bells."

Most people hadn't brought their pumpkins in from the porch, and they definitely hadn't started to plan Thanksgiving dinner. Yet in most large stores, center displays were all about Dec. 25.

Decking the halls early is no new practice for retailers. After all, the Christmas spending season marks billions of dollars in reliable income for retailers. And with stock market woes and employment worries, Americans are likely to hold on to their dollars a little tighter, making advertisers' jobs a little harder.

Even in times of prosperity, stores displayed merchandise months early. Before reliable and fast transportation, Americans would purchase winter coats and presents by catalog months before the leaves had begun to turn. That allowed enough time for the order to reach a factory by mail, be filled, and for the product to be sent to a customer.

That tradition remained even after trucks, airplanes and phone and Internet orders were added to the mix. Consumers are not surprised to see seasonal products on the shelves before the holiday begins.

Officially, the Christmas spending season begins the day after Thanksgiving, but one would

never know that by the candy canes and mini Christmas trees that stocked Wal-Mart's shelves the day after Halloween.

The start date for Christmas displays seems to have been pushed farther and farther forward, swallowing important holidays in its path.

The day after children run around the neighborhood as superheroes and princesses, they can go over their wish list with Santa at almost every major mall in America.

Thanksgiving has become an afterthought. And it seems that if retailers could find a way, Halloween's costumes and candy would be combined with the behemoth that corporate Christmas has become.

It is understandable that corporations want to get a head start on getting customers in the Christmas spirit, but they must remember that it is very easy to go overboard.

Our country has just spent an outrageous two years gearing up for a presidential election, and by the end, nearly every citizen — politically involved or not — was sick of the commercials and constant bombardment of political views.

If it is possible to estrange voters from the political process by starting too early, isn't it logical to think that it would be even easier to do the same thing for Christmas consumers?

These are hard times for retailers and consumers alike and stores should be careful not to push Christmas too hard.

## 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](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu). If you have questions or concerns about an article contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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# Opinions

## Obama must live up to international expectations



**Morgan Little**  
Columnist

Tear-soaked faces, celebratory shouts, decorated crowds running down streets in the earliest hours of the morning — scenes reminiscent of World Cup championships and World Series celebrations appeared in nearly every major city. The announcement of President-elect Barack Obama's victory prompted an almost religious fervor.

This was not just in America, where 46 percent of the populace is still bitterly simmering. At Britain's Sky News, the news director had to instruct his staff not to cheer while they announced the election results. Kenya declared a national holiday in Obama's honor.

Germany's excitement for Obama, evidenced during the summer by a 200,000-strong crowd at his speech in Berlin, has inspired a sentiment that has washed over much of the world. Perhaps America is OK again. Maybe it's not spiraling into the gutter after all.

But then Russian President Dmitry Medvedev ignored Obama's victory during his state address, refusing to interrupt his proposal of longer presidential terms and further militarization of Russia's western borders.

"Obama must know that the change that he

talks about is not simply a superficial changing of colors or tactics," said Ali Larijani, Iran's parliament speaker. "What is expected is a change in strategy."

The massive worldwide support for Obama has led to impossible expectations. A BBC poll found that he was favored by a four-to-one margin against Sen. John McCain across 22 countries.

The celebrity metaphor has been beaten to death, but it's essentially true. Obama has become the lightning rod for the world's political hopes and prayers. Like an overly-hyped summer action flick, no matter what his accomplishments may be, it'll be incredibly difficult to deliver on all of the expectations.

In reality, expectations for Obama's foreign policy must be curtailed. Not as an indictment of his policies or abilities, but as a reflection of the terrible state that American foreign policy is in.

The reason Medvedev drew his line in the sand right after Obama won, challenging the United States' missile defense shield and hinting at Vladimir Putin's return, is that he knows Obama can't do anything to stop him. Larijani later echoed his country's defiance to abandon its nuclear programs. They both know how fragile and thinly stretched America's influence has become, and they'll be exploiting that just as much under Obama's administration as they have with President George W. Bush.

Before Obama can truly begin to solve the

problems of terrorism, international trade and human rights violations, he must jump over the hurdles that Bush has put in his path. The vast majority of American troops have to be pulled out of Iraq. Not only do the Iraqi people and Iraqi government want them out, but the occupation ties one hand behind this country's back. The vast expense only deepens the economic rut we're in, and it prevents the military from taking full advantage of the speed and flexibility on which it likes to pride itself.

Russia can invade Georgia because it knows America lacks the military capacity to prevent it from doing so. Iran and North Korea aren't afraid of American air strikes because the planes are occupied elsewhere. As diplomatic as Obama may be, he has expressed little hesitancy to use the military as a last resort in such matters.

Iraq will probably be the first foreign policy matter Obama tackles, but there's a long line of issues behind it.

Will his efforts to broaden international involvement in Afghanistan be met with cheers or jeers? Can he spearhead the effort to create a successor to the Kyoto Treaty? Will his economic protectionism impede relations with export-reliant Asian countries?

Obama now has four years to show in whose footsteps he'll follow: President Bill Clinton's or President Jimmy Carter's.

## Obama must avoid a second cold war Russia already challenging new president-elect



**Derek Kiszely**  
Columnist

Ever since the primaries Barack Obama has tried to portray himself as the next John F. Kennedy. Both men were relatively young, seeking to break a major cultural barrier in reaching the White House, and both possessed unsurpassed eloquence.

But the similarities don't stop there.

Both JFK and Obama struggled with a perceived lack of experience. Obama's own vice president-elect, Joe

Biden, guaranteed that Obama's lack of foreign-policy experience would provoke America's enemies to create an international crisis within the first six months of his presidency, to "test the mettle" of Obama, "just like they did John F. Kennedy."

The historical comparison to Kennedy is appropriate. As Biden noted, Obama is "brilliant," like Kennedy, yet also completely untested on the global stage. Kennedy met face-to-face with America's enemies, and Obama has pledged to do the same.

The question then is: Did Kennedy's approach work?

Kennedy's meeting with Nikita Khrushchev, the premier of the Soviet Union, turned out to be, in his own words, an "unmitigated disaster."

Khrushchev and his aides left the "no preconditions" negotiation with an impression that Kennedy was "too intelligent and too weak" and seemed "very inexperienced, even immature."

The result? An increasingly assertive Soviet foreign policy that led to the construction of the Berlin Wall and the Cuban Missile Crisis. In other words, well-meaning talks, interpreted as weakness by our enemies, resulted in crisis.

Obama is exactly like Kennedy in this regard, and some aspiring latter-day Nikita Khrushchev will no doubt test our new commander in chief by threatening our interests around the globe.

Well, it didn't take six months, as Joe Biden predicted. It didn't even take six days.

In a provocative speech from the Kremlin, Russian President Medvedev threatened to mobilize Russian missiles along the Polish border to "neutralize" the U.S. missile shield in Poland, if it goes ahead according to plan.

The timing of Medvedev's speech was no coincidence. He could have made the speech on any day in November. Instead he chose Nov. 5 — the day after the U.S. presidential election — speaking just hours after Obama's historic victory.

Medvedev is clearly trying to improve Russia's bargaining position in potential talks with the Obama administration on missile defense. His wording suggests Russia would reverse the decision if the United States scraps its missile defense plans.

But why should America give in to Russia's demands?

The U.S. missile defense shield will protect much of Europe against long-range missile attacks from "rogue" nations, such as Iran.

But Moscow, for whatever reasons, sees it as a direct threat.

The Kremlin says the system will upset the regional security balance and could be used against itself.

Interestingly enough, Polish officials see Russia as a bigger threat to their security than Iran, and the Polish government believes only the United States can guarantee its security.

Vladimir Putin, the prime minister of Russia, has tried strong-arming former Soviet republics into falling back into Moscow's satellite system. In August, while most Americans were too busy watching the Olympics to notice, Russia invaded Georgia, a democratic ally of the United States.

Americans should have realized by now the nature of Vladimir Putin and his efforts to create a new Russian Empire.

And so, even though the missile shield is officially intended to only defend against an Iranian attack, it should go ahead as planned, in spite of Russia's resistance — or perhaps because of Russia's resistance — just in case.

Unfortunately, President-elect Barack Obama has made "no commitment" to the missile defense program in Eastern Europe.

Obama said earlier this year that the system would require much more testing to ensure it would work properly. But additional tests could delay the program for years, and by then it could be too late.

During the primaries, Obama said that he would "cut investments in unproven missile defense systems," even though in recent tests in the Pacific and elsewhere the system has shown itself to be a formidable potential shield against enemy attack.

Obama has also pledged to "slow our development of future combat systems" and seek "deep cuts" in our own arsenal of nuclear weapons, unilaterally disabling our nuclear deterrent as Russia is engaging in massive military buildups.

Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton said that "leaders around the world see Obama as soft, untested and weak" and they will "react accordingly."

Biden knows that our enemies see Barack Obama as a more accommodating, and weaker, foe.

Russia carefully watched as Obama disparaged missile-defense research and deployment during the primaries.

They want to see whether they can intimidate Obama into retreat, even after eastern European nations like Poland have already signed onto a partnership with the United States for these missile-defense stations.

In response to seeing a supposed weakling in the White House, will Russia do something drastic in Eastern Europe, like invade Ukraine or bomb Poland?

Russia wants its empire back. And it isn't going to wait.

## Equal rights: Step forward or step back?



**Taylor Doe**  
Columnist

Incredible new feats were accomplished in the continuing fight for equality with this year's election of the first black president. But we were also reminded once again that we still have a way to go in the struggle for equality. In Florida, Arizona and California, initiatives to ban gay marriage were on the ballot and were passed by those states' respective voters.

The most controversial of these initiatives was California's Proposition 8, which sought to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman. Supporters argue that allowing for gay marriage undermines the value of marriage. Opponents of this proposal challenge that religious groups should not be allowed to impose their definitions of morality on the state.

In simple terms, Proposition 8 seeks to strip homosexuals of the right to marriage that has already been ruled constitutionally protected by the highest court in California.

Proposition 8 passed with only 52.4 percent of the vote. This shows a clear trend towards acceptance of gay marriage when compared to the 61 percent who voted for Proposition 22 in 2000. Laws of this magnitude should not be put into law without a supermajority, such as the Florida gay marriage ban, which was required to pass with a supermajority of at least 60 percent.

The special interest groups who fought for Proposition 8's passage did so with a campaign of lies and smears, relying on tactics of fear to mislead California voters. The "Yes on 8" group ran television ads that showed a young girl coming home from school, telling her mother she had learned she could marry a princess that day. Nowhere in Proposition 8 is education mentioned, and furthermore, California law prohibits children from being taught about health or family issues at school against their parents' will.

Women were denied the right to vote for years. There was a time in this country when the law would have forbidden Barack Obama's white mother to marry his black father. We've come to recognize the irrational prejudice that led to the creation of such discriminatory laws and made efforts to correct these mistakes.

The fight must continue as it has for so many different people in the history of the United States, with faith that, in the end, equality will be the prevailing law of the land.



View other myths from the original Mythbusters edition and this week's full story at The Pendulum online.

Information courtesy of:

- Dan Anderson, assistant vice president and director of university relations
- Neil Bromilow, director of construction management
- Elaine Durr, sustainability coordinator
- Tom Flood, superintendent of landscaping and grounds
- Stanley Greeson, assistant director of physical plant
- Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life
- David Worden, director of environmental services
- Mark Albertson, registrar and assistant to the provost

# MYTH

Shelley Russell Special Projects Editor Caroline Fox Graphics Editor



### The Swan 411

Common myths about Elon's swans at Lake Mary Nell include ideas that the parents are both female, have fake eggs and were captured by the university and clipped. Tom Flood knows the real story.

Where they came from:

The swans on Lake Mary Nell were purchased in 2002 for the purpose of deterring geese on the lake. But the swans and geese ended up becoming good friends.

"They were in no way effective for this purpose," Flood said. "I don't care what anyone says, it's not true. If you have a small body of water at a time when they are breeding and nesting, they will be aggressive to keep other waterfowl off. But Lake Mary Nell [3.5 acres] is too big for this."

**The cygnets:** The swans first nested in 2007 and hatched six cygnets. But snapping turtles on the lake killed the babies. In the spring of 2008, the swans nested again and hatched six more cygnets.

This year, Flood found a man in Burlington with a secure location who would be able to raise the swans to their full size. In exchange for his care of the swans, the man was able to keep two of the cygnets once they were full-grown.

**Pinioning the wings:** Under requirement of the North Carolina state law, the cygnets' wings were pinioned before they were released back onto the lake. This law is in place to prevent the swans from flying and mating with wild swan populations.

**Current update:** After the cygnets were full-grown, Flood put the four swans back on Lake Mary Nell, but their mother disliked them and chased them out of the water. Flood constructed a small temporary enclosure in the lake to give the swans a more gradual re-introduction to their mother.

Last week, Flood tried re-introducing the swans to their parents, but the mother again chased them out of the water. Flood also tried putting the parents in an enclosure with their full-grown children. While the swans got along with each other in the enclosure, the mother chased the full-grown swans out of the lake again after they were let out of the enclosure.

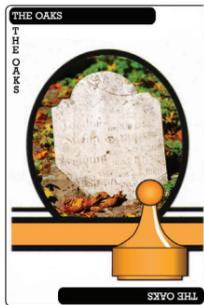
### The Oaks Apartments were built on a old Indian burial ground

"The Oaks is actually built on a very ancient trailer park," Neil Bromilow said. "There may have been Indians living there, we don't know."

The trailer park existed in the 1970s, before Jordan Center was constructed, according to Bromilow. When Jordan Center was taken down, Bromilow remembers uncovering some debris from the old trailer park, such as old concrete steps to a home and a flattened refrigerator.

"There were no ancient artifacts or anything like that in the debris that would have indicated that we were building on an ancient burial ground," Bromilow said.

Old construction plans from the 1970s show a layout of sewer and water lines that would be appropriate for a trailer park, according to Bromilow.



### Elon is classified as a botanical garden and all of the funding for landscaping comes from the state of North Carolina

Elon University is designated as a botanical garden, but there is no source of funding from the state that comes with the designation.

"Our status as a botanical garden does allow us to approach donors for funding to support landscaping ideals, purposes and programs," Tom Flood said.

Flood mentioned the university's tree trail publication as an example of a use of donor funds. He also recalled an endowed gift from President Leo Lambert and his wife Laurie to preserve the campus' position as a botanical garden.



### You can walk almost anywhere on campus in 10 minutes

According to Neil Bromilow, if one put a dot in the center of Fonville Fountain and drew a circle indicating a 10-minute walking distance in all directions, many campus buildings would be included in the circle.

The driving range, Arts West, all buildings on South Campus, Rhodes Stadium and Danieley Center's O and P buildings are all within a 10-minute walking distance from Fonville Fountain. The only buildings outside of this range are the other Danieley Center buildings and the Lodge.



Back by popular demand, Pendulum brings you another round of Mythbusters. Here are legends that have been false on campus — some have been debunked and other have been confirmed.

### Elon is affiliated with the United Church of Christ

According to Dan Anderson, "Elon is affiliated with the United Church of Christ. Some schools that are more strictly affiliated with a denomination will have a requirement that board members have a certain representation from that denomination, but Elon has no such requirement.

The trustee bylaws state: "The University is affiliated with the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ. The conference president and the conference minister shall be ex officio members of the Board of Trustees, without vote, for the purpose of sitting with and counseling with the board at its meetings."



### Recycled material at Elon gets thrown in with the trash

According to David Worden, the recycling and trash bags are handled separately. Republic Waste handles trash and the recycling of glass, plastic and aluminum. Federal Waste handles cardboard and paper-related recycling, including newspapers, magazines, directories and phonebooks.

"There is some element of truth to the myth," Worden said. "The people who are disposing of the materials have the means to dispose of them properly. But if they throw a can in the trash, it will end up in the trash. We are not going to take the time to sort through trash materials."

Any recyclable trash on campus should be disposed of in green or blue bags. These bags are then taken to the sorting facilities where the materials are separated.



### Smith Jackson's name is hyphenated

Smith Jackson chose his name himself. Jackson's mother is his mother.

"I have always called him Jackson, who is his first name."

Jackson also did not make the mistake that many people do of hyphenating Smith and Jackson.

# BUSTERS



### Moseley has a designated place for senior administration to gather during an emergency or natural disaster

Dan Anderson confirmed that the university does have a disaster plan that lays out Moseley as the "Emergency Operations Center" during a disaster. The headquarters for emergency procedures will be in Moseley 215 and at the information desk.  
"Part of the reason for this is because it [Moseley] has a big power generator so it has its own source of power should a tornado or some other calamity cut power," Anderson said.



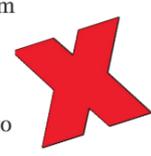
### There is roof access in Smith dormitory

According to Stanley Greeson, Smith's roof can be accessed through the attic. The building has a roof hatch that leads onto the roof. "The access is in the custodial closet as a barn ladder," Greeson said. "The hatch goes up into the access with a catwalk that leads to the roof hatch." The closet is under lock and key so students will not attempt to get onto the roof, according to Greeson.



### There is an underground passageway between Sloan and Virginia

There are steam paths that exist between West and Virginia, but there is nothing underground between Sloan and Virginia. According to Stanley Greeson, there are no underground pathways between the buildings that are accessible to walk through.  
"The only thing that is there would be the boiler room under the patio outside of West," Greeson said.  
The steam tunnel between West and Virginia provides heat to the buildings.



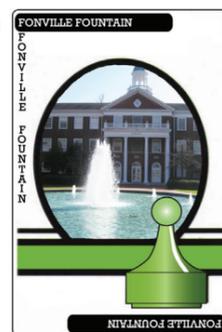
### The university wants to expand the campus to mimic the layout of other southern schools

The campus has a long-standing campus master plan, according to Dan Anderson. Some students were curious about the similarity of Elon's appearance to Wake Forest.  
"I have never heard Wake Forest's campus brought up in any discussion I have ever been a part of," Anderson said. "Elon uses a consulting firm to create this plan."  
Ideas for expansion include long-term goals, such as deciding where an appropriate location for a convocation center would go.  
"There are lots of campus quads built in this nature," Anderson said. "This idea came from University of Virginia's design by Thomas Jefferson called the 'academical village.'"  
Jefferson's model is based on the assumption that "the life of the mind is a pursuit for all participants in the university ... that interaction between scholars and students enlivens the pursuit of knowledge," according to the University of Virginia Web site.  
Elon's academic village is based off the same model by Jefferson, in which buildings mirror one another around a central quad. According to Anderson, the 'academical village' concept has served as a model for campuses across the country.



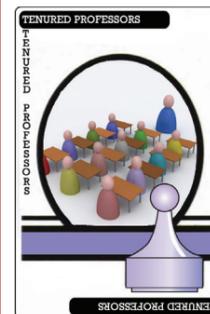
### The water formations in Fonville Fountain used to be arranged like a clock, but this feature was turned off for the Bill Clinton rally

Fonville Fountain has about 25 different patterns that the water can spray in. The fountain runs on a cycle but was not intended to serve as a clock.  
"As far as I know, the clock idea wasn't even imagined at any point," Tom Flood said. But there were some adjustments made to the fountain prior to the Bill Clinton rally.  
"We set the fountain pattern so that it would stay consistent," Flood said. "Otherwise, the noise would have been too much of a distraction."  
The placement of the nozzles and the height of the fountain were part of the original design. While the water patterns are preset, there is "no secret Nostradamus code to the fountain," Flood said.



### Athletes don't need to have a 2.0 GPA to graduate

All students are required to have a minimum overall GPA of a 2.0 to graduate and a minimum of a 2.0 in their major.  
"We've never had a person graduate below a 2.0 to my knowledge, in the history of the university," Mark Albertson said.  
Albertson has seen students graduate from Elon for the past 31 years and cannot recall a single instance in his time at Elon or otherwise.  
"Athletes must have a 2.0 too," Albertson said. "There is no exception in any way, shape or form in terms of graduation requirements."



### Once a professor is tenured, they can never be asked to leave

According to the faculty handbook, under "removal for cause," faculty who have been tenured can be asked to leave.  
Tenured faculty can be removed for cause of illegal activity, financial exigency, discipline issues and other actions inconsistent with the university's code of maintaining fairness. If issues arise with tenured faculty, that faculty's chair, the dean and the provost and vice president for academic affairs will meet with the professor to discuss the issue.  
If the issue is not resolved, the professor may request a hearing from the academic council. Hearings from this procedure may be taken to the board of trustees by the president for further review if the professor in question requests an additional hearing.



### Smith Jackson isn't really Smith Jackson

Anderson confirmed this myth. Smith's first name is George. Jackson's maiden name is Smith. Smith was chosen to go by Smith, and Jackson uses his middle name as Jackson.  
Anderson spelled the common name for people make of Smith and Jackson.



# Style

## Faculty challenges students on the soccer field

Sarah Beth Costello  
Reporter

Energy, sweat, tangled feet, grass stains and intense competition are expected at a fast-paced college soccer game.

But this year, a few unexpected faces are making appearances on Elon's intramural soccer field.

Elon now has a faculty and staff soccer team that plays against college-aged opponents.

Fine arts professor Dr. Shawn Tucker decided to create the team this year.

Tucker began playing soccer when he was 5 years old and continued throughout high school and college. He never stopped being a fan of the sport.

A few years ago, Tucker organized and played in a game between his global studies and Elon 101 classes.

He enjoyed challenging the students to a game of soccer, which led him to establish the faculty and staff team this year.

When Chris Neal, head coach for Elon's women's soccer team, and assistant coach Stu Horne agreed to help coach the Elon faculty and staff team, Tucker saw his dream materialize.

There are currently two faculty/staff teams, a co-ed team and a men's team, that play against the student co-ed intramural teams.

At 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday night, faculty and staff take on the students.

A competitive game of soccer can be intimidating for some students who

end up guarding, blocking and even beating their own professors.

"I didn't know any of the [faculty or staff] players, but it was intimidating because they work here," said Scott Christopherson, captain of the student co-ed intramural team.

Tucker joked that students have been so intimidated by them that they have refused to leave the safety of their cars on several game days.

This season, the co-ed faculty/staff team has won two games, both as a result of the student teams forfeiting. The men's team has a 0-4 record.

"There's no prize to win," said Francois Masuka, a faculty player. "We have done well. We have to keep practicing."

The team has gained a lot of interest, but Tucker says the difficulty is the lack of individuals following through on their commitment to the team.

Having more players would provide the team with more substitutes, which ensures rest and "fresh" players.

The team is open to any member of Elon's faculty and staff who is interested. There are no try-outs and experience is not a requirement.

Coach Neal's wife, Amy, an office assistant for the wellness program, joined the team with no prior experience but said she has enjoyed the season thus far.

"Having never played soccer before, I was a bit intimidated," she said.

"The team made me immediately comfortable. Playing students has definitely tested my athletic abilities and reminded me that if I don't move it, I will lose it."



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor

Every week, Elon's new faculty and staff soccer team plays the intramural student team.

Like Amy, most of the players participate solely for fun and exercise. Tucker explained that most of his teammates don't take the score too seriously.

"It should be scored like kiddie soccer," he joked. "Fun to fun, that's the score."

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# Pre-service teachers reach out to struggling readers

Lindsay Eney  
Copy Editor

At 6 p.m. on Wednesdays, most students would like to be at home getting homework done so they can spend their nights as they wish with roommates or friends.

But every other Wednesday night in Mooney, 25 Elon education students use their time to aid struggling readers and their parents in the literacy learning process.

The students enrolled in EDU 324, literacy development strategies and instruction for struggling readers, are the first to participate in this brand new program implemented by Dr. Jean Rohr, assistant professor of education.

When it had been taught previously, the course required Elon students to find their own struggling readers and work with them on their own time.

Unfortunately, it was very difficult to get the elementary school teachers to be able to supervise the process. The issues Rohr had last fall inspired her to change the program.

"I thought, 'What if the struggling readers came to us?'" she said.

During some class meetings, Rohr works with the education majors on how to teach the five components of reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.

One week later, the pre-service teachers begin working with the readers and parents on those components.

"The program is meant to not only teach the underpinnings of working with a struggling reader, but to work with such a reader and their parents," Rohr said.

As senior Cullen Pitler said, they can learn all they want about how to help struggling readers, "but until you work one-on-one with them, you're really not going to know how to approach the situation."

Senior Madelyn Rohleder also believes the setup of the program is extremely beneficial.

"Because we're here, we learn something and then can immediately put it into practice," she said. "It backs up what we're learning in the classroom."

As with any new program,

there have been some issues that need to be resolved.

Because the elementary school students come from all over Alamance County, some parents have to travel pretty far to get to Elon for the class meetings.

"The problem for many parents is transportation," Rohr said. "But parents have figured it out and have been very faithful and dedicated to coming."

Students recalled one father who was so dedicated to the commitment he made to his child that he drove several hours just to get to Elon in time after a death in the family.

On the other hand, senior Lauren Arold's reader has been unable to come as often.

She was frustrated with the situation at first, but has since realized that there must be something going on that is preventing this student from attending.

"It's just one of those things where I think, 'I know this kid needs help, what can I do?'" she said. "And why can't he get the help he needs?"

Regardless, she says she has learned valuable lessons from this experience, as have all the students.

Rohleder stressed the importance of forming a good relationship with parents.

"In the classroom, teachers a lot of times are afraid of parents," she said. "But what I've learned from this is that the parent is your ally and your teammate."

All the students echoed this thought, pointing out that their perspectives on having the parents there have really changed throughout the course of the semester.

"Initially, having the parents here was a big concern," senior Jasmyne Hill said. "But it's been such a beneficial thing because they see what you're doing for their student and they can go home and apply those same things to effectively help their students."

At the end of the semester, the readers will be rewarded for their hard work in a big way.

With the money from a grant written by Rohr, the Elon students will be accompanying their readers to Barnes & Noble on Dec. 10 to purchase books on their reading levels and take home as their own.



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Senior Lauren Arold, a student in Dr. Rohr's EDU 324 class, helps an Alamance County student develop critical reading skills. As part of Rohr's tutoring program, local students come to Mooney on Wednesday evenings.

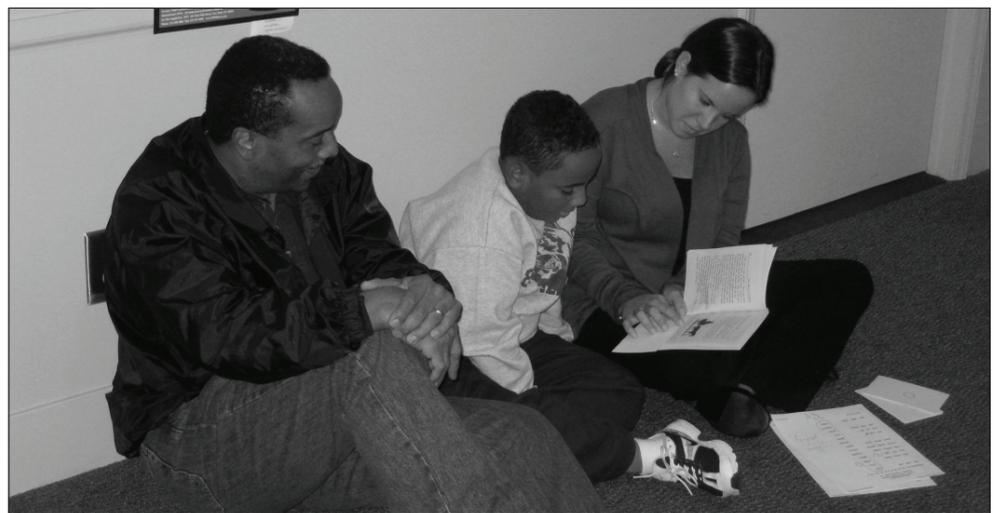


PHOTO SUBMITTED  
A young reader reads aloud to senior Carrie Feehan as his father listens in. Parents are invited to attend the weekly tutoring sessions. "[Parents] have been very faithful and dedicated to coming," Dr. Rohr said.

"They'll have the confidence to be able to open up those books, read them and have the support of their parents," Pitler said. "It's a really good way to culminate the whole semester."

Anyone interested in helping out with the program can contact Dr. Jean Rohr. From donating books or money to volunteering with the program, the children involved in the program will certainly benefit.

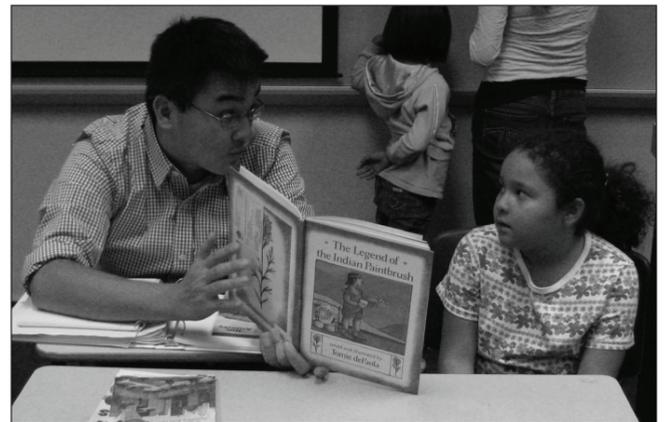


PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Senior Darani Nguyen reads aloud to a local elementary student.

## Co-op grocery store will offer organic food, nontraditional products

Sarah Diedrick & Meg D'Albora  
Reporters

Elon students looking to eat better or support small businesses will soon have a new option.

The Company Shops Market, coming to Burlington in 2009, is a cooperatively owned grocery store and café.

CSM will operate a retail storefront open 12 hours a day, seven days a week.

CSM's goal is to support local, small, sustainable farmers by providing Alamance County residents with organic and sustainably produced food.

Some of the products they will offer include organic produce, bakery items, dairy, beer, specialty coffee, sushi and beauty products.

Many of the products they will carry are not available in

traditional grocery stores.

These products are free from animal testing, GMOs, gluten, hormones and antibiotics.

They are also minimally processed, certified organic, and whole grain.

Through its choices of products, CSM hopes to support family farms and companies that protect the environment

As a co-op, the market seeks to create a strong sense of community in Alamance County.

The market's Web site explains that a co-op is an independent group of people who join freely in order to meet a common goal — in this case, promoting sustainable living and balancing community, economy and the environment.

Because each co-op is locally based, there is no

national headquarters to fund the start-up costs.

CSM is still in the process of raising funds and establishing a location in Alamance County.

"The market hasn't opened yet because it is a grass roots project," said Melissa Frey, one of CSM's founders. "Most of the time spent during start up is raising funds and selling visions. It's a \$2.5 million project."

CSM investors have already purchased 600 shares thus far and 2,000 are needed prior to opening day.

When the co-op opens, shareholders will receive 10 percent of their purchase on the 10th of every month, will have the right to vote and run for positions within the market and receive 15 percent off case purchases every day.

Any Elon student 18 years or older can help CSM

### Want to know more?

For more information about volunteering and helping with the project, visit the company's Web site at [www.companysshopsmarket.coop](http://www.companysshopsmarket.coop).

strengthen its co-op and help get it to its opening day by becoming a partial owner.

Frey encourages Elon students to become involved in the project. "There are many volunteer opportunities for Elon students," she said. "They can help us with events, venues in the county and help us spread the word about what we envision."

### Products CSM will offer:

- Organic produce
- Bakery items
- Dairy
- Beer
- Specialty coffee
- Sushi
- Beauty products

### What makes them different:

- Free from animal testing, GMOs, gluten, hormones and antibiotics
- Minimally processed
- Certified organic

# Author creates portraits of Panama

Amanda Kennison  
Reporter

At 7:30 tonight in Yeager Recital Hall, members of the Elon community may come listen to a growing voice in the literary world as critically-acclaimed author Cristina Henríquez shares some of her writings.

Henríquez's collection of short stories and a novella, "Come Together, Fall Apart," received rave reviews from many in the literary world. Throughout the stories, she creates a distinct view of Panama and focuses on young protagonists trying to survive chaotic lives.

Though much of her writing's action happens in a place many in the United States have little knowledge of, Henríquez finds ways to appeal to readers on deeper levels.

Part of the reason Henríquez comes to Elon tonight is the universal beauty and connecting nature of her work.

"I like her work for several reasons," said Tita Ramirez, assistant professor of English. "The simplicity and beauty of her language, her interesting characters — as often as not, they are young people, both men and women, trying to figure out how they fit into the world. I figured students, of all people, would identify."

In addition to the lyricism of her words and profundity of her characters, Henríquez manages to cross a cultural divide with her writings. In "Come Together, Fall Apart," all of Henríquez's stories paint a distinct portrait of contemporary Panama.

From the dusty streets to the humid beaches, Henríquez strives to authentically present the Panamanian people and culture. At the same time, she takes the foreign society and makes it understandable to those who couldn't relate otherwise.

Her Panamanian descent and



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.CRISTINAHENRIQUEZ.COM  
Cristina Henríquez, a Panamanian author, will speak in Yeager Recital Hall at 7:30 tonight.

the time she spent in the country as a child gives Henríquez a unique insight into her stories' settings. Being born and raised in the United States, she has the cultural and societal knowledge to appeal to her wide American readership. Roots in both cultures allow her to draw on the elements of life to which both can relate.

Outside knowledge can only go so far in literature. Henríquez's adept writing skills truly construct the bridge between the two cultures.

"For someone who's never lived in Panama full time, she manages to capture the feel of Panama and Panamanians really well," Ramirez said. "This is, of course, a testament to her talent as a writer. She also does an amazing job of giving her non-Spanish-speaking readers entry into Latin America without leaving them disconnected from the characters due to cultural differences, something that is sometimes difficult to do."

In addition to reading pieces of

her own work tonight, Henríquez will visit several creative writing classes today and lead student workshops. On Tuesday, Henríquez lent her skills and knowledge to lead a master class for interested students and faculty. She taught a close reading of Edward P. Jones' short story "Marie."

Henríquez's past success ensures that she'll be an entertaining speaker and engaging reader. Having been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic* and *Ploughshares*, among several other prestigious publications, shows the recognized merit of her writing skills.

Henríquez was also featured in the *Virginia Quarterly Review* as one of "Fiction's New Luminaries," and received the Alfredo Cisneros Del Moral Foundation Award. Even though she's already received so many accolades, Henríquez shows no sign of slowing down.

Next spring, Henríquez will publish her first full-length novel, "The World In Half."

# Kiwitt elected to Piedmont Triad Film Commission

Alex Trice  
Reporter

One of Elon's own has recently been appointed to a position on the Piedmont Triad Film Commission Board. Assistant professor of communications Peter Kiwitt, who coordinates the Elon in Los Angeles program for Winter Term, was elected to serve on the board Oct. 29.



Peter  
Kiwitt

He said he is both curious and hopeful about the potential opportunities to contribute to the commission and believes he will be an asset.

"My specialty is narrative cinema and there's not a great deal of that in the Triad region," Kiwitt said. "Having more narrative production around the school would be a good opportunity for our students to work. If I can make a small contribution to helping production in the area, that would be good for the area and for the students. I feel like I have potential insights and experience to offer that some other people on the board might not have."

Kiwitt's professional experience includes serving as a production executive at MGM television, running two small media businesses, working as a media consultant for film production companies and producing and directing an award-winning independent feature film.

The Piedmont Triad Film Commission covers a region extending across 12 counties in North Carolina's northern foothills. It works to assist film producers with several aspects of filmmaking by offering a number of services such as location scouting.

It provides knowledgeable staffs who can help producers find sound stages, crew members and office or housing accommodations. The commission seeks to promote production from within the state and attract out-of-state producers.

As a board member, Kiwitt will provide oversight and guidance alongside the other board members to help make local production for the region more nationally competitive and therefore more commercially feasible.

The members of the board will also be working with the state office and other film commissions. He said he hopes to aid in strengthening infrastructure and increasing incentives to attract out-of-state producers into the area.

One new tax incentive that was put into place by the Piedmont Triad Film Commission gives production companies that spend more than \$250,000 in North Carolina on motion pictures or television eligibility to receive a tax credit of up to 15 percent on in-state spending of goods, services or labor.

It also has a photographic library that features more than 1,500 photos of locations from diverse landscapes.

Some films that have recently been produced in the region include "Cabin Fever," "Junebug" and "Leatherheads."

The commission's work even led to a few scenes of the 1998 Denzel Washington drama "He Got Game" being shot on Elon's campus. A variety of commercials have also been shot here, ranging from Belk, Krispy Kreme and La-Z-Boy to Cellular One, Cheerios and Wal-Mart.

"We have to do the best job to make them see us as a favorable place to shoot," Kiwitt said. "Every time a production is shot here, it becomes more practical in the minds of producers. The more production you bring in, the easier it is to bring productions after it."

# Creator of 'Jurassic Park,' 'ER' dies at 66

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

As America elected its first black president on Nov. 4, it also lost one of its most prominent literary figures when Michael Crichton died of cancer at age 66. His books sold more than 150 million copies during his lifetime, and many of them were adapted for the screen.



Michael  
Crichton

Crichton began his career as a medical student at Harvard University. During his time at medical school he began writing novels about science and technology and the repercussions that could stem from their misuse.

Known for his suspenseful style,

Crichton wrote several books under the pen names John Lange and Jeffery Hudson before using his own name and pursuing writing full time.

In addition to writing such popular novels as "Jurassic Park," Crichton worked as a screenwriter on films like "Twister" and created the hit television series "ER."

Crichton had been working on a novel that was tentatively scheduled to come out at the end of this year, but his publisher released a statement saying the book was postponed indefinitely because of Crichton's illness.

Though his career was cut short, he left lasting contributions to the arts and entertainment industry. Here are a few of his most notable works.

**Jurassic Park:** Perhaps Crichton's best-known work, "Jurassic Park" tells the story of a group of scientists who clone dinosaur DNA to place in a

theme park. When the head scientist invites his grandchildren and a number of academics to visit the park before its opening, a security breach releases the dinosaurs and puts everyone's lives at risk.

This novel and its sequel, "The Lost World," were both adapted into successful films. The films spawned a third sequel, though it wasn't based on one of Crichton's books.

**The Andromeda Strain:** Crichton's first novel not written under a pseudonym, "The Andromeda Strain" is about a satellite that crashes in a small town and unleashes a deadly virus, killing all but two of the town's residents.

Government scientists try to identify and stop the virus, but complications arise. "The Andromeda Strain" has been adapted for the screen twice, once as a feature film in 1971 and once as a television miniseries earlier this year.

**Prey:** Crichton's hit novel from 2002 is a cautionary tale warning against the dangers of nanotechnology misuse. "Prey" involves the creation of nanorobots that are released into the desert to evolve on their own.

The scientists behind the project lose control of the nanorobots as they start replicating and becoming more intelligent and more deadly.

**ER:** Though "ER" was original envisioned as a movie to be directed by Steven Spielberg, it ultimately became a hit television series on NBC.

Crichton created the series based on his own experiences working in an ER and wrote the screenplays for the first three episodes of the show. "ER" premiered in 1994 and is currently in its 15th and final season.



**Congo:** In this 1980 novel, a team searching for diamonds in the African Congo discovers a lost city, but the team is attacked by what appears to be a strange race of gorillas.

Another team is sent to the Congo to find out what went wrong with the first exhibition and find the lost city. "Congo" was adapted into a film starring Laura Linney and Tim Curry in 1995.

# Piano duo graces Elon with classics, critiques

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

They graduated from Yale in the top 1 percent of their class, studied for four years in London under renowned British pianist Dame Myra Hess and have performed with orchestras across the globe from the Boston Pops to the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra.

On Thursday, the Elon community will have the opportunity to hear the sounds of acclaimed piano duo Richard and John Contiguglia.

Identical twins from Auburn, N.Y., the Contiguglias will perform at Elon as part of the Adams Foundation Piano Recital Series, sponsored by Elon and the Burlington Times-News. The Adams Foundation has been committed to supporting piano as an art form since 2002.

Since then, Elon has featured two Adams-sponsored pianists each year, one in the fall and one in the spring. The Contiguglias performed at Elon in 2005 and were so well-received that they are being brought back again.

"They always do an appealing program," said George Troxler, dean of cultural and special programs. "They tend to play difficult and challenging work, yet it's accessible."

The Contiguglias also have a family connection here. Their sister lives in Burlington, and Troxler said they are very popular with the local community.

The program for Thursday's concert was selected jointly between the Contiguglias and Elon. They will perform 18th and 19th century works by composers including Robert Schumann, Franz Schubert and Ludwig van Beethoven.

"They usually perform works that aren't often heard," Troxler said.

In addition to their performance on Thursday, the Contiguglias will also be conducting a master class for piano performance majors. During the master class, two students will perform for the Contiguglias and receive feedback from them, and the rest of the class will get to learn from the duo's insights.

"It is such a special opportunity for my students to be able to play for and learn from the great artists that the Adams Foundation series brings to us," said Victoria Fischer Faw, professor of music. "It's an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives."

Faw said that since the Contiguglias specialize in two piano performance in addition to piano four-hand, in which both musicians perform at one piano, her students have prepared masterwork in those



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.DUOPIANISTSCONTIGUGLIA.COM

Identical twins Richard and John Contiguglia have performed in such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall.

areas. Junior Pat Bachmann and senior Michelle Eichel were selected to perform at the master class, and they will play Schubert's four-hand piece "Fantasie in F minor."

"[Bachmann and Eichel] have been playing as a duo for three semesters now, so they were the obvious choice for this master class," Faw said.

Faw said she hopes her students take advantage of the opportunity to learn from pianists of the Contiguglias' caliber. The duo has performed at such venues as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center

and the Kennedy Center, and has been featured on television in the United States, Great Britain and Holland. The Contiguglias also have their own recording company, Gemini CD Classics, LLC.

"The opportunities for world-class live classical music performance are increasingly rare," Faw said. "Events such as this provide musical experience equal to anything in New York, with the added benefit of the opportunity to interact intimately with the artists."

## Plan on attending?

What: Richard and John Contiguglia, duo pianists

When: 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday

Where: Whitley Auditorium

Admission: \$15 or free with Elon ID, reserved seating

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★☆☆

### Rudd, Scott deliver fast comedy in 'Role Models'

Adam Constantine  
Film Critic

When Wheeler (Sean William Scott) and Danny Donahue (Paul Rudd) get on the wrong end of the law, they are given the opportunity to complete 150 hours of community service in 30 days rather than go to prison.

They choose the community service and are soon given orders to go to Sturdy Wings, the local "big brother" program. For many this would seem like an excellent way to get some quality time with a person from the younger generation.

But since it is nearly impossible for Wheeler and Danny to take responsibility for their own lives, this is possibly the worst idea ever.

What they didn't know was that their littles aren't exactly what would be considered "normal youth" in society.

Augie Farks (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) is an older kid who is constantly adorned in a cape and doesn't quite live on the planet most people call earth. Outside of his imaginary role-playing realm, he does not have any real friends, including his parents.

Since Danny has not exactly been known to attract people with his wonderfully shining personality, he has to figure out how to reach out to a kid who has nothing in common with him.

In the other corner is

Ronnie Shields (Bobb'e J. Thompson). Ronnie is the epitome of an angry black child looking to take his anger out on the nearest white man: Wheeler. Wheeler is a kind-hearted, energetic and horny guy who is content with the way his life has been so far.

Ronnie is doing the best he can to make sure Wheeler changes that opinion about his life. Together Danny and Wheeler must figure out how to survive 150 hours with Augie and Ronnie or go to prison.

Director David Wain and screenwriter Paul Rudd deliver a hilarious comedy in which all actors deliver quick one-liners that are just as funny as they are unexpected.

There are some comedies that go out of the way to be so grotesque and crude in their humor that the laughter is more driven by "nervousness" than genuine comedy.

While this film does have some rather graphic moments, none of them seem too out of place or forced, but flow nicely with the unique feel of the film.

The plot itself is pretty much the same that you will find in any comedy with no real twists or surprises.

Even though audiences have seen the same heartwarming ending before, it will still make them smile all the same. Catch "Role Models" at Carousel Cinemas at Alamance Crossing.

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★☆☆

### 'Quantum' a letdown after 'Royale'

Kevin Clang  
Reviewer

The trouble with "Quantum of Solace" is that it will inevitably be compared to "Casino Royale," its much better predecessor.

While "Royale" was undoubtedly one of the best action films of this decade, "Quantum" feels unfinished. The framework for a great movie is definitely present, but the film ultimately leaves the audience unsatisfied. In the end, "Quantum of Solace" is probably best viewed as the middle chapter of a "Casino Royale" trilogy rather than its own standalone picture.

At the end of "Royale," Bond went to the home of the villainous Mr. White, ready to avenge the death of his love, Vesper. "Quantum" picks up immediately after this. The plot (something about a secret organization overthrowing foreign governments for oil) is incredibly rushed as the story largely takes a backseat to action.

Potentially brilliant ideas, such as Bond going rogue and the United States' questionable motives, are introduced but never explored satisfyingly. As the plot becomes more layered, the audience is left with more unanswered questions. Starting right in the opening sequence, Bond is constantly being pursued by various bad guys. At times one wishes that Bond would just stop running for a moment and explain something.

Marc Forster was an odd choice to direct such an unabashed action piece. Best known for heavy talking pieces "Monster's Ball" and "Finding Neverland," Forster creates a much more artsy



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MOVIES.YAHOO.COM

Bond movie than audiences are used to. The film is filled with some gorgeous cinematic shots, especially during Bond's stay in Italy. But Forster's inexperience in the genre is woefully clear during the poorly edited action sequences.

Gone is the gritty realism of "Royale." Bond's stunts in this film border on ridiculous. Tight angles and quick cuts do make the fights seem much more frenetic, but also add a layer of confusion so that sometimes it is tough to tell exactly who is shooting at whom.

This isn't to say that "Quantum of Solace" is a bad film. What was great about "Casino Royale" is present here, just in smaller doses. Daniel Craig is still an inspired choice for the role of James Bond and he triumphantly carries the movie. Bond doesn't take quite the beating he did in "Royale" but is still very much a damageable hero, both physically and emotionally.

Whereas in his first film Craig seemed to be doing his best Bond impression, in "Quantum" he owns the role. His Bond is absolutely

ruthless. Unfortunately, Craig doesn't get to show off Bond's famous charm as much as he did in "Royale." The story progresses much too quickly for any witty repartee to take place.

The rest of the cast is compelling as well. Mathieu Amalric's Dominic Greene is a deliciously slick and intimidating villain and Amalric makes the most out of every minute of screen time he receives. Jeffrey Wright continues to impress as CIA Agent Felix Leiter, and Gemma Arterton's all too brief appearance as the British Agent Fields is the highlight of the movie. The weakest link in the bunch is Olga Kurylenko, who brings little new material to the role of the typical Bond girl.

The film is a tad frustrating. Never terrible but never great either, it could have used one more script rewrite and 15 more minutes explaining the plot in between the elaborate action pieces. "Quantum of Solace" is really just filler, an advertisement for the next installment. But as long as Craig is still the lead, people should still be willing to wait in line.

## CONCERT REVIEW ★★☆☆

## Lotus' beats transform Cat's Cradle

Sophie Duensing  
Reviewer

The hide-away music venue Cat's Cradle was transformed into an ethereal galaxy Nov. 6 by the electronic beats of Philadelphia-based jam band Lotus. Unlike other electronic music bands, there are no laptops — the band plays as a full-instrument rock band.

Twirling lights mirrored the rhythm of the thumping bass played by Jesse Miller, while the audience danced with glow sticks in hand. The effect was otherworldly, a psychedelic light show beautifully in sync with the completely instrumental set.

The audience was diverse, from the Lotus groupies who follow the band around the coast to Raleigh hippies adorned with feather headdresses, and from young ravers carrying light up wands to hipsters in skinny pants and vests discreetly bobbing their heads.

About 20 Elon students were in the crowd, escaping from the mundane weeknight West End bar scene for an experience far more unearthly.

Lotus is on tour promoting its newest album, "Hammerstrike," which is the band's sixth album since its debut "Germination" in 2003. Hammerstrike was released in stores Oct. 21, but the serious Lotus fans in the audience were already familiar with the entire album, rocking along with the band to new songs



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.LOTUSVIBES.COM

such as the high-energy, techno-laced "Bellwether" and swaying to the calmer, melodic "Disappear in a Red-Blood Sky."

One could memorize every album released by Lotus and still be unable to predict the direction the band's set will take. The band members feed off each other's energy, extending five-minute tracks to 15-minute jam sessions. Perhaps it is this element of surprise in their shows that has developed such a strong following.

While some bands sound better recorded and disappoint live, Lotus' musical talents thrive on stage, suggesting its style and skill isn't meant to be confined to the recording studio.

Even those who have never listened to Lotus before were enthralled by the music during the entire set, transformed into devout fans by the time the show ended.

The band is headed by

lead guitarist Mike Rempel, whose sounds intertwined and bounced off of accompanying guitarist Luke Miller. Miller also mixed samplers and synchs into the organic guitar chords. Steve Clemens and Chuck Morris on drums beat out energized backbeats that completed the hypnotic set of the five-member band.

After giving an already entirely soul-satisfying show and clearing the stage, Lotus returned for an epic encore that turned out to be the climax of the night.

They ended their performance with an extended jam session of "Spiritualized," one of their hits off the album "Nomad." Tiny flashing white lights danced off disco balls and transformed the venue into a sparkling galaxy of positive energy, a truly spiritualized experience, proving people don't have to venture far from Elon for one long, strange trip.

## A&amp;E IN BRIEF

## Film screening: "Darwin's Nightmare"

The Human Rights Film Festival continues this week with "Darwin's Nightmare," the fifth film in the series started by Safia Swimelar, assistant professor of political science, and her POL 389 International Human Rights class.

The documentary by Hubert Sauper focuses on poverty, AIDS, the arms trade, civil war, environmental damage and other issues facing Tanzanian relations with the Western world. The movie won a European Film Award in 2004 for Best Documentary.

"Darwin's Nightmare" will screen at 7 p.m. in McEwen 011.

## Hip-hop artist DeLon to perform as part of Sri Lanka Week

Rapper DeLon is the first Sri Lankan to ever land a spot on the U.S. Billboard charts.

The award-winning and internationally acclaimed hip-hop artist will be performing as part of Elon's Sri Lanka Week at 8:45 p.m. Thursday in McKinnon Hall.

Tickets are \$5 or 2 meal swipes in Moseley. All proceeds from DeLon's show will benefit the Periclean Scholars class of 2011. For more on DeLon, visit: <http://delonmusic.com>.

## Elon's Electronic Ensemble makes debut performance Saturday

Elon's new Electronic Ensemble will perform popular music from the

1980s during its premiere performance this week.

The group is under the direction of Todd Coleman, assistant professor of music. The Electronic Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in McCrary Theatre.

## Movie on the Lawn: "The Dark Knight"

Postponed from Oct. 25, SUB's Movie on the Lawn will show "The Dark Knight" this week. Christopher Nolan's comic book adaptation was a critical and commercial success, grossing \$158.4 million in its opening weekend alone.

The movie's all-star cast includes Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Gary Oldman, Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman, Aaron Eckhart and Maggie Gyllenhaal. "The Dark Knight" will screen at 9 p.m. Saturday in LaRose Digital Theatre.

## Senior Seminar Series presents "Boeing-Boeing"

The senior BFA acting class will present the comedic farce "Boeing-Boeing" early next week.

The play follows a wealthy bachelor who is dating three female flight attendants at once, and complications arise when they are all scheduled to return home sooner than expected.

"Boeing-Boeing" will be performed at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday in the Black Box Theatre. No tickets are required but seating is limited.

## Music theatre major Chris Wood pushes the limits

Kate Austin  
Reporter

He wanted to be a surgeon and an actor. "A 'Broadway actor' I called it," he said. In second grade the surgical dream faded and a decision was made: actor.

With an older sister who participated in the local children's theater in Dublin, Ohio, junior Chris Wood was anxious to join in the fun.

"I was 5 years old and wanted to do [children's theater] too, but I was too young," he said. "I think you had to be 7. So when I was 7, I did 'Pied Piper' with her."

From then on, he was hooked. Wood was lucky enough to attend high school in a place that was prolific in its theater department. Dublin Coffman High School performed about six shows a year, two of which were musicals. It was early on in his journey that Wood got a taste of the spotlight.

"My first lead role was Ren in 'Footloose' sophomore year," he said. "It wasn't a big challenging part, but it's one of my greatest memories because it was the first time that I was the most important part of the show. Up until then I had been little characters or ensemble."

From then on the roles kept coming. A production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" transformed Wood into a donkey in the role of Bottom, and he played bad-boy T-Bird, Danny Zuko in the school's production of "Grease."

"In high school I played all these parts that I probably shouldn't have played for my voice type because I'm not really a tenor," Wood said. "They were kind of the opposite of 'Sweeney Todd' or any other part I should be playing."

One wouldn't think that "Sweeney Todd" would be the ideal character for



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Chris Wood's most recent role was the title character in "Sweeney Todd." "It's easy to get caught up in the fact that you know so much about the characters," he said. "You just have to know what you know, but sort of forget it so that you can just be the character."

Wood to portray. With his personable nature and friendly smile, he's the last person one would picture on a deranged killing spree. But it is Wood's hardworking demeanor that makes him perfect for the part.

"I know that he put months of preparation into his portrayal of Sweeney Todd," said Tal Fish, senior musical theatre major and Wood's mentor and close friend. "But don't let that dark demeanor fool you. The first time we shared the stage he was doing a spot-on Groucho Marx in 'A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine.'"

Not only was Wood selected to play the lead in Elon University's production of Sondheim's acclaimed musical "Sweeney Todd," but he had been dreaming of this opportunity for a long time.

"It has been my favorite musical for so long," he said. "It's my dream

role. It's my favorite show. It's my favorite composer. It's great that I got the chance this early in my life to play the part. Most people don't have the opportunity to play parts like this until they're the typical age range."

Wood isn't most people. He has worked hard to take advantage of every acting opportunity, throwing himself into parts outside of his comfort zone.

"I was in the ensemble of Chicago, so I danced, which is something you'll never see me do — at least not well," he said.

Another role that pushed the line of normality for Wood was playing Frank N. Furter in the "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

"I had to wear four and a half-inch heels and a corset," he said. "[The heels] hurt my feet so bad!"

This summer pushed Wood in a different way. Working in Kentucky for

three different shows simultaneously, his voice took "the biggest beating it ever has."

"I only had Mondays off, and I did that for three months straight," Wood said. "It was hard to push through because I was busy, I was tired and I was grumpy because I didn't have any free time."

One tool that Elon has given Wood is the "Meisner technique." It seems to come through in his everyday nature, as well as his acting.

"The technique teaches being open and ready to do anything," he said. "To listen and respond with another actor on stage, and just breathe through each moment."

With so many successful well-known actors associated with the part of Sweeney, Wood had a lot to live up to. The expectations concerned him a little, but he knows he doesn't play the character the same as they do. His portrayal of Sweeney is younger and oddly alluring.

"There are all these comparisons for the part," Wood said. "I mean, Johnny Depp, George Hearn and Len Cariou, the original Sweeney. Some people will like [my portrayal] better and some people may not like it, but that's the same with every part."

Fish swears that when he first met Wood he was "a shy, soft-spoken freshman." But he quickly became "a dominating force in the department."

Wood is far from shy when he sweeps across the stage in "Sweeney Todd." He sends chills through the audience with resonating bass tones and a frighteningly charismatic portrayal of the crazed killer.

"He is not only a skilled, versatile actor, he is also a man of faith and integrity," Fish said. "As his mentor, I look up to him just as much as he looks up to me."

## How to: Unclog a toilet

Whether you live in a crowded dorm or are the victim of low water pressure, a clogged toilet is basically inevitable. Save yourself an awkward encounter with your RA or a plumber and fix the problem yourself.



- 1) Cover the floor around the toilet with old rags or paper towels. Some water is bound to splash out.
- 2) Using a bucket, scoop some water out of the toilet bowl until it is at about half the normal capacity. There must be enough water to cover the plunger.
- 3) Turn off water supply to the toilet. There should be a knob located right behind the toilet.
- 4) Insert a large plunger into the toilet bowl. Cover the toilet hole completely with the suction end of the plunger. The suction end of the plunger should be completely covered with water.
- 5) Push down slowly and firmly, putting the most pressure in the center of the plunger, almost as if you are trying to push the handle into the toilet hole. Sharply pull up on the plunger to create suction, then push back in. Repeat at a fast speed until you feel the blockage loosen.
- 6) When it seems as if the water is moving, flush the toilet. If the water still doesn't drain out, it may be necessary to repeat step 5.
- 7) If an object like a cotton swab or cosmetic case has fallen in to the toilet, it may be necessary to use a plumbing snake. Instead of buying one, unravel a metal coat hanger and stick one end in to the toilet's hole. Twist in a circular motion to pull out the obstruction.

## OVERHEARD AT ELON U

*"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."*

*Junior Nick Massa created "Overheard at Elon U," a Facebook group that highlights ridiculous comments made by Elon students. The group features daily posts and hosts more than 850 members.*

Girl: "What's with all the Mexican stuff?"  
 Friend: "I guess Elon's having a fiesta."  
 Girl: "Oh! Cinco de Mayo!"  
 Friend: "I think that's in March."  
 —*overheard by Jake Anderson*

Boy: "He doesn't like girls?"  
 Friend: "I don't know, but he likes Mitt Romney a lot."  
 —*overheard by Andie Diemer*

Overheard in a group of juniors:  
 Girl: "Wait, are we in North Carolina or South Carolina?"  
 —*overheard by Meredith McNeill*

Referring to the clock outside Belk: "That's a clock?"  
 —*overheard by Corey Groom*

**AUDITIONS**

Get a spectacular job as a singer, dancer, musician, stage manager, stage technician or specialty performer at Busch Gardens. All talents welcome.

**Tuesday December 2 at Elon University**  
 Center for the Arts, Dance Studios A & B

Dancers' Call 4:30 pm  
 All other talents 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm  
 Tech Interviews 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Dancers will be taught a routine. All other talents bring prepared 90 second audition. Stage managers and technicians should bring a resume and letters of recommendation. Visit our website for helpful audition tips, pay rates, photos and benefits.

**TalentSearchBGW.com** or call: 800-253-3302

If you are under 18 you must have a parent or legal guardian with you to audition. Performers must be at least 18, and technicians must be at least 18 to begin work. Proof of age is required. Applicants will be subject to drug testing and background checks. Busch Gardens and Water Country USA are equal opportunity employers and support a safe and drug free workplace.

**Busch GARDENS**  
 WILLIAMSBURG, VA

# Women's basketball dominates at exhibition game

Jordan Scahill  
Reporter

The women's basketball team was six points away from a 100-point victory Sunday afternoon in an exhibition game against MI Express at the Nest.

By halftime, the Phoenix had garnered a 45-point lead, well on its way to its first win of the 2008-2009 campaign under new head coach Karen Barefoot.

Sophomore guard Julie Taylor led the Phoenix with 24 points, followed by freshman guard Aiesha Harper with 14 points.

"I think everyone contributes both offensively and defensively," Taylor said. "I got into a rhythm pretty early."

As one of the youngest teams in the league with no seniors, the team places an emphasis on pressure defense and works hard to surprise teams, since they are underestimated.

Picked to finish last in conference play by league coaches, the Phoenix has a lot to prove if it is to improve from their losing record last year.

The team also faces new experiences this season with new head coach, who has never had a losing season in her head coaching career.

"We have to thrive on our defense to generate our offense," Barefoot said. "I have played in it and I have coached it."

Barefoot said she is proud of her team's hard work in the preseason as they have turned into great, in-shape players.

"It feels really good to finally get out there on the court," Taylor said. "To see all of our hard work paying off."

With a 54-point victory, the Phoenix has set the tone for a season filled with new, exciting expectations. Barefoot said she and the team came up with an entire list of expectations for the 2008-2009 season.



LINDSAY FENDT | Asst. Photo Editor  
Junior Tiffany Davis takes the ball to the hoop. During the exhibition game, the Phoenix never trailed MI Express in points.



LINDSAY FENDT | Asst. Photo Editor  
Sophomore Jess Luedtke takes a shot as she overcomes the MI Express Defense. She scored nine total points in the game on Sunday afternoon.

Throughout the game, the team practiced a number of different defensive systems. Every player had a chance to play in the game, as Barefoot stressed the importance of getting all of her players, especially freshmen, playing time before the regular season begins.

The Phoenix had an overall team effort in its goal to force the opposing team to take the first time-out, then to aggressively set and keep the tempo. As the first time the freshmen played on a college court, Sunday's game held great potential for the players to prove themselves and raised the bar for the rest of the season. Since it is such a young team, the freshmen have a unique chance to get significant playing time early in their careers.

"I always work on keeping my focus

and keeping my head in the game without hesitating," Harper said.

Defense, an aggressive mentality and a strong transition game are some strengths of the young Phoenix squad, while connecting passes and mental toughness are the elements the team is working on the most.

"Your mind is the strongest and most important thing," Barefoot said.

With a team theme of "Leave a

Mark," Barefoot expects to use her coaching methods with the team chemistry to set high goals for the coming year.

The Phoenix will kick off its regular season at 7 p.m. Friday night as it hosts non-conference opponent Winston-Salem State in the ISES Cancer-Awareness Tipoff tournament, held in honor of the late Ann Lashley, Elon's former assistant coach.

Have your voice be heard...

# SGA

Student Government Association  
*Service. Leadership. Excellence.*

Senate meetings are every Thursday at 7:30 pm - ALL are welcome

# Homecoming on club sports turf

## Men's ultimate Frisbee starts new homecoming tradition

Russell Varner  
Reporter

Saturday night at the intramural fields, a new Homecoming tradition was born. For the first time, the men's ultimate Frisbee team hosted a scrimmage between its current players and the alumni who were former members of the team.

"We're trying to make it like a tradition now, to bring back the old folk and then get together," said Daniel Lee, men's team president. "They usually come down for Homecoming, but we just have never organized a game. This is the first time in a while that we have played together."

"I think it was a good way for the alumni to try to reconnect with the team and to meet some of the newcomers," treasurer Dan Sembler, said. "A lot of them came from far way away just to hang out with us, and it would be a shame if we didn't give them something to do when they were in town."

The team was only able to fit in one scrimmage, which saw the alumni come back to win by a final score of 13 - 11.

But in the end, it wasn't about who won or lost. It was about seeing everyone once again.

"I like the idea of giving the alumni a chance to interact with the freshmen and also to give them a chance to play with old teammates from years past," Sembler said. "This scrimmage was the best way to make sure both happened."

While the season doesn't get competitive until the spring, the fall has been good for the Phoenix. The team has already played in tournaments and had a couple of big victories early in the year.

In a tournament at N.C. State, the team scored its biggest win of the season, defeating UNC Chapel Hill.

Since the men's club Frisbee team was founded, it had never beaten Chapel Hill. Lee said the bigger schools are always the hardest to defeat. The win held historical, as well as emotional value.

"We were able to give our newcomers some well deserved playing time on their own to make sure they develop properly, and our returners performed well at a couple of tournaments as well," Sembler said. "When we are on the field, we know that we are trying as hard as we can to make our teammates proud and to give our team a legitimate chance to win. This ability to push ourselves is what makes us as strong as we are."

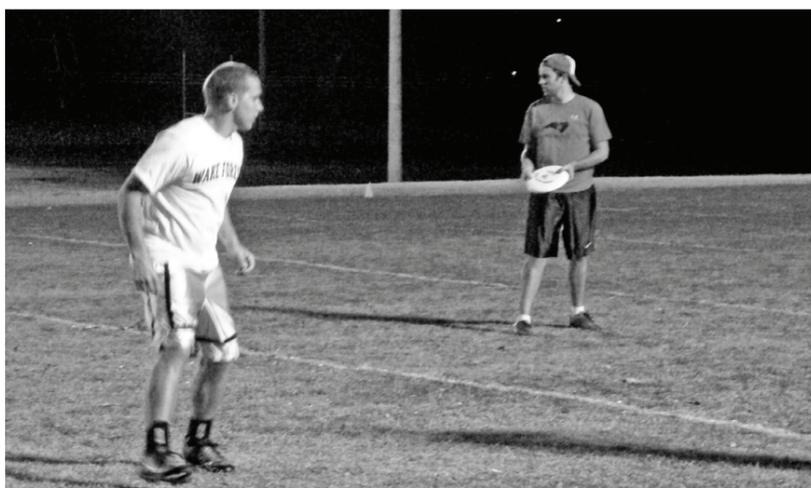
The team hits the road this weekend to play in another tournament, though it has yet to be determined whom they will play.



EMILY GIEGERICH | Photographer  
For the first time ever, the men's ultimate frisbee team held an alumni game Saturday night.



EMILY GIEGERICH | Photographer  
The alumni defeated the current players by a score of 13-11. But players said it was more about establishing a new tradition than winning the game.



EMILY GIEGERICH | Photographer  
The men's team is back in action this weekend to continue gearing up for the spring season.

## College football: no clear playoff system in sight

Barack Obama wants to fix the economy, the war in Iraq and the college football playoff system. Well, obviously, the last one is not on the top of the list of the future president's priorities. But he has been thinking about revising the Bowl Championship Series system.



**Pam Richter**  
Columnist

On the night before Election Day, an interview with President-elect Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain aired on Monday Night Football. Obama said if there is one thing he could change in sports, it would

be for college football to enact a playoff system.

More fuel is igniting this fire once again. After the interview, college coaches from around the nation sounded off on the controversial system. University of Southern California head coach Pete Carroll expressed his frustration with the system.

"I think it stinks," Carroll told ESPN.com. "I don't think it's the way it should be. But all we can do is keep talking about it."

The BCS was introduced at the start of the 1998 season. The BCS relies on a series of polls and computer selection methods to determine who will play in the championship games.

In recent years, there have been several controversies surrounding the BCS. Teams have thought they were unjustly denied a playoff berth because of the computer based system. With several one-loss teams this season, it will be difficult to decide who will be in the biggest bowl games. A controversy is most likely to arise once again.

After all the frustration, talk and questions, the main questions becomes, why doesn't Division I football just move to a playoff system?

Many critics think a system similar to the NCAA basketball tournament should be instituted. It is a simple playoff system and after several rounds, a clear cut champion is declared. The teams play out for a national championship, with no assistance from a computer.

In the Football Championship Subdivision, a playoff system has been instituted. Sixteen teams in the nation make the playoffs. But, with the top 25 more competitive than ever this season, it will be difficult to narrow the field down to 16.

With a victory on Saturday, the Phoenix stands at 8-2 on the season, and second in the Southern Conference. If the SoCon sends three teams to the playoffs this year, then other conferences will be limited in their playoff bids.

In this playoff system, the importance of the regular season is emphasized. One slip up and a team could find itself fighting for a playoff spot.

Obama is right — there are flaws within the BCS system. Too many teams are left out and a team's fate should not be determined by a computer system.

We know that the BCS is not working and needs to be fixed. A straight playoff system is an easy answer to a difficult solution.

### Club Sports Round Up

**Friday Night:**  
Men's lacrosse vs. N.C. State – Won, 6-4  
Men's rugby vs. Duke – Won, 52-3

**Sunday:**  
Women's soccer vs. Duke – Lost, 6-0

## Halfway through football season, predictions run rampant

Drew Johnson  
and Russell Varner  
Sports Commentators

### First Half MVP

Drew: Clinton Portis is the MVP halfway through the season. He's carried the Redskins offense this season and the Skins are one of the best teams in the league. Without Portis, the Redskins and Jim Zorn are facing a lot of pressure in the nation's capital. Instead, Portis is five yards short of 1,000 and has seven touchdowns. He's not only making Redskins' fans happy, but also several fantasy owners around the country.

Russell: You want to talk about someone carrying a team? How about Kurt Warner? First of all, it's amazing he's still playing. Secondly, he's having his best year since he left the Rams. He leads the NFL in completion percentage and



is second in passer rating, yards and touchdowns. And he's doing all this for the first-place Cardinals. Without him, there's no way they'd get a 5-3 record and first place in the NFC West.

Drew: Warner is putting up the numbers, but it helps when he has Pro Bowl caliber receivers and a surprisingly good running game. If you want to talk about quarterbacks the discussion starts and ends with Drew Brees. Portis only has Jason Campbell, a mediocre quarterback at best.

Russell: And Portis also has a very good offensive line in front of him. I think if Washington had to stick with Ladell Betts instead of Portis, they'd still be a decent team. But take Warner away from the Cardinals and this team has nothing.

### Second-half team to watch

Drew: With the NFL having as much parity as it does, most of the teams are very realistically in the playoff picture. But the team to watch is the Baltimore Ravens. They have flown under the radar all season with the Titans' strong start and other stories. They still have a great defense and Joe Flacco is giving the offense the dependable quarterback they have been looking for.

Russell: I say keep an eye on the hottest team in the first half of the season: the Tennessee Titans. These guys have surprised

everyone and remain the only undefeated team in the NFL. Chris Johnson and LenDale White have proven to be a great one-two punch for this team and their defense is just incredible. They remind me a lot of the Ravens team that won the Super Bowl a couple years back.

Drew: That's the problem. All the teams will be gunning for the Titans to knock them off. When you take out the last unbeaten team or best team in the league, it gives your team a huge boost.

Russell: All eyes will be on them for the second half of this season. They will not go undefeated but they will make a lot of noise in the AFC this year. They can run the ball and they can stop the run. If you can do that in the NFL, you will win.

# SoCon awards pour in for men's soccer team

Michelle Longo  
Sports Editor

For the first time in program history, Elon junior forward Justin Wyatt was named 2008 Player of the Year for the Southern Conference. Head coach Darren Powell was not far behind, chosen as the league's 2008 Coach of the Year.

For Powell, it was his second such honor in four seasons with the Phoenix.

"The award is really a team award," Powell said. "That comprises the players, coaching staff and support staff. It is everyone that helps contribute to the success of the team. I would defer that award to everyone else."

Wyatt has scored at least one goal in all seven SoCon tilts this season.

He leads the SoCon with 12 goals, seven assists and 31 points. He is seventh and eighth in goals and points, respectively, for the highest total of any Elon player in history.

Wyatt's name also sits high on the all-time goals list, in fourth with 25, and his 62 points rank him fifth on the all-time list.

And he is only a junior.

"I've known [Wyatt] for a long time now," Powell said. "He has played for me even before Elon and now at Elon and it is nice to see him grow up and get an achievement like that."

Wyatt leads a host of Elon players selected to All-SoCon teams. Elon's eight selections marks the most from one school since 1988.



FILE PHOTO

Elon junior forward Justin Wyatt (15) has scored at least one goal in all seven SoCon games this season. He has the highest total number of points of any Elon player in history.

It also marks the first time in SoCon history that two goalkeepers from the same team were selected.

"It feels really good," Wyatt said. "It's nice to get rewarded for stuff like that. It feels good that everyone that deserves to get their rewards finally got it. No one is being overlooked like in the past."

Junior midfielder Erfan Imani, junior defender Steven Kinney, and senior goalkeeper Kyle Boerner were also all selected to the First Team All-SoCon.

The Second Team All-SoCon includes senior forward Aaron Parker, junior midfielder Clint Collins, senior defender Will Mason and sophomore goalkeeper Clint Irwin.

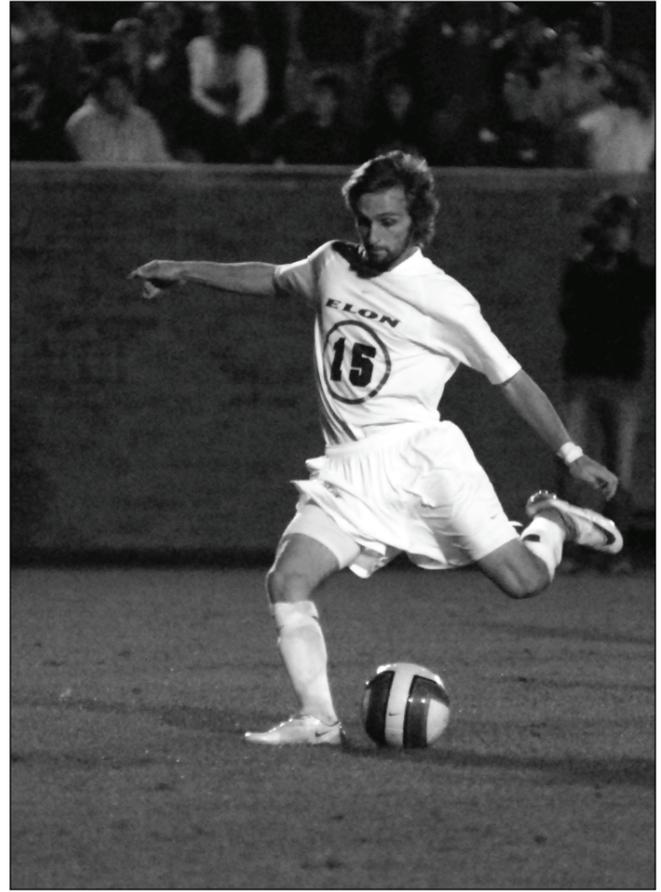
Defender James Carroll was also named to the SoCon All-Freshman squad.

Rather unconventionally, Powell decided early in the season that the two goalkeepers would split time evenly, one playing the first half and one playing the second half.

The process worked and both were eventually honored for it.

"I was most excited to see our two goalkeepers recognized," Powell said. "It was the first time in 34 years of men's soccer in the Southern Conference that that happened and those two in particular represent this team very well. When I saw that I was so happy."

His fourth year at the helm, Powell has accumulated a 36-32-9 record and led Elon to its first-ever NCAA Division I league title and undefeated mark in conference play



FILE PHOTO

Elon junior Justin Wyatt was named 2008 Player of the Year for the SoCon. Wyatt leads the conference with 12 goals and seven assists.

during the regular season.

In his first three years with the Phoenix, the program produced 12 All-SoCon performers.

This season alone, Powell has seen eight members come out of his squad.

"It is a year-long commitment for these

players," Powell said. "They have worked hard throughout the spring, the fall and it is nice to see these guys get honored. It gives the players a little bit of confidence to be recognized by the coaches in the league and hopefully that confidence can now be reflected in the games."

## Stadiums around the NFL in trouble

In a time of financial crisis, some well-known sports stadiums may be forced to change names

Michelle Longo  
Sports Editor

There are many jinxes in the professional sports realm. Many believe if an NFL player is on the cover of Madden, he will either get injured or have a sub-par year. Likewise, players featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated may experience a bad year because of the curse.

In recent years, a new curse has taken shape in sports, but this time, it only affects the facilities. At the height of the Dot Com age, many companies began buying into the idea that slapping their name across a professional sports arena would help their business. Instead, it looks more and more like buying a stadium name is a fast track to financial trouble.

Especially now, in a time of economic turmoil, the possibility of changing stadium names is almost inevitable. The Wachovia Center in Philadelphia, home of the Sixers and the Flyers, was an inch away from having to change its name to Citibank Center.

Companies pay an incredible amount of money to display their names in lights for all sports fans to see. PSINet Stadium, CMGI Stadium and the Network Associates stadium were supposed to become household names, in households that cared about sports.

In January 1999, PSINet struck a 20-year deal with the Baltimore Ravens that involved PSINet getting the naming rights to the NFL stadium at Camden Yards in Baltimore, Md., along with the primary sponsorship of all team events and the ownership of the Ravens' Web site. Three years later, the company went bankrupt and could not afford to pay the lucrative contract anymore.

More and more contract bail-outs and name changes may be inevitable if the economy, especially the banking situation, does not return to a normal state of operation in the near future.

Baseball fields, hockey stadiums, basketball arenas and even college stadiums are not exempt from this name-changing crisis either. It hits all venues of the sports world.

**Gillette Stadium** - Home of the New England Patriots  
- formerly CMGI Field (2002)

**M&T Bank Stadium** - Home of the Baltimore Ravens  
- formerly PSI Net (1999-2002)  
- \$75 million a year for 15 years

**Invesco Field** - Home of the Denver Broncos  
- \$120 million a year for 20 years

**Oakland Coliseum** - Home of the Oakland Raiders  
- formerly Network Associates (1998-2004)  
- formerly McAfee (2004-2008)

**Lincoln Financial Field** - Home of the Philadelphia Eagles  
- \$139.6 million for 21 years

**Candlestick Park** - Home of the San Francisco 49ers  
- formerly 3Com Park  
- formerly Monster Park

**Bank of America Stadium** - Home of the Carolina Panthers  
- formerly Ericsson  
- \$7 million through 2024

**Edward Jones Dome** - Home of the St. Louis Rams  
- \$2.65 million through 2013

**Raymond James Stadium** - Home of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers  
- \$3.1 million through 2026

Want to go to one of the most anticipated Southern Conference contests of the season?



Students can pay \$10 and get a game ticket to Elon vs. Appalachian State at 3:30 p.m. Saturday in Boone, N.C.

A charter bus will leave Elon at 10:30 a.m. and return immediately following the game. The price also includes pregame tailgating.

Tickets are limited and the only way to go is to enter a lottery by going to the student Web site. The lottery closes today at noon and selections will be made at 12:10 p.m.

How to get a ticket:

1. Log on to the student Web site and enter your username and password
2. Click on Request/Claim ticket
3. Select the highlighted @ Appalachian State game
4. Enter 1 for ticket
5. Wait for the request period to end and the lottery to run

If selected in the lottery, you will receive an e-mail detailing the claim process, payment for the ticket and the travel arrangements. If you are not selected in the lottery, you will also receive an e-mail outlining other options available.

# Men's soccer holds on to perfect record, moves closer to the NCAA tournament

**Parker Brown**  
Reporter

After tearing through the Southern Conference's regular season with a perfect 7-0 record, the Elon men's soccer team built on that success in the postseason, knocking off the No. 8 seeded Wofford Terriers Saturday night 3-0 at Rudd Field.

Elon (10-8-1) earned the No. 1 seed and home-field advantage for the first round by winning the regular season conference championship.

That advantage was in full effect Saturday as a Rudd Field record of 1,107 fans filled the bleachers and lined the fences to support the team.

"[The fan support] was great," sophomore goalkeeper Clint Irwin said. "We had a lot of fans out here tonight, and they were rowdy, especially after Homecoming, so it was good to see them out there supporting the team. It certainly helps us when we are playing in front of a big crowd. Everyone feeds off of it and runs that little bit harder because of it."

The Phoenix did not disappoint. Junior forward Erfan Imeni got the fans going early with a quick goal less than two minutes into the game.

Junior mid-fielder Justin Wyatt sent a corner kick across the box to fellow junior Steven Kinney who headed it down to Imeni for the finish and a 1-0 lead.

Wyatt picked up another assist on a give and go with senior forward Aaron Parker who ripped a shot across the goal to push the lead to 2-0 at the midway point of the first half.

In the 79th minute, Kinney played a long ball to junior mid-fielder Daniel Street who crossed the ball to the foot

of a streaking Wyatt for the ensurance goal.

Irwin came up with a big save on a Wofford penalty, and the defense held the Terriers to just four shots on goal to secure the seventh shut out of the year for the Phoenix.

Still, the most important thing to head coach Darren Powell and the team was simply moving one step closer to their ultimate goal.

"We would like to go to the NCAA [tournament]," Powell said. "We know that you've got to win three games in the Conference tournament at the end of the year and it's one at a time, a nice cliché, but that's what the boys want to do, and they are very hungry for that."

The team has not been able to break through and win the conference tournament in the almost 10 years the program has been in Division I.

But the team is confident after securing its first regular-season SoCon championship that it can break through this year.

While the team is proud of its regular-season success, there is no question it remains hungry for the postseason.

"I've got that desire to get to the NCAA tournament," Wyatt said. "It's something none of us have ever experienced. We want the seniors to experience that. There's just so much motivation there I can't even explain it."

Wyatt, who was named SoCon Player of the Year, leads a host of Phoenix players who were selected to the All-Conference teams.

Powell was also honored with his second Conference Coach of the Year award in four seasons at the helm.

Powell said he is proud of the accolades he and the team have been able to collect this season, but he



FILE PHOTO

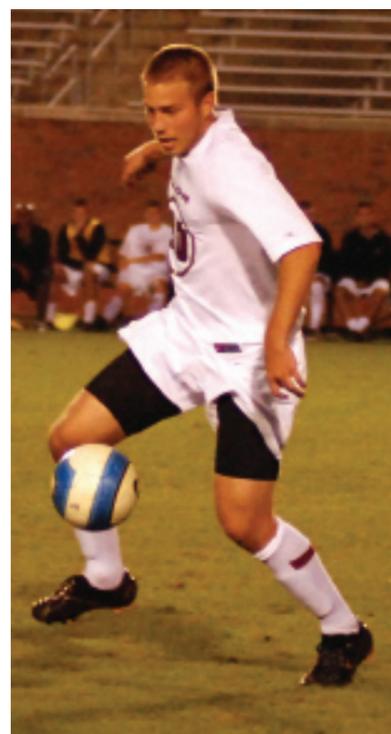
Standout freshman, James Carroll (8) was selected to the 2008 All-SoCon Freshmen team last week. Carroll has played in every game except one for the Phoenix and tallied 3 points.

is also quick to point out that the hardware the team really wants are championships.

"Those honors are all good at the end of the year when you reflect back," Powell said. "Right now we are still playing, and we want to continue to still play and that is our focus right now."

Elon continues its quest for the elusive conference tournament crown, and an automatic berth in the NCAA tournament this weekend, at Davidson College.

The Phoenix will take on the No. 5 seeded College of Charleston Cougars, who it defeated 1-0 in the regular season, on Friday night for a spot in the finals against either Georgia Southern or UNC Greensboro on Sunday.



FILE PHOTO

ABOVE: Sophomore midfielder Hunter Miller has played in 12 games for the Phoenix in the 2008 campaign. He was red-shirted his freshman year for his potential talent and coaches say with more consistency he will have another solid year and become a forceful player for Elon. BELOW: Daniel Street, a junior midfielder, drives the ball down the field in an earlier contest this season. Street has played in 11 games this season, five in which he started. He tallied 3 assists, 3 points and took a total of 12 shots. Street picked up an assist against Wofford, playing the ball to Justin Wyatt who connected for his 12 goal of the year and the third and final goal of the SoCon tournament semi-final victory.

## Other SoCon Tournament Matchups:

Match 1:  
#8 Wofford at #1 Elon  
Elon, 3-0

Match 2:  
#5 College of Charleston at #4 Appalachian State  
CofC, 3-2 (OT)

Match 3:  
#7 UNC Greensboro at #2 Furman  
UNCG, 2-1

Match 4:  
#6 Davidson at #3 Georgia Southern  
GSU, 2-1



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# Sports

## Elon football staves off Western in home finale

Michelle Longo  
Sports Editor

Terrell Hudgins caught a pass in the fourth quarter on the Elon second yard line. As he began forcing his way toward the end zone, a Western Carolina defender grabbed his foot in a final attempt to bring the Southern Conference's all-time leading receiver down. Hudgins began shaking his foot free, in a move that looked more like a modern dance, and finally hopped backward into the end zone on one foot for a distinguishing score in a 33-14 Homecoming victory for the Phoenix.

"The corner cut me off. [Riddle] threw it behind me and it was just one-on-one after he grabbed me," Hudgins said. "He had my foot and I knew I was like on the 1-or 2-yard-line, so it was pointless to turn all the way around. My momentum was taking me toward the end zone anyway."

Just as Hudgins stepped out of the tackle, the Phoenix stepped out of a potential upset. With the Catamounts edging closer and closer, Hudgins and Elon were finally able to dance away from disaster in the fourth quarter.

Going into halftime with a 13-0 lead, the Phoenix looked to be having a happy fiesta, feasting on its three-win SoCon opponent. That quickly changed after a Scott Riddle interception turned into a 55-yard WCU return.

The Phoenix marched back down the field to regain a two-score lead of 20-7, but the Catamounts were not done fighting. They put together a seven-play, 69-yard drive that ended in a touchdown to bring the game within one-score, 20-14.

"You don't have time to be concerned," head coach Pete Lembo said. "You are just trying to find ways to respond and win the game."

Then came the Hudgins dance that brought the score to 27-14, while Jamal Shuman added another touchdown for good measure less than five minutes later to bring the final to 33-14.

"It would've been easy to get frustrated there because you could certainly feel like it shouldn't have been that close," Lembo said. "I think that was a good indication of our resiliency and ability to overcome adversity."



Terrell Hudgins grabs some yardage in Saturday's game against Western Carolina. The Phoenix defeated the Catamounts 33-14 for a 6-1 conference record. Next week Elon will face Appalachian State University, which remains undefeated in the conference.

The win propelled the No. 11 Elon to an 8-2 overall, 6-1 SoCon record. The Phoenix sits in second place in the standings, behind unbeaten Appalachian State, which Elon faces Saturday in the last conference game of the season.

"It all comes down to a good week of preparation, a good week of practice leading up to the game," said defensive end Jordan Daniel. "This week we had a really strong week of practice, one of the best we've had all season and we

hoped to get it done on Saturday. All the preparation pays off."

Two weeks ago, Appalachian dominated Wofford 70-24 to maintain its undefeated conference record. A week before that, Elon was routed by then No. 4 Wofford 55-20. Wofford now sits in third place in the league standings with a 5-1 record.

Wofford and Appalachian State both have two conference games left in the 2008 campaign, while Elon only has Appalachian on its plate before it ends

the season at non-conference Big South opponent Liberty University.

"I think we have played pretty well on the road," Lembo said. "As much as it is nice to play in front of the home crowd and have the support, when you travel you get to spend even more time together as a team. There are less distractions. When you travel you know you have the extra time to get focused and build that unity, that chemistry and avoid distractions."

### Football Notebook: Highlights from Saturday's game against Western Carolina University

- In the first quarter, Terrell Hudgins became Elon's all-time leading receiver
- In the fourth quarter, Hudgins caught a Scott Riddle pass to become The Southern Conference's all-time leading receiver with 3,527 yards. The conference is 85 years old and is arguably the toughest football conference in the Football Championship Subdivision.
- "After they said my name, I think they should say Scott Riddle, the offensive line, the running backs and the receivers," Hudgins said. "They block and give [Riddle] an opportunity to throw the ball, [Riddle] gets it to me, so I think the whole offense [helps]. Obviously, the coaches for giving me opportunities to make the plays. I thank the rest of them for it."
- Senior place kicker Andrew Wilcox kicked three point-after-touchdown attempts to equal 129 to tie as Elon's all-time leader in career PAT kicks. His final attempt, for sole possession of the record, was a low snap that was blocked by Western.
- Since 1983, Western Carolina is just 11-60-3 against nationally-ranked FCS opponents. The Catamounts last road SoCon win came back in 2005 against Chattanooga.
- The Phoenix played its last home game this past Saturday but has one more conference game, visiting the undefeated, three-time defending champions Appalachian State at 3:30 p.m. in Boone, N.C.
- The last game of the season is scheduled for Nov. 22 against Liberty University, 2007 Big South Champions.



A.J. Harris celebrates a touchdown.



LINDSAY FENDT | Assistant Photo Editor

Brandon Newsome garnered 67 total offensive yards in the Elon Homecoming win against Western Carolina Saturday afternoon. He rushed a total of 13 times for 40 yards and caught two passes for an additional 27 yards on the way to a 33-14 victory.