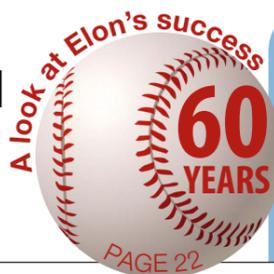


FUN ON THE FARM

Kopper Top hosts
10th annual spring
celebration fundraiser

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Elon dancers CELEBRATE! improv

Photo slideshow online

"I Live Here:" Meet the dancers

Video
Swine Flu

Man on the street

Burlington's little choo-choo

Audio slideshow, p. 15



THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009 | VOLUME 35, EDITION 15

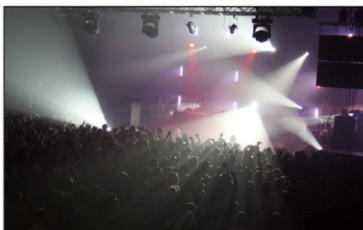
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LUPE ROCKS ELON



Lupe Fiasco, pictured, and Girl Talk performed at Elon's spring concert Friday in Alumni Gym. SUB's choice of Lupe marks a change from bands chosen in the past. ANGIE LOVELACE | Staff Photographer



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

See LUPE | PAGE 14

Elon counselor arrested, case now dismissed

Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

Leigh-Anne Royster, Elon's coordinator for personal health and community well-being, was arrested April 29 on charges of resisting a public officer. Alamance County District Attorney Rob Johnson dismissed the case Monday afternoon.

According to a statement released by the university Friday, "The charge related to Royster's interaction with a town police officer in connection with Royster's counseling of a student who said she was sexually assaulted at an off-campus location."

The arrest report said a warrant was issued for Royster's arrest April 28. On April 29, she was processed at the Elon Police Department before being transported to the Magistrate's office and placed under a \$500 bond.

Royster and the Town of Elon Police declined to comment for the story.

Johnson's dismissal report states, "The charge in this case arises from a conflict among competing responsibilities and duties by those serving as counselors and by law enforcement agencies. Prosecution of this charge in criminal court is not in the best interests of justice in this case. Rather, the state encourages the parties to engage in full and candid dialogue with a view toward reaching a solution or understanding designed to prevent any such future conflicts."

University officials are not sure exactly when the alleged sexual assault occurred, but it was sometime within the week prior to Royster's arrest, said Dan Anderson, assistant vice president and director of University Relations.

Royster, who deals primarily with sexual assault cases and sexual assault education, reported to Campus Safety and Police that an assault had occurred, following protocol that the victim's identity not be disclosed without the victim's written permission.

Campus Safety and Police then reported the assault to the Town of Elon Police.

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said this is standard procedure for cases that fall under the Town of Elon Police's jurisdiction. The assault did, in fact, occur off-campus.

Royster had been counseling the student and spoke with the Town of Elon Police about the sexual assault case April 28. When she arrived at work the next day, Royster was arrested by Town of Elon Police Detective Kelly Blackwelder.

"As to why she was arrested the next day, we don't know," Anderson said.

Royster was released on a \$500 bond later that day and returned to work the next morning.

According to its statement, the university believes Royster acted in the best interest of the student and followed established protocols for dealing with sexual assault victims.

Anderson said the university has been trying to understand why the police charged her.

According to North Carolina statute

Economy changes admission process, university stays optimistic

Laura Smith
News Editor

As Elon University gains more national recognition, more high school seniors have started to envision themselves wearing maroon and gold. But this year, a weakened economy has called for different marketing strategies as well as readjustments in numbers, financial aid and deposits.

But that didn't dramatically impact the quality of students in the incoming class of 2013.

"We have a very strong freshmen class coming in paralleling last year's students academically," said Susan Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning.

The average GPA is a high "B" with many students having a GPA higher than

a 4.0, she said. The average SAT is the same from previous years, around 620 a section.

Currently, there is a ratio of 39 percent men and 61 percent women, a number that may alter as more male athletes sign to teams, Klopman said.

As far as demographics go, the No. 1 state students hail from is North Carolina, then Massachusetts followed by Maryland. More than 150 siblings have been admitted and approximately 65 sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of Elon alumni have been admitted, equaling more than 200 legacy students.

"That's a wonderful number," Klopman said.

Dean of Admissions Greg Zaiser said he sees a growing number of legacy students admitted.

"It's a wonderful thing for an alumni to send their son or daughter to Elon," he said. "It's something we recognize in the admissions process ... but the student needs to be academically qualified as well."

The effects of a rough economy have certainly impacted the admissions process, Klopman said.

"The economy has had a tremendous impact on our incoming freshmen," she said.

This year, Elon accepted almost 350 more students than usual in order to make sure numbers can be filled in case students withdraw their acceptance to attend a less expensive school.

This is not just a trend at Elon, though. Nationally, high school seniors

See ADMISSIONS | PAGE 3

See ARREST | PAGE 3

Photos of You in Cinco De Mayo 2009!

Photo 4 of 5 [Photos of Me](#)

[Previous](#) [Next](#)



Dinner that night... Sooo good!

From your album:
"Cinco De Mayo 2009!"

Added May 6 - [Comment](#) - [Like](#)



[Sally Doyle](#) at 3:04 May 6

Good friends and good food make a great night!



[Matt Carpenter](#) at 3:10 May 6

The mexican restaurant was definitely a good choice!



[Elon Students](#) at 3:30 May 6

85% of Elon students eat before and/or while drinking alcohol.

Think when you drink...

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Source: National College Health Assessment, Spring 2008, N = 987 The contents of this advertisement were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement from the federal government.

South Graham Elementary unveils outdoor classroom

Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

Students and faculty from South Graham Elementary school celebrated the debut of their new outdoor classroom Monday morning at a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Students from Elon's School of Education emceed the event, and children from each class spoke of their contributions to the outside learning space. It is dedicated to Carol Younger, a former principal of South Graham who worked at the school for 15 years.

"It's a safe, beautiful place for the kids to go that the community can be proud of," said junior Shannon Davis, who spent the semester working on the classroom with her principles of learning and teaching methods class.

Two sections of the class, in which students learn how to teach math, science, social studies and language arts, worked in conjunction with South Graham Elementary to create the classroom.

The outdoor learning space features hummingbird and butterfly gardens, bird houses, archeology areas, a weather station, places to hang up nature drawings and a sundial the elementary school kids made themselves.

"It's sort of a cross between a garden and an outdoor laboratory," said Bird Stasz, associate professor of education at Elon.

Stasz, who teaches one of the sections of principles of learning and teaching methods, masterminded the outdoor classroom project with Mark Enfield, assistant professor of education at Elon.

But Stasz said the Elon and South Graham students constructed the classroom.

"The notion of an outdoor classroom is not a new one," Stasz said. "The reason most

places don't have them is nobody really has the time to do it."

Stasz and Enfield thought it would be a great project for their 27 students and once the South Graham teachers agreed to it, the Elon students began helping the kids make the classroom their own.

"It's taken on a life of its own, and I think that life is driven largely by the creativity and thoughtfulness of the Elon students more than anything," Enfield said.

Enfield said he is impressed and proud of the Elon students because creating an outdoor classroom is a difficult task, but his students rose to the challenge.

The students compiled a notebook of lesson plans and resources to help teachers learn how to use the classroom and found donors for the project, including Home Depot and Wal-Mart.

"They're acting in ways that exemplify professionalism and are leaders in the school," Enfield said. "I don't think that without some clear, tangible product that was as big as this is, that that would have happened. It was a vehicle to make that growth and development happen for them."

Davis said the project took a lot of time and effort, but she thinks the education students have benefitted from completing this project with the South Graham kids.

"It was just a good critical thinking exercise because it was outside the realm of what you might normally do as a teacher," Davis said.

Davis spent the semester working with South Graham's fifth grade class. She said many of her students are disappointed they will be moving on to middle school and miss out on using the outdoor classroom.

Enfield said he realized



Junior Lindsay Eversole plants with a student in the outdoor classroom at South Graham Elementary, which Elon students helped build. PHOTO SUBMITTED

what the classroom means to the South Graham students when one fifth-grader told him, "Wow, look what we did. This will be here forever."

"I think the students benefitted from it in that they contributed something to their school," Enfield said. "I think they liked doing something that they felt was giving back to their school."

Stasz said she hopes the outdoor classroom will continue to grow and that the students will walk away from it having had a different kind of learning experience.

"Children learn best when they're doing stuff," Stasz said. "It's the exact opposite of pencil and paper."



Junior Erin Deans works with students in the archeology dig of the outdoor classroom. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Arrest related to counselor's work

From ARREST | PAGE 1

a class two misdemeanor that occurs when people "willfully and unlawfully resist, delay or obstruct a public officer in discharging or attempting to discharge a duty of his office."

The university's statement said the student who reported the assault is continuing to receive support from the university. The university does not believe the campus community is in any danger based on information provided by the student.

Elon's Student Handbook has established procedures for dealing with sexual assault cases.

According to the Handbook, "students who believe they have been the victims of sexual abuse or assault have the right to report the incident to the offices of counseling

services, student development, judicial affairs, campus safety and police and/or the Elon Police Department."

The Handbook also emphasizes that the victim is in complete control over whether his or her identity is released.

According to the university's statement, Elon supports police investigations of situations reported by students and cooperates with those investigations while upholding the student's privacy and confidentiality.

Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life, said all questions about this situation are being referred to Anderson at this time.

"The university sees no indication that (Royster) did anything against procedure," Anderson said.

Admissions office innovates to survive rough economy

From ADMISSIONS | PAGE 1

are depositing at more and more schools to ensure they have a spot somewhere in the event a parent loses a job or some other financial hindrance occurs, Klopman said.

"They don't know what they can afford," she said.

Now, Elon's deposit number is 1,344 for a class of 1,275.

Luckily, this is the number Klopman hoped to see at this point, she said.

Elon's deposit of \$500 was fully refundable until May 1.

While deposits from multicultural students are falling behind by 15 compared to last year, Klopman is "exceptionally pleased with the diversity," she said. "Multiculturalism has at least matched last year."

All of the Fellow programs, with the exception of the Elon College Fellows program, have been over-enrolled. However, Klopman expects to lose some of those students.

The Office of Admissions has also been thinking differently due to the economy.

First, the office of admissions has tweaked its messages at its information sessions.

"We've been focusing on the value of an Elon education," Zaiser said. "Elon is several thousand dollars less than that of other private universities, but it's still a huge investment. We've been focusing on what do you get for that investment?"

Zaiser said it doesn't hurt to have honors such as "No. 1 School to Watch" by the US News and World Report" or "Second Most Beautiful Campus in the Nation" by the Princeton Review.

"It's more anecdotal than anything," Zaiser said. "Love it or hate it, people read those things."

Financial aid availabilities have also been altered. The standard for the presidential scholarship has been tightened and excess money from those has been put into need-based aid, Klopman said.

The presidential scholarship goes to the top 25 percent of the incoming freshman class.

"We noticed it's been creeping up to where more than 25 percent is getting it," said Pat Murphy, director of financial planning.

The criteria for obtaining the scholarship was heightened as a result.

"Budget wise, this allowed us to take that money and put it into the need-based fund," Murphy said. "We needed a little bit more on the need-based side instead of the merit-based side."

Despite economic setbacks, the Office of Admissions is excited for the incoming class.

"We're very optimistic," Klopman said. "It's been a different year...the pace is a little different but people are very excited about Elon. It couldn't be in a better place."

Zaiser said the university is increasingly proud of the accomplishments students are achieving.

"Elon is a great spot and we have an excellent class coming in," he said.

Students walk, bike for AIDS

Margeaux Corby
News Editor

President Barack Obama announced his nomination for the new U.S. global AIDS coordinator last week to the relief of many AIDS activist agencies who have been worried about the president's stance on the disease.

"I think President Obama has a multitude of issues on his desk right now and is trying to create a universal health program," said John Paul Womble, director of development at Alliance of AIDS Services of Carolina (AASC). "My concern is how the successful care of HIV and AIDS will play out in that universal health care program."

Eric Goosby, who was also the former Clinton AIDS official, is the chief executive and chief medical officer of the Pangaea Global AIDS fund and has more than 25 years of experience working on HIV and AIDS issues abroad.

The president's announcement coincided with Elon's own Student Global AIDS Campaign efforts to fight AIDS in North Carolina with its participation in the AIDS WALK and RIDE last Saturday in Raleigh.

"It's a one-time thing that people can do and it's something active," said Elizabeth Leman, coordinator of the Student Global AIDS Campaign. "Students feel like they're really doing something."

Saturday's event was the 14th annual AIDS WALK and RIDE sponsored by the AASC. It consisted of a one and three-mile walk and 30-, 60- and 101.5-mile bike ride that finished at Halifax Mall.

"For people to realize it's a problem, it would have to be right in front of them," Leman said. "If people are confronted with the statistics and what it's actually like, I think they would care a lot more."

According to AASC, more than four million people worldwide have been infected with HIV, and 2.8 million people died from AIDS in the last year. There are currently 31,000 North Carolinians living with HIV. AASC has about 1,000 clients, all of which are below federal poverty levels.

"It's fairly typical of what happens across the country and very typical of what happens in the south," said Jacquelyn Clymore, executive director of AASC. "The federal money that helps people with HIV is not distributed equitably in the southern states."

Clymore said that federal funding needs to be distributed according to number of cases in an area instead of whether a state has a major city.

"Where you live is certainly going to determine where your care is," Clymore said. "Our goal is to have the money follow the epidemic. Right now it doesn't work that way."

The Bush administration's President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief cut the number of deaths due to AIDS by 10 percent in targeted African countries, according to Stanford researcher Eran Bendavid, although the rate of people living with disease remained largely unchanged.

AIDS groups, such as the Global AIDS Alliance, hope Goosby will continue with these efforts as well as fulfill campaign promises to increase foreign



Volunteers piece together an AIDS quilt before the walk begins. Each square is representative of someone who has died from HIV/AIDS. The quilt was made into a kite and flew above the finish line at the walk. LINDSAY FENDT | Staff Photographer

assistance to \$50 billion by 2012.

Besides the funding issues and financial concerns faced by AIDS prevention and treatment organizations, all are attempting to undo the prejudice and ignorance surrounding the transmission and prevention of the disease.

"I think that HIV seems to be less of a priority and emergency then it once was," Womble said. "This is very frightening to me. A communicable disease you don't pay attention to will only grow."

Leman said the Student Global AIDS Campaign has experienced drops in membership this past year, and she attributed this to students' belief that the disease is continents away, not something that could penetrate the infamous Elon bubble.

"One of the biggest issues is the stigma still associated with AIDS," Leman said. "There is still the thought that AIDS happens to other people and it's not going to happen to you because it seems far away. Some still don't know how it's transmitted."

Perdue orders salary cuts, furloughs

Laura Smith
News Editor

Last Tuesday, North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue made an announcement that cuts in salaries in exchange for 10-hour furloughs for state workers will be instituted.

"Don't you all think it's over now because we've got a long way to go before North Carolina has fully recovered," she said.

Perdue's plan requires all state workers to give back one-half of 1 percent of their salaries by June 30 in order to get 10 hours of unpaid time off that they must use by Dec. 31.

These furloughs will affect 1,413 state workers based in Guilford County alone and will amount to \$65 million saved statewide.

In addition, Perdue has had to cut \$3.2 billion from the state budget in order to pay the state's bills.

The rest of the money she needs is made up from economic stimulus funds, money from North Carolina's "rainy day" account and from trust funds and other specialized accounts, all equaling \$935 million.

"We're certainly not thrilled with the aspect of employees not getting paid," said Erica Baldwin, assistant director of communications for the State Employees Association of North Carolina. "This was a last resort. We're fighting against other furloughs in the new budget year (which begins July 1)."

Baldwin said she is most concerned about sectors such as the Department of Correction, Highway Patrol, the mental health industry, public safety and public health.

"Those roles are just vital to making sure our highways and communities are safe," she said.

Most affected by this announcement will be public school teachers, since they receive paychecks in a nine-month increment instead of 12 like other state employees.

"We are very concerned that this had to happen on the backs of public school employees and other state employees," said North Carolina Association of Educators President Sheri Strickland in an April 28 statement. "But when you're

talking about a billion dollars, we do believe the governor did the best that she could to not cut jobs and to not increase class sizes. This seemed to be the only logical, reasonable way that she was able to find to the money that she is required by the constitution to have in order to have a balanced budget."

Interim Dean of the Elon University School of Education, Judith Howard, was also disappointed to hear about the impact these cuts will have on North Carolina's education system.

"This is a bit more difficult for teachers than other state employees because it is a full cut," she said. "Teachers will support it, though, in the hope it won't have to be done again next year."

Howard estimates teachers will expect to see about \$150-\$250 taken from their May paychecks.

She hopes some federal funding from Obama's recovery act will be given to the school districts, especially in professional development, which trains teachers in skills and knowledge.

"I'm hoping it gives us what needs to be done in our school systems," Howard said.

Most of all, she does not want to see class size increase or positions cut.

"None of us quite know for sure how quickly we'll come out of this," she said. "None of us really want it to impact our public schools."

Strickland is urging North Carolina residents to call their legislators and request cuts be made from somewhere other than the education system.

"We all need to be one voice," Strickland said.

On May 16, the N.C. Association of Educators will hold a rally at its headquarters in Raleigh to protest these cuts.



Bev Perdue
Governor of North Carolina

Time Warner hears opposition again

Laura Smith
News Editor

In the wake of Time Warner Cable's recent decision to hold off on its plan for Internet caps in the Triad, another controversy has surfaced regarding the company and its plan for Web monitoring.

Bill H1252, or the Level Playing Field Bill, is now moving to the N.C. Public Utilities Committee, legislation that would provide large private sector cable, Internet and telephone service to municipalities but would require them to abide by private sector rules.

For individual cities and towns who are not currently under their own bundled service, this could mean they will have to either join a private company such as Time Warner or Embarq or pay the same amount the private companies require if they decide to install an individual service.

The controversy began several years ago in the small city of Wilson, N.C., when residents complained about high Internet, cable and telephone prices. So it began its own service, Greenlight Inc., which offers all three services and utilizes a Fiber to the Home System.

AFTTH uses fiber optics throughout the entire system, whereas a traditional cable or telephone system such as that of Time Warner uses copper wire or a combination of coax and fiber optics.

Under the H1252 legislation, Greenlight would not be affected at all, according to Mellissa Buscher, director of media relations for Time Warner Cable's Carolinas region.

"We're not trying to eliminate anyone from doing business," she said. "If they are already doing business, they wouldn't be impacted. If this bill passes, they would be grandfathered in."

If a city decided in the future to eliminate local service, then it would have to follow Time Warner's rules and fees if the bill passes.

Many Wilson and North Carolina residents see this bill as a hindrance to their service and feel as though it is anything but a level playing field.

"The bill makes the service unaffordable and unsustainable," said Catharine Rice, vice president of the Southeastern Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors. "They did this so they could face save. It sets up a series of burdens on local communities so they can't survive."

Currently, smaller communities such as Wilson, use government money from Obama's stimulus package to help pay for these bundled services.

According to Rice, \$4.7 billion of it has been set aside for local and state governments to bring cable to unserved areas.

"This bill stops communities from being able to use stimulus funds," Rice said.

Rice sees these loans as an opportunity to enhance the economic states of these individual communities.

"The revenue generated pays off the loans," she said. "The rate on municipal bonds are lower than the private sector and can pay off over 20 years."

Brian Bowman, public affairs manager for the City of Wilson, said the City Council recognizes the importance of broadband and this legislation would only hurt.

"The fact is, what we have is the fastest Internet in the state," he said. "This legislation would sandbag it so it wouldn't make it practical."

Connie Book, associate dean of the School of Communications, disagrees with Rice and Bowman's comments.

"The government shouldn't be in the business of choosing one service over another," she said.

She said she is also worried about the risk of individual communities facing the inability to pay back these government loans.

"If they can't pay it back, taxpayers will have to pay," she said. "That's a risk for Wilson. We should be on a level playing field. Innovation rests in the private sectors (such as Time Warner). They're the companies that will be innovative."

Immigration battle rages in Alamance County

Margeaux Corby
News Editor

The implementation of 287 (g) three years ago in Alamance County has put government officials and residents at the eye of an immigration storm. The federal program enforced by county officers has been vehemently protested by civil right groups and supported equally as fervently by local law enforcement and county government officials.

In just the first four months of 2009, controversy surrounding the program's handling and performance have headlined local newspapers and been the topic of congressional testimony. Amid accusations of racial profiling, elitists' attacks and radical liberal and conservative ideologies fueling the flame, Alamance County has become a key player in the immigration debate more than 1,500 miles from the border.

The Legislation

287 (g): The Immigration and Nationality Act's Section 287 (g) allows the Department of Homeland Security to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies by providing training from sworn U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers so local law officers can perform federal immigration law enforcement functions. 287 (g) was established so state and local law enforcement officials would have the resources and authority to investigate and begin the deportation process for illegal aliens committing violent crimes, human smuggling, gang/organized crime activity, sexual-related offences, drug smuggling and money laundering.

BY THE NUMBERS

145,360
people residing in Alamance County

15,823
Hispanics residing in Alamance County

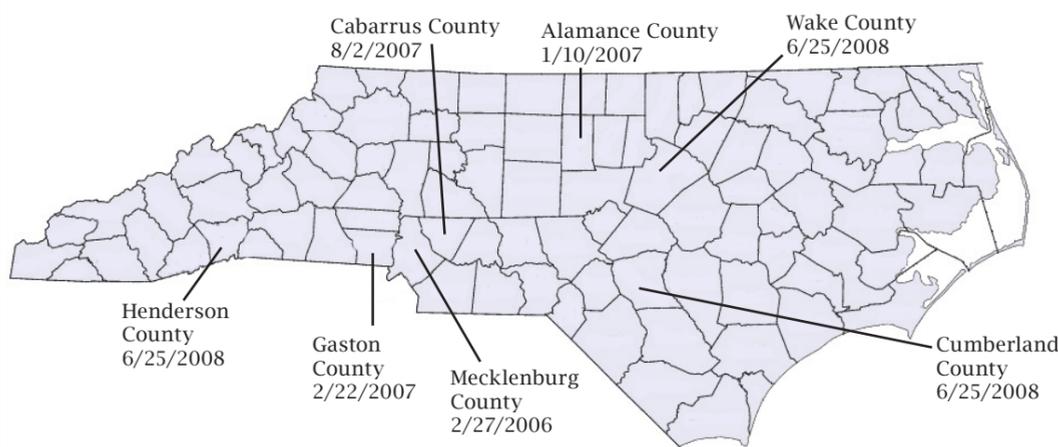
1,290
foreign-born inmates arrested in Alamance and other North Carolina counties were processed through 287 (g) from February 2007 to April 2009

1,014
were placed in removal proceedings to be deported



County residents gathered in downtown Graham in support of 287 (g) (left). Earlier in the afternoon, members of the group Witness for Peace marched in front of the Alamance County Detention Center to demand just and humane immigration policy change. The pro-immigration reform group stop in Alamance County was followed by a press conference in Greensboro the following day (right).

When and where 287 (g) has been instated in N.C.



INFORMATION COURTESY OF: U.S. IMMIGRATIONS AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT WEB SITE

DEREK NOBLE | Graphic

2009: in review

Feb. 2

Alamance County Sheriff Terry Johnson presented traffic stops data at the Alamance County Commissioners Meeting that showed from 2004 to 2008, there were 494 drivers identified as Hispanic stopped by county police officers. "This is evidence that we are not profiling," Johnson told meeting attendees. "I feel like the commissioners needed to know this information."

March 18

The American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina sent a letter requesting any documents related to training or implementation of the 287 (g) in Alamance County. "We do have some issue that they're not using 287 (g) to target violent criminals but mainly to target for traffic offenses and misdemeanors," said Sarah Preston, legislative council for the ACLU of North Carolina. "Through that, it's encouraging profiling and discouraging reporting of crimes from the community being targeted, the Latino community."

April 5

Elon professor Laura Roselle released independent research showing that 1,344 Hispanic drivers were stopped between 2004 and 2008, and that inconsistencies in the numbers Johnson reported at the February meeting and her research are present from year to year. "There are many good people working in that sheriff's department. There are men and women doing a really good job, and I understand they put their lives on the line to protect and defend," Roselle said. "I think this whole thing does them a tremendous disservice."

April 6

Johnson and Chief Deputy Tim Britt attended the county commissioners meeting saying that human and computer error were the cause of the misreported numbers, and the sheriff's department had already taken steps to correct the system. "We certainly don't have anything to hide, this was not by design or intentional," Britt said. "It was simply an error."

April 20

Four county commissioners voted in favor of Sutton's resolution supporting Johnson's enforcement of 287 (g) and the same four voted against Commissioner Anne Vaughn's resolution calling for an independent review of the sheriff's handling of the program. "Now is the time to go ahead and make you either put it up or shut up," Sutton said. "Put your name on the dotted line or say no."

287 (g): ADVOCATES AND OPPONENTS

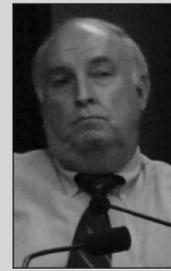
Commissioner Anne Vaughn



Vaughn brought forward a resolution calling for the Government Accountability Office to conduct an independent review of 287 (g)'s enforcement in Alamance County and Sheriff Terry Johnson's regulation and handling of the program.

Vaughn told the Times-News that by refusing to consider a review, the board "gives the appearance that there's something to hide." Her resolution was defeated 4-1 at the April 20 board meeting.

Commissioner Tim Sutton



In response to Vaughn's resolution, Sutton introduced a non-binding resolution that would ask the board to support Johnson and full implementation of 287 (g).

"Now's the time to reinforce. We believe in doing it all the way," Sutton said. "They can pressure us all they want. I don't think our board will blink. Anne Vaughn blinked because she doesn't like the Sheriff. She's never liked the Sheriff. She's destroying her credibility, whatever little she had."

Sutton's resolution passed 4-1 at the April 20 board meeting.

Deborah Weissman



Weissman, a professor of law at UNC Chapel Hill and director of clinical programs, testified before Congress in early April about the negative effects the 287 (g) program is having in North Carolina. She used Alamance County specifically to illustrate the fact the program is unregulated and encourages racial profiling.

"It really is a misuse of local resources. It really undermines the important functions of local policing which is to have a relationship with all parts of the community, all demographics," Weissman said. "They've made themselves visible as a county where leaders are making blatantly racist statements."

Laura Roselle



Roselle, who said she had been critical of the sheriff's departments actions in the past, conducted her own study of county traffic data using statistics filed with the state government. Roselle found the total number of Hispanic drivers stopped between 2004 and 2008 was actually 1,344 — 850 more than Johnson reported for the same period.

"I've heard more and more stories in the community from people. They feel like they've been targeted or treated differently because they are Hispanic," Roselle said. "These are from people who are American citizens and just of Hispanic background. The people of Alamance County deserve better."

Sheriff Terry Johnson



In an article in the News and Observer in April 2007, Johnson was quoted saying, "in Mexico, there's nothing wrong with having sex with a 12, 13-year-old girl," and "they do a lot of drinking down in Mexico."

Later in the article Johnson stated the sheriff's department does not "choose the race, financial status or color of those individuals who violate the law."

Later, Randy Jones, sheriff department spokesman, said that those comments were never meant as generalizations and were taken out of context.

Lumen Scholars receive \$15,000 to kick start research projects

Sam King
Reporter

Thirteen sophomore students were awarded \$15,000 scholarships and inducted into the second class of Lumen Prize recipients at Elon University earlier this month.

The Lumen Prize is spearheaded by President Leo Lambert to encourage strong student scholarship and academic achievement.

Scholarship funds can be used for tuition assistance and project-related research and studies.

The application process is lengthy, while the prize is geared toward students wishing to complete a long-term research project. Applicants must identify a problem, question or field of study they would like to further pursue and prove to the council that their cause is worth supporting.

"The application process is pretty robust to say the least," said Paul Fromson, director of the Lumen Prize Program.

The first step of the application

process requires that students obtain a letter of recommendation from his or her mentor, a member of the faculty or staff who they will then work closely with for the next two years.

They must also get a letter of recommendation from another individual who can attest to their commitment and ability.

The application is a 10-12 page document outlining the applicant's next two years. This is where they are given a chance to explain their proposed project, as well as create a detailed budget and timeline for their work.

The Lumen Prize Advising Committee comprises faculty and staff from every interdisciplinary school at Elon and reviews the applications and decides who should continue to the interview round.

This year, 21 students were interviewed in front of three judges. The judges were split into groups and each group interviewed two or three applicants. The judges are members of the faculty and staff and include President Leo Lambert and Provost Gerry Francis, as well as

department heads and deans of the other various Elon schools.

While the judges can be somewhat intimidating, Fromson said prospective applicants should not be frightened.

"We're all educators," he said. "We're on your side, and we want to see you succeed."

While Fromson said he does not think that one side of the process is weighted more than the other, he does believe the interviews offer something extra the committee just cannot see on paper.

"The interview really is a window to the person behind the application," Fromson said.

Interviewers look for factors such as intellectual depth and a broader range of curiosity about their proposed work.

Forty applications were submitted this year with focuses in various fields.

"The topics for the projects vary from year to year," Fromson said.

This year, the applicants focused primarily on environmental issues, like sustainability and marginalized groups, such as victims of torture, refugees and

THE NUMBERS

10-12
page application

13
scholars chosen

21
students interviewed

40
applications submitted

\$15,000
scholarship

poverty-stricken communities.

"All of the applicants submitted strong proposals, but there were 13 that really stood out," Fromson said.



Amber Woods

History
Mentor: Charles Irons

Woods' research will focus on the interactions between proslavery and antislavery religious groups in Kentucky between 1790-1810 and 1837-1854.

"Unlike most other states, Kentucky contained churches that aligned with both the northern and southern branches after the divisions," she said. "I will evaluate how slavery did or did not divide Kentuckians of faith by looking at regional conference minutes, private papers and denominational newspapers."



Chris Jarrett

Spanish/International Studies
Mentor: Michael Matthews

Jarrett will study the culture of indigenous groups in Ecuador and determine how communities have been affected by the rise of grassroots indigenous

movements.

"I plan to examine a variety of aspects of indigenous culture, including religious practices, gender relations and land and labor relations," Jarrett said.

He will study abroad in Ecuador for the fall semester, and during that time he hopes to research documents related to land distribution, wage rates, frequency and nature of religious practices and other indicators of cultural change.

"The goal of this project is to contribute to a growing body of research on grassroots indigenous movements in Latin America and to help NGOs and non-profits to better understand the needs of indigenous peoples," he said.



Maggie Pahos

Art History/English
Mentor: Evan Gatti

"My project will explore the concepts of perception and self-representation between residents in the southeast United States and Ghana, Africa," Pahos said. "I will be using photography as a primary lens through which to explore."

Pahos will study abroad in Ghana her junior year and plans to have several final products including a research paper, art exhibition and multimedia book.

"I want to open up new discussion and challenge existing discussion regarding the way that cultures and individuals perceive certain other cultures or geographic locations and how these cultures choose to present themselves to each other and to the rest of the world," she said.



Anthony Rizzuto

Chemistry
Mentor: Karl Sienerth

Rizzuto plans to study the benefits of catalysts in mixtures and pure melts.

"Substantial research has been devoted to finding catalysts that promote the electrochemical conversion of carbon dioxide into more useful

substances, particularly those which could lead to the production of simple sugars and fuel sources," Rizzuto said.

He said he hopes to achieve successful conversion of chemicals and solvent viscosity and catalyst mobility.



Taylor Foshee

Political Science/ Environmental Studies
Mentor: Sharon Spray

"More than a billion, mostly poor, people live within the world's 19 biodiversity 'hotspots' and over 90 percent of those who live on less than a dollar a day depend fully, or in part, on raw environmental products for their livelihood," Foshee said.

Her project examines the difficulties of eliminating rural poverty while maintaining environmental sustainability. Next summer she will travel to Madagascar to work with the Madagascar Pioneer Project and the local community on community resource management projects.



Renee Zale

Political Science/ International Studies
Mentor: Michael Matthews

"This project will examine the global memory of the torture and human rights abuses that occurred in Augusto Pinochet's Chile between 1973 and 1990, as shaped by Chile's exile community abroad," Zale said.

She plans to examine Chilean exile literature in Mexico City, the actions and responses of international organizations and interview Chilean exiles.

"While Pinochet was able to manipulate Chilean memory of the regime to one of salvation through strategic ceremony and memorials supporting the regime, this project will determine the impact of Pinochet's torture and human rights abuses on the international community, and how this international legacy influenced Chile itself."



McKenzie Young

Political Science
Mentor: Hunter Bacot

Young plans to study voting behavior and public opinion in North Carolina.

"Since the decline of the southern Democratic voter during the mid-20th Century, North Carolina has predominately supported

Republican candidates at the presidential level and relatively conservative candidates at state and local levels," she said. "In the 2008 election, North Carolina voters defied expectations by supporting Democrats in several major races, including the presidential election."

By researching changes in voter registration and observing voting behavior in the upcoming 2010 midterm election, Young hopes to determine whether North Carolina is moving back toward the Democratic dominance of the post New Deal era or furthering conservative ideology.



Elizabeth Leman

History/International Studies
Mentor: David Crowe

Leman is planning to investigate international law and the systems used to require countries to act humanely in times of war.

"My research focuses on the changes made to the body of international law over time through three case studies," she said. "I will start by looking at the war crimes trials at Nuremberg following World War II, then move to the ongoing trials for the genocide in Rwanda and finally look at the situation in Sri Lanka today to observe changes made and how they relate to earlier revisions."

She plans to study in Heidelberg, Germany next spring and travel to Sri Lanka during Winter Term with the 2011 Periclean Scholars in January 2011.



Andrew Black

International Studies
Mentor: Michael Pregill

Black's research will determine the effectiveness of the "edge phenomenon" and its explanation of the development of the Islamic tradition as the consequence of movements on the outskirts of the early Muslim

community.

"This research will reveal the extent to which non-Arab Islamic movements have radicalized the Islamic community as a whole," he said.



Amanda Clark

Biochemistry
Mentor: Kathy Matera

"Recent research has identified the body's inflammatory response as a major contributor to the build-up of arterial plaques," Clark said. "Cellular receptors within the body, in particular toll-like receptors, may hold the key to combating plaque

formation."

Clark plans to investigate the interactions of receptors and proteins within the body to determine their role in the formation of arterial plaques that block blood flow to the heart.

"Once determined, inhibitors can be synthesized to prevent such interactions and dampen the immune system's contributions to heart disease," Clark said.



Kaitlyn Fay

Music Education
Mentor: Matthew Buckmaster

"My research will focus on the relationship between learning jazz improvisation and a second language and how it affects students' skills, potentially illustrating the benefit jazz education can be to academic studies," she said.

Fay plans to conduct several workshops on jazz improvisation in a local middle school while working with the students' second language teacher to evaluate their academic progress before and after the workshops.



Molly Strayer

Biochemistry
Mentor: Kathy Matera

Strayer is conducting her research on prions, the infectious corruptions of proteins in the brain, that cause neurodegenerative diseases like mad cow and Creutzfeldt-Jakob.

"Prion diseases are unprecedented in that they spread infection directly from protein to protein, a capability that has, until now, been attributed only to DNA. This study will explore the mechanism of misfolding, specifically the qualities of the structure of the mutant prion that enable it to alter its normal counterparts upon contact."

Her lab research will be in conjunction with the exploration of public policy concerning neurodegenerative diseases that impacts the lives of millions and pose growing public health challenges.



Caroline Peckells

Chemistry
Mentor: Joel Karty

Peckells is planning to examine several organic compounds and evaluate their ability to lessen biochemical processes that facilitate Alzheimer's disease.

According to Peckells, about 20 million people worldwide suffer from Alzheimer's disease and that number

is expected to increase drastically because of the rising life expectancy.

"The ultimate goal of this project is the alteration of future drug design based on the results obtained by this research," Peckells said. "Current drugs specialize in lessening the effects of one of the three characteristics of Alzheimer's disease. However, the proposed research project will look at the design of a compound that can target three different traits at once."

FACTS ABOUT THE LUMEN PRIZE:

Program began in 2007.

Students must be in their second year at Elon and hold a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above.

Applications must be nominated by a member of the Elon faculty or staff and must plan to remain enrolled at Elon for two more years.

The name for the Lumen Prize comes from Elon's historic motto, "Numen Lumen," which is Latin for "spiritual light" and "intellectual light." The words, which are found on the Elon University seal, signify the highest purposes of an Elon education.

PART OF THE MISSION IS:

To support and celebrate students with exceptional intellectual engagement and promise.

To support students who are strong candidates for achieving other markers of individual and institutional excellence, such as national fellowships and Phi Beta Kappa.

To support the recruitments of students of such caliber and interests to the university.

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SGA

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Off-campus fires cause concern for fire departments

Olivia Hubert-Allen
Senior Reporter

They can start in an instant from an unattended candle, a carelessly discarded cigarette, fireworks set off too close to the house or while a grill is used on a balcony. Fires have claimed the lives of 133 college students since the year 2000, and recent trends show that number may be on the rise.

What most concerns fire officials is the 83 percent of fires that affect college students living off-campus. After two years of dorm life, students often become forgetful about fire safety procedures said Capt. Nim Harris of the Burlington Fire Department.

"When you're in campus housing, typically the school is responsible for those students and the school takes extra fire prevention measures that off-campus housing units do not," Harris said.

He cites regulations on candle burning and smoking as primary reasons that fires are less likely to occur on-campus. But in off-campus housing students are more likely to smoke indoors, burn candles or disable smoke detectors, leading to higher instances of fire.

Harris also notes that alcohol use in off-campus housing can lead to poor decision making and a higher likelihood of fires.

"With drinking you become complacent to safety related issues. You're not quite as

North Carolina is near the top of the list of states with the most fire related fatalities.

worried about the candle," Harris said. "In the worst case scenario, students drink to the point of passing out and leave a candle burning unattended or they leave something burning on the stove."

Burlington resident and Elon student Shelley Russell says she takes extra care to follow fire safety instructions because she lives alone.

"It's not like I would have roommates who could wake me so I feel safer having a working smoke detector because I know the beeping would wake me up if nothing else did," Russell said. She is also cautious to leave her candles on non-combustible surfaces, like the metal stove, and she never leaves them unattended.

Not all students are as diligent about their fire safety and Russell acknowledges that many she knows have placed couches in front of doors or disabled their smoke detector if it starts beeping. (Which often times means that it is time to change the batteries, something that Harris says students should do every six months.)

Harris says students should be aware of exits when they go out. He suggests always check for an evacuation plan, especially in dark businesses like night clubs and bars.

Rom Harre delivers Reynolds Lecture on morality and science

Jake Martin
Senior Reporter

Rom Harre, a visiting professor at Georgetown University, gave the annual Reynolds Lecture at Johnston Hall Monday based on his research into problems of the living laboratory. Each year, the philosophy department hosts a lecture by an esteemed philosopher in honor of Ferris E. Reynolds, who taught in the philosophy department at Elon from 1946-1976.

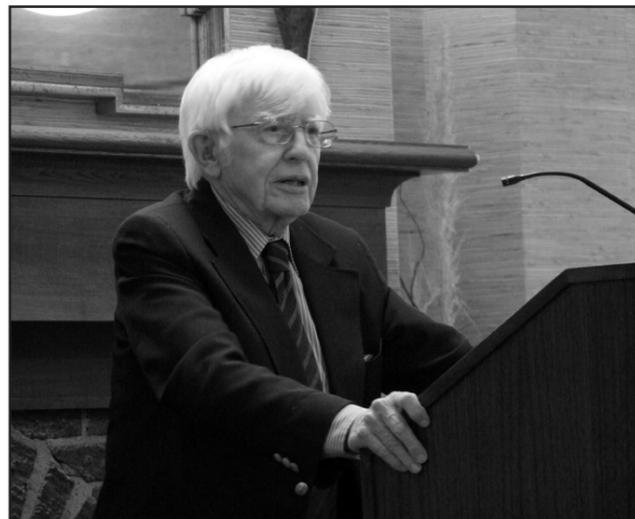
"Most scientific philosophers know absolutely nothing about science other than what they read in scientific journals," said Harre. "And so, this change from reading about science to a more hands-on type of science is a great turning point."

Experimentation on organic materials is not always abusive, nor is it particularly controversial. Roland Bischel, "both a geologist and a bit of a ghoul," for example, was concerned with glacial moraine rocks, Harre explained.

"Bischel noticed that moraine rocks had lichens on them, differing in size," said Harre. "In the graveyard, the date on the tombstone tells when the lichens would have started to grow. He then measured the size of the lichens corresponding with the date of death."

Occasionally, living apparatus is used for more severe purposes in studies as controversial as Milgram's Analogue of the Holocaust. Milgram, who was puzzled by the very possibility of a holocaust, conducted a study to see how far people would obey orders.

"Sixty-six percent of ordinary folks went to the



Harre spoke to the Elon community on April 4, explaining the philosophical side of scientific experimentation.

lethal level when told to do so," Harre pointed out.

The study used actors who were not really being shocked, though participants in the study could not be sure that they were not causing any damage. The problem with the experiment, as Harre explained, is that it was more a matter of trust than it was about obedience.

The use of mice in the laboratory has resulted in numerous cases of controversy. The serotonin studies in mice looks specifically at genetics and its effect on aggressive or depressive behavior.

"We've got human beings and their psychophysical state and mice in their psychophysical state," said Harre. "We look at the behavior of mice and see that too much serotonin makes them aggressive and too little serotonin makes them depressed. We therefore come to the conclusion that the same things apply to humans."

Harre argues that genes have hardly anything to do with behavior.

"There are at least 20,000 mice papers out there," he says. "It's an industry."

Some moral dimensions up for debate, according to Harre, include: moral protection for animals, moral protection for plants, and the notion that even if plants and animals are morally protected, the difference between the value of a human life and that of an animal or plant is so great that we can sacrifice some for the benefit of humanity.

"You can do anything in the name of science," he says. "There is no limit to what you could get away with. Just because it's knowledge."

Rom Harre's lecture, titled "Mice are Little People Too: Some Problems of the Living Laboratory," is based off of his latest book, Pavlov's Dogs and Schrodinger's Cat.

Chain restaurants lower prices as economy tumbles

Samantha Emrich
Reporter

A new bargain dining trend has permeated chain restaurants in the Elon and Burlington communities. Subway, Boston Market and, more recently, TGI Friday's have all hopped on the bargain dining bandwagon by selling lunch and dinner meals for just \$5.

A weak economy, desire for profit and increased competition among chain restaurants has caused businesses to change prices.

"It absolutely has to do with the economic environment today," said Angela Proctor, senior director of communications for Boston Market. "Five dollars has become a new vernacular and is a price point that consumers respond to."

Proctor said Boston Market followed the lead of its competition with \$5 meals.

"We saw that some other restaurants were leveraging that price point and consumers were responding," she said. "We felt we had an opportunity to offer a better, higher quality meal for \$5."

Everyone's jumping on the bargain bandwagon. Subway is pulling it.

"I think we started this

trend," said Les Winograde, public relations specialist for Subway. "Our \$5 footlong has really resonated with customers."

According to Winograde, a franchisee looking for a way to "boost his business," he decided to put all foot long sandwiches in his store on sale for \$5 in 2007.

This new marketing concept reeled in customers and skyrocketed profits. Word of the positive results spread to regional then national headquarters, eventually earning the \$5 footlong a permanent spot on the Subway menu.

Competitors noticed Subway's success and chose to implement similar price reductions.

"We know about 90 percent of our guests say that the \$5 menu motivates them to visit us more frequently," Proctor said of Boston Market. "We definitely want to keep it permanent."

Subway's profits from the \$5 footlongs introduction in 2007 resulted in similar outlooks.

"(The year) 2008 was one of the best years Subway has experienced," Winograde said. "We're selling the same thing people have been eating for years, just for less. It's a winning combination."

Check it Out At Lighthouse

Tuesday, May 5th

Cinco de Mayo - No Cover!

Wednesday, May 6th

Live Music by the Topsy Bacchanals
sponsored by Alpha Psi Omega

Thursday, May 7th

Karaoke and Mug Night!

Friday, May 8th

Live Music by Nathan Oliver
presented by WSOE

Saturday, May 9th

Karaoke and Mug Night!

Check us out at
<http://org.elon.edu/lighthouse/homepage.htm>





President Leo Lambert met with a student audience and SGA last Thursday to answer questions about Elon's future and explain the university's strategic plan for the next 10 years. BRYCE LITTLE | Staff Photographer

President Lambert expresses plans for university's future at weekly SGA meeting

Keegan Calligar
Senior Reporter

President Leo Lambert answered questions from a student audience and the Student Government Association on Thursday night at the weekly SGA meeting. Questions ranged from topics such as the future of Elon

DIVERSITY

Lambert also said increased diversity is a major priority.

"We believe that if Elon is going to remain a relevant institution to young people, that we have to become more diverse," he said.

"I think that's an urgent priority, because we're going to be sending all of you out into a world that doesn't look like Elon. And if we're going to prepare you for the 21st century, it means that you truly have to be global citizens."

He said this includes racial, religious and socio-economic diversity.

"I know there will be a goal in (the new strategic plan) to construct a multi-faith center so that we can be a place that welcomes not only Christian students but Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu students, and that there would be a facility that all of these students might be able to use and share," he said.

He said socio-economic diversity normally brings other types of diversity on campus, because an international or poor student wouldn't have the chance to be at Elon otherwise.

"They bring really important and enriching perspectives to the university," he said.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Lambert said the university is currently developing a new strategic plan and students will have the opportunity to read and review the new plan when they return from summer break.

The plan will lay out initiatives the school hopes to take by 2020 and will provide an approximate timeline for when such improvements will be sought.

"I think the way that plan is going to be constructed is that the major initiatives that the university will undertake in the next one to three years will be very clear, and probably very precise in terms of what we're going to do next," Lambert said. "And then from the three-year time frame to the ten year time frame, probably there will be a little bit more variation in activities."

Lambert said he would not be very surprised to see a new basketball arena in the new plan.

"I would bet you're going to do it, and I bet you it will be sometime in that time frame."

Lambert said top priorities in the plan would likely include expanding facilities for communications and

science and improving Elon's national reputation.

"I think you're going to see a lot of initiative in terms of building Elon's national reputation," he said. "You know, one of the things that I think is true about our university is that we are on the cusp of a national reputation right now. And how do you move a big organization like this that is on the cusp of something to the apex? And that will happen because of the planning and critical decisions that we as a university community will make together."

When asked how exactly Elon seeks to attract national attention, Lambert said that students' academic achievements, scholarly work by faculty, the accreditation of both the business and communication schools and alumni achievement all help ensure such recognition.

"It does not happen overnight," he said. "I can tell you that when I came here 10 years ago, Elon's national reputation was far behind where it is right now. We've made enormous strides, and I think we're going to continue to make that happen."

GRADE INFLATION

Lambert also addressed the growing concern among faculty and staff about grade inflation.

According to Lambert, during the fall 2008 semester, the average grade received on a four-point scale was 3.17, significantly higher than the spring 2008 and previous fall averages.

He said two distinct points of view have emerged on the subject: Some believe grades are being inflated, while others believe Elon's learning environment and increasingly high caliber of students have allowed for higher grades.

"We have to be aware that, nationally, college grades are related to the entering qualifications of students," Lambert said. "The entering qualifications of Elon students are continually improving, so you would expect the number of As

given out at Elon to be going up proportionally," he added.

Lambert also said he believes the true question that should be asked is whether Elon's academics are rigorous enough for increasingly bright students.

"I think the question of grading is not the central question here, because ultimately grading is a faculty prerogative," he said. "I can't tell any faculty member how to assign grades. They're going to do it exactly how they want to do it anyway. I think the more central question is, is the level of rigor appropriate for the quality of students who are coming in to the university today? And that's the more important question, in my mind, that's going on with the faculty right now."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Seniors can now order the 2008-2009 yearbook

Phi Psi Cli will send a copy of this academic year's yearbook to current seniors' homes next October.

To receive the book, which covers this year's graduation, students need to fill out a form online and pay \$7 to cover shipping and handling.

If a student's family bought a senior ad, they will automatically receive a yearbook.

Download the form at: <http://org.elon.edu/yearbook>.

Business Institute open for applications

The Summer Business Institute is accepting applications to enroll until May 20.

These sessions are scheduled from 9 a.m. — 5 p.m. Monday through Friday from June 2-19.

Faculty from the School of Business will engage students in business topics including accounting, finance, management, marketing, strategy, human resources, operations and business ethics.

The instructional fee is \$4,500 and includes tuition, books and travel to corporate sites.

There will be an information session at 5 p.m. May 11 in room 145 of the Koury Business Center.

CORRECTIONS

In the April 29 "Grand Night" review, it is incorrectly reported that the song "I Will Turn To You" was written by Dan Gibbons. It was composed by Dan Gibson.

In the April 29 story "N.C. budget torn between public and private education systems," the story incorrectly states that Erskine Bowles is president of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Bowles is president of the University of North Carolina system.

In the April 29 story "Politicizing the pageant," the story incorrectly states that Carrie PreJean lost the Miss America Pageant. She lost the Miss USA Pageant.

In the April 29 story "Obama's First 100 Days," the story incorrectly calls President Barack Obama the 43rd president of the United States. He's the 44th president of the United States.

SUSTAINABILITY

Lambert said he believes the strategic plan will also include sustainability initiatives.

"There is solar generating capacity being built into Lindner Hall, and as I understand it, when you go into the building next year, there will be a panel in the lobby that you can look at, and you'll be able to see how much energy that building is producing and how much it's consuming," he said. "I think it would be really neat in the next strategic plan to have some sort of alternative energy goal for the university."

He also said the university is taking a careful look at discretionary spending in the current recession.

"(It) comes down to simple things, like turning off lights that aren't being used and trying to save energy, and really trying to keep your tuition increases as low as possible by identifying areas of spending that we think are discretionary and not of the highest priority," he said.

"In these challenging times, if we're going to move forward on some of the things that we want to do to advance the university, it means that we're going to have to stop spending money on lower-priority items, and that's what we're trying to think about campus-wide."

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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.

THE PENDULUM Established 1974

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

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Sharing the wealth, 'serving the servants'

Gold stars aren't given to delinquents. They receive demerits, time-outs and cold shoulders. The deserving take the limelight and should be able to hoard it to their heart's content. As for freeloaders, the loafers and hangers-on that grip coattails and absorb resources, they're even worse.

It sounds like an extreme stance to take, a strict adherence to bootstraps economics and social individualism, but it's a position that many have taken, and it runs directly against the social responsibility advocated by the recent liberal resurgence.

The College Board's recent report detailing how allowing illegal immigrants in-state tuition rates would benefit the country drew fire from those who see it as yet another example of a country backtracking away from the rule of law to accommodate problems that have spiraled out of control.

Statistics on illegal immigration are always spotty, but if the Pew Hispanic Center is to be believed, then about 350,000 illegal immigrants currently live in North Carolina. Early this year, the Federation for American Immigration Reform reported that illegal immigrants directly cost North Carolina \$1.2 billion every year, while funds sent back to their families cost the state the equivalent amount.

FAIR also said illegal aliens contribute \$225 million in tax revenue for North Carolina. One way to increase this figure, of course, would be to provide a means for illegal immigrants to receive higher education and provide the means for higher-paying jobs.

The Dream Act, which spurred the College Board's report and has been wallowing in Congress for years, would provide another incentive for illegal immigrants to move forward with their education. Provided they have lived in the United States for at least five years, they would be able to apply to the Department of Homeland Security upon graduating high school and then move on to college with provisional legal status.

The North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges ironically found it is more profitable for them to accept illegal immigrants, who commonly apply for out-of-state status as they have no proof of their lawful in-state residence, than to take in legal North Carolina residents. Such an incentive counteracts the claim that allowing illegal immigrants to apply for in-state tuition would bring about a crippling

blow to the system.

It appears the Dream Act is the most realistic way to remedy both the budget shortfall and vanishing revenues, while also alleviating the long cycles of poverty that immigrant families commonly experience. Even identifying illegal immigrants is a lengthy, expensive and controversial process.

As the 287 (g) debacle in Alamance County has shown, using punitive measures to deter illegal immigration can be incredibly counterproductive. When accusations around surrounding the fudging of numbers to make it seem as though the county sheriff's department wasn't engaging in profiling to take advantage of the aforementioned law, a firestorm emerged on both sides of the political spectrum.

At its heart lies the issue of how to react to those previously mentioned delinquents and freeloaders. It's no coincidence that Ayn Rand's objectivist manifesto "Atlas Shrugged" shot up the sales charts right alongside President Obama's own ascension, nor that the current No. 1 book on Amazon's charts is "Liberty and Tyranny: A Conservative Manifesto."

It's similar to the battle that occurred over the bank bailouts. From a practical, economic standpoint, giving the financial industry funds to alleviate the damages caused by toxic assets and thereby increasing the supply of loans and decreasing interest rates makes sense.

But with issues like bank bailouts and immigration, a growing number of people are seeking punitive measures. Don't save the banks, let them flounder. Kick out all of the immigrants, no matter the cost, instead of taking measures to enable them to climb the social ladder and legally contribute to the country. Punitive measures are simultaneously uplifting and condemning. They assure people that what they're doing is right while demonizing the recipient of the punishment. But such a policy accomplishes nothing in the long run; no progress will be made on immigration so long as local and federal lawmakers ponder about how to lay down the law as opposed to making the best of the current landscape.

As anticlimactic as it sounds compared to the inspiring rhetoric praising the little man and his trampled hard work, pragmatism and accommodation are the only means to an end on the immigration wars.

Letter to the Editor

To The Editor,

When reading Conor O'Neill's column on heckling, I could not help but feel repulsed that heckling and being obnoxious and inappropriate is your general benchmark of being a sports fan. Though heckling has its place, there are times when I, as a student and a fan, have trouble swallowing their words and fitting them within the realm of acceptable behavior at a sporting event.

I have spent a lot of time at Latham Park and I have found it nigh impossible to deal with those students who heckle and insult the opposing players. Though not directed at me, there is no place for their actions when they are directed at other fans, specifically visiting supporters.

For example, at the North Carolina A&T game, the visiting fans asked them to stop being rude to their players as a sign of respect. The students in question, many of whom are Elon athletes, then stopped focusing on the game and started focusing on the "superiority" they had over the visiting team and fans, that they are starting D-1 athletes.

This is not cheering for Elon. These absurd and irreverent actions cannot and should not be tolerated. These actions are not in the spirit of competition, but are in the spirit of inciting nothing but hatred and indignation toward our baseball players who are winners on their own merit.

Allow me to examine some:

Elon's baseball team is on top of the Southern Conference with a solid four-game lead over Georgia Southern. Within the conference, the Phoenix boasts a solid 8-3 record when not at Latham Park.

Using O'Neill's logic, which says the Phoenix baseball team receives the same or worse treatment at visiting Southern Conference stadiums, it would seem to not matter. The Phoenix is winning regardless of the treatment it receives.

This does ignore its overall away record of 12-10, but that includes facing top-ranked opponents such as Clemson University, East Carolina University and usually strong baseball teams like Duke University and Auburn University.

Finally, when looking at away versus home attendance statistics, let us look at the student body of the universities Elon has visited:

Auburn University: 20,037
Clemson University: 14,713
Appalachian State: 14,561
N.C. State: 24,741
Eastern Carolina University: 20,974
UNC: 17,895
UNC Wilmington: 10,989
Elon: 4,992

We are competing against schools that are twice to five times our size. It is logical that more fans are going to show up when there are more fans to draw from.

Finally, as a member and executive board member of the Phoenix Phanatics, we support fans that cheer for the team and not against the visitors. We want our teams to win because they are better than the other team, not because the other team is on tilt. Dogging a team isn't all bad, but there is a point where you stop being a fan and start being a detriment to the rest of the fans in attendance.

James Shaver
PRESIDENT, PHOENIX PHANATICS

TO COMMENT...

We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback of 500 words or fewer can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the Editor and columns can be e-mailed to pendulum@elon.edu or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244

Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

A message board also accompanies each article online at www.elon.edu/pendulum.

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



Opinions

The media who cried 'flu'

Public continues to freak as swine flu moves towards pandemic



Rachel Cieri
Columnist

Students at the health center wear masks in the waiting room. Families fear serving pork for dinner. And the media never tires of reporting every cough and sneeze to the entire world.

The swine flu has taken the world by storm, if only in people's minds. With fewer than 900 cases reported out of the world's 6.7 billion people, one would think the story would be minor news. After all, the United States alone

experiences about 200,000 cases of the common flu in a typical season.

But somehow, the word "pandemic" is being tossed around like the surgical masks in the streets of Mexico City.

The validity of the swine flu as a real threat has been challenged before, and the same righteous retort is given repeatedly.

"People are dying from it," I'm told.

Yes, people have died from the swine flu. That's undeniable. But there are a few factors that need to be taken into consideration before jumping to the conclusion that the human race has met its doom.

First, only one of the United States' 244 confirmed cases has led to death, and that death was a toddler's. Toddlers have always been more susceptible to disease, especially to the flu. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention even calls young children a high-risk group for the common

flu.

Second, the only other deaths from the H1N1 strain have been in Mexico. Some speculate the strain in Mexico is more severe than the one afflicting Americans, but there is likely another explanation.

The Mexican standard of living is not exactly ideal for disease control. According to Library of Congress statistics, about 21 percent of the population of Mexico has no access to sanitation systems, and there is only about one doctor for every 555 patients in the Mexican health care system.

Mexico's GDP is one-fourth that of the United States', giving it much more limited resources to treat the virus. As of 2002, a quarter of the Mexican population was living below the poverty line.

In contrast, America has some of the world's best doctors and hospitals, with breakthrough technology and treatments discovered regularly.

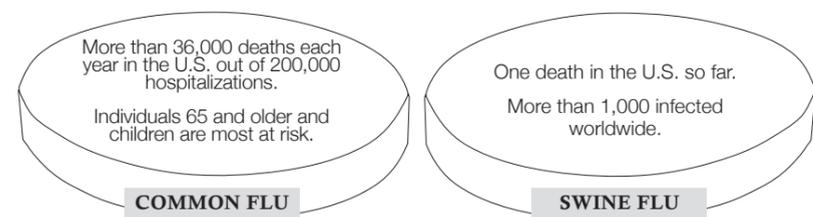
The threat of the swine flu is even less valid when compared to the common flu. There are about 36,000 deaths annually from the common flu in the United States alone. The common flu in the United States results in death in about 18 percent of the cases, but the number is less than 1 percent from the swine flu.

The excessive media coverage of the H1N1 virus rarely takes the time to explain these factors. It is simply repeating the hype of hypochondriac health officials.

One would think the media had learned its lesson from the 2006 bird flu scare that has since fallen off the radar for most Americans, after it didn't leave the impact the public was promised.

Back then we feared chickens, and now we're scared of pigs. What will be next, the aardvark flu?

A PANDEMIC IN PERSPECTIVE



☠ Mexico will be ending its ban on public activities May 6.

☠ The H1N1 flu strain is not transferable by food.

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Making graduate school relevant



Ashley Jobe
Guest Columnist

A New York Times Op-Ed article titled "End the University As We Know It" by Mark Taylor holds an immense amount of validity. It outlines a number of solutions to remedy a system of educational red tape and inflexible boundaries, which look into a future void of unnecessary class assignments and career vacancies that call for specific employees not ready for the tasks set

before them.

A pertinent theme in the article was the lack of guidance that graduate students have when it comes to their future careers. They study for years, working under professors whom they hope to emulate, and they acquire thousands of dollars of debt. Unfortunately, it seems they focus solely on narrow subject matter that does little to help them succeed in the greater workforce.

Though he frequently stabs at professors lucky enough to be granted tenure, I do agree with Taylor's argument on the topic. There are, of course, professors that intend to continue demonstrating the same dedication, drive and love of knowledge that made them deserving of the position in the first place. But there are also those who, amid their satisfaction and accomplishment, let their work ethic lie dormant and capitalize on what they can.

Taylor suggests universities impose mandatory retirement for accomplished professors, or at the very least, seven-year contracts to ensure that up-and-

coming graduate students will have jobs and their professors continue to contribute to their respective fields. I don't see much trouble in that.

Speaking of fields, what fields should be taught and learned? Is the separation and compartmentalization of various disciplines really necessary in an evolving global community?

In some ways, the chasm between different courses of study makes for a divide between collaborative efforts among those already working. Taylor uses the example of "water" as a field of study that, if subjected to intensive thought, could provide methods of comprehension and encourage intermixing of various disciplines.

The world, and the cultures and societies that exist within it, are extremely complex and interwoven, so why shouldn't the studies undergraduate and graduate students focus upon share the same characteristics?

The possibility of students beginning to look deeper into our nation's needs, the global community and using their individual talents to meet those needs is staggering.

Just imagine communications students finding ways to reach international people in efforts to educate them about the environment. Scientists making much-needed inventions marketable in our national economy and budding anthropologists delving into the alcoves of our national history to find ways to combat issues that continue to plague our future.

Of course, students want to know their degrees will be worth something upon graduation, but at this rate, will they be? There isn't a specific protocol to achieve the success most expect upon graduation, but Taylor seems to have come quite close to discovering one.

Girl Talk's right to create mash-ups



Dan Rickershauser
Columnist

For those unfamiliar with Girl Talk, who performed at this year's Spring Concert, perhaps there was some confusion when first walking into Alumni Gym.

"Who is this I'm hearing?" they may have asked. "Is it Roy Orbison, Twisted Sister or Rage Against the Machine?"

In a way, it was all of the above, with mash-up DJ Girl Talk playing his bass-thumping techno collage of popular music samples from the last 50 years. What

the crowd might also not have known is that there is a good chance everything Girl Talk is doing is completely illegal.

Pittsburgh native Girl Talk, whose real name is Gregg Gillis, is what the music industry has coined a "mash-up artist," someone who takes a collection of samples from other songs and arranges them into a work of their own. While the art of mash-ups is not entirely new, Girl Talk is one of the first musicians to bring this art form into the mainstream, making him all the more likely to be sued by a major record label for the use of copyrighted works of music without the artist or copyright owner's permission.

Sampling and mash-ups also crept into mainstream with the 2004 release of Danger Mouse's widely-acclaimed "Grey Album," a mash-up of Jay-Z's "The Black Album" and the Beatles' "White Album." Danger Mouse, whose real name is Brian Burton, stopped selling the album when EMI, the owners of the Beatles' copyrights, ordered an end to all retail sales of the album.

Mash-ups are not the first genre to challenge copyright law. In the late 1980s, rap music had a brief period where sampling technology was easily accessible and copyright law had yet to establish how it would apply to sampling. It was during this time that some of rap's most critically-acclaimed albums were produced, including the Beastie Boys' "Paul's Boutique" and Public Enemy's "It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back." These albums used mixes of many different samples to create a comprehensive instrumental to be rapped over.

Unfortunately for rap music, it was only a matter of time before a barrage of lawsuits challenged the art form. Over time, music labels began licensing all samples used, refining rap music to only use a handful of songs in their instrumentals. Producing albums like "Paul's Boutique" or "It Takes a Nation of Millions" would now be too costly because of the licenses of all the samples used.

Modern copyright law, as defined by the Copyright Act of 1976, creates two different copyright distinctions. The first is the copyright of the composition, the artist who created the musical arrangement and lyrics. The other part of the copyright is the copyright of the actual recording of the music. Sampling essentially violates both of these. In the early 1990s, Dr. Dre, as a way of getting around the second part of this clause, used his own band to cover the songs he was sampling.

The other way around these laws is if the samples are considered to be in "fair use." In regards to sampling, fair use applies if the sample of the original song is so small that it is unrecognizable to the average person, or if the original work is being used as a parody.

Girl Talk's label, Illegal Art, takes the stance that the use of his samples falls under fair use, something that has traditionally not held up in the courts. But this is all changing, and according to a New York Times article last summer, Girl Talk has yet to be sued because of fear that it could set a precedent case that changes this. Until someone is sued and a precedent case takes place, Girl Talk and other mash-up artists stand in a delicate legal limbo.

Copyright law cannot refine the creativity of mash-ups the way it changed the course of rap music in the late 1980s. As defined by the United States Constitution in Article I, Section 8, copyrights are intended to "promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts." But to continue the path it's on today does nothing but restrict creativity. It would be completely out of question for Girl Talk to buy the license of the hundreds of works he samples from.

If he is sued, and the courts hold their traditional views on sampling, the days of mash-ups could be over. It would be a tragedy not only for Girl Talk and his fans, but also for the future of a promising new genre of popular music, as well. In an age where much more serious and economically damaging copyright infringement is taking place, specifically music piracy, it's silly for the industry to continue to go after the creative endeavors of others for profit.

Quiet HOURS?

Alyse Knorr
Design Editor

Town, university officials address noise complaints

The Town of Elon's Board of Aldermen is reviewing the town noise ordinance for the second time in six months as the issue of noise violations of Elon University students residing off campus continues to resurface at monthly board meetings.

The Town of Elon has a population of 6,738. Elon University has 5,628 enrolled students, with 2,051 undergraduates living off campus.

Police documents show from January to early March, 29 noise complaints were called in to the police department, and one citation was issued to Elon junior Alexander Florio of 211 East Trollinger Ave. who declined to comment. The police department did not track noise complaints specifically until this year.

Town officials first reassessed the noise ordinance in January after a small group of citizens attended the Dec. 1 Board of Aldermen meeting to raise concerns about student noise

violations, underage drinking and lewd conduct at off-campus parties.

At that meeting, 20-year Elon resident Joe Libera questioned the authority of the town's noise ordinance, which stipulates town police officers are dispatched to a noisy house only after a private citizen calls in a complaint. The officers issue a verbal warning to the resident after the first complaint and can only return to the residence to issue a citation if a second resident calls in another noise complaint.

Elon Town Manager Mike Dula and Elon Chief of Police LaVell Lovette said this technicality protects police from liability. Police officers cannot serve as witnesses for noise violations in court because the observation is based on subjective perception.

After a review of the ordinance, Lovette and Elon town attorney Robert Wishart recommended making no changes to the law.

At the March board meeting, five

citizens again raised complaints about student behavior, and three of them said their non-student neighbors are too afraid to call the police.

Lovette said residents should not be afraid to call the police because officers do not release complainant names.

In most of the January-March noise complaint cases, the party was either shut down voluntarily after the first warning or no other complaints were called in to warrant another police response.

In seven of these cases, responding officers did not find any loud noise or disruptive behavior. In one case, several students were charged for underage drinking and one for a drug violation.

In April, which the town proclaimed "Alcohol Awareness Month," university and town officials took numerous steps to address the recent citizen complaints and bring students and citizens together in positive ways.

are coming do," Dula said. "It's more pronounced for them."

Lovette said these residents might be living in a more problematic neighborhood.

Grimley, who lives on South Williamson Avenue, said although the parties are happening in smaller groups, more student housing downtown is causing the problem to grow worse in that area.

"In my opinion, the town central is going down fast," Grimley said.

REASONS FOR THE RECENT COMPLAINTS

Town authorities point to various factors that could be causing the increase in complaints. One is lifestyle incompatibility.

"Students and people in traditional lifestyles have different hours, and they have different interests," Dula said.

Student behavior problems stem from excessive drinking, Grimley said.

"It's just late nights, testosterone and alcohol," Grimley said. "Everything else comes from that."

Patterson also noted when she first started at Elon, not as many students lived in residential areas.

"That's the bigger issue - our students are moving off campus into residential areas," Patterson said.

In 2000, when Elon had a few hundred fewer students enrolled, 64 percent of undergraduates lived on campus. During the 2008-2009 academic year, 59 percent live on campus.

Ripple said the problem may also be rooted in communication issues.

"I think maybe it's just been frustrating for both sides and it's not been approached the right way," Ripple said. "I think they've had a tough time finding common ground."

Another factor is whether the citizens who have come to the board with problems are calling the police when the problems occur.

"I will say that we are not getting the calls," Lovette said.

The citizens attending the meetings to complain say they and their neighbors are too afraid of student retaliation to call the police.

Grimley said the problem with calling the police is that

PAST COMPLAINTS

During the past four years, Elon resident complaints about university students have been uncommon, but not unheard of.

According to town records, from June 2005 to February 2007, four citizens raised concerns about student parking and three citizens informed the board about students breaking the town ordinance prohibiting more than three unrelated persons from living together.

Citizen Bonnie Kirk attended three meetings between June 2006 and January 2007 with complaints about trash and property damage caused by her student neighbors, as well as students exceeding the town's three-person limit on unrelated inhabitants in a single dwelling.

Citizen Eugene Grimley, who raised complaints at the December meeting, said the residents attending board meetings most recently are trying to raise awareness about the noise issue.

In mid-April, several of these residents, including Grimley, met with Elon University Assistant Vice President for Student Life Jana Lynn Patterson to discuss their concerns.

IS IT WORSE NOW?

Patterson, Lovette, Dula and Elon Police Community

Relations Officer Candace Ripple all said they think student behavior has generally improved in recent years.

"I really see a change," Lovette said. "I think our interactions with the students have become much more positive over the last few years."

Lovette said parties are getting smaller and the number of assault calls and the amount of violence against officers has decreased.

Town Planner Sean Tencer said the number of student residents in violation of the town's appearance ordinance prohibiting junk from lawns, too, is no more now than it has been in the past.

"Actually, I think it's gotten a little bit better than when I first got here," Tencer said. "I think students and residents are keeping up their yards a little bit better. When people do have a gathering, there is some effort to try and clean up their yard when it's done."

Despite these improvements, Mayor Jerry Tolley, Patterson, Ripple and Dula all agreed the citizens' noise and littering complaints are valid concerns.

"It sounds like they've got some pretty documentable behaviors," Patterson said of the citizens who have complained at meetings.

"I'm not sure the majority of the town has the problem, so they don't have the vested interest, but the people who



numbers from across town

6,738

Town residents

5,628

Elon students

2,051

Students living off-campus

29

Noise complaints from January to early March 2009

7

Complaints on which responding officers found no loud noise or disruptive behavior from January to early March 2009

1

Noise violation issued to a student from January to early March 2009

INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF ELON POLICE



it is easy for students to determine who made the complaint call, making the complaining residents potential targets for retaliation and acts of intimidation. He said he has heard about such acts firsthand.

"They're afraid to call the police, (and) they're not calling the police, so we're not aware of issues," Lovette said. "That has been our concern."

Lovette, Dula and Ripple said they did not know of any cases of student retaliation against neighbors who call the police.

"We would handle things a lot differently if that was the case," Lovette said. "That's a different crime - harassment, intimidation. Anything that's going to create a fear factor is going to be handled differently."

Grimley said he has seen police response to noise complaint calls improving lately and said the second call policy is a good one, as long as it is enforced.

OTHER CITIZEN OPINIONS

Not all town residents have complaints about students.

Dolores Truitt and her husband John Truitt live in the second house behind the Elon Post Office, with student apartments behind them, to the right of them and down the street. They have lived in their house since 1987, and Truitt said she and her husband ignore parties when they hear them.

"If they've got a Saturday night party or something, let them have their fun," Truitt said. "They're teenagers and this is their time. That's our feeling."

Truitt said some of her student neighbors have knocked on her door to inform her they were having a party in the past and they've also invited her and her husband.

"During springtime or after a football game, we have lots of beer cans and cups in our yard and we hear them coming in at 2 or 3 a.m., but they're not loud and they don't disturb us," Truitt said. "We pick up the cans."

Lucille Andes, 91, has lived at 111 Atkinson Ave., across the street from student apartments and sharing a backyard with college students, for three years. She lived in a house farther down the street for eight years before that.

"We've never had any loudness or anything over there that's bothered us at all," Andes said of the apartment complex. "I don't think we've ever had an occasion, even

one. We basically are not bothered by students."

Andes said she might be more tolerant because she worked at the university. She worked in Elon's education department for 39 years.

"I think any university campus is going to have some objectionable loudness," Andes said. "I wish there was a little more consideration, but that would be my only main suggestion."

Sara Grimley, who attended a meeting with her husband in February to complain about loud parties and litter, said she thinks the situation is getting better now and the noise hasn't been as big of a problem around her property since she went to the meeting.

UNIVERSITY ACTIONS

Patterson said if she receives a direct complaint call from a resident, she asks Ripple to talk to the students in question and then has the students in to see her.

Patterson said she has received 10-12 calls from community members during the last couple years. She also said when the town police department brings honor code violations to her attention, they are adjudicated through the university's judicial affairs office.

Patterson works with Tencer to talk with students about violations of the appearance ordinance and sends out e-mails each semester to remind students about community ordinances.

This semester's e-mail, which was sent April 3, included information about the appearance and noise ordinances as well as "good neighbor tips."

"Most of our university students are good citizens and good neighbors and want to be depicted as such and want to know how they can be more proactive with their peers," Patterson said.

Grimley said he would like the university to educate students about the consequences of high-risk drinking and teach them "common sense" behavior, like treating their neighbors the same way they would treat their parents' neighbors back home.

"We just all need to be on the same page about citizenship," Grimley said.

Grimley also suggests the university buy some of the houses in town central so it could act as a landlord with more control over student behavior.

TOWN ACTIONS

Dula said the town has tried to tackle the problem in a number of ways.

"We do have dialogues with the people who are causing problems (and) with landlords, and I think we're making a good effort to do what we can do," Dula said.

Lovette said the police department works on special projects with North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement about three times per year. She also said the department is encouraging officers to participate in more outside projects with the university.

"We're trying to make proactive contacts rather than just calls to service," Lovette said.

Representatives of Elon Town Police, Elon University Campus Police, Elon's Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Department and judicial affairs joined together with the Elon Community Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking to host outreach pizza parties on Westover Drive April 7 and on Sunset Avenue April 8. The events were designed to encourage residents and students to get together in a non-confrontational setting.

Tolley said the board is reviewing the town's noise ordinance policy again with its legal counsel to determine whether a police officer must receive a second call before breaking up a party.

In the meantime, Dula and Ripple stressed the importance of calling the police when residents encounter a problem.

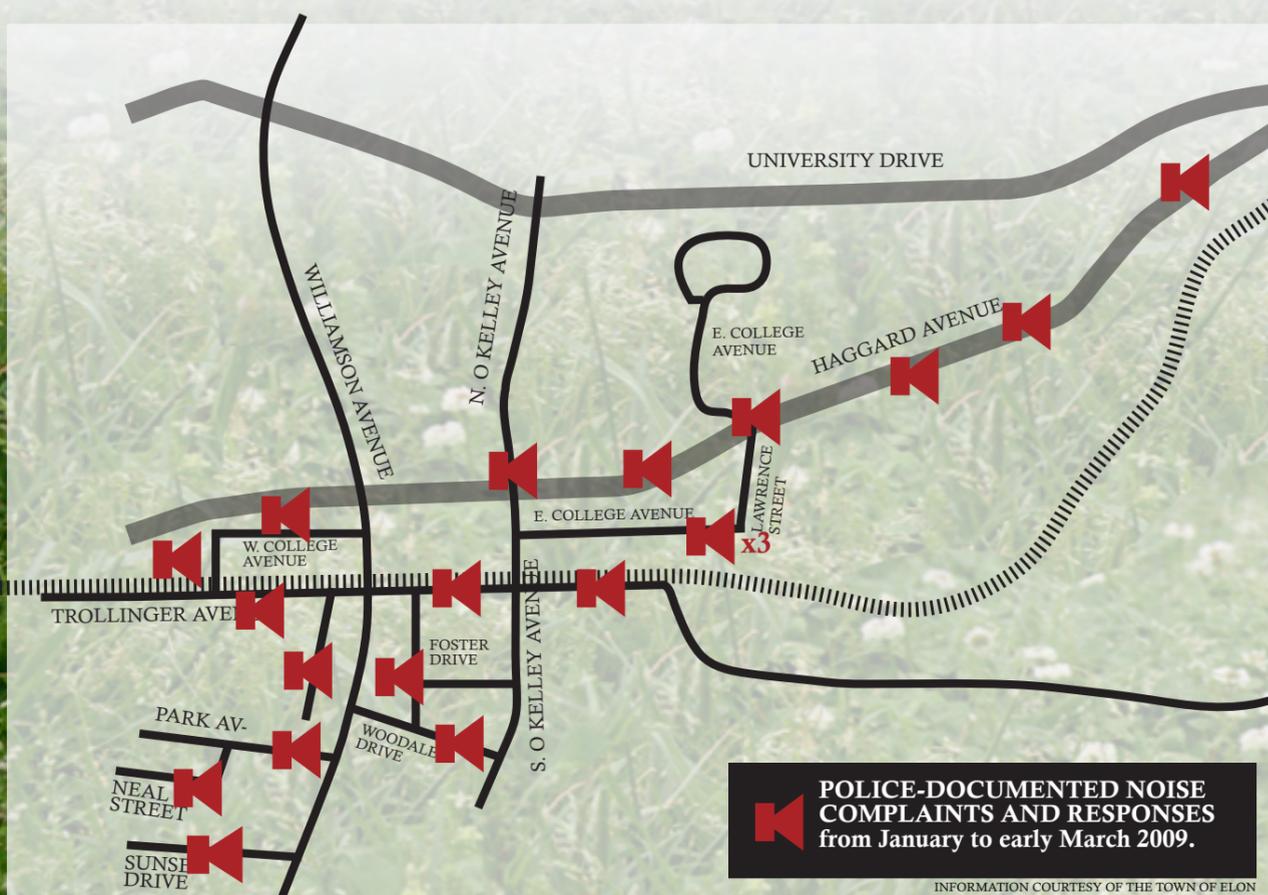
"We really need the residents to be the ones to call and let us know when something's going on," Ripple said. "We want people to call 911 - that's what we're here for."

As the weather warms up and graduation approaches, town and university officials plan to continue working together to address citizen concerns and keep students safe.

"The university really does want to partner with the town," Patterson said.

And Dula said the town wants to partner with the university.

"The university is a major asset to the town and our relationships with them are good, and we want that to continue," Dula said.



POLICE-DOCUMENTED NOISE COMPLAINTS AND RESPONSES from January to early March 2009.

INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF ELON

Style



Feed the animals by bringing them **THE COOL**

Morgan Little
Opinions Editor

From LUPE | PAGE 1

As much as he tried to dismiss the notion, Lupe Fiasco is a superstar. He had no reason to fear, the cameras were abundant and the crowd was completely devoted to him.

"Wanna believe my own hype, but it's too untrue," Lupe raps on "Superstar." But anyone in attendance at Alumni Gym Friday night will have trouble believing the hype could have possibly surpassed the product. The spring concert this year was a far cry from its previous incarnations, replete with elaborate lighting, a projector screen and the kinetic musical ringmaster known as Girl Talk (or Gregg Gillis off the stage).

Yes, it started later than the tickets claimed, leaving some people confused as to what was taking so long. But with both performances lasting more than an hour, the entire crowd thrashing about in the epileptic frenzy that has become Girl Talk's trademark and Lupe deftly guiding the audience from technical difficulties to soaring choruses, Elon got what it hasn't gotten out of a spring concert for years: A truly great show.

Girl Talk, flanked by his skeleton-masked hellions launching toilet paper into the crowd with leaf blowers, bouncing around a laptop held to a weighted table, dove straight into his mash-ups, which were mixed live on the stage.

For the uninformed, Girl Talk is a bizarre musical Rumpelstiltskin. He brings songs to their lowest, most simple levels. A riff here, a beat there. He takes these components, which alone are incomplete and meaningless, and then spins them into gold.

Take the song, "Here's the Thing," which he performed at the concert. It begins with Chicago's "Saturday in the Park," combined with Quad City DJs' "C'mon N' Ride It," then moves on to couple Kelly Clarkson with Nine Inch Nails and MC Hammer.

It's a sound that's simultaneously completely identical and individual. Yes, dancing to Girl Talk is essential, but the key to the music is in the creative freedom it ultimately grants the listener. With a typical song, there's one key memory associated with the track in its entirety. There's one main emotion.

With Girl Talk, there's a kaleidoscope at work. With so many popular songs blended together, listeners project their own experiences and preferences onto Girl Talk. And if something doesn't work, another combination is right around the corner. Although it's hard to see anyone having a problem with Earth, Wind and Fire combined with Ludacris.

Lupe was a completely different performer. Although the energy of his swagger matched that of Girl Talk's thrashing, and his spitfire delivery at times matched the beats Girl Talk put down, his music comes from a completely different place. He had a simple answer to explain where his inspiration comes from.

"The world and its terrible ways," he said, building upon the socially conscious lyrics that provide the backbone for songs such as "Little Weapon" and "Daydreamin'."

Lupe's set was fantastic. By the end of the show, those who didn't know him were trying their best to catch onto his choruses to sing along with the diehard fans.

But the question that most Lupe fans had on their minds was his future. For quite some time, Lupe has talked about making his third album his final production, a massive three-part piece known as "LupE.N.D." which would have a continuous storyline and a wide cast of characters, similar to his second album, "The Cool."

"I felt like I wouldn't have that much more to say," Lupe laughed, going on to talk about how his label, Atlantic Records, wanted to cut down on such an ambitious endeavor. Now, Lupe's next album is titled "Lasers," and will be "going back to what works, making more records like 'Kick, Push.'"

While trying to stay ahead of the trend, Lupe ensured he wouldn't be straying too far from his roots, and there would be no auto-tune. But he promised, with an excited grin, there will be plenty of surprises in both the sound and guest appearances.

Lupe attributes hip-hop to saving his life, for all of its shallow tendencies and his criticisms of its minutia. And Elon can thank the Student Union Board, Lupe and Girl Talk for saving the spring concerts from a cycle of bland artists and putting an anarchistic musical deconstructionist and a masterful rapper in their place.



Lupe Fiasco gets the crowd pumped during Friday night's concert in Alumni Gym.

ANGIE LOVELACE | Staff Photographer



The first 200 students to purchase their tickets joined Girl Talk on stage as he danced around on the speakers, surrounded by flying toilet paper and confetti.

ANGIE LOVELACE | Staff Photographer



Students wrapped around Young Commons from Alumni Gym to Belk Library by 7 p.m. waiting to get into the gym for the concert.

ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

I'm on a boat ... earning college credit

Hannah Williams
Special Projects Editor

Elon junior Caitlin Lashnits spent spring semester aboard the MV Explorer circumnavigating the globe with about 700 other students as part of the Semester at Sea study abroad program sponsored by the University of Virginia.

"I had the best four months doing and seeing things I could have never imagined," Lashnits said.

The MV Explorer departed Nassau, Bahamas Jan. 19, sailed to Spain, Morocco, Namibia, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Japan, Hawaii and Guatemala and is scheduled to conclude its voyage in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. today.

"It literally is a floating college campus," said Kenn Gaither, assistant Communications professor who has been on eight SAS voyages, first as a senior undergraduate student at the University of Pittsburgh and most recently in spring 2008 as the first former SAS student to serve as the executive dean.

"One SAS voyage is enough for a lifetime," Gaither said. "I've been incredibly blessed to go eight times."

Floating classroom

The MV Explorer has all the amenities of a traditional university including classrooms, a library, computer lab, student union, theater, campus store, health clinic, fitness facility, sports court and swimming pool.

Classes are held on board the ship between ports, where students are able to either travel independently or participate in field studies designed by SAS.

"You have four or five classes a day," said Caitlin Pascarelli, a senior who participated in SAS in fall 2007. "It's a lot different to try to do homework with limited computers, limited Internet and a small library."

During free time on the ship, Pascarelli said students participated in numerous clubs ranging from choir to travel.

"A lot of people enjoyed relaxing in the sun on the top deck and laying by the pool," Lashnits said. "At night, there are a lot of card games going on to pass the time and socialize. The program also sponsors a lot of educational seminars outside of class that are optional about the port or region we are about to visit."

Even with the limited Internet access, Lashnits said the students started every on-board dance party with the song "I'm on a Boat" by the Lonely Islands.

Lashnits said a lot of students spent their free time sleeping to catch up on hours lost between time zones and to compensate for packing every possible activity into their time in each port country.

Classes aren't a breeze

Gaither said the program is not easy. The coursework done aboard the ship is challenging, and the constant traveling is also disorienting.

"We're in a different country every five days, so it's challenging to work on papers and projects while recovering from and preparing to travel," Lashnits said.

Courses offered each semester are dependent on the voyage itinerary and the professors who are on board.

"Classes are designed to supplement and complement what is happening in the field," Gaither said. "It's one thing to talk about things in the classroom and an entirely different thing to actually experience them."

Pascarelli said her courses required her to complete different assignments while she was in port. She researched 10 pieces of art for her world art course and photographed endangered animals for her ecosystems class.

"One of my favorite field experiences was a tour of the Coca-Cola factory in Morocco for my international marketing class," Lashnits said. "We saw the entire facility, drank a fresh bottle of Coca-Cola and talked to a panel of a variety of local marketers, entrepreneurs and business people in Casablanca."

SAS distributes important location information as well as survival language and currency exchange rates before arriving in each port, Pascarelli said. Doctors also dispensed advice about health safety precautions.

"It's different from an immersive experience," Gaither said. "SAS is unique because it's a comparative experience. Students study and compare cultures, people, economies and politics. You have a wide lens for viewing the world."

Unique abroad experience

Pascarelli said she chose the program because she is interested in studying and comparing different cultures.

"Meeting the local people was probably the best part of the entire trip," Lashnits said. "They were so hospitable and interested in our trip, while we wanted to hear all about their daily lives, politics, opinions and experiences."

Being on the ship for the semester is like joining a new community, Gaither said.

There are more than 700 people on board each voyage, including the usual students, faculty and staff on a normal college campus plus the ship's crew, children of faculty and staff, and 30 to 40 academic guests SAS calls lifelong learners.

Lifelong learners are usually retirees who want the experience of traveling

the world by sea with college students in an academic environment, Gaither said.

Lashnits said the lifelong learners loved interacting with the students and often held game nights and family dinners.

"That experience, being part of that community on board, is almost but not quite as exciting as experiencing the culture of the different countries we visit," Gaither said.

During SAS, Pascarelli said you see things you would expect, like the Great Wall in China and the Taj Mahal in India, as well as things you would not, like pirates and erupting volcanoes.

"It's ultimately the people who you meet and the countries that you visit that you remember the most," Gaither said.

Don't forget a seasick patch

Being on a ship for more than 100 days can have its downsides, Gaither said.

"You have to pack a good attitude, and you have to be flexible," Gaither said.

Outside factors like weather and international events can derail planned activities and upset the schedule.

Seasickness is also a problem, especially in the first few weeks of the semester, Gaither said.

Lashnits said she did not experience seasickness, but did have trouble sleeping while she adjusted to the constant motion of the ship.

In the final days of her voyage, Lashnits said the food on board was not bad, but got repetitive quickly.

"It's not cruise ship food. It's dining hall food gone international," Pascarelli said. "Do not expect to have anything familiar. SAS policy is that they're giving you an international education all the time."

Both students recommended bringing nonperishable snacks or money to purchase familiar foods like burgers, pizza and grilled cheese to combat home sickness.

"Taco day is a staple," Pascarelli said. "Once every two or three days while you're at sea, they have tacos. They are the best thing you will eat on the ship."

The close living and learning quarters also have a magnifying effect, Gaither said, meaning news about everything that happens on board spreads quickly.

The ship is constantly traveling across time zones, and resetting clocks is an almost daily activity.

"The time difference is fabulous on fall voyages and horrible on spring," Pascarelli said. "In the fall, you gain an hour every day, and in the spring you lose an hour."

Lashnits said losing an hour every night was difficult, especially as she



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Elon junior Caitlin Lashnits spent spring semester aboard the MV Explorer circumnavigating the globe with about 700 other students as part of the Semester at Sea study abroad program sponsored by the University of Virginia.

was studying for exams and working on final papers.

Mostly, the passengers will gain and lose hours as they sail, but when the ship crosses the International Dateline, they lose or gain an entire day depending on the sailing direction.

"One voyage, we went from September 21 to September 23, skipping September 22 entirely," Gaither said. "On my most recent voyage in spring 2008, we had two April 2s."

The oddities comprising each voyage are significant and memorable, Gaither said, and he wishes more Elon students will consider SAS.

"My life goal is to get back on that ship somehow," Pascarelli said.

Both Lashnits and Pascarelli said their voyages were life-changing and would go on another without hesitation if they ever had the chance.

"It is a remarkably transformative experience," Gaither said. "It challenges your assumptions about how you see yourself and your culture and changes how you see the world."

Burlington train brings joy to conductor, children



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer
Bob Bryant, 76, drives the miniature train at Burlington City Park. He has been the train's conductor for six years.

Ashley Barnas
Online Editor-in-Chief

"Alllll abooooarrrrd!" is a phrase that Bob Bryant shouts with zeal every day he goes to work. Bryant, 76, has been driving the miniature train at Burlington City Park for the past six years.

His part-time job is something that brings him a lot of joy in life, primarily because he loves playing with and entertaining the children that stop by.

Bryant retired from Carolina Biological Supply Company after about 40 years of service, and wanted to find something to get him out of the house and keep him busy.

He has always liked trains, but this is the first time he has worked with them.

Bryant said a lot of people ask him, "How much did you have to pay to get that job?"

He said he deeply enjoys spending retirement with the ecstatic children and riding around looking at the scenery of the park. Bryant said he usually drives the train around the track for three rounds, but if there is nobody waiting outside the station, he will go four rounds to give the kids extra time.

In addition to collecting tickets and piling everyone on his train to

drive them around, Bryant checks the train's oil, puts grease on the tracks and gasses up the train. The city garage maintains a lot of the mechanics of the train.

"We stay open six days a week after school closes," Bryant said.

Right now, they're just open on the weekends except when schools bring classes to the park for field trips during the week.

One busy spring day, Bryant opened the ride at 11 a.m. and left at 4 p.m., and had about 900 riders during that time. After school closes, he works about four hours a day for five days a week.

Last summer, he was honored for his years of service at the City Park.

Bryant said he plans to be the train conductor "as long as the good Lord gives me my health. Right now I feel good. I hope it's going to be several more years."

"My grandchildren are both in college now, so my little children are gone, but I still have lots of little children around here," he said. "I enjoy it very much, mainly because of how happy it makes the children (feel). The kids just love the train to death. And it makes me happy making them happy."

Student-started business prospers in second year

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

In a recession, business success stories are rare, particularly for first-year companies. But for Elon alumnus R.J. Yozwiak and Ian Baltutis, business is on the rise.

After creating their own startup company, The Vibration Solution, LLC, as a project for an entrepreneurship program their senior year at Elon, Yozwiak and Baltutis have officially completed their first year in business and now run a completely debt-free company.

"We are so thankful for this year," Yozwiak said. "Many companies fail in their first year, but our sales have just continued to go up, and (Baltutis) and I have reinvested everything earned into the company. We haven't taken a penny out."

The pair is currently selling its product, Silent Feet, small rubber devices that reduce appliance vibrations, through online vendors only, including Amazon, but they hope to start selling to stores in the upcoming year.

"We have been reaching out to a lot of different vendors like Home Depot, Lowes and Best Buy since our main goal

right now is to get Silent Feet inside retail stores," Yozwiak said.

Outside of seeking a retail store for its product, The Vibration Solution had a busy first year. Since April 2008, sales have gone up 200 percent and the company launched a new Web site, a new logo and completely new packaging.

"We basically rebranded the whole product," Yozwiak said.

Though Yozwiak said he learned many things throughout the year, one of the biggest surprises was the customer base. He assumed it would be mostly female purchasers, while in truth it has been split

almost evenly between male and female buyers, with men being slightly higher.

California and Canada have also been two of the biggest regions purchasing Silent Feet.

In addition to running The Vibration Solution, both owners also hold down full-time jobs, which leave them very little spare time.

"It has been very tough to balance my time, but it has taught me a lot about time management," Yozwiak said. "I work for a business development firm in Chicago, which is more like an eight to seven job, so I am definitely burning the candle at both ends."

Yozwiak acknowledged how much his time at Elon had prepared him for what awaited him in the "real world." He said without working with the Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, he and Baltutis wouldn't be where they are today.

It gave them the hands-on experience they needed to be able to run a successful company, and it also encouraged them to start the company in the first place, he said.

Yozwiak said business professors Barth Strempek and Norris Gunby were invaluable to him during his years at Elon.

"Running a company has been the best learning experience I have ever had," Yozwiak said. "You can read about it all you want, but you will never truly understand until you experience it yourself," Yozwiak said.



THE PRODUCT: SILENT FEET

The product reduces noise and vibrations caused by washing machines and dryers that disturb the living environment.

Thanks to the patented materials used in Silent Feet, the vibrations are actually absorbed away so users can live more comfortably.

Vibrations can be reduced up to 94.7 percent by using Silent Feet.

For more information, visit www.vibrationsolution.com.

Leaving the party early

Students opt to graduate in three years

Krista Montes De Oca
Reporter

For some, it's everything. For others, it's too expensive and the job is more important. Four years of college can seem overrated these days. The economy is bad, schooling is expensive and for some, the college experience just isn't worth the money.

"I didn't know I was going to do it, it just kind of happened," said Kevin Kline, a student who finished school in three-and-a-half years.

Kline is just one of the students at Elon who has given himself the opportunity to graduate in less than four years.

Not everyone is all about the party. Academics and getting a degree are most important to many students, but some get the best of both worlds.

"I stayed at Elon for my last semester since I was paying rent still anyways," said Rachel Scott, a current senior who finished a semester early. "So I'm basically a college student with no classes, which means I don't feel like I'm missing out at all."

Staying in a college town after graduation can ease the transition, too. Kline enjoys living near Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

"It was a good transition into real life with other college students by living near a college," he said.

But Mark Albertson, registrar and assistant to the provost said it is not a trend.

"At least we haven't noticed it," he said.

Albertson said he has not seen an increase in students graduating early since he began at Elon in 1973, only lighter spring semester loads.

Trend or plan?

"I never planned on graduating early," standard four-year senior Jess Linderman said. "I wanted to enjoy my time here and have fun."

She's in the majority, but for others, graduating early was the plan.

"The economy didn't really influence my decision, because I've been planning to finish early basically since I started college," Scott said.

Some students set their plan before they come to college. They organize their schedules so they can have more time in their senior years to search for jobs, apply for graduate schools and focus on their senior seminars.

"The trend for students who come to Elon is to attend a Winter Term class, summer sessions and take a decent course load the first three years," Albertson said. "So senior year they can take a lighter load, especially spring semester."

There are typically 75 students who finish after their fall semester and 35 after Winter Term, according to the registrar's records.

"Thirty-one years ago there were a number of students who were on the four-and-a-half to five-year plan, and now there are very, very few students who are on that track," Albertson said.

Students usually take longer to graduate if they have changed majors late, taken up a second major or delayed school for health reasons.

Economy taking a toll

Some students take it upon themselves to finish early, or at least give themselves that opportunity, while others are affected by the economy and rise of tuition costs.

"There has been a steady increase in tuition at Elon and that wasn't necessarily in my father's plan," Kline said. "So when I had the option of graduating a semester early, I chose that."

Junior Andrea Medinaceli is considering graduating early. Although the economy does influence her decision, it is not the sole factor.

"I'm doing it by choice and (for) the opportunity to job hunt before others," Medinaceli said. "To be honest, I'm not 100 percent certain, but I can if I want."

"The trend is to attend a Winter Term class, summer sessions and take a decent course-load the first three years, so senior year they can take a lighter load, especially spring semester.

- Mark Albertson
REGISTRAR

Words of Wisdom

A 2004 report by Education Trust, an independent, nonprofit organization, found only 37 percent of students actually get their degree in four years. Twenty-six percent get their degree in five or six years, and the remaining 37 percent don't get their degree at all.

Many of the top tier schools have more than 80 percent of their students receiving their degrees in four years.

"Elon students should be able to graduate in four years," Albertson said. "They should be able to do three years with a reduced fourth year, with Winter Term, summer sessions and well-scheduled course loads."

At first, Kline questioned whether he should suggest it to others, but he said "no" after giving it some thought.

"Honestly, I would recommend against it," he said. "It worked out in the end, plus I had an easy transition into this new life. I didn't have that support and company knowing everyone was going through this with me. I did it on my own. I left by myself."

But it can be good to have the option, Medinaceli said.

"Put yourself in a position to graduate early if you wish to because it helps alleviate stress and also gives you choices," he said.

Though it is not the norm it is ultimately up to each student and his or her family.

"You've been cut out from a place that's been your home for so long," Kline said.

FOOD REVIEW

★★★★★

Sticking with Stamey's

Morgan Little
Opinions Editor

LEARN MORE. SEE MORE.
www.elon.edu/pendulum

Chip Stamey, grandson of the legendary C. Warner Stamey, is attributed with the saying, "barbecue is a noun, not a verb."

Like many other flawless statements, it's one that seems to have taken a life of its own, much like the reputation of Greensboro's Stamey's. It's considered to be the grandfather of the region's barbecue, first coming into existence in 1938.

Warner, whose recipes were tested on the road for years prior to his start in restaurant ownership, bought Swicegood's Barbecue and turned it into the mammoth of the barbecue world it is today. It's even said that Warner introduced hushpuppies to the Lexington scene.

Stamey's uses the same recipe today, and it's hard to say the delicious wads of dough started off on the wrong foot.

It's important to realize the priority at Stamey's is not the sauce. As with any barbecue restaurant, the ingredients are carefully guarded and known only to three people. But it's a harsh concoction, ill-suited for the aforementioned hushpuppies, and will elicit a pinched face if tasted on its own merits.

That's where the pork comes in. It's carefully smoked in a facility beside their restaurant at 2206 High Point Road with massive piles of lumber peeking above the roof of what would otherwise be a nondescript building, aside from the smoke ebbing out of its chimneys.

To describe it as smoky would be an understatement, it's as if the Marlboro Man and Bea Arthur married and then raised a pork shoulder to its cancerous, wheezing maturation. Couple that with the manner in which it's chopped, which must be akin to a lumberjack haphazardly swinging an axe at a hunk of meat, and Stamey's is left with a pork barbecue plate inhabited by rough, ragged meat that would impress even Charles Bronson with its ruggedness.

And yet it works beautifully. The coarse disposition of the pork may not be perfect on its own, but as with any barbecue dish, it's brought to life with the addition of the sauce. The harsh, heavily vinegar-based sauce leaps at the pork and eases its rough edges, while the thick pork absorbs much of the sauce's own potency, leaving the customer with the best of both worlds.

If anything, Stamey's barbecue best represents the ying and yang relationship between barbecue pork and barbecue sauce.

Though not as initially appealing as Hursey's style, there's no doubt that Stamey's taste is one that matures and improves with subsequent tastes. There's depth to the barbecue, and it's endearingly proud of its own unique flavor.

It also must be mentioned that the coleslaw doesn't use mayonnaise, an immense improvement. Instead, it's soaked in a variation of the barbecue sauce, a combination that sounds bizarre at first but works perfectly.

Add in some hushpuppies that have a degree of weight and heft that gives them far more substance and ultimately, a more fulfilling taste. And then bring in a sweet tea that, while boisterously sugary, splendidly counteracts the harshness of the barbecue.

Look at the tab after that and you'll find your wallet to be only \$6.10 lighter, assuming everything was regularly-sized and the famous homemade cobbler was successfully and regrettably avoided.

Hot dogs, horses and face paint

Kopper Top Life Learning Center celebrates Spring on the Farm

Photos and story by David Wells
Photo Editor

The rain held off Saturday as an overcast day turned out to be the perfect condition for Kopper Top Life Learning Center's fundraising event.

Kopper Top is a nonprofit organization tucked away on a 33-acre farm in Liberty, N.C., and provides therapeutic horseback riding and recreational and animal-assisted therapy for people with and without disabilities. It is also a place where the community can escape from everyday life and enjoy the company of dozens

of animals.

Kopper Top held its 10th annual Celebrate Spring on the Farm fundraiser and open house with a variety of games, a silent auction, horseback rides, facepainting, food and other fun activities.

"We were very pleased with how the fundraiser went off. The weather really came together, the whole thing really," said senior Whitney Shafer, a regular volunteer at Kopper Top. Just over 300 people were in attendance and Kopper Top estimates they raised more than \$5000.



Kids participated in horse races with horse-like toys, running down a field to the finish line.



Donations were accepted for hot dogs, chicken-and-dumplings and ice cream.



Some animals were walked around the farm on leashes for people to pet.



Five-dollar horse rides were a favorite as participants lined up to be led around a course on one of Kopper Top's many horses.



Kopper Top sold its own logo T-shirts in a variety of designs and colors.



Kids walked around with butterflies, hearts and other designs painted on their faces.



Cups of feed were available for community members to purchase and give to the large variety of animals, including goats.



Community members took a hay ride around parts of Kopper Top's 33-acre farm.

Futrell to return to Carnegie Hall in June 2010

Elon music professor to conduct high school and college choirs next summer

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

Most musicians spend a lifetime dreaming of performing in front of an audience at Carnegie Hall. The house lights go out, the spotlight hits and the concert hall goes silent. They have practiced taking those steps onto the stage and they can hear the ringing applause of the audience at the end of the show.

For Elon professor of associate music Stephen Futrell, all of these dreams will be coming true — again.

On June 28, 2010, Futrell will conduct “Schubert Mass in G” at New York’s Carnegie Hall.

The concert will be Futrell’s second appearance at Carnegie Hall, and this time he hopes to bring Elon students along with him.



Stephen Futrell
Elon associate
professor of music

“I am hoping to have a contingency of students from Chorale and Camerata who decide to come with us,” Futrell said. “It won’t be required of course, but I would love to have them there to experience it with me.”

Futrell will conduct high school and college choirs and perhaps even community choirs, totaling more than 150 singers. The group will have a series of rehearsals together,

culminating in the big show on stage at Carnegie Hall next summer.

“Just like any other concert I prepare for, I will do some score study, learn the music and learn the background of the piece,” Futrell said. “Then I will develop a rehearsal strategy. Since I have a limited amount of time I will have to have a plan in mind of what to start with, how to proceed and how to get everybody together on the same page. And obviously I will practice conducting.”

The concert will be organized by MidAmerica Productions and will include a three or four day festival of music, a tour of New York City and an evening cruise to view the New York skyline and Statue of Liberty. Futrell’s mentor gave the company his name, and other colleagues recommended him as well.

After reviewing his references and resume, he received a call telling him he had been chosen to conduct a number in the concert. He was asked to choose three to five pieces, each under 40 minutes, which he would be interested in conducting.

“Futrell is one of the most knowledgeable and caring choral directors I have ever worked with, and I have learned so much from my two semesters working with him in élan and Camerata,” freshman Maggie Slack said. “He is more than deserving of this opportunity and I, and the other members of his choirs, are honored that he has invited us to experience this accomplishment. I will definitely be going.”

“

Futrell is one of the most knowledgeable and caring choral directors I have ever worked with, and I have learned so much from my two semesters working with him in élan and Camerata.

- Maggie Slack
ELON FRESHMAN

”

In congruence with Futrell’s giving nature as a professor, he is excited about this opportunity for reasons beyond his own personal gratification. He said he is thrilled to be providing an occasion for Elon students to sing on one of the most renowned concert stages in the world that has been graced with the presence of famous conductors such as Leonard Bernstein.

Futrell also said he believes it will be a chance for Elon’s music department to gain even more recognition than it has already received.

“This will show people that Elon is a multifaceted liberal arts institution with many opportunities to participate in the arts,” Futrell said. “It shows the bigger picture of Elon.”

MOVIE REVIEW

‘Wolverine’ fails to meet audience expectations

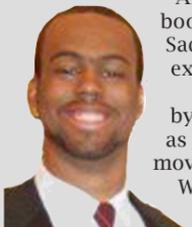
Film outshined by year’s other action movies



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

HE SAID:

★★★★☆



Adam Constantine
Film Critic

Anytime you try and bring a famous comic book character to life, there are always risks. Sadly, “Wolverine” failed to live up to the expectations that were put before it.

The actual character of Wolverine, played by Hugh Jackman, was very well done as far as development goes. The beginning of the movie was also very well done as it showed Wolverine and Sabretooth (Liev Schreiber) fighting side by side in most of the major wars fought by the United States.

But the rest of the movie fails to live up to the hype.

While the main focus of the movie was the character of Wolverine, there

was a lot of buzz around the character of Gambit (Taylor Kitsch), who puzzlingly was not part of the original “X-Men” trilogy. The buildup of Gambit’s role was almost a teaser as the character only appeared maybe three separate times. Kitsch did an excellent job, but there was not much screen time for the character, which was disappointing to true X-Men fans.

Gambit was a character that could have been incorporated much more into the script, even though the focus was on Wolverine. He threw 10 cards. Come on, 10? He could have at least thrown a deck.

Sabretooth was a simple-minded character, who seems to only have killing on the brain. Wade Wilson — Deadpool in the comics — is played by Ryan Reynolds, and in the beginning personifies the exact personality of the comic book hero.

But later in the movie there is a lot of negative conversation about his character, as it does not personify the comic book character. Nor does the movie give enough of a background for the character to fully make sense.

The beginning of the movie provided great character performances by The Blob (Kevin Durand), Agent Zero (Daniel Henney), John Wraith (Will.i.Am) and Bolt (Dominic Monaghan). Combined with Wolverine, Sabretooth and Wilson, the group made a formidable team under William Stryker’s (Danny Huston) command. Once this group of mutants is disbanded, the movie plot tends to fray and unravel.

The special effects proved to be some of the best and some of the worst parts in the movie. Since most of the characters are mutants, almost all have some type of special effects that have to be incorporated with their power. For the really intense scenes they were quite destructive, engaging and vibrant to say the least.

But there are times when Wolverine’s claws looked terrible. The technological community has made enough advances in CGI to make the claws look less like they are out of a Disney cartoon.

Without the hype this would have been a decent movie. It is not a bad movie, but there were a lot of expectations that were destined to disappoint people if not done properly, and sadly this was not.

SHE SAID:

★★★★☆



Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

This time last summer, audiences were treated to a high-quality action flick with “Iron Man,” a trend that continued into July with the release of “The Dark Knight.” But unfortunately, “X-Men Origins: Wolverine” doesn’t meet the standards of last summer.

The year’s first summer blockbuster is a spin-off of the popular “X-Men” franchise that focuses on the backstory of Logan, aka Wolverine (Hugh Jackman, reprising his role from the original trilogy). Gifted with healing powers and retractable bones in his hands that extend into claws, Wolverine’s mutation causes him to age very slowly. He and his brother, Victor Creed, aka Sabretooth (Liev Schreiber), have fought in every war since the Civil War.

After fighting in Vietnam, Wolverine and Sabretooth are discovered by William Stryker (Danny Huston), who tells them he wants them to be part of a special team. This group includes other mutants such as Chris Bradley aka Bolt (Dominic Monaghan), who can control electricity, John Wraith (Will.i.Am) of the Black Eyed Peas, who can teleport and Wade Wilson, aka Deadpool (Ryan Reynolds), a wisecracking swordsman.

When Wolverine realizes Stryker is more concerned with training his team of mutants to kill people rather than help people, he leaves and ultimately finds love with Kayla Silverfox (Lynn Collins). But his happy new life comes to an abrupt end when Sabretooth returns and kills Kayla.

Focused only on revenge, Wolverine swears to take down Sabretooth. Stryker promises to make Wolverine indestructible by encasing his skeleton in a metal called adamantium. But Wolverine soon discovers Stryker hasn’t been honest about his plans for him, and he becomes involved in something much

bigger than the revenge he sought.

“Wolverine” is entertaining enough, but it’s just a disappointment compared to “X2: X-Men United,” regarded by many as the best film in the original trilogy. The action sequences in “Wolverine” are very exciting, particularly a memorable scene in which Wolverine flies through the air toward a helicopter. But while the action in “X2” is just as intense, that film also manages to combine it with an intriguing story and well-developed characters.

As a fan of the “X-Men” films who has never read the comics, it was interesting to get more of Wolverine’s backstory, but much of the plot was predictable and not particularly cohesive. A script with dialogue so wooden it makes a proven thespian like Schreiber seem like a mediocre actor has to be flawed.

Overall, the performances are solid considering the material the actors are given to work with. Jackman, obviously comfortable as Wolverine after four films, is still as charismatic and forceful in his performance as ever. Huston, who has proven he can play the antagonist before in films like “30 Days of Night” and “The Constant Gardener,” is a fantastic loathsome villain.

But one of “Wolverine’s” strongest points is its supporting cast, which is substantially underused. The film has a wealth of interesting characters that are never fully developed. The best parts of the movie are Reynolds as Deadpool and Taylor Kitsch as Gambit, both of whom have a criminally small amount of screen time and perhaps deserve to be the central focus of their own films.

The filmmakers likely felt that as a solo project, Wolverine should have the majority of the screen time to himself, but it just doesn’t work without fully developed characters for Jackman to play off of. What makes the original “X-Men” films so enjoyable is their ensemble nature, their blend of different personalities and powers.

The film may have intense action and a strong cast, but without the ensemble aspect of the previous films, not even Wolverine can save this spinoff from falling a little flat.

Freshman actor takes on role of Romeo in Raleigh

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

For most actors, playing the role of Romeo in Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" is the role of a lifetime — and Elon freshman Kyle Perren will be making his Romeo debut alongside Hollywood starlet Evan Rachel Wood.

Perren will be performing the famous role at Theatre In The Park in Raleigh from May 15-17 under the direction of Ira David Wood IV, who is also Evan's brother. The show will be a benefit performance as a way for Evan and her brother to give back to the theater where they both started their careers. According to a press release issued April 13, all shows will be performed to sold-out crowds.

Wood joined the cast for rehearsals

Saturday, a moment Perren had been eagerly anticipating.

"I am very excited about acting with Evan," Perren said. "I think it will be a great experience that will make my performance better. She is a fierce actress and we will play off each other very well."

But balancing school work and acting has left Perren with little social life.

"I haven't even had time to stop and think about everything yet," Perren said. "I don't think it's really hit me that I am playing Romeo. I'm kind of a recluse now, and I think my suitemates are wondering what's happened to me."

This is not Perren's first experience working with Theatre In The Park, as he previously acted in "The Man from Stratford." He has had many other major roles that have

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I haven't even had time to stop and think about everything yet. I don't think it's really hit me that I am playing Romeo. I'm kind of a recluse now and I think my suitemates are wondering what's happened to me.

- Kyle Perren
FRESHMAN,
"ROMEO AND JULIET" STAR

"

helped prepare him for this experience as well, including Judas in "Jesus Christ Superstar" and Joseph in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

"Judas was my favorite role to play ever," Perren said. "I think his perspective often gets lost, and Jesus Christ Superstar is just such an interesting take on the story."

Though he does not consider himself a method actor, Perren did say that in order to get into a role he will pretend he is the person he is playing.

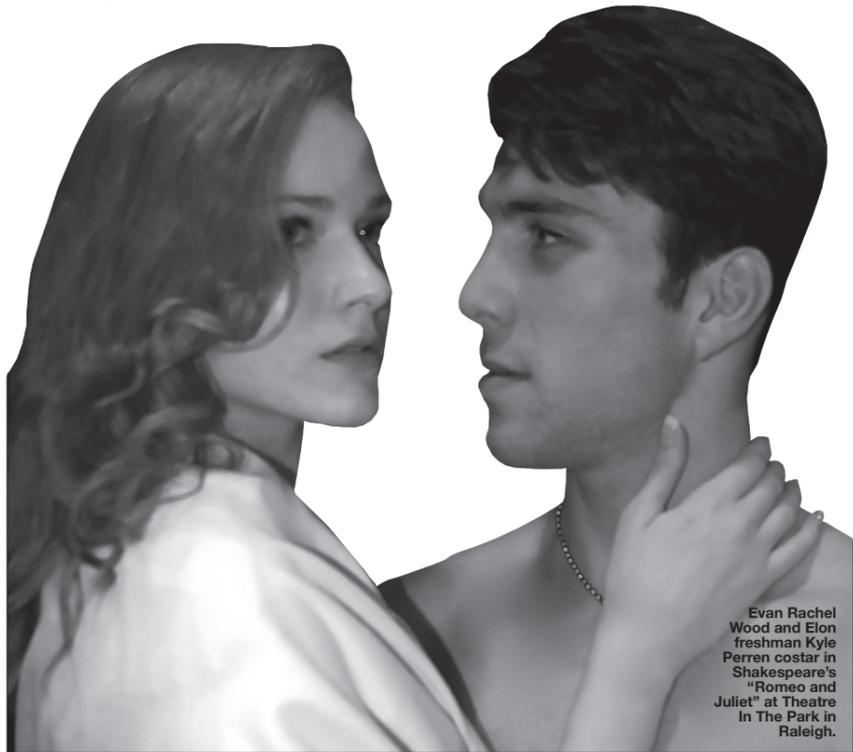
"I try and think like they would be thinking because there is a certain part of a character you have to feel," Perren said.

Perren is dedicated enough to his trade that he has even changed his physical appearance to play a character. His hair is what changes most often, though he has also changed his physique for certain characters, such as when he played Smee from "Peter Pan" and had to grow long hair, a beard and gain a bit of a gut.

"I've done it all," Perren added.

Since he joined the production later than the rest of the cast, Perren said he does have a lot of pressure on him from the director and other performers, but he admits the biggest pressure is from himself.

"This is the hardest role I've ever had to prepare for because I want this to be the best thing I have ever done," Perren said. "Everyone has been so supportive of me and wants me to do well. That is definitely the best feeling."



Evan Rachel Wood and Elon freshman Kyle Perren costar in Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" at Theatre In The Park in Raleigh.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

A&E IN BRIEF

Alamance County Spring Fair: May 5-May 10

In addition to rides, games and food, every day throughout the week the fair will host special events.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children or one rate of \$20 for admission and the fee to all the rides. It begins at 5 p.m. every night and will be held at the Alamance County Fairgrounds.

"Vibe:" May 7-9

This dance show features the Elon Dance Company performing "Breath of Fire" by acclaimed choreographer Laura Dean. New numbers from the Elon dance faculty will also be shown.

Admission is \$12 or free with Elon ID. Performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, with two shows at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday in McCrory Theatre.

"I.D.:" May 9

At 5 p.m. in Yeager Recital Hall, there will be a preview of "I.D.," a new musical created by senior Daniel Gibson and junior Christopher Staskel.

The performance will showcase three numbers.

Elon Wind Ensemble "100-year Anniversary Celebration:" May 12

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in McCrory Theatre and is part of the Elon band program's centennial celebration, which will conclude at Homecoming 2009 in the fall.

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HOW TO PLAY

Fill in the above grid using the following rules:

- every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
- every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

ANSWERS

5	7	2	8	6	9	3	1	4
6	1	8	3	4	5	7	6	2
3	9	4	1	7	2	5	8	6
7	4	6	9	1	8	2	3	5
1	2	9	5	3	4	6	7	8
8	3	5	7	2	6	4	9	1
2	8	7	6	5	1	9	4	3
4	9	3	2	8	7	1	5	6
9	5	1	4	6	3	8	2	7

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

★★★★★

'Edges' combines Elon's best in vocal, drama, musical talent

Carolyn VanBroklyn
Reviewer

During CELEBRATE! week, Elon students involved in the New Musical Project performed "Edges" by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul.

"Edges" is a song cycle that "confronts the trials and tribulations of moving into adulthood and examines the search for love, commitment and meaning," according to Pasek's and Paul's Web site.

"We are all representing the concept of growing up, relationships and worries after college graduation through different songs," junior cast member Alexa Wildish said.

Every number in the performance possessed an intense quality that could be felt by the audience. Each song showed the cast members' inside struggles, whether it was entering or leaving a relationship, the reality of parenthood or growing into an adult.

The cast members brought stunning voices and individual interpretations of the songs to the performance.

"Edges" has been produced before, but director Lynne Formato arranged all the previous versions into one entirely new version.

In addition, Pasek and Paul visited the class for a few days, and each student got to spend one-on-one time with them, crafting their response to the song and making it their own. As a result, the cast members brought their passion to each performance, a passion easily felt by everyone in attendance.

Some memorable moments included



ANDREW DODD | Staff Photographer

As part of CELEBRATE! week, Elon student performers put on a show wrapping their various talents all into one.

"In Short," sung by sophomore Maddie Franke. The song details the ending of a relationship, where the girl is incredibly angry with her ex and describes all the bad things she wished would befall him. Franke added her own twist to it, mentioning she hoped her ex caught swine flu.

Several other songs addressed relationships, including "I Hmmm You," about two young people in a relationship trying to decide if it's appropriate to say "I love you," or the contrasting "I've gotta run," which is about being in relationships but eventually feeling the need to get out.

"Caitlin and Haley," was a touching song about two sisters at different ages seeing each other grow apart, as the older one becomes interested in boys and makeup and finds the younger sister annoying. Both wish things could just be the way they used to be.

Other songs that people could relate to were "Be My Friend," a song about Facebook. With lyrics like "If (your picture's) sexy I might just give you a poke," and "I'll be looking at you when you don't even know," the song "touched on an aspect that is unique to our generation," sophomore Ross Denyer said. "It's a parody of the truth, but it's funny because it is true."

Overall, each of the individual talents had his or her chance to shine and show the audience gathered in the Black Box Theatre their strengths. The different songs were a good mix of serious and lighthearted, and all of them could be personally relevant in some way.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Gooch, Nemeć earn NCAA bids

Elon senior Damon Gooch earned the Southern Conference's automatic qualifying bid to compete at the NCAA tennis tournament. Gooch earned the spot as the conference's highest-ranked player.

Gooch and his doubles partner, sophomore Philip Nemeć claimed the SoCon's automatic spot as the highest-rated doubles team in the league.

Both of these are the first-ever appearances for Elon in the NCAA's individual and doubles tournaments.

The singles and doubles competition will be held May 20-25 at the George P. Mitchell Tennis Center in College Station, Texas.

Tarleton recognized by College Baseball Foundation

Elon senior first baseman and catcher Dallas Tarleton was selected as a member of last week's National All-Star Lineup sponsored by the College Baseball Foundation and Diamond Sports.

He is the second Elon player to earn this national honor. Teammate, senior Bennett Davis, was also recognized.

UNC G athletic director resigns

University of North Carolina at Greensboro Athletic Director Nelson E. Bobb announced his resignation Monday. His last day will be June 30.

Bobb has been in his position for 26 years at the university and he has the longest tenure as an athletic director in the Southern Conference.

Elon Sports This Week

WEDNESDAY 5/6

Softball (SoCon tournament @ Chattanooga, Tenn.) vs. No. 8 Western Carolina - 10 a.m.

FRIDAY 5/8

Baseball @ Western Carolina - 3 p.m.

SATURDAY 5/9

Baseball @ Western Carolina - 6 p.m.

SUNDAY 5/10

Baseball @ Western Carolina - 2 p.m.

TUESDAY 5/12

Baseball vs. High Point - 1 p.m.

ATHLETIC RESULTS

April 29-May 4

BASEBALL

April 30

Elon 10

North Carolina A&T 7

May 1

Elon 12

Wofford 11

May 2

Elon 21

Wofford 2

May 3

Elon 23

Wofford 7

SOFTBALL

April 29

Elon 5

Radford 6

May 2

Elon 1

UNC Greensboro 7

Elon 3

UNC Greensboro 4

May 3

Elon 3

UNC Greensboro 0

Campus Rec Classic proves a swinging success

Erik Kendall
Reporter

The fourth annual Campus Recreation Classic took place Friday on the South Campus driving range and putting green, allowing Elon students to show off their driving, chipping and putting skills.

There were plenty of whiffs, shanks and boomerang balls delivered from a variety of competitors, but with a number of skilled players in the field, the level of competition was high.

The field was broken down into teams of two that participated in three different stations.

The first was the driving competition, where players tried to hit a golf ball as far as possible while still keeping it within a particular boundary.

Second was a chipping station that resembled a bullseye with point totals that decreased the closer to the flag the ball came to rest.

Third was a series of putts set up on the putting green.

Some competitors found the stations more difficult than others, and after all had completed the carousel of stops, four groups were tied at the top of the leader board with a final score of six.

The winner was determined by a four-way playoff putting contest. It didn't take long for the winner to be announced as one group found the first playoff hole in one shot.

A clutch putt delivered by the grouping of juniors James Bailey and Alex Stanford gave them the championship.

But it was the battle for second place that took a bit longer to settle.

Four more putting holes had to be played by the remaining three teams until junior Justin Sposato and senior Chad Zimmerman claimed runner-up honors.

The classic was considered a success not only by its participants, but also by its organizers.

Chris Myers, assistant director of Campus Recreation, said the event was "a success that was on time and well worked by the staff."

Myers was also a bit critical of the timing of the tournament that was planned months ago.

"This weekend, being the same weekend as the frat banquets, hurt us, and in the future we will try to schedule around that," Myers said.



The fourth annual Campus Recreation Classic took place Friday afternoon. There were three parts to the contest: driving, chipping and putting. Here, golfers participate in the driving competition.



Senior Chad Zimmermann looks at his putt during the competition.



Senior Ryan Guthy drives during the golf competition on Friday.

No matter what day the event will be played on next year, the Campus Recreation Classic will continue to be held in the future.

But don't expect it to be exactly the same with the new Holland House being

constructed right next to the putting green.

This will cause the event to move around a bit and implement a probable division of the field to have both a male and female competition.

Sophomores run Nashville marathon

Megan Wanner
Reporter

The man in the booth at the start of the marathon calls out "Go" to signal the start of the 13th corral of runners at the 10th Annual Country Music Marathon April 15 in Nashville, Tenn.

Out of the 32,000 people running the 26.2 miles in the marathon, two were Elon sophomores Courtney Corr and Taylor Hughes. The marathon included 48 bands playing a variety of songs ranging from country music to classic oldies.

Around mile 20, Hughes started to experience cramping in his calves.

"I had to stop to walk, then every time I tried to run again I could only go for about a minute before almost collapsing," Hughes said. "I ended up having to walk the last few miles."

Corr stopped running to walk with Hughes for four miles before Hughes insisted she run the last 2.2 miles to the finish line, finishing in 4:41:44.

Hughes finished about 15 minutes later with a time of 4:58:27.

The two sophomores were among 4,136 finishers in the race, 2,335 male and 1,801 female.

Corr and Hughes traveled approximately 500 miles to run 26.2 miles Saturday morning in the 85-degree Nashville heat.

Corr's father also ran alongside Corr and Hughes while her mother and a friend of the family ran and walked the 13.1 miles to constitute a



More than 30,000 runners participated in the 10th Annual Country Music Marathon April 15 in Nashville, Tenn. Two Elon sophomores participated in the 26.2 mile race.

half marathon.

"We wanted to run the full marathon, but with her knee problems and my foot problems we just couldn't," said

Candy Corr, Courtney's mother.

"Instead we had a good time drinking all the water and eating all the food offered along the way."

Lacrosse finishes second

Club team places second in division, comes up short for nationals

Justine Schulerud
Reporter

This season, the Elon men's club lacrosse team finished second at the Southeastern Lacrosse Conference Division II Tournament in Georgia.

Despite their second-place finish many of the players still received All-Tournament awards.

The team finished first in the SCLC North Division, giving Elon the No. 2 seed in the SCLC Tournament.

After its first-round by, the team advanced to the semi-finals, where it played No. 3 Coastal Carolina University. The Phoenix won the game 16-4 and it propelled the team into the finals.

The team played No. 1 seeded Emory University in the championship game. The players stayed alive throughout overtime but could not hold off Emory, eventually losing 7-6.

In the past four years of the SCLC tournament, Elon has made it to the championship game. Last year, the team finished first in the SCLC tournament, giving it an automatic bid to the national tournament in Dallas, Texas.

Four of Elon's players were awarded All-Tournament honors for their strong performances. Senior captain Dennis Moore was named All-Tournament goalie.

Junior Riley Bossall and senior Pat Brooks were both named All-Tournament attackmen. Freshman Colin Madden concluded the team's awards, being named All-Tournament midfielder.

Elon finished its regular season with a record of 13-0. Its perfect record ranks the Phoenix No. 7 on the Prodigy Poll, which is viewed as one of the best polls for club lacrosse.

The team is also ranked No. 2 on the Lax Power poll and



Junior attackman Jeff Criswell, right, shoots against Southeastern University earlier this season. The club lacrosse team finished second at the SCLC Division II tournament in Georgia. PHOTO SUBMITTED

No. 4 on the NCLA poll.

"This is the highest that we have ever been ranked," Moore said. "I think that we have a stronger team this year than ever."

Many of the team members have been announced as All-Conference players.

Moore was awarded conference defensive player MVP and All-Conference goalie. Brooks was named to the first all-conference team for attackman and junior Zach Stone was given honorable mention for midfielder.

This year's national tournament will be taking

place in mid May in Denver.

The Elon Phoenix learned on Monday they will not be able to play in the national tournament.

The team had to wait for some of the other league tournaments to be played before it could find out if it would receive an at-large bid.

"I think we are still the best team in the SCLC," Moore said. "So if we were given the chance to go to Denver, I think you could really see us in the championship game."



Sophomore defender Mike James, right, fends off a Southeastern University player. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Rugby clinches state championship

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

Scrum. Rucks. Rolling mauls. And to top it all off, try spending some quality time in the sin bin. For a group of men at Elon this is all part of their daily lives as members of Elon's club rugby team.

After wrapping up another successful season as state champions, the rugby club has much to celebrate.

The men competed in six games during their official spring season, a smaller number of games than usual because of a large amount of rain cancellations. They finished the season with a 5-1 record, and entered the regional tournaments undefeated.

"The tournament was on our spring break so we were missing about half the team, and we still only lost by three points," said junior Dan Miller, who will be taking over as co-captain next season alongside junior Chris Adams.

The highlight of the season came when Elon played Guilford on March 18 to retain its state championship title.

This gives Elon the distinction of being the best

Division III rugby team in North Carolina. Elon soundly defended its title, winning 29-7.

"It felt great crushing Guilford in that game," Adams said. "There had been a lot of Internet smack talk prior to the game, and it was good to shut them up."

In the fall, which acts as the club's unofficial "warm-up" season, the men competed in the 9th annual Rucktoberfest tournament at Appalachian State on October 11-12. Ten collegiate men's teams from the area came and competed for two days of matches.

Elon went 4-for-5 in the tournament, losing only to Appalachian State, who is a division above Elon, to finish second in the tournament. Elon crushed three of its opponents, UNC Charlotte, Western Carolina University and Coastal Carolina University, with scores of 35-7, 47-5 and 43-5 respectively.

The first time Elon played Appalachian State it came out on top, winning a close game 10-7. But the team lost in the final game, 17-3.

The men's rugby club is one of the club sports that requires more of a time commitment, holding practices on Mondays,



Senior Chris Adams runs past a Duke defender. Adams helped lead the team to become state champions with a 29-7 victory for the 2009 season. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Wednesdays and Fridays for two hours a day. As a result, the players have developed close bonds with each other.

"We are a very social team and do a lot of activities outside of games together," Miller said. "Plus, if you aren't at practice you are going to get stomped."

Beyond the 25 men actively

participating in the rugby club, the team has also developed a large fan base on campus, attracting more than 400 fans at last year's state championship match against Duke University and around 300 at this year's match against Guilford.

"It is just an awesome game to watch because it is non-

stop," senior and current co-captain Tanner Larose said. "We don't wear pads or helmets and it is a rough sport. People like watching that."

Miller can testify to the violence involved in the sport as he spent a majority of the season injured after receiving a blow to the head during the first game of the season that required nine staples.

Off the field, the men gave back to the community by pairing up with the North Carolina Spinal Cord Injury association to host two of North Carolina's premiere Quad Rugby teams April 18.

They sold Elon Rugby Murderball/NCSCIA tickets for \$5 to benefit the NCSCIA.

All was done in honor of a former teammate and Elon alumnus Lee Myrnhardt, who was paralyzed his senior year after a fight at an off-campus party.

The rugby team recently added six freshmen this year who were all key players on the team.

"One advantage we have is that we do not have a weakness in any position, and everyone knows what they are doing out there," senior and current co-captain Michael Boisvert said.

60 years and still going strong

How the Elon baseball team has maintained success for more than 60 years

Sam Calvert
Assistant Sports Editor

Over the years, Elon has enjoyed a rich tradition in intercollegiate athletics. Several sports have had successful seasons, but none has sustained the long-term success of the Elon baseball program. Since World War II, the baseball team has posted a record of 1498-905-4 and a .622 winning percentage. This two-part series will delve into the factors that have contributed to a successful program. Part one looks at the coaches behind Elon baseball.

From WWII to today

After World War II, Elon athletics was picking up again as members of the military returned to school. Many of the athletic positions changed as teams attempted to pick up where they had left off before the war.

J.L. "Jet" Pierce, formally the director of intramurals, was named the new head baseball coach in 1946.

He had joined the Navy and was gone during the war, but came back ready to coach baseball.

Although Pierce only led the team for one year, he achieved a high winning percentage even though the team was still recovering from losses because of the war. He went 11-5 in his short time at Elon, with a winning percentage of .688.

One season after Pierce left, Jim Mallory took over as head coach of the Fighting Christians.

Mallory coached from 1948 to 1953 and issued a .673 winning percentage (107-52), as well as several runs for North State Conference title — capturing two of them.

"We had a coach in Jim Mallory that I thought then was the absolute best college coach, or coach anywhere that anybody had," said Sherrill Hall, pitcher for Mallory's team from 1952 to 1955. "He was great. He was well known in the collegiate ranks and very knowledgeable. He could certainly coach today and be successful."

When Mallory left for East Carolina University, Graham "Doc" Mathis took over as head coach, but his stay was short lived, as well.

Mathis stayed at Elon for three years, from 1954-1956, and coached what many sportswriters at that time declared the most powerful pitching rotation in the state.

He finished with a 46-19 (.708) record.

"We had five upper-class pitchers," Hall said. "He wasn't going to teach our four professional pitchers very much. He, as I recall, didn't do as much coaching as coach Mallory did. We just went out and played. And won."

After Mathis, Elon had many successful head coaches, but none could match the record of Rick Jones, who went 174-64 (.731) from 1985 to 1989.

During that time, he had three NAIA World Series berths, two of which resulted in top-10 finishes. In 1985, the team finished seventh in the World Series and in 1987, it placed fifth.

"He's a winner," said current head coach Mike Kennedy, who played catcher at Elon under Jones. "He eats, sleeps and breathes baseball. He pushes you to be successful."

Directly after Jones, head coach Mike Hardin arrived, who coached at Elon from 1990-1993.

Hardin had a .696 winning percentage (129-56-1) and had the fifth-most victories of any coach in Elon baseball history.

Since World War II, not a single coach has finished his baseball coaching career at Elon with a losing record.

A new chapter begins

In 1997, Kennedy became the 13th coach since World War II and continues to lead the team. In his 13th season at Elon, Kennedy holds a 428-302-3 record

"I think the fact that you have good players and good teams helps you to recruit more good players to the school. Success breeds success. If you are going through a drought of winning seasons, players might not come there as readily. Tradition and winning teams bring on more winning teams."

- Sherrill Hall
ELON ALUMNUS '55
ELON BASEBALL
TEAM PITCHER

(.584), as of Monday.

Kennedy has had consistent support through his tenure. There are three other men out there with him — associate head coach Greg Starbuck and assistant coaches Nick Brannon and Robbie Huffstetler, as well as many volunteers.

The coaching staff under Kennedy values hard work and enjoys putting in a little extra of it, Starbuck said.

"Our job is to outwork our kids," he said.

This means sometimes the coaches will work late into the night to help the players. Coaches are there for the players whenever they need them, said junior catcher Mike Melillo.

Not only do the coaches work hard, but they expect the players to work just as hard.

"The coaches always push you," junior infielder Chase Austin said. "They never back off. Even if we've had six games in a row and it's our day off, they still expect us to be out there working."

Austin said he believes these expectations influence the way the team plays.

Consistency is key

Kennedy's 13 years are the longest of any baseball coach at the university, and his coaching staff has been there just as long.

He attributes some of the team's successes to this consistency among the coaches from year to year.

"When you are replacing coaches every two to three years, there is no continuity," Kennedy said. "We have been very fortunate to be together for so long."

This is Starbuck's 12th season alongside Kennedy. It is Huffstetler's seventh.

Because the coaches have been together for many years, they are comfortable coaching together, which in turn leads to a smoothly-run program, Kennedy said. Players are more at ease when they see that the coaches work well together.

Starbuck has spent more years with an Elon program than any other associate coach currently on staff, and only two head coaches have been at Elon longer: Kennedy and men's head golf coach Bill Morningstar.

"(Kennedy) and I have a good relationship," Starbuck said about being at Elon for so long. "Elon feels like home, and it's kind of got a grip on me. It's like a family."

Starbuck has put many years of work into the program and wants to stay to see the fruits of his labor, he said.

"(Kennedy) and I are building this program from scratch," Starbuck said. "This team is now breaking out onto the national stage, and I want to be there as it happens."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BELK LIBRARY ARCHIVES
The Elon baseball team is pictured during the 1953 season. The team compiled an overall record of 17-11.

Kennedy breeds success

In the off-season, Kennedy was named to the coaching staff for USA Baseball by a familiar face — Jones.

Jones selected Kennedy to coach under him as the team's pitching coach, an honor Kennedy said he is looking forward to.

"It's exciting to get to coach the best 22 kids in the country," he said. "I've always dreamed of wearing (the USA Baseball) uniform."

This is not the first accolade for the Phoenix baseball coach.

In both 2006 and 2008, Kennedy won the Southern Conference Coach of the Year award.

"I think our success starts with coach Kennedy," Starbuck said. "He does a good job, and I think that trickles down."

One of the things that makes Kennedy so successful is his competitive nature, Austin said.

"(Kennedy's) one of the most competitive people I know," he said.

This nature shines through in the way Kennedy puts together his schedule, placing many top-ranked programs, such as UNC Chapel Hill and Clemson University, on the calendar.

Since taking over the job at Elon, Kennedy has recorded four victories over top-five teams and 18 victories against top-25 teams.

The team has also had 11 out of 12 winning seasons, 10 of which he earned more than 30 wins. The team is currently on pace to complete a 12th winning season this year. The only year Kennedy did not finish with a winning record was the year the team made the switch from Division II to Division I.

Starbuck said the head coach's success is not all because of competitiveness, though. He pinpointed the head coach's steadfastness and enthusiasm.

"I've been with (Kennedy) for 11 years, and I don't remember one day where I walked off the field after practice or a game thinking, 'Coach Kennedy wasn't there today mentally,'" Starbuck said.

Starbuck also said Kennedy always coaches the same way, regardless of the circumstances ahead. He is ready to coach and is involved in every aspect of the game.

He bounces around from one position to another during practice, spending a little bit of time with everyone, Starbuck said.

Although Kennedy has been at Elon for a long time, he has not become too comfortable or complacent with the job. Each day Kennedy said he continues to coach hard and not become satisfied with the success he already has.

"He coaches like he's still a first-year volunteer," Starbuck said. "And when your head coach is as active as he is, you've got to follow suit."

THEN AND NOW

THEN

Just after World War II, Elon was a member of the NAIA and only played in the conference tournament. The team averaged between 20-30 games in a season, but played as few as 16. The baseball field was situated in what is now an intramural field across from the fire station. This was also where the professional Burlington team played.

"A friend once told me, 'Baseball is still played with nine players, and you play nine innings and you play with the bases 90 feet apart.'"

- Sherrill Hall,
ELON ALUMNUS '55
ELON BASEBALL
TEAM PITCHER

NOW

Today, Elon is an NCAA Division I school and has the chance to play in both the conference tournament and the national tournament. This season, the team will play 51 regular season games, and it has a chance to play games in the conference and national tournaments. The Phoenix play in Latham Park, a facility dedicated in honor of former Elon baseball player Walter Latham. It is located near Rhodes Stadium and Rudd Field.

sports	name	years	record	winning percentage	championships
foot-ball	Jerry R. Trolley	'77 to '81	49-11-2	0.79	NAT. '80, '81 DIS. '77, '78, '80, '81
bas-ketball	Bill Miller	'60 to '79	392-224	0.595	CONF. '71
softball	Mary Jackson	'77 to '85	136-97	0.584	AIWA STATE '78 CONF. '80, '81
track & field	Clayton Johnson	'72 to '81	73-11	0.869	NONE
men's soccer	Steve Ballard	'78 to '88	106-69-16	0.555	CONF. '80 '84



Junior outfielder Justin Hilt crosses the plate during Sunday's game. Scouts regularly attend Elon baseball games to evaluate Hilt and other Phoenix players for professional baseball competition.

Scouts travel to Latham Park, stake out players

Conor O'Neill
Reporter

They come to see batting practice. Their presence is felt by everyone in the stands. They wear outdated clothes. Some of them are on a first-name basis with the Phoenix coaches. They even travel to see Elon's rivals play.

Elon's most loyal fans? No, they are actually scouts from the 30 Major League Baseball teams who come to Latham Park to examine the Phoenix players.

This season, it has been a common sight for fans to see as many as 10 scouts sitting behind the backstop. They come to watch visiting players as well as Phoenix players like junior Chase Austin, senior Bennett Davis, senior Cory Harrilchak, junior Justin Hilt, senior Pat Irvine and junior Mike Melillo.

The scouts sit together behind home plate and are hard for even the casual fan to miss. They have fancy radar guns to clock how fast a pitcher throws and they have notepads to record which players impress them and which players are disappointing.

"They'll show up in batting practice wearing bucket hats and Hawaiian shirts, and they just look ridiculous," Harrilchak said.

With an ongoing streak of 79 games in which he has reached base, Harrilchak is one Phoenix the scouts have noticed.

But the Phoenix doesn't let the arrival of a scout affect how it plays.

"No, you're not nervous because you go out there and try to play well every day," Davis said. "I think it gets me more prepared and puts me in the right mindset."

It certainly hasn't affected Davis' season, as he has a batting average of .330 with 13 home runs and 47 runs driven in.

Head coach Mike Kennedy said he

has faith that his players will not be distracted by the men in the bucket hats.

"I don't have to say anything to the players," Kennedy said. "Our concept is that they're going to see you enough that one day isn't going to make or break you, and our players know that."

But there is more to the relationship between the coaches and the scouts who come to see Phoenix players. When scouts see a high school player who is interesting, they let the Phoenix staff know about him.

"(Sophomore Thomas) Girdwood is a perfect example of that," Kennedy said. "A good friend of mine who's a scout with the Braves told us we needed to get down there and see him throw. We did, and he was good, and we signed him."

This season, Girdwood became Elon's all-time saves leader as a sophomore and also set the single season saves record. He has struck out 29 batters in just 19 and two-thirds innings.

Kennedy is in constant contact with the scouts and tells them about Phoenix players who could get a chance to play professional baseball.

"When they hear us talk about guys like Melillo, Davis and Austin, they're going to come see them," Kennedy said. "They trust me and (associate head coach) Greg Starbuck, and it gives our guys some confidence knowing that their coach is fighting for them and they're going to have people watching them."

As for the idea that the Phoenix plays better with scouts in attendance, Kennedy has one or two tricks up his sleeve.

"Me and assistant coach Brannon are going to get our dads to come out here with the hats and radar guns and act like scouts so maybe the team will play better," Kennedy said.

The Fire of the Carolinas is currently searching for new, enthusiastic participants



If you're interested in performing at half-time, marching "8 to 5" and cheering at the top of your lungs, or just want to know what the heck "8 to 5" means, check us out!

Email Tony Sawyer at tsawyer@elon.edu for more information

SOCON RECORDS UPDATE

- Wofford's 76 at bats set a new record, surpassing the 64 by Georgia Southern vs. Clemson in 1996 (18 Innings).
- Elon's 63 at bats are now third on the chart.
- Elon's 17 walks are the fourth-most ever drawn in a game and are the third-most ever issued by a team.
- Wofford's 25 strikeouts are the most ever in a game, two more than Chattanooga against Vanderbilt in 1970.
- Elon's 25 strikeouts pitched are the most since West Virginia fanned 22 against Waynesburg in 1964.
- Elon's five sacrifice bunts are tied for the second-most ever.
- Elon stranded 22 hitters, one more than the league-record of 21, done three times before. Wofford left 17 runners, tied for ninth-most.
- Elon's 18.0 innings pitched tie the record for most innings pitched (GSU vs. Clemson in 1996) while Wofford's 17.2 innings rank second.

NCAA RECORDS UPDATE

- Elon's 25 strikeouts are tied for the fourth-most in NCAA history and are just six shy of the 31 recorded by North Carolina State vs. Akron (March 5, 2009).
- Wofford had 86 plate appearances, tied for fourth-most in NCAA history with Texas (vs. Rice on May 15, 1981, in 20 innings) while Elon had 82 plate appearances, tied for eighth with Seton Hall (vs. Rutgers on May 13, 1998, in 17 innings). The record is 88 by Colorado vs. Nebraska (April 26, 1974, in 22 innings).
- The combined 168 plate appearances rate as the third-most in NCAA history, seven shy of the combined total of 175 by Colorado and Nebraska (April 26, 1974, in 22 innings).
- Wofford's 76 at bats are tied with Rice (vs. Texas on May 15, 1981, in 20 innings). The record is 78 by Colorado (vs. Nebraska on April 26, 1974, in 22 innings).
- The two teams combined for 139 at bats, the fifth-highest NCAA total. The record is 155 by Colorado and Nebraska (April 26, 1974, in 22 innings).
- Elon's 22 left on base are tied for the fourth-most in NCAA history, two shy of the mark shared by San Diego State (vs. Hawaii on April 22, 1994, in 15 innings) and Harvard (vs. Holy Cross on April 15, 1987, in 13 innings).

18-INNING MARATHON GAME

On Friday night, the Phoenix played well into the night and into Saturday morning, going 18 innings with the Wofford Terriers and winning 12-11. Junior outfielder Justin Hilt hit a game-winning sacrifice fly at 1:22 a.m. to end a game that started at 7 p.m.

In the top frame of the 13th inning, Wofford scored one run, but the Phoenix answered in the bottom half and it seemed as if there was no end in sight.

Before the Phoenix's turn at the plate in the 18th, head coach Mike Kennedy gathered his players.

"I told our guys that if we're going to win a conference championship then we have to win this ball game," Kennedy said.

The game set five Southern Conference records and ranked in the top five of some national records.



Sophomore pitcher Ken Ferrer was the winning pitcher in Sunday's game against Wofford. He pitched 5.1 innings and had five strikeouts and three walks.

Sports

Softball ends season with victory, gears up for SoCon tournament

Justine Schulerud
Reporter

The Elon softball team rounded out its season Sunday with a 3-0 shutout win against UNC Greensboro. The victory was the team's last regular season game before it begins the Southern Conference tournament today.

The win put Elon ninth in the Southern Conference with a record of 6-15 and an overall record of 15-31 heading into the conference tournament.

Since there are nine teams in the conference, because Samford joined the league this season, there must be a single elimination game between the eighth and ninth seeds to determine which team gets to play in the SoCon tournament.

The Phoenix, seeded ninth, will play the number eight seed, Western Carolina, at 10 a.m. today in Chattanooga, Tenn. Elon and Western Carolina haven't played each other this season because of the games being rained out.

Last season, the Phoenix swept Western Carolina, in the regular season and also eliminated the team from the Southern Conference tournament with a 5-3 win.

If Elon wins the game against Western Carolina it will advance to play against No. 1-seeded Chattanooga at 7 p.m. Chattanooga has only five losses in conference play — one of them being to Elon.

The Phoenix defeated Chattanooga on March 29 2-1. It was the first conference win of the season for Elon.

Sophomore pitcher Pam DelPizzo led the team with the win in that game, pitching seven innings and only allowing one run.

Sunday's game started out with three walks for UNC G issued by Elon's starting pitcher, freshman Erin O'Shea. In the bottom of the second inning, senior catcher Jaimie Rao hit a double to start the offensive game for the Phoenix.

Elon scored three runs in the bottom of the fourth lead by freshman infielder Danielle Lafferty, who scored two of the team's three runs. O'Shea finished the game with four strikeouts and allowed only four hits.

"After (Saturday's) game, we went into the dugout and decided that we were going to have fun today and play like we knew how," Rao said. "We had our offense, defense and mentality together today. That's why we won."

Sunday's win was a comeback from two losses against UNC G on Saturday. The Phoenix lost the first game with a score of 7-1 and could not quite hold off the Spartans in the second game, losing 4-3.

Even though the team has a sub-par record, the Phoenix has had some bright spots throughout the season. Elon is tied in fourth for the conference number of home runs, with 29 this season.

Also, the team has a total number of 50 errors on the season, which is significantly less than Western Carolina's 72 errors and league-leading Appalachian State's 75.

But the team does have the lowest batting average in the SoCon with a .236 average.

"We realized we were pressing too much," Rao said. "We just have to see the ball and hit the ball."

As for its defensive game, the team is strong and healthy.

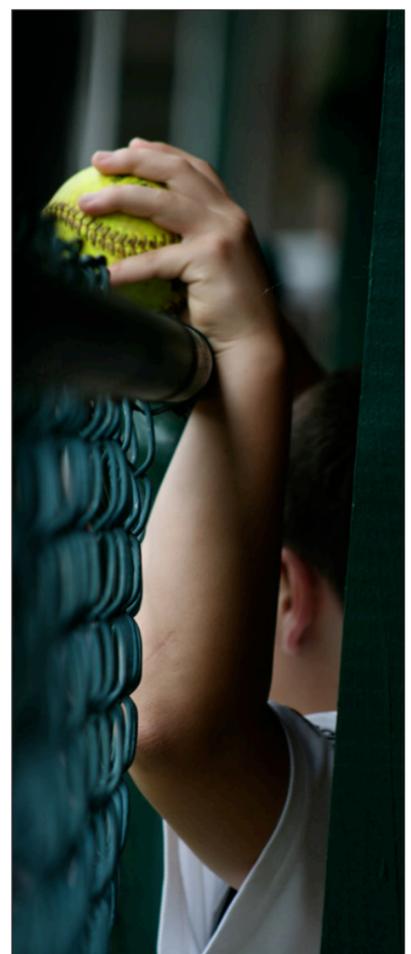
O'Shea has been the most consistent this year, but she just has to work on



Freshman infielder Kaitlyn Piazzolla takes a swing against UNC Greensboro this weekend. The Phoenix play Western Carolina today in the Southern Conference tournament. BRYCE LITTLE | Photographer



Senior Melanie Helterbran throws a pitch against UNC Greensboro. Helterbran pitched in the first game on Saturday. She came in for relief and pitched four innings, had five strikeouts and one walk. BRYCE LITTLE | Photographer



An Elon softball player hangs on the fence as she watches her team play this weekend. BRYCE LITTLE | Photographer

lowering the number of walks, head coach Patti Raduenz said. She also said senior pitcher Melanie Helterbran needs to consistently hit the spot.

Rao and Raduenz agreed Sunday's win will definitely serve as positive momentum going into today's game. Though Elon will serve as the underdogs in the tournament, the team is not too concerned.

"We are the spoilers," Raduenz said. "Of course, I'd rather be in the No. 1 position, who wouldn't?"

Rao said, being the ninth seed

means very little pressure on the team. She said they just need to go out there and play the way they know how to and show people what they are not expecting.

"They just have to go out there, trust themselves, trust their plan and keep working hard as they have been all season," Raduenz said. "It would be nice to see all their hard work pay off."

Last year, the Phoenix finished fourth in the conference with a conference record of 19-9 and an

WANT TO WATCH?

Elon will play Western Carolina at 10 a.m. today in Chattanooga, Tenn. in the first round of the SoCon tournament. Elon did not face Western Carolina during the regular season because of a rain cancellation.