

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012 • VOLUME 38, EDITION 22

FOUR MORE YEARS



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THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum news organization is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and web show. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu 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. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

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FULL RESULTS FROM ALL RACES

On Tuesday, citizens of the United States took to the polls in many national, statewide and local races.

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Revised legislation argues Chick-fil-A has become a symbol of discrimination on Elon's campus.

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Senior leadership will be a big key to Elon's success this season.

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Cover photo courtesy of MCT Campus. After being re-elected president of the United States on Tuesday, Barack Obama and his family take the stage before his acceptance speech.

Top Election Day Tweets

@elonpendulum

Obama has been reelected as the President of the United States. #ElonElects

@jennbatchelor

This Elon Alumni voted for Romney Ryan this morning. #elonElects

@MittRomney

We can't afford four more years like the last. Vote today to ensure that the future will be better than the past.

@BarackObama

We're all in this together. That's how we campaigned, and that's who we are. Thank you. -bo

@igluther

It's gonna be super awkward in 4 years when America hasn't exploded like everyone thinks it will.

@ElonLocalNews

@wcnc @ElonLocalNews has been hard at work since 7! We eager young journalists won't go off air until we have a president!#ElonElects



MORE THAN JUST CANDIDATES

BALLOT MEASURES UP FOR VOTE

The presidential votes affect everyone, but here are some other referendums of note on ballots across the United States.

PASSED: Voters in Colorado approved legislation that would allow for the use of medical marijuana, making it one of six states considering a marijuana legalization law.

PASSED: In Maine, just over half of the state's voters approved a law that will allow for gay marriage, with 54 percent reporting at press time. It is the reversal of a similar vote in 2009, when the same-sex marriage legislation was defeated.

PASSED: In Puerto Rico, 54 percent of the island's electorate voted to change the current relationship with the United States. Of that 54 percent, 61 percent favor becoming the 51st state. It is unclear whether Congress will need to debate this issue or if President Obama will consider the vote a clear enough majority to approve the measure.

FAILED: In Florida, an amendment to the state constitution that would have prohibited taxpayer funding of abortions failed. Although a majority of voters attempted to pass the amendment, it was unable to cross the required 60 percent threshold.

PRESIDENT WINS SECOND TERM

Obama says 'The best is yet to come'



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS

First Lady Michelle Obama, President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and Second Lady Jill Biden stand surrounded by their families during Obama's victory rally in Chicago on Tuesday. Obama and Biden were re-elected for a second term in the White House.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS

Former Gov. Mitt Romney delivers his concession speech in Massachusetts on Tuesday. He said he and his family would pray for the president and the nation.

Rachel Southmayd
Elections Editor

Just after 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6, Barack Obama was reelected as president of the United States of America, defeating former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney.

Obama garnered at least 303 electoral votes and Romney took the remaining 206 votes. Obama also claimed 50 percent of the popular vote to Romney's 48 percent.

Before a single ballot had even been cast, there was general consensus among pollsters and the media that the election would boil down to just a few key swing states, with North Carolina among them.

North Carolina was called just before 11 p.m. with less than 100,000 votes separating the margin between Obama's 48 percent and Romney's 50 percent of the electorate.

And with the exception of North Carolina, Obama won

every single one of the swing states.*

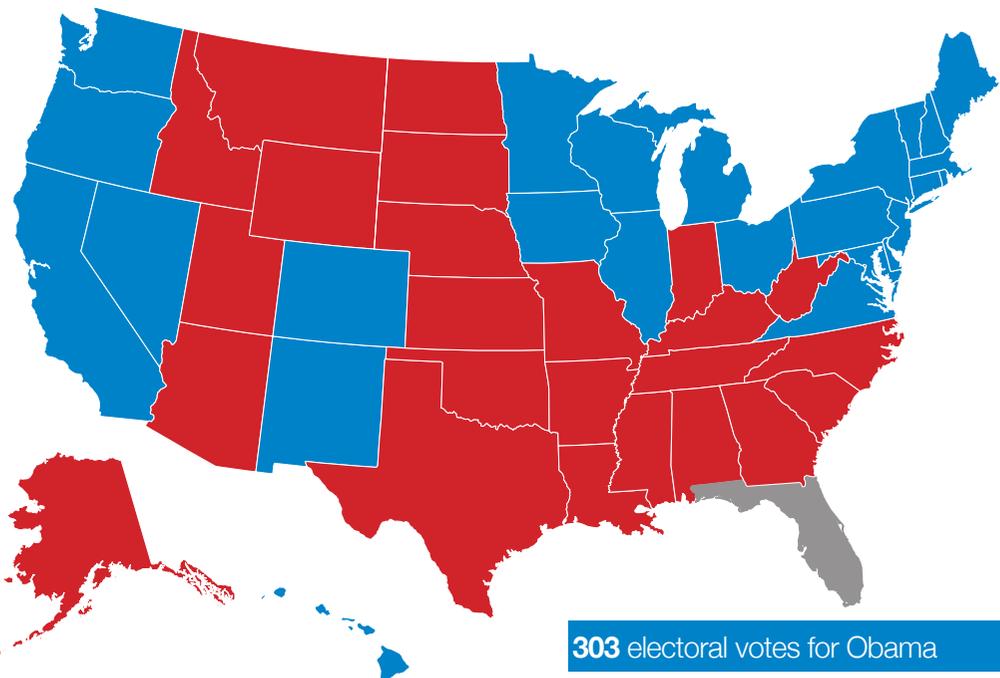
In his concession speech, Romney spoke to his supporters in Boston, thanking those who helped his campaign, his wife, sons and running mate, Congressman Paul Ryan.

"I so wish that I had been able to fulfill your hopes to lead our country in a different direction," he said.

In his acceptance speech in Chicago, Obama said the country was able to move forward because of the American spirit. He also thanked his family and all Americans who participated in Election Day.

"We are an American family and we rise and fall as one nation and as one people," he said.

With his victory, Obama becomes the third president in a row to serve two terms, after Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. This is only the second time in U.S. history three two-term presidents have served consecutively.



303 electoral votes for Obama

206 electoral votes for Romney

*At press time, Florida and its 29 electoral votes had yet to be declared for either candidate, but Obama was leading with 50 percent of the popular vote.

McCrory wins governor's seat by sizable margin

Eric Dinkins
Senior Reporter

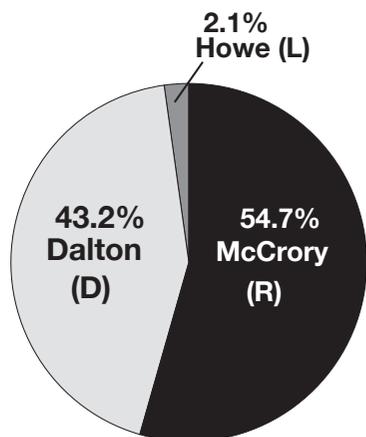
CHARLOTTE-Republican Pat McCrory has won the race for governor of North Carolina with nearly 55 percent of the state's vote.

This win makes McCrory the first Republican to win the N.C. governor's race in 20 years. Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton (D) came up with 43 percent of the vote, while Libertarian Barbara Howe captured just above 2.1 percent.

In Raleigh, Dalton delivered a concession speech. He explained his journey throughout the campaign and how it taught him, and his party, a lot.

"We have not lost," Dalton said. "We have not lost because we have fought the difficult fight under difficult circumstances. We have not lost because we have been on the side of opportunity and progress."

McCrory was the mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina's largest



city, from 1995 until 2009, serving a record seven terms. He ran for governor in 2008, but lost narrowly to Bev Perdue.

As governor-elect, McCrory spoke to a group of supporters in Uptown Charlotte on Tuesday night, emphasizing the "sense of urgency" in the state right now.

"People are hurting right now, and people are worried about their

future, and that's what we are going to begin working on immediately," McCrory said.

McCrory emphasized a need for cooperation across party lines.

"We're going to govern together, Republicans, Democrats, Independents," McCrory said. "We're going to bring this state together, the East, the Piedmont and the West, but we're moving to Raleigh soon."

Georgia native Steve Aldrich also addressed the crowd.

"What we really need is for our elected officials to work together," he said. "The reason I'm here is because there has to be a change."

Aldrich wasn't the only one to specify the need for change. Other Republican party supporters claimed North Carolina has been controlled by Democrats for too long and "100 years" was the figure used by multiple people in attendance.

McCrory assured change is possible, but only if every North Caro-



At the Westin Hotel in Uptown Charlotte, supporters of gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory gathered to hear the results of the election. McCrory defeated Walter Dalton.

lina citizen "exceeds their potential."

McCrory's final words were accompanied by Neil Diamond's classic song, "Sweet Caroline."

"It's time for a Carolina come-

back, and it starts tonight," he said.

Special Projects Editor Kate Riley and Elections Editor Rachel Southmayd contributed to this report.

ELON REACTS

What do Elon students think of the presidential election results?

THOMAS HENDRICKS



"I'm not exactly surprised by it, but given my alignment overall, I'm optimistic and I think he deserves a second chance."

ANDRES MENDOZA



"Over the last elections we've had, some sort of change needs to happen to the electoral college...the popular vote is what the population wants"

CALEB NEWCOMB



"I feel that the election is horse crap. I'm not a fan of the electoral college. America is ignorant for celebrating too early. Society as a whole is very misinformed about their politics."

Sean Furlong



"I can't say I'm too surprised...I think it's a good step for America. Rather than worrying about who's getting elected, now it's time to worry about the nation."



Who won the election?

President:

- Barack Obama (Dem.)
- Mitt Romney (Rep.)
- Gary Johnson (Lib.)

Governor:

- Walter H. Dalton (Dem.)
- Pat McCrory (Rep.)
- Barbara Howe (Lib.)

Lieutenant Governor:

- Linda D. Coleman (Dem.)
- Dan Forest (Rep.)

U.S. House District 2

- Steve Wilkins (Dem.)
- Renee Ellmers (Rep.)
- Brian Irving (Lib.)

U.S. House District 4

- David Price (Dem.)
- Tim D'Annunzio (Rep.)

U.S. House District 6

- Tony Foriest (Dem.)
- Howard Coble (Rep.)

N.C. State Senate District 24

- Rick Gunn (Rep.)
- Brandon Black (Lib.)

Attorney General

- Roy Cooper (Dem.)

Secretary of State

- Elaine Marshall (Dem.)
- Ed Goodwin (Rep.)

N.C. House District 63

- Patty Phillips (Dem.)
- Stephen M. Ross (Rep.)

N.C. House District 64

- Morris McAdoo (Dem.)
- Dennis Riddell (Rep.)

County Commissioner

- Eddie Boswell (Dem.)
- Linda H. Massey (Dem.)
- Ann Vaughan (Dem.)
- Mark Hopp (Rep.)
- Tom Manning (Rep.)
- David I. Smith (Rep.)

N.C. Auditor

- Beth A. Wood (Dem.)
- Debra Goldman (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture

- Walter Smith (Dem.)
- Steve Troxler (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Insurance

- Wayne Goodwin (Dem.)
- Mike Causey (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Labor

- John C. Brooks (Dem.)
- Cherie Berry (Rep.)

N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction

- June Atkinson (Dem.)
- John Tedesco (Rep.)

N.C. Treasurer

- Janet Cowell (Dem.)
- Steve Royal (Rep.)

Register of Deeds

- Becky H. Mock (Dem.)
- Hugh Webster (Rep.)

Supreme Court Associate Justice

- Sam J. Ervin IV
- Paul Martin Newby

Court of Appeals Judge (Bryant seat)

- Wanda Bryant
- Marty McGee

Court of Appeals Judge (McGee seat)

- Linda McGee
- David S. Robinson

Court of Appeals Judge (Thigpen seat)

- Chris Dillon
- Cressie Thigpen

District Court Judge District 15A

- Tom Lambeth

District Court Judge District 15A

- Kathryn (Katie) Whitaker Overby
- John P. Paisley, Jr.

District Court Judge District 15A

- James K. (Jim) Roberson

Board of Education

- Greg Beavers
- Jackie S. Cole
- Patsy Simpson
- Pamela Tyler Thompson
- Steve A. VanPelt

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor

- David Michael Spruill
- Roy J. Stanley, Jr.

The Alamance County ballot contained two referendums: One proposed a .25 percent sales tax increase in the county, and the other proposed allocation of \$15 million to Alamance Community College. Both failed.

Nothing new

NO CHANGE IN CONGRESSIONAL MAJORITY

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

Balance of power within the Senate and House of Representatives has remained the same following the election Nov. 6. Democrats continue to hold a majority in the Senate with 53 seats, while Republicans maintain a majority in the House with 232 seats.*

With President Barack Obama re-elected, the dynamic between the White House and

Congress has not altered. Elon University professors have expressed frustration with division in the federal government, citing failure to compromise as the source of the nation's problems.

"The do-nothing attitude has created problems for the country, and we probably could have bettered our economic situation and most other situations if most people in Congress had been willing to compromise," said David Copeland, professor of communi-

cations.

He faulted members of Congress for their intentional inactivity and said during the next term the president should be more forceful in his approach with leaders of Congress and incite accountability.

David Crowe, professor of history, agreed the president should immediately initiate compromise between political ideologies. The economic situation is dependent on resolutions developed in Congress, he said.

Such divisiveness has prevented the government from addressing the end of the Bush-era tax cuts. With the approaching Dec. 31 deadline, lawmakers are pressured to devise a policy to prevent the United States from falling off the "fiscal cliff," a process that requires a deal between Congress and the White House.

The gridlock that has characterized Congress the past two years has inhibited a reso-

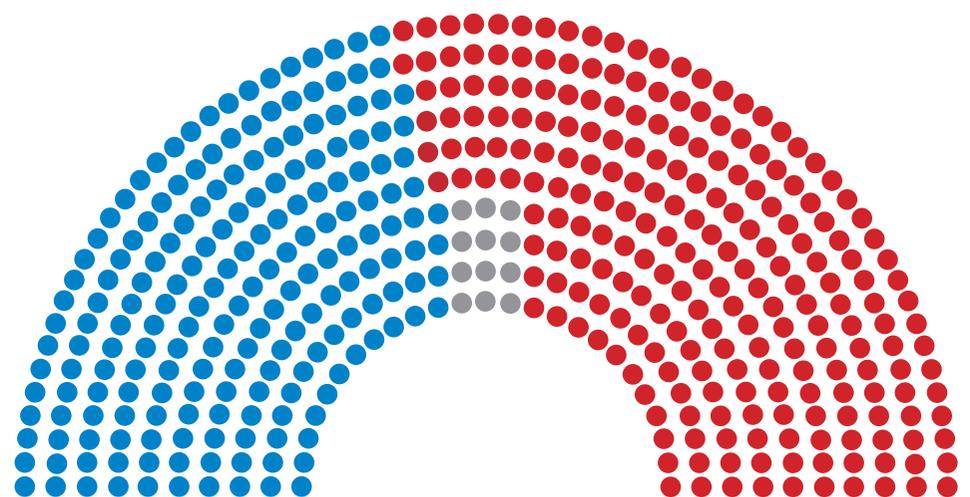
lution, causing the dilemma to bleed into Obama's next term.

A change in national leadership would have changed the functionality of the government, Copeland predicted. Nevertheless, Crowe acknowledged creating a culture of compromise would be difficult for either presidential candidate.

At press time, although the Republicans continued to occupy the majority of the House, North Carolina witnessed a party change in three of their 13 districts. In N.C. congressional district 8 Republican Richard Hudson defeated incumbent Larry Kissell; Republican Mark Meadows won the House seat in N.C. district 11; and Republican George Holding defeated Charles Malone in N.C. district 13.

Republicans hold the majority of seats in both the N.C. Senate and N.C. House of Representatives with 32 and 77 seats, respectively.

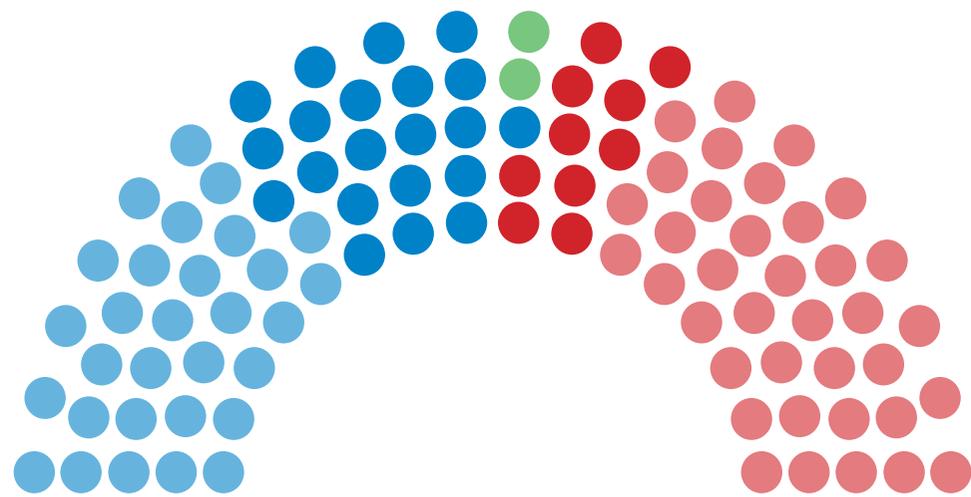
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



- 191 Democratic seats
- 232 Republican seats
- 12 seats undecided*

*At press time, votes in 12 races were still being counted

U.S. SENATE



- 30 Democratic seats not up for re-election
- 23 Democratic seats won, a gain of 2 seats
- 37 Republican seats not up for re-election
- 8 Republican seats won, a loss of 2 seats
- 2 Independent seats

N.C. HOUSE



N.C. SENATE



What could you do with **\$1,664,000,000**?

The total amount spent by Obama and Romney's campaigns in their presidential campaigns was more than \$1.664 billion.

- Could pay for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for **3.7 years** on an **\$445,000,000** appropriated 2013 budget

Funds public service programs such as PBS and NPR

- Buy **391,428,571** people a Big Mac at **\$4.20/meal**

This is more than the population of the U.S., which is 313,847,465 (July 2012 est.) according to CIA World Factbook

- Buy **70,299** Ford F-150s at a **\$23,670** starting price

- Pay **43,789** Elon tuition bills

- **0.0001** of current U.S. debt at **\$16 trillion**

- Could pay for **9.4** Alamance-Burlington School System yearly budgets at **\$177.7 million**

ABSS 2012-13 proposed budget

- **\$1.9 billion** spent in one day on military spending in 2011

\$59,250,000,000 per month

\$13,673,076,923 per week

\$1,947,945,205 per day

\$81,110,588 per hour

- **\$1.664 billion** Money spent between both campaigns

Graphic Design by Madison Margeson
Information compiled by Kate Riley

Election Night with the Alamance GOP

I'm not a political guy. One look at my Twitter feed and you'll see a lot about sports, especially Elon University sports. It goes with the title I hold here at The Pendulum.



Zachary Horner
Sports Editor

But Tuesday night, I traveled to the Vailtree Event Center in Graham to hang out with a group of Alamance County Republicans who were hoping for the best in local, state and national elections. The biggest boom was the fairly early call for the North Carolina governorship, going to former Charlotte

mayor Pat McCrory.

"For us to be able to capture that this year is going to be very beneficial to Republican policy initiatives we have," said Justin Hall, the chairman of the Alamance County GOP.

It was the beginning of a good night for the Alamance County Republicans. When McCrory's win was announced, there was cheering and clapping while Kool & The Gang's "Celebration" began playing. I thought it was a natural song. Then Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" came over the speakers, thus ushering in perhaps the most confusing part of the evening. Other songs included Katy Perry's "Firework" and classic '80s band Kansas hit "Carry On Wayward Son." Talk about contradictions.

The setup surrounded a stage in the corner of the room, while tables surrounded it with space for standing around the stage. Two screens were on the wall. On the left, Fox News' coverage was shown, while on the right was the North Carolina Board of Elections' website results page.

Throughout the night, more and more Republican candidates found themselves on the winning side of local races. One of those winners was Steve Ross, a Republican who won the North Carolina House District 63 seat over Democrat Patty Phillips. Ross, a 1973 Elon graduate, felt "relief" when Phillips called him to concede.

"This campaign's gone on for months," he said. "It comes down to one night. When you get right down to the end, you get a lot of apprehension and nervousness and then all of a sudden, it's like, 'Wow, it's finally over.'"

That one night was successful for Republicans, at least locally in Alamance County. School board candidates, county commissioner candidates and state senate and house candidates in attendance were embraced by family and friends as they were announced winners.

While I'm not a political guy, it was nonetheless interesting to be on the scene of the democratic process that helped create America.

Despite Alamance voters' focus on economy, Obama defeats Romney

Kassondra Cloos
Copy Editor

The economy was the deciding factor in the presidential election for many Alamance County voters. But despite their support for Republican candidate Mitt Romney, President Barack Obama has been re-elected. He lost North Carolina, but did not lose the election.

Most voters willing to share their opinions said jobs and the economy were vote-deciding issues for them, and they supported Mitt Romney for president and Pat McCrory (R) for North Carolina governor.

Don Jefferson, a 79-year-old Elon resident, said honesty was the most important issue for him in this election. He would not say whether he voted for Obama, but he said he thought Romney was a liar.

"He has no scruples, among other things that you can't say in public," Jefferson said. "Listen to the commercials. When he comes up there and he says, 'The auto industry, you never should have done that, I wouldn't have done that,' and then he turns around and says, 'Well that was my idea.'"

All surveyed voters said they were more interested in the national election than local and state races. One Elon University student, junior Dave Stone, said he didn't recognize any of the local names on the ballot and thought voting for the "head honcho" was most important.

"I actually just picked who I thought had the



Alamance County voters said the economy was the most important factor in choosing to support former Gov. Mitt Romney over current President Barack Obama in this year's presidential election.

funniest or best name, locally," he said.

Beth Nall, a retired Alamance County teacher, said she finds the national election to be of greater importance, too. She said she really wanted to see some change from the past four years and she hoped Romney would be able to offer that.

Nall advocated for a change and said a new president may have been invigorating for the nation, especially the younger generations.

Nevertheless, she acknowledged despite who won, it's important just for people to use their voices in the electoral process.

"I just think it's important that we all have our say and we all have our vote and this is your one and only chance, so I think if you don't try

to fix the problems, or at least express your opinion through a vote, you really have not done your duty," she said. "And it is a privilege."

- An Elon University Poll conducted Aug. 25-30 showed 48 percent of N.C. likely voters identified the economy or jobs as the most important issue in deciding on a presidential candidate
- According to Elon Poll results released Oct. 29, 51 percent said Romney would better handle the economy, compared to the 42 percent of likely voters who said Obama would better handle the economy

State universities exhibit divergent political trends, students think Elon splits evenly

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

A recent Elon University Poll revealed North Carolinians' collegiate basketball preference correlates with one's presidential choice. The majority of North Carolina State fans supported Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney while those who support University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill's team favor President Barack Obama and Duke University supporters are nearly divided, according to the poll conducted Oct. 21-26.

Elon University was not included in the results because the number of respondents who identified as Phoenix fans produces too small of a sample size to yield conclusive results, according to Kenneth Fernandez, director of the Elon University Poll.

Nevertheless, from observation of the Elon community, Fernandez and students have largely determined the campus is divided on the political spectrum.

"A private school attracts people from higher socioeconomic background," Fernandez said. "They're concerned about the size of government, they're looking for jobs very soon and concerned about the economy. Mitt Romney has been seen as a better candidate to handle that issue."

But Obama typically attracts votes from the

younger demographic, leading Fernandez to predict the Elon community to be evenly split between the contenders, he said.

"I think because of economic background people are economically more conservative," said senior Brittany Woodard.

But debates regarding Chick-fil-A's presence on campus demonstrated students with both liberal and conservative beliefs occupy campus, she said.

Furthermore, discussions in class and among friends have indicated a division in support for the presidential candidates.

Junior Nick Schneider said he observed a discrepancy between the political views of his friends and those expressed in class, indicating a variety of views present at Elon.

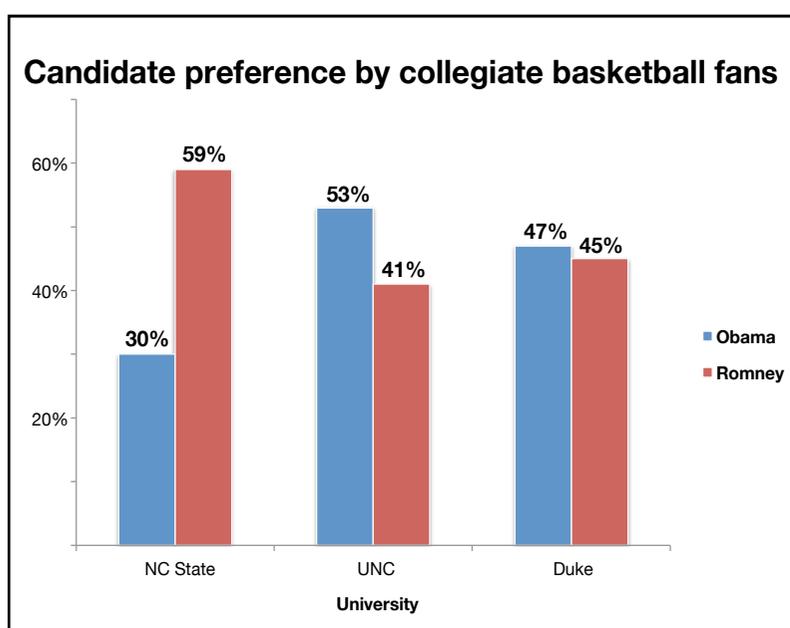
"Half of my friend group will always talk about Romney's points and his support, and I will go to class, and most of my classmates are Obama supporters," Schneider said.

He attributed the diversity of opinions to Elon's classification as a private school.

While freshman Elizabeth Cozine acknowledged that political ideologies are not strictly divided geographically, the representation of both northern and southern states on campus contributes to the development of the bipartisan atmosphere, she said.

"A lot of people from the north are attracted to the school, and a lot of northern states vote democratic in the Electoral College," she said. "But at the same time, you have a lot of southern people who do attend the school, and a lot of southern people do identify with conservative views."

Fernandez applied a similar rationale to the political division within Duke's fan base. The university's fan base extends beyond the North Carolina population, generating support from individuals across the



GRAPHIC BY NATALIE ALLISON | Managing Editor

country, he said.

"There are so many people who like Duke because it's been so successful, so it spans partisanship," Fernandez said.



Miss Recruitment

Want to learn about Recruitment? Thinking of going Greek?

November 13, 2012

Join us Tuesday, November 13th to learn more about Greek Life at Elon University.

Registration for Spring 2013 Recruitment begins this night.

If you are unable to attend but still have questions regarding recruitment, please email: Melissa Lockley mlockley@elon.edu or Emmy Bird ebird4@elon.edu

McKinnon

7:30-9 PM

Groups of 5-10 will compete to build small shacks out of cardboard in hopes of winning the grand prize! \$5 per person

All proceeds go to help continue construction on Burlington houses!



Habitat for Humanity presents

Shack - A - Thon

Wed., Nov. 14, 2012

7:30-8:30

Lindner 106

FREE FOOD AND DRINKS!

To register, contact Caroline at ctaylor22@elon.edu.

Elon University students cast ballots in NC to give vote more weight

Sam Parker
Reporter

Before the polls officially closed, more than 90,000 registered voters finished casting their ballots in 37 different precincts, or voting zones, in Alamance County.

Among those registered in Alamance County are Elon University students — including individuals originally from all over the United States who are voting in the battleground state of North Carolina in hopes of making an impact.

The First Baptist Church of Elon served as a polling place for registered voters in the Town of Elon.

Elon senior Courtney Whiting, a Connecticut resident, said she decided to register in North Carolina because she felt her Republican vote would make more of a difference in North Carolina than in her historically blue home state.

Elon senior Jonathan Cart, a Texas resident, also decided to cast his ballot in North Carolina because he felt it would make a bigger impact here.

“I felt like my vote would matter more here because Texas obviously will go red,” Cart said.

Elon sophomore Dean Shapero expressed a similar sentiment. Originally from New Jersey, Shapero also registered in North Carolina because he felt his vote for Republican candidate Mitt Romney would hold more weight in North Carolina.

Generally, Elon voters at the First Baptist Church, located at 621 E. Haggard Ave., seemed to vote Republican. The majority said they supported Romney, vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan and local Republican candidates.

Voters at the First Baptist Church also agreed the economy was the most important factor in this year’s presidential election.

Whiting, who voted for Romney, said she believes the economy is the most important issue in the election.

“I just know that I’m graduating from college this spring, and I would like to have a job,” she said.

Shapero also said the economy was the factor that influenced his decision most.

“I’m not necessarily against (President Barack) Obama,” Shapero said. “But, I just think right now downsizing government and fixing the economy is most important.”

Elon sophomore Michael Lindsey, a North Carolina resident, said he could not decide who to vote for until the night before Election Day. After considering issues such as the economy and social issues, though, Lindsey said he decided to vote for Obama.

“A lot of people like to assume Republicans are stronger with the economy,” Lindsey said. “As an (economics) major, I don’t always think that’s true at all. I think you do truly need bipartisanship, and I think a lot of the things Romney has said to just try and get votes aren’t necessarily the best policies.”

This consensus among voters at the First



Elon students sophomore Ryan Hodges, from Richmond, Va., and sophomore Lauren Speranza, from Pittsburgh, campaign for U.S. House of Representative candidate Dan Forest.

KASSONDRA CLOOS | Copy Editor

Baptist Church mirrors the results of the Elon University Poll conducted in August, which found that 48 percent of North Carolina voters deemed the economy the most important issue in the 2012 presidential election.

Other significant factors for voters at First Baptist Church included education, the environment, student loans and social issues.

MORE online

For a video package on students who voted in NC, visit <http://pend.lu/studentvote>

DOUG WILLIAMS | Videographer

Thousand Thanks campaign recognizes donors to university

Michael Bodley
Senior Reporter

An enthusiastic group of volunteers waved signs and promised free ice cream to passersby in Moseley Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Members of Elon’s Thousand Thanks campaign attracted curious student outside Octagon Cafe who were willing to wait on checking their mail or grabbing a bite to eat.

“Forty-five seconds. That’s all it takes,” shouted Sean Lauwers, one of four Delta Upsilon volunteers. “Free ice cream.”

Lauwers and other volunteers urged students to take part in Elon’s Thousand Thanks campaign, a largely student-driven initiative to write thank you notes to faculty, staff, alumni and others who have donated to the university. Sponsored by the Student Gov-

ernment Association and Student Alumni Council, the organizations aimed to increase participation from last year, when students wrote 1,247 notes.

Now in its third year, the campaign has developed since its inception in 2010 when 165 thank you notes were written during a four-hour period. This year’s effort totaled 16 hours over a span of three days, resulting in a record-breaking 1,563 notes. Volunteers from a variety of campus organizations — from PRSSA to Delta Upsilon — urged students to participate.

Those who chose to participate randomly selected a slip of paper, which was color coded to signify the category of donors. Paper was either dark gold for athletic donors, medium gold for top donors or tan for faculty and staff. Of the

faculty and staff, 65 percent donated to the university for a record total of \$377,737 last year.

Each donor, from a list compiled by the university advancement office, will receive a handwritten card that has “thank you” written across the cover in more than a dozen languages. The cards are expected to arrive at destinations throughout the country before Thanksgiving.

But they had to be written first. Junior Kelly Smith, who co-coordinated the event with sophomore Carolina O’Brien, said it can be difficult to get students to contribute.

“Our generation is not as inept at getting up and writing a thank you note,” she said. “It takes a little convincing.”

Senior Genevieve D’Cruz said she agreed.

“It seems like a burden at this

point for a lot of people,” she said.

To motivate students, those who participated were offered coupons to Smitty’s Homemade Ice Cream.

But others found more personal reasons for writing. And some didn’t stop with one card. The majority of students interviewed wrote two or more cards during the course of the campaign. A recurring theme was the importance of thanking the people whose contributions have made Elon what it is today.

“This school is only as good as the people who came before it,” said sophomore Daniel Myers. “The people who help fund this school really help keep our costs down.”

For Myers, the event was a chance to give back to those who have given to the institution. According to Lauwers, many of the

organizations that volunteered for the campaign value service to the community highly.

“It really shows people doing more than academics by giving back to the community,” Lauwers said.

Writing the letters has also illuminated the responsibility of emerging alumni. As D’Cruz reaches the end of her time at Elon, she said she has found herself in a giving mindset. She wants to be conscious of recognizing and appreciating the people who have made her Elon experience memorable.

“I think that it’s important to thank anybody who has anything to do with our education,” D’Cruz said. “It is literally two minutes of my day. It’s not going to take anything away from mine and it’s going to add to someone else’s.”

Spectrum resubmits legislation against Chick-fil-A at Elon

History of Chick-fil-A Controversy at Elon University

Summer 2012: National Chick-fil-A controversy intensifies after COO Dan Cathy affirms his belief in the "biblical definition of marriage."

Sept. 18: Spectrum proposes legislation against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus, citing the franchise's donations to anti-gay organizations as a reason to remove it.

Sept. 20: Spectrum suspends legislation after Chick-fil-A's announcement that it intended to stop donating to anti-gay organizations.

Sept. 28: Spectrum renews its legislation upon learning Chick-fil-A will continue to donate to anti-gay organizations.

Oct. 11: Legislation against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus passes 35-11 in a vote by the SGA Senate.

Oct. 18: The Elon Board of Trustees elects to create a study committee to examine the university's business partnerships with external vendors, specifically Chick-fil-A.

Oct. 21: SGA Executive President Darien Flowers vetoes legislation against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus.

Oct. 23: SGA Senate upholds Flowers' veto in a 21-20 vote. A two-thirds majority vote by the Senate was required to override the veto.

Oct. 30: University President Leo Lambert announces the members of the study committee appointed to examine the university's business partnerships.

Nov. 6: Spectrum revises and resubmits legislation against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus, this time as a resolution, not a bill.

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

Spectrum, Elon University's queer-straight alliance, has revised its legislation against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus and resubmitted it to the Student Government Association as a resolution, rather than a bill. A bill encourages a specific course of action, while a resolution is an affirmation of a belief or sentiment, according to SGA Executive Vice President Connor O'Donnell.

The revised resolution asserts Chick-fil-A has become a "symbol on Elon's campus of intolerance and discrimination towards members of the LGBTQIA community" and opposes the continuation of Elon's relationship with the franchise. In two weeks, the Senate will vote on whether this assertion accurately represents the opinion of the student body.

The basis of the resolution differs from the original legislation, which argued Chick-fil-A violates Elon's non-discrimination policy by donating to anti-gay organizations through WinShape, its charitable arm. The SGA Senate voted 35-11 in favor of the bill Oct. 11, but voted 21-20 to uphold SGA Executive President Darien Flowers' veto of the bill Oct. 23.

"The core of the legislation is still there," said senior Emily Kane, an advocacy and education chair for Spectrum. "We still want Chick-

Members of Vendor Policy Study Group

Student, Faculty and Staff Members

- Jeffrey Pugh, Maude Sharpe Powell Professor of Religious Studies
- Gabie Smith, professor of psychology and chair of the Department of Psychology
- Maurice Levesque, professor of psychology and associate dean of Elon College
- Tom Flood, assistant director of physical plant and director of landscaping and groups
- Carla Ugboro, assistant director for employee relations in the Office of Human Resources
- Gerald O. Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology
- Senior Laura Lee Sturm, vice president of Spectrum
- Senior Richmond Rosati, SGA Senator

Committee Members

- Chair: William Herbert, vice president of the Board of Trustees
- Chair: Connie Ledoux Book: associate provost and professor of communications

Trustee Members

- Noel Allen, president and managing partner of Allen, Pinnix and Nichols
- Kerri Anderson, former CEO of Wendy's International, Inc.
- Katherine Weaver, president of Residence Development
- Christine Baker, former banking executive
- Victoria Hunt, CEO of Hunt Electric Supply

fil-A off campus, but the way we are going about it is no longer the financial argument, but rather the climate that has been created because of this controversy."

But Flowers said he is concerned the resolution will only reignite a controversy that was just beginning to mellow.

"I fear that we are going to be reopening wounds on campus," he said. "I think Spectrum's decision to take this course of action and go again before a body that has discussed this twice already doesn't help anyone, and just creates further discord."

He said he does not think the Senate should be asked to vote again on such a sensitive matter.

"By bringing up this discussion again, it's going to come down to

the affirmative or the negative, and the thing about this issue is that people don't know where they stand on it," he said. "Most students don't have a definite opinion on this, and when it's put to vote, there is no area for grey. You take out the option for senators to say 'I don't know,' which is a perfectly valid response."

Flowers said he thinks the SGA's role in the Chick-fil-A debate ended when the Elon Board of Trustees appointed a study committee to examine whether Elon's partnership with the franchise violates the university's vendor policies.

But Kane said the appointment of the study committee will not draw sufficient attention to the recent discrimination against the LGBTQIA community at Elon.

"A lot of our main concern is that Spectrum has developed kind of a bad reputation because of this," she said. "Some first years are getting a lot of heat from people who know they are part of Spectrum, and some people have stopped coming to Spectrum

because of this."

She said Spectrum will continue to campaign against Chick-fil-A's presence on campus.

"This resolution will put the issue back into the hands of students," she said. "We want to make it clear that this is a big issue."



FILE PHOTO BY CLAIRE ESPARROS

Spectrum has revised its legislation to express its belief Chick-fil-A is a hate symbol.

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Romney's economic policies confuse liberal Danes

Laura Van Drie
International Reporter

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK — Like the other Scandinavian countries, Denmark is a liberal nation.

Taxes on both incomes and products are high. A cup of coffee costs between \$6-\$7 in Copenhagen. According to professors and employees at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad, the government covers free healthcare, unemployment benefits and well-run public transportation.

Same-sex marriage, abortion and prostitution are all legal in Denmark. Danes are very environmentally conscious: bikes are much more prominent than cars in Copenhagen, some showers automatically turn off after 15 minutes and interiors are designed so that natural light and candles can replace electric light.

Therefore, when it comes to American politics, Danes are overwhelmingly in favor of President Barack Obama. Their welfare system is such a part of their equality-focused culture that many Danes have a difficult time understanding why Americans would support Mitt Romney.

"Mitt Romney symbolizes everything we don't understand about the U.S.," said Anna Birk, a third-year psychology student at the University of Copenhagen. "His theories are crazy. He's against abortion. That's like moving 300 steps backward in our development."

Birk said she and her peers prefer Obama, whose views fit more with Denmark's liberal-minded and welfare-based society.

Hannah Gilbertson, a junior at the University of Denver studying abroad in Copenhagen, comes from a Republican family that has always encour-



Danes are environmentally conscious, one of the traits that characterize Denmark as a liberal nation.

aged and rewarded her hard work and effort. She said she wants a country that does the same.

Gilbertson said she feels the Danish welfare system lacks incentives for ambition and success.

"I like having a reason to work hard," Gilbertson said. "It's almost too laid-back here. I don't know how Denmark is going to be able to compete in the global economy."

She said she finds Danes typically respond to her conservative economic views, which align more with Romney, with genuine confusion.

"I'm used to being around liberal views," Gilbertson said. "But it's funny to me when it doesn't even occur to a Dane that some people are conservative. Obviously, if a substantial amount of people like Romney, there's a good reason behind it."

Helle Rytkenon, the director of the European politics program at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad and a former Stanford University professor, was born and raised in Denmark but spent 20 years

living in California. She understands why Obama seems like the obvious candidate from a Danish perspective, but can also see why many Americans support Romney.

"Obama's core values are core values in Denmark — equality, the environment," Rytkenon said. "There's also a perception that he's a little less aggressive in his foreign policy. Romney's overt patriotism is semi-appalling to many Danes and Europeans."

Rytkenon notes Danish views on politics and policies may not work in a country as large and diverse as the United States. Denmark is small and homogenous: Its population is only about 5 million, and a small percentage of citizens are foreign-born.

While Rytkenon appreciates living in a society where people "take care of each other," she realizes core Danish values of welfare and equality could be harder to implement in the United States.

"It's hard to undo what is working for a lot of people," Rytkenon said.

American politics around the globe

SEVILLE, SPAIN — On printed jean shorts, biker boots and simple shirts, the United States flag has transformed from a waving symbol of American patriotism into an international fashion trend. I have seen countless Spanish youth proudly donning the star spangled banner as a stylish statement piece. The interest or obsession with all things American, ranging from our flag to Dunkin' Donuts and Halloween, has not gone unnoticed. But does this zealous curiosity of the surface



CLEO DAN

of American culture translate into an educated awareness of American politics?

Notebook in hand, I embarked onto the busy streets of the historic old town in Seville with a mission in mind: Do Spaniards strongly favor one American presidential candidate over the other?

I approached each street walker, introduced myself and proceeded to point to a sheet of paper on which I had written "Barack Obama" and "Mitt Romney," the two names separated by a line of thick black ink. I collected 25 votes. Every single Spaniard, ranging from preteen bicycle-wielding boys to tobacco-spitting Taxi drivers pointed at current President Obama's name rather than presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA — Within the first couple of weeks abroad, my host dad, who is a political science professor at the University of Buenos Aires, asked me if my real parents were Democrats or Republicans. I answered they are Democrats and that so am I. He immediately smiled and breathed a huge sigh of relief and said, "Thank God. If you had said you were a Republican, I would have said, 'Oh, that's nice,' but I am so happy that you are a Democrat."



CLAIRE MAURO

He then asked if I was going to vote and if I was going to vote for Barack Obama. I proudly smiled and said I was just waiting for my absentee ballot to arrive.

It is part of Latin American culture that people ask types of questions that we might not in the United States. There have been other instances where Argentines have freely expressed their desire for Obama to win the election. Some friends of my host parents were over for dinner, and when I said I was from the United States, they asked if I was going to vote for Obama. During an academic panel for a class, one of the panelists, who works toward cultural equality for African decedents in Argentina, expressed his wish that Obama win the election as well.

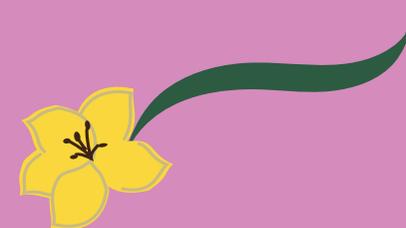
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Hidden course fees negatively impact student bank accounts

A Pendulum Staff Editorial

Amid all the recent buzz about student loans, the skyrocketing price of higher education is a hot topic across America — but the financial impact of college extends far beyond mere tuition payments.

Plenty of secondary expenses that aren't factored into the annual college "sticker price" lighten many students' wallets every semester. Sadly, many of these expenses aren't known until after students have already registered for classes.

But there is one question left that often remains a mystery to Elon University students until classes begin: What do I actually need for my class?

This isn't a plea to change the way we register for classes, nor is it

a demand that Elon students should not be required to purchase extra class materials.

Rather, it is a request for Elon professors to be more forthcoming about what materials will be expected from students registered for their classes.

Students would be helped financially by having access to the syllabus before the semester begins. Letting students know ahead of time gives them more time to find and buy books and other required materials through cheaper alternative websites.

Every semester, when class registration time rolls around, Elon students usually have a general idea of what classes they are signing up for, but are not entirely sure of what to expect when it comes to expenses. Too often, the expectations that

Elon students create toward the classes they choose are based entirely off the narrow and biased accounts of other students.

These expectations are usually curtailed to that student's personal opinion of the professor and the amount of required work, and often lack more substantive details. The class registration process here at Elon needs to become more transparent by outlining what will be required from students for each class.

Most students usually know well in advance if there are additional fees for a class, with additional fees sometimes noted in the course book, as well as a breakdown of the class' required books on the campus bookstore website. But many students at Elon are still subjected to pricey

last-minute class expenditures that whittle away the little money students have left for buying food, paying the rent or other living expenses.

But every semester, many students, regardless of their majors, are required to fork over the extra cash to accommodate last-minute fees they did not know would be incurred when they signed up for the class.

These fees typically include books that are not listed on the bookstore's website, additional technical equipment and software for artistic design or multimedia production courses, or the possibility of students needing to travel off campus in order to complete class assignments or service work.

Having access to course syllabi before the semester begins would

help students allocate their spending money more appropriately before starting the semester.

Elon already has the technology to facilitate constant communication between students and professors via Moodle: Why can't this system be used to publish course syllabi earlier for student review prior to registration?

The benefits of attending a private university like Elon are immense and obvious to all of us who are lucky enough to attend this school.

But with annual tuition costs currently hovering around \$30,000, last-minute class expenses are the last thing students need when they are already shelling out thousands of dollars on required costs in order to attend college.

Natural disaster helps adversaries transcend partisan politics

I will admit that I have never been an avid fan of Chris Christie, the Republican governor of my

home state of New Jersey. Ideological differences aside, I have never felt a personal connection to Christie, or the policies he has implemented thus far during his

term. We have differing visions of how to foster the American Dream.

But in the wake of his response to the destruction brought upon New Jersey by Hurricane Sandy, I have a great deal more respect for him as a politician and as a man.

It has become incredibly rare to find leaders who can rise above the petty concerns of partisan politics to set a positive example. In a moment of crisis, Christie proved he is not a transient figure who allows partisan considerations to hold him back from upholding his responsibilities.

Even in the midst of the devastation wrought upon New York and New Jersey, there still exists a shining beacon of hope for Americans to find inspiration. Christie, an avid

critic of President Barack Obama in the past, praised the president's response to the aftermath of Sandy. In an interview with ABC's Good Morning America, Christie stated "the administration, the president himself, and FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate have been outstanding with us so far."

Both Obama and Christie have been seen together multiple times in the last week in attempts to raise morale for the citizens of the afflicted states, with Obama balancing his tenuous campaign schedule in the final leg of one of the closest projected presidential races in United States history.

To me, this display of bipartisanship is the most noteworthy moment of this entire presidential election year: The president of the United States, a Democrat, and one of his most vocal critics, Christie, working together only days before Election Day.

The image of Obama and Christie working so well together offers Americans a necessary glimpse into the manner in which our government was meant to function: political parties putting aside their ideological concerns to respond to the needs of those they represent.

Like elephants, politicians have considerably long memories, partic-



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie (third from left) greets President Barack Obama (third from right) at Newark Liberty International Airport during Obama's recent emergency trip to offer assistance in light of the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

ularly for remembering the actions of their rivals. And while this act of bipartisan cooperation on Christie's part may be turned against him in the future, the governor stated in an interview with Fox News that he "couldn't care less."

In his keynote address to the Republican National Convention this year, Christie demanded "that

our leaders stop tearing each other down and work together to take action on the big things facing America."

The fact is, the only way to enact the kind of change Christie spoke about will be through displays of mutual respect and compromise.

Amid the seemingly endless warring between the Democratic

and Republican parties, two outspoken political foes demonstrated the truth of those words, coming together in a moment of shared responsibility.

It's a refreshing change of pace to be able to watch two men whose ideals normally put them at odds put aside their differences to work together.



DAN QUACKENBUSH
OPINIONS EDITOR

Science crusader: Professor brings biology to the masses

Rebecca Wickel
Features Editor

On a Tuesday evening, a crowd gathers at the Fat Frog Bar and Grill. It's not there for the oversized burger or a struggling local musician. It's hardly there to socialize.

The people are there for science, and they are there because of Dave Gammon.

Gammon, associate professor of biology at Elon University, organized a group known as Tectonic Plates last year. The club is designed to foster conversation about the discipline for people who aren't traditional scientists.

"I've always felt like my job at Elon is to take science out to the masses, and when I think 'the masses' I'm not just thinking Elon freshmen," Gammon said.

A natural born scientist

A career in the sciences wasn't always the plan for Gammon. Although he naturally gravitated toward biology, his decision to enter the field was gradual.

Gammon studied what he calls "regular old biology" as an undergraduate at Brigham Young University, followed by pursuing a Ph.D. at Colorado State University. Although his studies in the natural sciences were only finalized during his years as a student, he said he always had a passion for the field.

"All kids begin their lives as little scientists in embryo, and then some of them get it beaten out of them when they find out that understanding the world also comes with math and quantitative things and predictive and technical terms," he said.

He's figured out the reason behind the lack of enthusiasm from the public. Now his mission is to change it.

Applying knowledge beyond the classroom

Gammon's ability to create meaningful connections between the natural sciences and the student body is a gift, according to Jeffrey Coker, director of general studies and associate professor of biology.

"(Science) underlies everything," Coker said. "A huge proportion of political issues relate to science,



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DAVE GAMMON

Gammon wanted to work on a research project conducive to undergraduate participation, so he chose to study mockingbird patterns at Elon.

stem cells, climate change, science and technology and their ability to drive economic progress. They underlie the economy, the military and human progress."

Gammon recognized that most students are interested in these fields, and therefore need to understand science to survive in the workforce. This belief also influenced Gammon's decision to create Tectonic Plates.

"The idea really appealed to me, of bringing a scientist into a pub or a restaurant, someplace that a scientist normally wouldn't go, and talk with regular old people," Gammon said. "And so I thought there's no reason we couldn't do something like that at Elon."

He continued to develop a robust program of events, and in the fall of 2011, the university re-assigned part of his time to organizing the group, with the first held in February.

Looking forward to a scientific society

Equipped with a deeper understanding of the natural world, members of society can make better decisions and lead fuller lives, according to Gammon. And he plans to make this transition stick.

The first way to make a more scientifically conscious world involves uniting the university's disciplines.

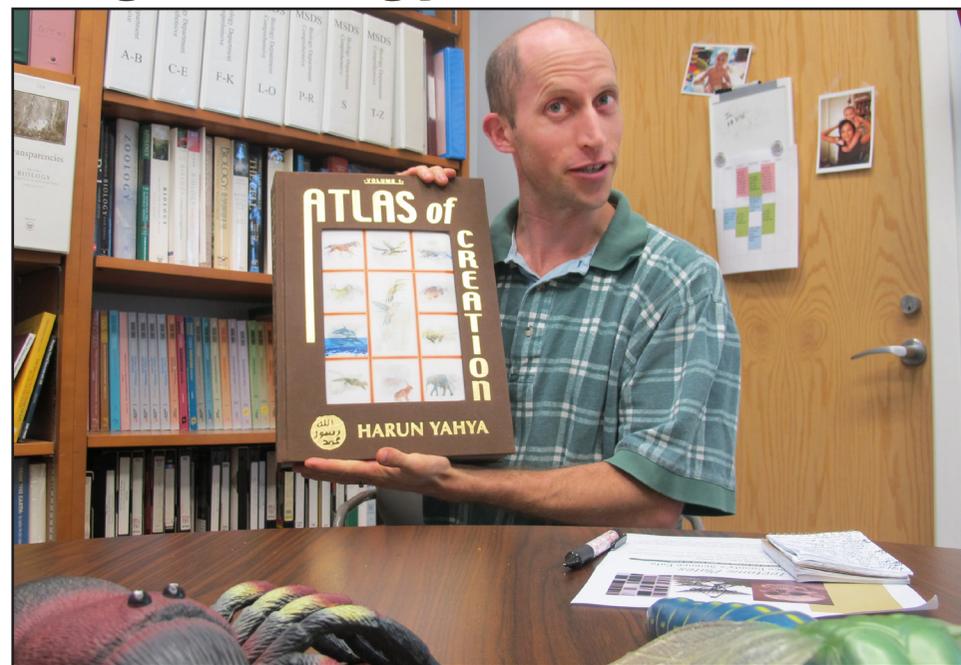
"(Gammon) tends to bridge gaps, he builds bridges across the campus," Coker said. "He's trying to bring together natural science and the business school, to think specifically about the links between ecology and economics. Whatever the economy does is going to affect global ecology, and vice versa. They're linked, but the two fields don't work together at all."

This disconnect is what Gammon said he's trying to correct, and it doesn't just occur on Elon's campus. He said he feels science shouldn't happen isolated from society.

"Whether we like it or not, all science happens in a society," he said. "So you've got problems and boundaries. You've got scientists who don't think enough about how their stuff that they understand well relates to the larger world. And then you also have a lot of people in the larger world who don't understand why science is relevant to them."

Gammon is tackling this through a series of efforts. He arranged a panel held Oct. 2 called "Science that Matters: A Nonpartisan Look at the Science Relevant to the 2012 Presidential Election." The conversation brought faculty from across the university to engage in a conversation about science. Nearly 150 people were in attendance, helping to bridge the science gap.

He is also working with Mark Enfield, assistant professor of education, to host a science festival in April 2013. Similar to the North Carolina Science Festival, the event would ideally gather the community around a common interest — science. They hope to host the program outside McMichael science building, and near Elon Elementary School to



REBECCA WICKEL | Features Editor
Dave Gammon comically shows off an Atlas of Creation, dedicated to creationism, rather than evolution.

All kids begin their lives as little scientists in embryo.

-Dave Gammon, associate professor of biology

establish the festival as a joint venture.

Establishing long-term relationships between the general public and science field is a goal Gammon does not take lightly. He is constantly brainstorming, trying to build upon the programs already in place.

"But all of these things are part of that much bigger effort to take science to the masses of people," he said. "I feel like there's a lot more we can do, and I don't feel like I've even scratched the surface. There are so many more things we can do, things in the community, science moments to create."

Living like a scientist

In his personal life, Gammon strives to live in agreement with his values as a science enthusiast. He rides his bike to work each day and has solar panels installed on his roof to heat water. But according to Gammon, these seemingly sustainable decisions are more common sense than anything else.

While his family enjoys the benefits of having a scientist in the house, Gammon said he gets satisfaction out of seeing science at work too. He gets to watch his children make connections and experience science firsthand.

"It's as much fun on my end as it is on their end," he said.

A few years ago, Gammon held his son in front of a mirror, when suddenly, the toddler in his arms made an incredible discovery.

"If I'm understanding, if I'm interpreting the data correctly, the boy got self awareness right at the moment, and that was exciting," he said. "That's all science is, you make some observation, and then you infer something from it. I could have looked it up in a book, but that wouldn't have been science. That would have been somebody telling me what to think. Instead I got to experience something firsthand and make my own conclusions, and that's what anybody can do."



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DAVE GAMMON

On Oct. 2 Gammon organized and spoke at a panel about the impact of science on the election.

Professor channels farming legacy to promote sustainable food production

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

Steve Moore likes being close to the earth.

That's why Moore, a lecturer of environmental studies at Elon University, teaches agroecology. But there's more to his environmental awareness than his teaching position. Moore owned and operated a 12-acre farm in Pennsylvania for more than 35 years, and his hands-on farming techniques allowed him to get as close to the earth as possible.

"Some farmers enjoy sitting up on a tractor, but that's not me," he said. "I like working with my hands."

Moore was acclimated to agricultural life as a child because his father and grandfather were avid gardeners. After he graduated from Gettysburg College, Moore began working for the U.S. National Park Service. He married his wife, Carol, in 1974, and that same year, the newlyweds gathered up enough money to purchase their own farm in Fairfield, Pa.

Moore said their decision was based off a mutual interest in agricultural production as well as current national trends.

"It was just the beginnings of the environmental movement in the early 1970s," he said. "Food raising was becoming a big deal. With my inter-

est in farming and me and my wife's desire to have a farming lifestyle to raise a family in, all these factors converged into a career."

During their time on the farm, Moore produced fruits and vegetables and worked with livestock, and the entire family, including his wife Carol and their five children, helped with the workload.

"It was a constantly busy time," Carol said. "The children learned very early on how to work. Altogether, it was a real feeling of family unity and working toward a cause."

Moore particularly enjoyed working with horses on the farm. Several other, larger farms surrounded their property, so Moore frequently helped one of his neighbors by riding the neighbor's tractor but using Moore's horses to rake hay for him.

With the tractor's fast-disk mower, it was common to hit animals while in the fields, but Moore said his horse Queenie would help prevent this by turning her head and ears and shying away from where they were cutting to show that there was an animal in their path.

"I would stop and there was always something there, like a fawn or a turtle, so I'd move it and we would go on without having to run over it," Moore said. "That was neat to see the differences in man's approach to the natural

world. One way is to run over it as fast as you can, and the other is an integrated approach."

But the family had its fair share of chaotic moments — Carol and her husband frequently joke that whenever Moore had to travel on business and Carol was left by herself, something always went wrong. Once, a horse broke out from its stable and ended up at a nursing home across from the river that bordered their farm.

"There were police cars and sirens and everything," Carol said. "Our daughter was two at the time, so I told her to wait at home while I swam the horse back over the river. She still remembers that to this day."

After using horses for large-scale food production, Moore began using practices geared toward using less energy, so he and Carol focused on bio-intensive techniques to farm. This means the majority of the work was done by hand, so they downsized the farm to have a smaller work area.

"First, people thought we were crazy for farming with horses, and then they thought we were crazy for farming by hand," he said. "We could attain a much higher degree of sustainability if we could grow more food in a way smaller area and do a much better job."

Despite his love of farming, Moore's academic career continued to progress over the years, so he strug-



Steve Moore helps manage the greenhouse outside the McMichael Science Building. MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

gled to balance teaching and research with food production. He and Carol eventually sold their farm to one of their sons in 2001 and they moved to North Carolina after Moore accepted a research position at North Carolina State University.

But Moore's agriculture days definitely aren't over. Since he began teaching at Elon, Moore moved to a house a few miles from campus with Carol and their daughter and started up a small greenhouse and vegetable garden. He applies his experience to his classes at Elon by emphasizing the importance of sustainable food

production.

"I know people I teach probably won't become farmers," he said. "But I believe that one of the defining factors in our world is food access. I want students to know the theories for growing food so they at least have an appreciation for it."

In the meantime, Moore is content with his garden at home, but hasn't lost his passion for running a fully productive farm.

"I can see a time when I maybe retire from non-profit and academic work and just go back to my son's farm," he said. "I would enjoy that."

Alumnus hopes to share life-changing experiences through published journal

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

Elon University alumnus Kyle Johnson, Class of 2010, hopes to take readers to the depths of despair and the heights of hope with a book detailing the last months he spent with his father and his yearlong journey of remembrance.

The book, stemming from Johnson's personal journal, chronicles how he dealt with his father's diagnosis of terminal cancer, including joining his father in marking items off his bucket list. It continues through Johnson's experiences in the World Race, an 11-month Christian mission program that allows participants to travel around the globe to 11 countries, participating in service work along the way.

Johnson studied strategic communications at the university and said although he never considered himself a

writer, he picked up the skills of brevity and clarity as a student.

"Something compelled me to start writing," he said. "I felt like I was going through something that nobody would understand. I felt like I just immediately had a story to tell. It was really difficult, not considering myself a writer."

Not knowing what a journal should look like, Johnson said he began by telling the story as it progressed, not sticking to any particular daily schedule — just writing every few days. Raw, brutal honesty is perhaps the best characterization of the words within Johnson's journal and information was only removed if he felt it could potentially damage someone else.

When he first began writing, Johnson said his aim for the journal was to create more of a written record to pass down to his kids so they could learn about their grandfather. As the story progressed and Johnson partici-

pated in crazy activities with his dad, he began to ponder the possibility of sharing it with others.

But it was not until he realized the strength of his personal testimony that he began to seriously consider publishing the journal.

"I was rescued by God through my dad's tragedy," he said. "Cancer touches everybody and it affects everybody in some way or another. And, though everyone responds differently and every case is different, it's a terrible thing."

Johnson was encouraged by a literary agent to self-publish the journal. As of now, he said he is waiting for the market for personal stories to come back around. He is considering eventually publishing a series of books about dealing with his father's cancer and participating in the World Race.

As much as the journey was a way to honor his father, it was also a time for personal revelation for Johnson,



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KYLE JOHNSON
Kyle Johnson participated in agricultural work in Thailand.

who said he was forced to reevaluate what it meant to practice Christianity.

"What I recognized was there was a lot that was holding me back from being a practicing Christian when my

dad first got sick, I had all these misconceptions," he said. "I (didn't) want to become a good Christian man while I had all my youth to waste."

But what Johnson said he realized, particularly during his trip with the World Race, was the opportunity to practice what he had always said he believed.

"The trip was to honor him, but it's also my first step in following what I believe," Johnson said in a previous interview. "I lived so long believing, but you'd never know it based on how I lived. I've got the rest of my life to honor my dad but first by honoring God the way my father taught me."

He said he hopes the journal also serves as a reminder of the benefits of following God.

"That's something I really hope people would see," Johnson said. "A life following God is always going to be more fulfilling."

Women's basketball seniors bring strong leadership to young team

Hannah DelaCourt
Senior Reporter

Scouring preseason polls is nothing new for the five seniors on Elon University's women's basketball team. This year, the Phoenix was selected to finish fifth in both the Southern Conference Coaches and Media Polls. For the five seniors, though, they don't see the polls as a projection for their season. Whatever the results, they said they'll use them as a source of motivation to succeed.

"We are in a really good conference, and there are really good teams," said Arayael Brandner, a senior forward. "We are getting recognized and at least we are in the top of the conference, but it's something to also prove people wrong. It's just a number. It doesn't really mean anything to me. It's just motivation."

Senior guard Ali Ford echoed Brandner's thoughts, citing the predictions come from outside opinions not related to the team.

"Each year, the preseason picks set the expectations for the conference, and, instead of looking at it as a pressure situation, I feel it's best to use the outside opinions for motivation," she said. "Motivation to exceed their expectations,

and finish atop the SoCon."

Head coach Charlotte Smith said she has high expectations for the team this season, in particular, her five seniors. With four freshmen and four sophomores on this year's squad, there is a lot of youth on the team. Smith said the seniors have already started filling their roles as the leaders on the team.

"They talk to them during practice on the sideline," she said. "They are encouraging them and teaching them about the different offensive and defensive philosophies. So they have become mentors for them both on and off the court."

Senior forward Kelsey Evans said one of her main focuses as a leader this season is to help her team achieve their ultimate goal, a Southern Conference championship, by looking at the big picture and doing what she thinks will be necessary to get there.

"I just want to push everyone else to get better," she said. "To be a vocal leader and to lead by example. It's my last year. I want a SoCon championship, but you need to focus on the things that will help you get that outcome so just pushing every day will help us get there."

One of the things the seniors have helped with is the freshmen adjusting to the pace and

tempo at which Elon plays. Though she will miss the season due to injury, senior forward Lei Lei Hairston has stepped up in helping the freshmen adjust, even though she can't participate with them herself.

"Even though I won't be playing with them, I can still be there for them," she said. "I've been talking to them, especially after conditioning. I ask them how were workouts or how was practice. I try to keep them up, saying just continue to work hard and it will come to you."

Brandner believes that once games begin, that will help facilitate the progress even more.

"Every time we bring in freshmen, it's just adjusting with them and them getting used to the plays and the tempo," she said. "It's just really about starting to mesh. It's better for them to learn in game-like situations, so once we get our first games under way, that will be good for them."

Ford agreed the tougher game-like situations are what will prepare not only the freshmen, but the whole team for their strong conference schedule.

"Ultimately, the experience they gain playing against veterans in practices, scrimmages and the first half of the season is what is going to prepare them for the battle that is March in collegiate basketball," Ford said.

The seniors also have in common their memories through the years together at Elon.

Both Brandner and Ford said they have always been big on relationships and each teammate means something special to them.

"I'll remember and cherish the time I've had with all my teammates," Ford said. "From current ones to the upperclassmen who helped me develop as a player in my first years, they're all very special to me."

Along with the fifth place ranking in the poll, both Ford and Evans were named to the Southern Conference Preseason All-Conference Team.

The selection is Evans' second time being selected to the team while Ford has now been picked three years in a row.

Ford averaged 14.5 points per game last season, ranking her second overall in the SoCon.



Senior Kelsey Evans (2) was selected to the 2012-2013 preseason Coaches and Media polls All-Conference Teams for the second year in a row.

She hit 87 three-pointers a season ago, becoming not only the program's all-time leading three-point shooter, but also the Southern Conference's. She enters her final season placing third all-time in Elon history in career points scored with 1,498 career points. She sits 932 points behind the all-time leader, Venessa Corbett, who has 2,430 points, and 119 points behind second-place scorer Nuggie Dixon. Both finished their Elon careers in 1982.

Evans finished last season averaging 11.7 points and 7.5 rebounds per game. She starts the season with 945 career points, 731 career rebounds and 161 career blocks. By season's end, she could be the program's all-time leader in blocked shots. Courtney Nyborg leads the program with 197 over the course of her four years from 2000-2004.

Twenty-nine games sit between now and the end of the season on March 4. For the five seniors, it's the last go around donning the maroon and gold. It's also their last chance to leave an impact on the younger players.

"This is it," Brandner said. "It's my last year to go all out. I hope I can rub off on them by giving everything I can."

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Local player lives the dream

Kyle Maher
Senior Reporter

Elon University men's basketball freshman walk-on Wes Brewer didn't have to come to Elon, the school so near and dear to his family's heart. He didn't come to Elon because his high school coach, Tommy Cole, who is a legend in his own right while donning the maroon and gold, encouraged him. He came to Elon because it made the most sense for him geographically.

"(Elon is) close to home. I've always been a home person, I want to stay close," Brewer said. "I just fell in love with Elon. If Elon was three hours away, I'd still want to go to Elon because of the type of school it is."

Brewer felt most comfortable at Elon, a school and basketball team he grew up with and been around his entire life.

"I grew up coming to games," Brewer said. "My mom went here, and then my cousin was a cheerleader here back in the late '90s. She was a cheerleader here and then she's been the cheerleading coach since then. We always came to the games and were around them because of her. The last couple years, I've followed Elon basketball a lot and

I've liked the school."

Brewer knew there were several coaches from smaller programs after him, but he already had his heart set on the Phoenix.

"I was coming to Elon for sure. I always wanted to," Brewer said. "I had a couple small-school offers for full rides, so I gave them a shot, but I didn't really like any of them. So I decided I still wanted to come to Elon. So I came and talked to Coach Roberson first and then I talked to (head coach Matt) Matheny the same day. Both of them told me I had a really good shot at walking on."

To do so, Matheny and Roberson told Brewer to work on his game and fitness heading into his two-day tryout later that summer. Brewer's performance at the tryout led to the roster spot he had so coveted.

"They just told me to come during the summer when all the guys were here," Brewer said. "I played pick-up with all of them and got to know them this summer. They just told me to come back and be in really good shape. In the months of July and August, I worked out really hard and got in really good shape. This fall, I just started back playing with them and working out and gotten to know all of them. Then tryouts were just two days, cranked those out and I'm on the team."

Matheny knew Brewer years before he had tried out for his team, through various camps the Elon coaching staff has provided for Burlington area kids.

"Wes, being from the Burlington community, has been in our camps, both (our) team camp and also our individual camp," Matheny said. "So we've got to know him over the past couple of years."

Junior guard Jack Isenbarger, one of the team's five starters, said he sees a lot of himself in Brewer.

"He kind of reminds me of myself coming in freshman year, a little bit more on the quiet side, kind of shy, but has a big heart," Isenbarger said. "I'm excited to spend the next two years with him on the team and by my side and getting better in practice with him."

While hanging out with teammates off the court, Isenbarger said he's come to learn Brewer is a celebrity in the Burlington area.

"Wes is a local star. It's fun to go out and hang out with him around Burlington," Isenbarger said. "We go out to eat with him and families are saying hi. For example, this



AL DRAGOT Staff Photographer

Freshman Wes Brewer (above) walked on to the Elon University basketball team this season after attending Elon basketball camps led by the coaching staff and participating in a two-day tryout at the end of summer.

morning after church, we went out to eat and multiple families said hi to him and treated him like a big star. It's fun to have a guy like Wes on the team."

On the court, junior forward Ryley Beaumont said Brewer is a valuable teammate to have, especially in practice.

"It helps us out having guys like Wes," Beaumont said. "He's a strong guy. He's definitely got some body weight to him and he throws it around in practice. Those guys are really important."

But Brewer admits practice has been demanding thus far.

"There's a difference for me and (fellow freshman walk-on) Sam (Hershberger)," Brewer said. "I wouldn't say it's because we're walk-ons. It's because we don't know the offense. So when we go live and start working

on the offense, Coach Wooten told us before, even at (North) Carolina, they didn't slow down for him, so they're not going to slow down for walk-ons. It's been tough trying to pick up on the offense and trying to do stuff. The past week it's been tough trying to pay attention and learn how to do it all, because they're not slowing down to show us step-by-step."

Even so, Brewer is determined to be successful, so much that he isn't satisfied with simply making the Phoenix squad as a practice player.

"It felt good when you were finally officially a member of the team, but there's still a lot of work left to do," Brewer said. "I'm not settling for where I'm at now. I feel like a lot of walk-ons, once they make the team, they just settle as a walk-on. I don't want to settle."



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY WES BREWER

Brewer played basketball at the local Williams High School in Burlington.