



**Baseball team sweeps weekend series**

**Page 24**



**SWAN LAKE**

Premieres Thursday, Page 17



Fitness and nutrition

**Page 12**

# THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008 | VOLUME 34, EDITION 7

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



LINDSAY FENDT | Photographer

Two university groups partnered with a local church to plant 2,000 trees last weekend in Alamance County and Gibsonville parks.

## Tree-planting unites community

**Lindsay Fendt**  
Reporter

Galileo was arrested because of it. Textbooks in Georgia were stamped with a disclaimer due to it. And the fate of billions of dollars in grant money has been determined by it.

The tension between religion and science has existed almost since the beginning of human history, and it hasn't been until recently that anyone has found some middle ground.

The Elon Center for Environmental Studies and Elon First Baptist Church teamed up this Saturday to "Heal the Land" by planting

2,000 trees spread over three different parks in the Burlington area.

The project was funded by the Terra Nova Community, an organization committed to researching the connections between science and spirituality.

Dr. Martin Fowler, philosophy professor and Terra Nova Community leader, described the project as a "way to join our environmental science and our religious commitments to take action that's constructive and symbolic during the drought. As we start healing the land, we heal our community as well."

On an environmental level,

the trees will increase water retention, which has lessened greatly since the drought, and help prevent erosion. The trees offset deforestation, which is becoming a large problem in the rapidly urbanizing portions of North Carolina.

New roads, highways and housing developments have taken their toll on the tree cover through all parts of the state.

"It's important to do any little bit we can to counteract that," said Amanda Gross, an Elon volunteer.

In this sense, the trees are healing and fixing the environmental damage inflicted by humans.

"Healing the Land" was

also about healing the community and bringing people closer together. Churches, Boy Scout troops, boys and girls clubs, and various organizations throughout Elon all worked together to complete the fairly daunting task of digging 2,000 holes and planting and watering each tree.

Jaclyn Koehn, a student leader for the project, said "community healing, caring for one another and caring for the community" was equally as important as the environmental benefits of the project.

The community effort

**See COMMUNITY, Page 5**

## Students raise awareness of eating disorders

**Sarah McGlinchey**  
Reporter

This past week members of Elon's Health and Human Performance Club, along with the help of Peer Educators, Campus Recreation, SGA and many additional student organizations, presented the first annual "Love Your Body Week" at Elon.

Held in honor of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, the event has attempted to use innovative methods to educate the Elon student body about healthy body image.

With activities scattered throughout the week and at least one table in Moseley every day, the organizers behind "Love Your Body Week" were a presence difficult to

miss at Elon.

Most wore colorful "Love Your Body" pins, which they distributed to the student body. Fliers and factsheets were scattered around campus as well.

On Monday, the group held a panel discussion on eating disorders in McMichael Science Building, through which Chaplain Richard McBride, counselor Karen Morgan and professor of psychology Maurice Levesque answered questions from a group of 35 students.

The questions were submitted by students anonymously. Madeleine Weikert, a senior exercise sport/science major and president of the Health and Human Performance Club, stressed the importance of an

anonymous system.

"Eating disorders have a lot of silence that surrounds them," she said. "But the fact is it happens at Elon. It's a real problem and it affects real people."

Weikert believes many Elon students have body image and unhealthy eating concerns about their friends and themselves that they may be too afraid to voice.

During the panel discussion, McBride discussed the importance of people having a degree of appreciation for their bodies.

Levesque explored how body image issues may affect our social health and Morgan offered tips for everyday

**See LOVE, Page 3**



SHEA NORTHCUT | Photographer

The week's slogan was "Be comfortable in your own genes."

## Gender studies students look ahead

**Audrey DeGregorio**  
Reporter

This spring semester marks the 20th anniversary of the women's and gender studies program at Elon, and sponsoring faculty members are hoping for greater awareness and a brighter future.

Tuesday night's panel discussion and tonight's march against sexual assault are ways those involved with the program will commemorate efforts that have been made at Elon and those that still need work. One area they believe needs improvement is recognition.

Senior Kendra Nickel and junior Hilry Hazelwood are conducting an undergraduate research project with Associate Professor Lisa Marie Peloquin on the history of feminist activism on campus. They say gender awareness at Elon has been minimal and sporadic.

"We're working with themes of silence and voice," Nickel said. "Our basic conclusion was that WGS was allowed on campus but never pushed."

The two started their research in the fall and after looking through about 30 years of The Pendulum editions, conducting in-depth interviews and combing gender studies specific archives, they found that there was, and possibly still is, a lack of long-term institutional involvement with the program.

They pointed to the speakers and celebrations afforded to new women and gender studies minors and majors through the years, as well as the lack of professors assigned to the program.

They claim that in some ways, the program has not been acknowledged since Martha Smith and Seena Granowsky founded it in 1988.

"The anniversary will be a way to provide people in the Elon community interested in Women's and Gender Studies a way to think about ways of raising the profile of WGS on campus," said Lynn Huber, coordinating director for the program.

Huber said that the commitment to justice, change and equality unites the program and is therefore an important asset to Elon's academic curriculum.

She said that minoring in gender studies, or even just taking a few classes, could

**See GENDER, Page 3**

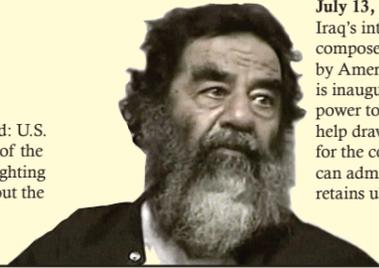
# A Timeline of War

Compiled by Kaitlin Ugolik  
Graphics by Olivia Hubert-Allen

What was initially expected to be a quick war is about to enter its sixth year on March 20, 2008. Here is a quick recap of the past five years the United States has been in Iraq. Next week The Pendulum takes a look at the Cost of War.

**April 9, 2003**

The fall of Baghdad: U.S. forces take control of the city, but sporadic fighting continues throughout the capital.



**July 13, 2003**

Iraq's interim governing council, composed of 25 Iraqis appointed by American and British officials, is inaugurated. The council has power to name ministers and will help draw up a new constitution for the country. But, the American administrator Paul Bremer retains ultimate authority.

**June 16, 2004**

The Sept. 11 Commission (formally the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks) concludes in its report that there is "no credible evidence that Iraq and al-Qaeda cooperated on attacks against the United States." The link between al-Qaeda and Iraq was used as one of the justifications for the war. President Bush disputes the report's conclusion the next day, insisting there was "a relationship" between the two.

**Sep. 15, 2004**

In a BBC interview, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan says the war against Iraq was illegal and violated the UN Charter. The U.S., U.K. and Australia vigorously reject his conclusion.

**October 15, 2005**

Millions of Iraqi voters head to the polls to vote on a constitution. To cast a vote, Iraqis dip their right index finger into purple ink, leaving many with proudly stained fingers.



## 2003-2005

**March 20, 2003**

The war against Iraq begins 5:30 a.m. Baghdad time, when the U.S. launches Operation Iraqi Freedom. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld claims the initial phase of the war is mild compared to what is to come.

**April 14, 2003**

Major fighting in Iraq is declared to be ceased by the Pentagon, after U.S. forces take control of Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's birthplace, and the last city to exhibit strong Iraqi resistance. Saddam Hussein's whereabouts remain unknown.

**December 13, 2003**

Iraq's deposed leader Saddam Hussein is captured by American troops.

**April 30, 2004**

The appalling physical and sexual abuse and humiliation of Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad comes to light when photographs are released by the U.S. media.

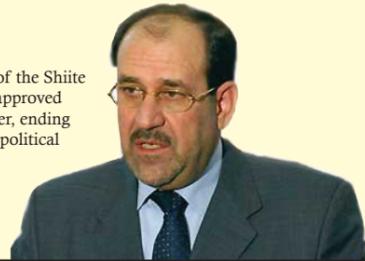


**January 12, 2005**

The White House announces the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, one of the main justifications for the war, is officially over. No such weapons were found.

**April 22, 2006**

Nuri al-Maliki of the Shiite Dawa party, is approved as prime minister, ending four months of political stalemate.



**December 30, 2006**

Saddam Hussein is hanged. On Nov. 5, a court sentenced Saddam to death for the killing of 148 Shiites in Dujail in 1982. On Dec. 28, an Iraqi appellate court chief upheld the death sentence, and the execution was scheduled for two days later.



**September 10, 2007**

In highly anticipated testimony, Gen. David Petraeus tells members of the House Foreign Affairs and Armed Services committees that the U.S. military needs more time to meet its goals in Iraq.

## 2006-2008

**July 18, 2006**

The UN announces that during June, an average of more than 100 civilians were killed in Iraq each day. During the first six months of the year, civilian deaths increased by 77 percent, reflecting the serious spike in sectarian violence in the country.

**December 20, 2006**

Americans formally give control of the troubled province to the Iraqi government. It is the first time since the war began that the U.S. relinquished control of a province.



**May 1, 2007**

President Bush vetoes the \$124 billion spending bill passed in late April by Congress for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill called on the Bush administration to establish benchmarks for the Iraqi government that would set a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

**November 13, 2007**

FBI investigators report that 14 of the 17 shootings of Iraqis on Sept. 16 by Blackwater guards were unjustified and the guards were reckless in their use of deadly force.

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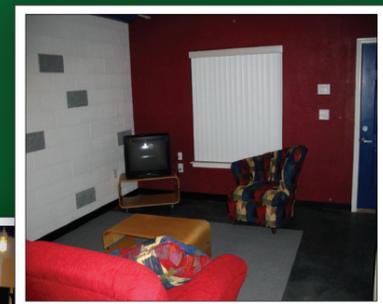
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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Model UN simulates a crisis**

A team from the Elon University Model United Nations Society competed in the Princeton International Crisis Simulation over the weekend.

Elon finished in third place, with Georgetown University and the United States Military Academy finishing in first and second place, respectively.

The Princeton International Crisis Simulation is a competition in which students from 18 schools take on the personalities of international leaders to simulate a crisis in the Horn of Africa.

Students compete for individual awards within each committee. The schools are then ranked according to the number of awards that their students won. Elon's team received six awards for their performance.

**Elon on YouTube**

Videos from E-net and E-cast can be viewed on Elon's YouTube page, as well as an opening video titled "Elon University: Explore, Dream, Discover."

There are currently 12 videos online, including "Elon University Presents 'The Phantom of the Opera,'" "Polar Bear Plunge Jan. 22, 2008" and "Future of Violence Forum."

**Staff Member of the Year nominations now being accepted**

Students are encouraged to nominate staff members at the university for Staff Member of the Year Awards. Staff can be nominated in the following categories: Physical Plant staff, office staff or administrative staff.

The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2008. Nomination forms can be obtained by calling the Office of Human Resources at x5560.

**POWERless Energy Competition week one results**

Within the kickoff week, 19 of 40 buildings on campus have reduced their energy use.

Every area has some buildings that are showing energy reduction; Danieley B has the largest reduction rate with 15 percent. Danieley E followed with 11 percent and Loy Center with 10.5 percent.

**Gender studies major celebrates its 20th year**

**GENDER from Page 1**

make students more appealing candidates for jobs after college.

"Having a minor in WGS shows you can think about issues of gender, race and class critically, and that is appealing to employers," she said.

Though Huber said that students have constantly streamed through the program, a negative image of feminism could still be holding it back.

Some people remember the 1968 demonstration at a Miss America pageant where bras and other constricting clothing items were burned. This event has created an idea that links radical actions with all feminists — a correlation that those in the program hope to erase.

"The reason why WGS is defined as feminist is that we are interested in equality across the board," Huber said. "And that commitment and saying that it is important to us makes us feminist. But if you think about it that way, it makes us good Americans too."

Take Back the Night, a march against sexual violence, will be held in Whitley Auditorium at 7:30 tonight.

**E-Alert set for major test**

**Kaitlin Ugolik**  
Futures Editor

Many students received text messages via E-Alert about class delays when the surprise snowstorm hit on Feb. 14.

In an attempt to make the campus more aware of the alerts that students, faculty and staff members can receive when a storm is coming or when classes are delayed, the technology department will test the emergency system during College Coffee on March 18 at 10 a.m.

The university has developed an emergency response plan "based on a realistic assessment of potential hazards that could affect the campus" that can be found at <http://emergency.elon.edu>.

Specific responsibilities will be assigned to university departments and organizations in the event of an emergency.

There are also additional patrol personnel on call for emergency situations.

For personal emergencies there are police escorts available 24 hours a day if a student, faculty or staff member feels threatened for any reason.

There is also an evening and weekend emergency on-call system for students and parents.

There is a detailed emergency response guide on the Web site, as well as the locations of all emergency call boxes on campus and campus evacuation sites, most of which are bathrooms and hallways.

In addition to text messages and e-mail, if an emergency occurs a system of sirens on campus will blast and then play a recorded voice message.

Elon Student Television, WSOE radio and the digital posters in Moseley will all stop regular programming and

broadcast alerts.

"I still don't think students are going to know what's going on," junior Addison Ottaway said. "I got the e-mail [about signing up for E-Alert] but I didn't know enough about it to sign up."

Mel Byerley, media services office manager and coordinator for the E-Alert College Coffee, said she hopes that the event will make students more aware and encourage them to sign up for the service.

Campus Security suggests that students create their own plan of action including steps for immediate protection and knowledge of where the closest call boxes and evacuation sites are.

For protection of valuables, engraving pens are available for check out from the Campus Security Office at no charge.

**Aldermen discuss aims to beautify Elon, erect entrance signs at intersections**

**Brian Guay**  
Reporter

Elon will likely look a little nicer in the near future.

The Town of Elon Board of Aldermen met on Monday night in order to discuss a new proposal for another "Town of Elon" entrance sign to be added near the intersection of East Haggard Avenue and Webb Avenue.

According to Sean Tencer, Elon's town planner, the sign would be identical to the one located off of South Williamson Avenue.

Of the two proposed locations for the signs, one is located adjacent to the University Grill on the westbound side of Webb Avenue, and the other is at the intersection of East Haggard Avenue and Webb Avenue, on the eastbound side.

Mayor Jerry Tolley said the initiative's intent is to make Elon seem more inviting.

"It's not that pretty coming into town [that way]," Tolley said.

While other board members agreed that a sign would help make the entrance to Elon more attractive, board members Davis Montgomery and Jo Grimley voiced their concerns about the sign's exposure.

"Visibility is the main factor," Montgomery said.

According to Tencer, the town's choices for the sign's location were limited because of Department of Transportation restrictions.

The most ideal location for the sign, Tencer said, was in conflict with DOT regulations.

"We're kind of at their mercy as to where we can put the signs," Tencer said.

Despite the limited options, Tencer recommended that the sign be placed at the intersection of East Haggard Avenue and Highway 100 citing the location's exposure, the area's traffic flow and the town limits.

While the exact price of the proposed signs has yet to be determined, board member and town manager Michael Dula estimated that the previous sign cost about \$8,500.

Tencer estimated, though, that this sign will cost significantly less—perhaps as much as \$5,000 cheaper—even though its construction and format will be unchanged.

The proposal will not be voted on at the voting session on March 11, but more discussion will take place about where to place the sign.

Elon sophomore Kristine Silvestri also proposed an initiative—the Adopt-a-Stream program—that would help make Elon a more attractive place.

Silvestri, the Green Team coordinator for Elon University's Elon Volunteers!, helped manage the first Adopt-a-Stream event during the fall semester.

Similar to the mission of the Adopt-a-Highway program, the Adopt-a-Stream initiative is aimed at

beautifying the Elon community, but volunteers will instead clean up local streams and other bodies of water, rather than highways.

Silvestri said that Lake Mary Nell in particular needs attention.

"We pulled out bed frames and the front of a Chevy," Silvestri said.

The first Adopt-a-Stream event in the fall focused mainly on off-campus housing centers like Old Trollinger, New Trollinger and the West End Apartments.

In the course of only two hours, Silvestri said, more than 40 bags of trash were collected which helped raise awareness of the problem.

The next Adopt-a-Stream event is scheduled for April 19, and this time the program is working directly with the Department of Transportation, which will provide necessary supplies like gloves and trash bags, which were previously borrowed from the North Carolina Big Sweep Waterway Litter Pickup program.

Silvestri said the event will target the most densely populated areas of Elon, as well as Moonelon Drive, Ballpark Drive, Powerline Drive, other university property and more off-campus housing. She said she expects to clean up even more trash this time around.

Board members showed unanimous support for the program, and Tolley was particularly enthusiastic.

"The whole thing is just going to look beautiful," Tolley said.

**Love Your Body Week promotes better body image**

**LOVE from Page 1**

practices that encourage healthy eating and body image.

"This is something that really is pertinent to Elon and people do have a lot to say about it, if you just give them the chance," Weikert said. "That was probably the impactful part of this week for me."

Throughout the week students were given the opportunity to voice their opinions by writing their answers to body image questions with Sharpie pens on four pairs of jeans, all of which were hung in Moseley Center across from Freshens on Friday.

Questions ranged from "What are your thoughts on how the media distorts body image?" to "What do you love about your body?"

"I'm hopeful that a week like this will give Elon students a stronger appreciation for their bodies," McBride said.

The surrounding theme of the week, "Be Comfortable in Your Own Genes," culminated with a "Wear Your Blue Jeans" day on Friday.

Both faculty and students were encouraged to wear their most comfortable pair of jeans to celebrate being themselves.

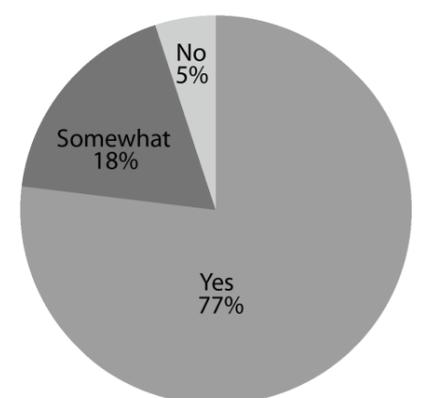
Students and faculty were also asked to donate old jeans to the Health and Human Performance Club. Members of the club hope to donate all of the jeans to My Sister's House, a women's shelter in Asheville.

Weikert decided to organize the week for the Isabella Cannon Leadership Program's senior common good project, but said that the week has come to mean so much more to her.

"If this week saves one person, if it keeps one person from going down that pathway, then it has been worth it," she said.

Next year Weikert said she hopes that the organizers of Love Your Body Week can hold a College Coffee during the week, as well as a dedicated chapel service.

**Do you think body image plays an important role on Elon's campus?**



Graphic by Andie Diemer



# Nader announces his fourth bid for the white house

Laura Wainman  
Reporter

Consumer advocate Ralph Nader has chosen to join the five remaining presidential hopefuls on the campaign trail for the 2008 presidential election. Announcing his candidacy as an independent on Feb. 24, Nader called for a "Jeffersonian Revolution."

This marks Nader's fourth attempt at the Oval Office, and just like in the 2000 election, the Democratic candidates are not too happy with Nader. He was criticized after the results of the election for taking votes away from Al Gore and helping lead George W. Bush to victory.

Nader began his career as a public advocate in 1965 and published his book, "Unsafe at Any Speed." He also exposed the public to the danger of the infamous Corvair automobile, the same car that comedian Ernie Kovacs was driving when he died.

Nader continued to lobby in Washington for stricter auto safety regulations and was instrumental in Congress, passing the 1966 National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

He has also lobbied for the 1967 Wholesome Meat Act, the 1967 Freedom of Information Act and the 1970 Clean Air Act.

Nader's Raiders, a non-profit organization run by college, graduate and law students

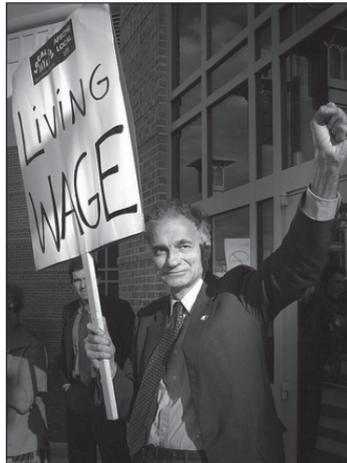


Photo courtesy of votenader.org  
Nader has run for president in 1996, 2000 and 2004. His most successful attempt was in 2000 when he captured 3 percent of the popular vote.

who research an assortment of consumer issues, was founded with his help.

After celebrating his 74th birthday last Wednesday, Nader explained his decision to run for president by proclaiming "dissent is the mother of ascent."

He said he is the only candidate who can fix the current "paralysis of our government ... which is under the control of corporate executives and lobbyists."

He said he does not want to

see any citizen groups shut out by the Republican and Democratic parties, but instead be given a chance to improve their country.

On Feb. 28, Nader announced his vice presidential running mate, San Francisco politician Matt Gonzalez. Gonzalez is placing a great emphasis on election reform and a plan to withdraw troops from Iraq by January 2013.

Whether Nader's entry into the campaign will have any effect on the outcome of the 2008 election still remains to be seen, but that has not stopped voters from making predictions.

Political science professor Jeff Colbert said that Nader's effects on the 2008 election will be "very small, and that is probably being too generous."

Colbert said that while Nader was at one point a significant political icon, "those days are over" and he "doesn't think it is likely that he will be able to hurt any candidate in this election."

Junior Lauren Limerick agreed and said that although Nader "might have siphoned away votes that would have gone to Al Gore in the 2000 election, this time around he will only pick up votes from a few loyal supporters."

Limerick said there is no chance she would ever vote for Nader.

## Candidate Carnival kicks off Vote Week 2008 at Elon

Morgan Morris  
Reporter

Elon University's National Campaign for Student, Political and Civic Engagement held a carnival Monday night in McKinnon Hall to encourage students to become more politically active in this year's upcoming election.

Hoping to increase civic awareness, the candidate carnival aimed to give a non-partisan and fun look at the presidential election in 2008 to Elon students looking to be informed.

Along with having voter registration forms and helping students obtain absentee ballots, the event included information on all candidates from each party; free merchandise, such as campaign stickers, buttons and signs; games and trivia with prizes; and a performance from the co-ed a cappella group Twisted Measure.

The various games played at the party included pin-the-tail-on-the-party, candidate jeopardy, party cornhole and candidate darts.

Freshman Adrienne Ferrell said she enjoyed the candidate dart game because no one had thrown the darts at Barack Obama, while Hillary Clinton's picture was filled with many holes.

As a part of the initiative started at Harvard to raise student civic awareness in the United States, this non-partisan group began the three planned events for this week with the aim to get students more interested in the issues of this election.

"There's so much excitement on the campus," said senior Kaitlyn Day, one of the students in charge of this week's activities.

The upcoming events of Vote Week 2008 will include an appearance at this week's college coffee where faculty and staff will vote for the topics that will be debated tonight. This debate at 7 p.m. in Yeager Recital Hall between the college Republicans and Democrats will be about the platforms of each party's potential candidates.

Voter registration and further information on getting an absentee ballot will also be a part of these two activities.

Do you need funding for an event?

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Events must be scheduled during a high-risk time: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings and any weeknight after 9:30 pm.



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**Koury Center 154**  
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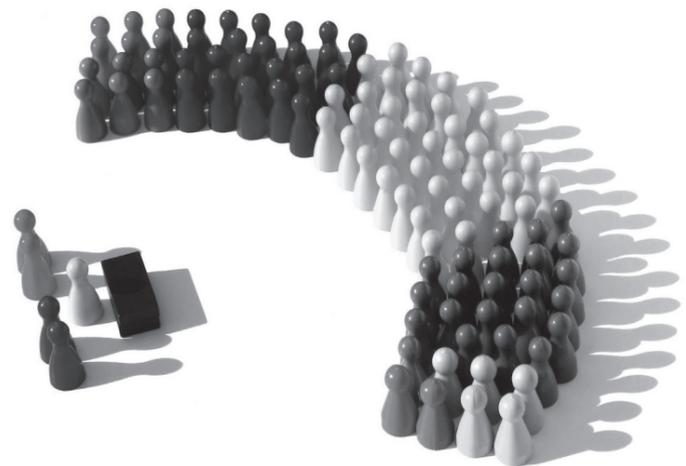
Go to Substance Education's website  
([www.elon.edu/substance\\_education](http://www.elon.edu/substance_education))  
and fill out the application form.

Any questions?

Visit our website or contact Lauren Martin, Coordinator of Substance Education, at x7285 or [lmartin10@elon.edu](mailto:lmartin10@elon.edu)

## STUDENT DEBATE

Wednesday, March 5



Yeager Recital Hall

Between the College Democrats  
and the College Republicans

Before and after the debate, students can register to vote, request absentee ballots and pick up promotional stickers and buttons for the Presidential Candidate of their choice.

For more information or questions,  
contact [polengage@elon.edu](mailto:polengage@elon.edu)

Sponsored by the Elon University National Campaign for  
Political and Civic Engagement

# The Melungeons of East Tennessee: a disappearing race

Megan Lee  
Reporter

Junior Alison Eiffe never really thought about how people are racially categorized until she learned about a multi-racial tribe of Southeastern people known as the Melungeons.

Through the course, The Melungeons in Fact and Fiction, and a speech she attended last Monday, Eiffe and other students expanded their education on this "mysterious" group of people and began to question their own backgrounds.

The realization of how complex ethnicity can be hit Eiffe on a more personal level.

"I feel a connection with the Melungeons' story and history," Eiffe said. "Like them, I lack documentation and I cannot trace my ancestry back to a particular person, group or culture because I am adopted."

She believes that the speech given last week by Wayne Winkler has changed the way she looks at ethnicities and today's stereotypes.

Elon community members, students and a handful of visitors attended the speech held in Yeager Recital Hall in hopes of gaining more information on the history and culture of the Melungeons.

Winkler, a director of WETS-FM radio station in Eastern Tennessee, spoke passionately about racial issues between the Melungeons and other ethnicities, as well as equality and personal pride.

When he was 12 years old, Winkler first heard of the Melungeons through a newspaper article.

"I thought I had a pretty good vocabulary, but this was a word I had never heard of," Winkler said. "When I asked my aunt, she just froze and looked upset. I thought it couldn't have been a bad word because the newspaper printed it. My mother explained to me later that I was part Melungeon because my dad and grandfather are."

## Community teams up to plant 2,000 trees around Burlington

COMMUNITY from Page 1

did not end with just the planning. Each location divided its volunteers into groups. Each group will take turns returning to the trees to water them during the first year.

Along with togetherness, the churches also recognized the environmental benefits of the trees for the community.

The Chinese proverb, "One generation plants the trees the other takes the shade" was proudly displayed on the shirt of Geoffrey Valcoun from the Elon Methodist Church youth group.

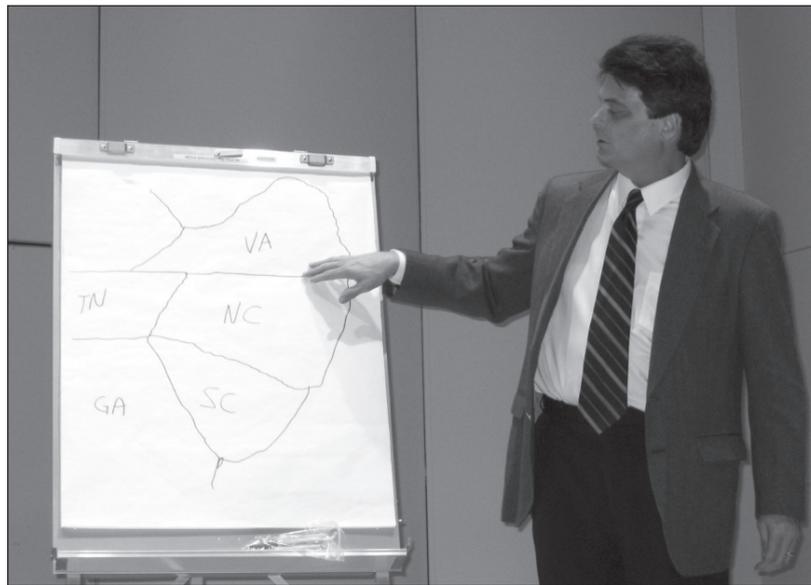
The churches involved view the project as a way to give back to the world and give to future generations.

"We're really healing relationships amongst people by replacing trees that have been destroyed," said Pastor Dan Kuhn of the Elon Community Church.

The Community Church supports the combination of science and spirituality through the formation of its green church committee.

This group seeks out environmental volunteer opportunities and tries to keep the church greener.

Despite the disagreements that often arise in the science-religion debate, both parties accomplished their goals, and perhaps began to bridge the gap between their beliefs.



Wayne Winkler reviews some of the geographic shifts of the Melungeons people.

Melungeons have been known mainly as "mysterious." There is not much information about this Tennessee Hancock County tribe, but what is known is accredited to anthropologists, social scientists, geographers and demographers such as William Gilbert, Edward Price and Calvin Beale.

Melungeons were first noticed during World War II when four draftees were unable to be classified by specific nationalities. Although placing them into racial groups proved difficult, the military had no problem accepting them and usually classified them as American Indians, Winkler said.

During the 1930s and 1940s, the Census Bureau also noticed a significant change in the American Indian population. This was because the Melungeons' tri-racial background was self-interpreted. When they came to the question about race, some would fill in the circle for black, white or

American Indian.

"There were occasions when they found a woman who claimed to be white with a biological brother who was of a completely different race," Winkler said. "It was all in the eye of the beholder."

These small communities of mixed ethnicity were migratory and created their own schools separate from Virginia, Tennessee and other Southeastern public schools. They did not attend school with white children.

The Racial Integrity Act of 1924 banned interracial marriages and led to the classification of Melungeons as colored.

This resulted in controversy. Winkler said that many Melungeons refused to be classified as anything but American Indian, which brought about lawsuits, court cases and jail terms for some.

People became prejudiced and began to look at the Melungeons as undesirable. In response to the

discrimination several Melungeons moved west into the mountains, Winkler said. Others traveled north for factory jobs.

Their struggle for equality and recognition was helped slightly when Jesse Stuart wrote the novel "Daughter of the Legend" in 1965. The speaker said this more positive view of Melungeons "smoothed out some ruffled feathers" and citizens of Virginia and Tennessee became more tolerant.

This unique group still faces a variety of racial issues today, Winkler said. For English professor Kathy Lyday-Lee, the history offers important lessons.

"In a world such as ours, I feel students — everyone, for that matter — must be aware of the different groups of people in the world, differences caused by religion, skin color, culture, geography — whatever separates and makes some groups more susceptible to discrimination," said Lyday-Lee, who teaches the Melungeons course.

"We must be more understanding of others' differences, and that often means understanding cultures different from our own, the history of that culture and its struggles," she said.

Winkler's speech prompted students to relate a deeper grasp of ethnicity not only to themselves, but beyond the university as well.

"The speech has helped me see that no matter if we like or realize it, our generation is working together to shape the culture of the future," sophomore Mykel Dodson said. "We should be more in tune with who we are so that our mistakes won't visit our children."

Winkler's speech opened new windows of thoughts for those in attendance. Both Eiffe and Dodson believe they have a better understanding of how diverse culture can be, and now have a deeper hunger to find out about their own cultures and others.

## 'Habitat' founder trades money for service

Heather Macdonald  
Reporter

By societal standards Millard Fuller had it all — a successful business, a beautiful wife and children, a wonderful home and a lavish lifestyle. Yet it wasn't long before it all fell apart and he realized that having a life focused only on wealth was no way to live at all.

Fuller was at a crossroads in his life and something was about to change drastically. So, the young, self-made millionaire decided to give it all up and devote his life to service. Fuller and his wife put their entrepreneurial spirit to work and became the founders of Habitat for Humanity.

But Wednesday night, Fuller presented his "Called to Serve" speech at Elon to emphasize the importance of giving back.

Making money consumed the beginning of Fuller's career. It wasn't until his marriage was failing and everything that was truly important started to fade away that he realized how much he let money dictate his lifestyle.

"They said it was difficult to get into the kingdom of heaven rich," Fuller said. "But heck, I was up for a challenge!"

After reevaluating his life and giving away all his money and possessions, Fuller learned that "there is nothing that brings joy to a person like service."

Fuller is often asked whether he regrets giving his money away.

"I have experienced more riches in the work that I've done than any money could give me," he said.

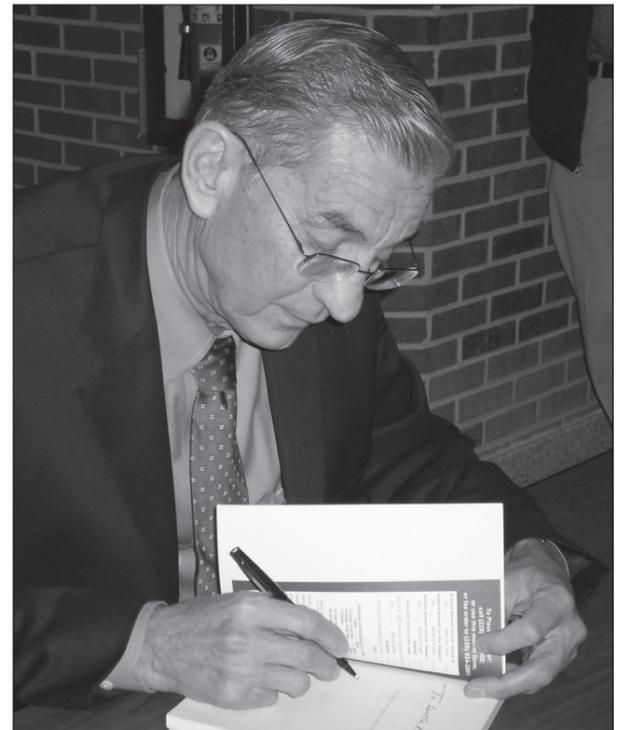
Fuller discussed that during his service he has crossed racial, religious and age barriers, and in the process has met people that he would have otherwise never known.

"Some of their stories are profound and some are just funny," Fuller said. "There is a certain amount of suffering involved ... but in the midst of sorrow, there can also be great joy."

Less than three years ago, Fuller began his newest endeavor, The Fuller Center for Housing. This faith-driven organization has allowed those involved to "make the word of God come alive through service."

This new organization was built on the same standards that were set for Habitat for Humanity — to aid those in substandard housing.

One of the unique concepts that was developed for the center is the "Greater Blessing Program." It is an opportunity for those who have received assistance to repay the costs over time on their own terms.



Millard Fuller signs one of the nine books he has written about his experience while founding Habitat for Humanity.

The "Greater Blessing Program" is based on the idea that it is "greater to give than to receive." The money that is paid back in turn goes to help rebuild other homes.

"It's about you pouring out your life for others," Fuller said. "In doing so, there is sheer, unmitigated joy."

Fuller has written nine books about his life and service for Habitat for Humanity. He has also won numerous awards and honors including the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

At the end of the night, Elon showed its support for his achievement by presenting The Fuller Center for Housing with a check for \$2,400.

# Jewish community growing on campus

**Molly McGowan**  
Reporter

In the past year, the Jewish community on campus has increased 20 percent, from 114 students to 137, according to the registrar's report for spring 2007 and 2008.

These numbers reflect a trend that Jeff Stein, adviser for Elon Hillel, said has been occurring in the past few years.

Stein said Elon Hillel consisted of a only 76 students in 2002. While he is excited about Hillel's continued growth, he attributes the most recent increase to certain measures the organization has taken to reach out to prospective Jewish students and their families.

The most significant change was hiring the university's first campus rabbi, Mort Green, in 2006. Stein said having an on-campus rabbi is a comfort to Jewish parents thinking about sending their children to Elon.

"It's a symbol to people who are scared of sending their kid to a school in the South that was started by the United Church of Christ," he said.

During the university's Family Weekend, Stein said Hillel contacts parents, inviting them to a Friday night Shabbat for a short service and a Sunday bagel brunch.

"This past year we had about 130 students and parents in McKinnon," Stein said. "It was huge! We ran out of bagels."

Glenn Barnard, last year's president of Elon Hillel, said in addition to improving the organization's outreach to potential students, Hillel is also doing more to attract Jewish students already on campus. Students are contacted via flyers, e-mails and Facebook for information about events.

Barnard said Hillel has celebrated Purim and Hanukkah with parties and holds Passover Seders.

"Last year Leo Lambert came and we had Manischewitz with him," he said.

They also observe Holocaust Remembrance Day in April with a traditional reading of names and exhibits in Moseley, said Barnard

The organization has been encouraging the birthright trip, a free excursion to Israel for any young Jewish adult between the ages of 18 and 26 who has never visited Israel on an organized tour. The organization will also sponsor an open bar mitzvah later this year.

The close ties that Elon Hillel has recently established with International Hillel in Washington, D.C. are fundamental in attracting more students.

In 2005, Allee Lichtenstein, president of Elon Hillel at the time,

**"It's a symbol to people who are scared of sending their kid to a school in the South that was started by the UCC."**

wrote to Hillel International for a grant. As a result, Elon Hillel received \$5,000 and was chosen to be part of the Soref Advancement program, which aids and supports schools with smaller Jewish populations.

Stein said he is pleased with the significant increase of Jewish students on campus, but would like even more to become a part of the community.

"Sometimes people just think of Judaism as a religion," he said. "Lots of our students are Reformed, so they see it more as a cultural identity than a religious identity. I just would like there to be a larger critical mass so that they don't feel isolated."

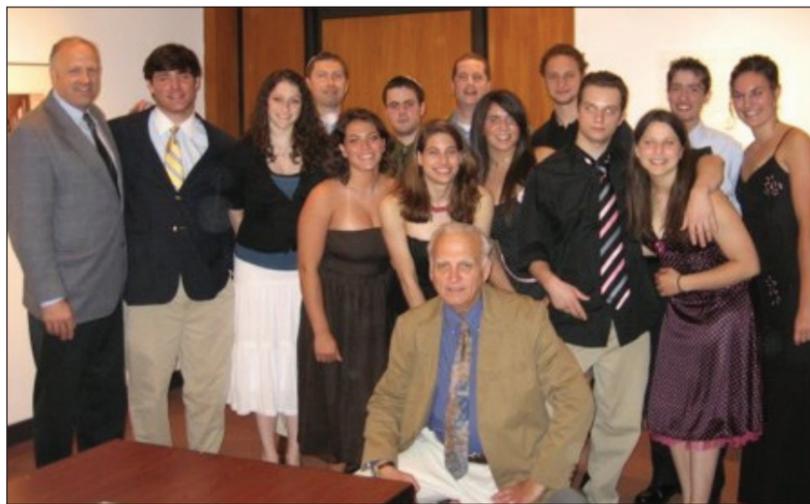


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Passover 2007 Board Members with President Leo Lambert (far left) and Rabbi Morton Green (front). Rabbi Green was hired in 2006 at the urging of Hillel members.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

(left to right): Geoff Brown (NC Statewide Hillel Director), Sydnie Krause, Dahlia Gutterman, Corie Hampton, Jaime Speiser, Susan Esrock and Tristan Milder, in Golan Heights, Israel.

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# ELON BY THE NUMBERS

Statistics that matter, according to the registrar's report

## Campus male-to-female ratio may finally be leveling out

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

A 5.6 percent increase in the number of male undergraduate students at Elon University could indicate the start of a new trend, university registrar Mark Albertson said. From spring 2007 to spring 2008, the number of men rose from 1,861 to 1,966.

The number of female students also increased, but by a lower 1.2 percent, from 2,776 in 2007 to 2,810 in 2008. The university has recently had a far greater number of women than men, but this jump could mean that Elon is starting to attract more male students.

Albertson describes the increase as "puzzling." He claims that in the 30 years he has been the university registrar he has never seen that kind of jump among male students.

"The question is whether this trend will stick or if it's just a fluke," he said.

According to assistant registrar Karen Pore, there could be a number of explanations for this increase. The university records the trends indicated by the registrar's enrollment report every semester and responds to them in their future planning.

"Elon may be appealing more to males during the recruitment process," Pore said. "Or it may just be a matter of all the students who were accepted this year versus the students who actually ended up coming here."

While the number of male students may be increasing, the number of women at Elon remains significantly higher.

"It is a national trend that more women are going to college in general," Albertson said. "Elon has gone heavily toward females in the last five to 10 years."

Albertson cites Elon's secure campus and emphasis on experiential learning as attractive features to women while Pore attributes the gender gap to school's small size and "cozy" feel.

Both agree that Elon's raised acceptance credentials play a role. Women are generally doing better in high school and achieving higher GPAs.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

The recent formation of Rip\_Chord, Elon's all-male a cappella group, may be an example of the recent influx in the number of male undergraduate students.

"As Elon's competitiveness has gone up, the number of female students has gone up," Albertson said.

The change in the institution's priorities and quality of students is reflected in this year's freshman class. According to the enrollment reports, there were 1,074 freshmen in 2007 and 1,008 freshmen in 2008. Pore says the number of freshmen is actually about

the same, but this year there are more freshmen who have achieved sophomore status because of AP credits and Elon's new 19-credit allowance for freshmen.

This trend continues with the upperclassmen. While this year's enrollment report lists 1,457 seniors, Pore says about 1,100 registered for graduation because the rest are juniors with senior status.

## Graduate programs are no longer hidden treasures

Caroline Matthews  
Design Editor

Elon University's Masters in Business Administration enrollment has increased by nearly 80 percent in the past year, according to admissions data.

The growth follows three Business Week rankings published last fall and the newly received Association of Advanced Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation.

Business Week ranks top MBA part-time programs every other year and last fall Elon was named first in North Carolina, second in the region and 12th overall in the country.

"We were ranked two places ahead of Wake Forest regionally, one nationally and second only to Emory University regionally," said Art Fadde, assistant dean of admissions and director of graduate admissions. "That's a big accomplishment for a small graduate program."

Overall graduate enrollment has seen a steady increase since its launch in 1984, Fadde said.

Of the four offered by the university, the law and MBA programs are the most popular, while the Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master of Education programs trail close behind.

"I don't see a presence of Elon's graduate program on campus," junior Mary Beth Grossman said. "However,

I know we're moving up in the ranks and that makes me excited to be a part of this community."

Representing 10 percent of total enrollment population, the university's small graduate program adds a number of credentials to the school's growing list.

"The program provides a distinguished accredited community that Elon can be associated with," Fadde said. "It provides opportunities to obtain better faculty, curriculum and facilities."

Undergraduate Elon students reap the benefits from the growing graduate program, including the state-of-the-art Koury Business Center revealed in 2006 and the first of five human donor facilities for the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program launched in 2003.

The university's undergraduate male to female enrollment 40-to-60 ratio is somewhat reflected in the graduate program, according to the registrar's report.

From spring 2007 to 2008, the report states there is roughly a 53 percent female to 47 percent male ratio.

The Elon brand is expanding outside of North Carolina with the aide of a growing graduate degree program.

According to Fadde, people are figuring out that the university is no longer the hidden gem it used to be.

## Admissions aims to increase the number of minority students

Melanie Burliss  
Reporter

Since 1997, Elon University has been increasing the number of minority students on campus. Administrators say this increase is a top priority for the university.

The number of undergraduate students at Elon is 4,939 students, with 494 students, or 10 percent, considered to be an ethnic minority.

The average increase of ethnic minority students in the past 10 years is about 19 students per year.

The 4,445 white students on campus could be one reason why Elon does not appeal to people of minority status.

"It is possible that since we have a relatively small number of minority students that it has made it a little more difficult to attract more minority students," said Mark Albertson, registrar and assistant to the provost.

Minority students are attractive to all universities who are trying to diversify their campus, according to Greg Zaiser, dean of admissions.

"Scholarships and financial aid are used to appeal to multicultural students," Zaiser said. "With a smaller endowment than most schools, we have a challenge in enrolling the students who are admitted."

Larger schools tend to have a higher endowment with the ability

to offer higher scholarships and financial aid opportunities. This is something that the administration is working on.

"New programs such as the Multicultural Experience Weekend broaden our definition of multicultural students so that it is reflective of society," Zaiser said. "We have also begun traveling in new areas where highly talented multicultural students attend high school."

Some Elon students expressed concern about the topic.

"There is not enough [diversity]," junior James Williams said.

Black students are the largest minority group on campus, roughly 7 percent of minorities.

Williams proposed advertising the minority groups and organizations on Elon's campus.

"President Lambert and others have made increasing our minority enrollment a priority," Albertson said. "This is something that is very important to him."

The university's efforts generated an increase in minority students in Elon's 2007 freshman class, with an increase from 9 percent to 13 percent in one year.

"That is thanks to the good work of our new multicultural recruitment director, Kimberly Johnson," Zaiser said. "As well as a concerted effort on the part of the university to make this a priority."

# Elon's Greek community wins top awards

Melanie Burliss  
Reporter

After receiving high honors at a recent national conference in Chicago, the returning leaders of Elon's Greek community said they will continue to strive for excellence.

Nineteen Elon students attended the Mid-American Greek Council Association conference, the largest Greek leadership conference in the country, Feb. 21-24 in Chicago. More than 2,000 other collegiate Greeks were in attendance.

Elon's National Panhellenic Council was named the top National Panhellenic Council in the nation for the third year in a row.

The council is the governing body for the five historically black fraternities and sororities at Elon.

"I am very excited about our award," said James Williams, president of Elon's National Panhellenic Council. "We work hard to compete on that level. We do plan on continuing our legacy by improving our work."

Elon's National Panhellenic Council is working to help Elon recruit more minority students. Williams wants to create more public relations for multicultural organizations on campus, hoping that it will attract more minority students to campus.

"We can then increase the size of our community which will help us in any project that we do," he said. "We will have more of an impact."

The men of the Inter-

Fraternity Council, which is the governing body of the male fraternities at Elon, were recognized at the conference for their excellence in academic achievement.

Elon was one of few groups to boast a GPA for all-Greeks higher than the GPA for all other students on campus. The all-Greek GPA for spring 2007 was a 3.22; all other students on campus had an average GPA of 3.13, according to the office of Greek Life.

The conference was a great opportunity for Elon's Greek leaders, said Andrew Molnar, president of IFC.

"We were able to gain valuable leadership skills and discuss successful and challenging issues with other similar councils," Molnar said.

He said that the men of IFC plan on improving their image on Elon's campus in the coming year by working with other student organizations.

"We're looking forward to creating stronger relationships within the Elon community, not just the Greek community," Molnar said.

Elon's Panhellenic Council received eight "outstanding achievement" awards, which include: membership recruitment, community service and philanthropy, risk reduction and management, self governance and judicial affairs, academic achievement, council management, public relations and leadership and educational development.

The Panhellenic Council was also a finalist for the third year in a row. It received recognition for overall



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Elon's National Pan-Hellenic Council was named the top National Pan-Hellenic Council in the nation for the third year in a row at the Mid-American Greek Council Association conference, Feb. 21-24 in Chicago.

excellence in Panhellenic Councils in the Sutherland II division, which includes campuses with five to eight chapters.

Elon's Panhellenic Council came in second to Case Western Reserve University for the second year in a row.

The second place finish at the conference gives Panhellenic Council members reason to improve, they said. "We came away from the conference with a lot of great program ideas to improve the entire Greek community," said Shannon McMinn, president of Elon's Panhellenic Council. "We're looking forward to this year and beating Case Western next year."

Director of Greek Life Jay Anhorn and Assistant

Director of Greek Life Zach Thomas presented topics at the conference. They spoke to Greek leaders about working with Greek Life directors and discussing the bonds that keep organizations afloat.

"I enjoyed speaking," Thomas said. "The participants were very interactive, it was well attended and the students seemed to enjoy it."

Council members must submit binders to the judges of the Mid-American Greek Council Association, which completely document all e-mails, Web sites, grades, every risk management or public relations event, every aspect of their recruitment or intake process and much more. "It's pretty amazing

that you have 175 schools," Anhorn said. "You're competing against the best of the best. It's an honor to be recognized as better than schools that are 10 times bigger than us."

Council members had the chance to listen to numerous speakers each day that touched on topics such as exhibiting the values of your organizations and self-defense for women.

"The speakers gave us a totally different perspective from outside of Elon," said Lauren Ellis, vice president of the Panhellenic Council. "They brought to life issues that we face here. It's good to know that it's not just us, and it was great to learn how we can better our community."

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Must be available Monday nights.

## Media Editor

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

Contact The Pendulum @ 336-278-7247

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

# Editorial

## Economic woes should not be cause for panic

Presently, the news has been filled with reports detailing a potential collapse of the American economy. Concerns ranging from the decreasing value of the dollar to failing housing prices to the declining stock market have started to raise alarms in many people's minds. Making the matter worse, few truly seem to understand the basic principles behind these occurrences, allowing critics and doomsayers to insist that our economy is beginning to fall apart. While immediate concerns are apt, many analysts' approach to our economic situation is somewhat over the top.

First and foremost, the event that initiated this crisis was the recent popping of the U.S. housing bubble. While the event itself does not reflect a wholesale collapse, it did act as a root cause of the current decline. This housing bubble was caused by a gradual overpricing of real estate. As homeowners continued to pay their mortgages, it became apparent they were paying far more than what the property was actually worth. Following this, banks began to offer large home loans to home buyers who did not have the immediate collateral to repay them. Following a revaluation by the Federal Reserve, many banks began to recall their loans, causing many homeowners to have their houses foreclosed.

This event is relatively isolated, in that it alone would not be enough to hurt the economy as a whole. The second and third order consequences

of such an action have immense repercussions for our national economy as a whole, which will be discussed later.

The second issue is inflation. Inflation simply means that a single unit of currency is not worth as much as it once was before. The most common way this happens is a lowering of interest rates, which leads to more money in the economy. Prices usually rise due to the fact that a dollar cannot purchase as much.

While inflation is the pundits' favorite whipping child, if managed adequately, inflation can also be a sign of a growing economy. For example, consider the economic boom in the 1950s following the end of World War II. The current rise in inflation is the lowering of interest rates by the Federal Reserve, which caused more money flow in the market. As there are more dollars representing the same value of the U.S. economy, the value of each dollar decreases.

Many say that the dollar's decrease in global value is the ultimate sign that our economy is failing. While the waning dollar is concerning, it actually offers a great deal of potential for U.S. trade interests. For the past few decades, the United States has imported more goods than it has exported, leading to an unfavorable trade balance. This unfavorable trade balance damages the economy considering more American resources are going abroad. The United States could not create a favorable trade balance because the dollar was high. While this seems counter intuitive, a

high dollar relegates foreign currency to an undervalued status, discouraging foreign markets from purchasing U.S. products. With a declining dollar, these same markets are potentially more willing to purchase U.S. goods.

Finally, forecasters' role in economic crises should be considered. Economies are not just abstract entities acting in a vacuum as many seem to believe. Economies are living, breathing organisms that react to stimuli just as an animal would. Consider the effect of an economic forecast. If it is predicted that the economy is beginning the decline, people are potentially more likely to begin saving their money and less likely to continue spending it. This lack of activity, if widespread, leads to lower revenues for businesses. This loss of revenue could by extension cause the loss of jobs and the closing of companies. The point meant to be emphasized is the fact that if Americans begin to act timidly, citing fears of an economic crisis, it is sure to be a self-fulfilling prophesy.

The truth is that while we are facing an economic slowdown, the term collapse is farfetched and unlikely, as there would have to be a slowdown in all sectors of the economy. The best option we have is to continue participating in our everyday transactions, and continue to buy and sell. Perhaps we as students should begin gaining a better personal understanding of economics, considering our heightened participation in it is not only imminent but necessary.

## Letters to the Editor

Even with their children at a very young age, mothers spend hours shopping for their child's first day of kindergarten. The young boomer generation was for beauty in the sense of parents wanting their child to impress the other children as a nonverbal marketing scheme to advertise the wealth of their family to others.

The idea of dress to impress carries into adolescence, where the issue of anorexia is affecting many teenage girls. Recently, however, men have joined this new fashion of being small.

Since Love Your Body Week just passed, a little word of advice is to do just that. Love your body; and if you like to eat, eat in proportion. No one said you have to be a twig to be loved. Even though this may sound harsh, the reality is that the skinnier you become the more emphasis you put on eating only certain foods and becoming obsessed with the "perfect body." Compared to the real world, the "perfect body" is nonexistent. Those who strive for it are battling issues thinking money is beauty, even though this beauty is fake.

Philip Karavlan  
Elon '10

Concluding an excellent Symposium on Sweatshops, last Thursday's "Is Fair Trade Profitable?" panel was lively, engaging and at the same time disturbing.

In defending capitalism and globalism, panelists revealed instead how our current form of capitalism ignores human and worker rights. In their remarks, the term "sweatshops" morphed into "international supply chain."

Panelists referred to the job loss caused by North Carolina textile mill closings, but blamed individual workers unwilling to retrain. In an economy full of part-time jobs without health benefits, should laid off workers be assuaged by panelists' claims that we are moving into an "ideas" economy or that the North Carolina textile industry is still alive, just different?

Thursday's panel seemed to leave it all up to the consumer to track down a fair trade item. We were told repeatedly that solutions are up to the individual consumer, who must boycott and purchase the way to a fairer economy. Good advice, but such ethics are apparently not required of corporations and their individual managers, unless their market niche is fair trade or sustainable goods like T.S. Designs.

Can fair trade be profitable? Sometimes, but the larger question is "Can capitalism be a fair system?" The answer may be "yes" if we institute policies that mitigate wealth and power gaps and if we factor fair wages and environmental costs into trade policy.

Anne Cassebaum  
Department of English

## Costs of War Symposium: eye-opening for many

Too many, the War in Iraq is a thing of the past. It's old news, something that happened

long ago. The public is bored with it already, now salivating for the next bit of sensationalized news.

But aren't there still troops stationed in Iraq? Aren't your brothers and your sisters and your fellow Americans still getting shot at and shooting at other human beings? While many Americans relax in their recliners catching the latest episodes of American Idol, there are thousands of people fighting for their lives in a country that is a world away from this one. This isn't inclusive to just the Allied troops in Iraq, but the Iraqi people who are fighting too.

Frankly, this younger generation's disinterest in the war is disgusting.

In the 70s, the college-age generation was up in arms about the Vietnam War. They understood the horrors of war and took a stand for peace. Perhaps if America gave the War in Iraq a Myspace page the youth of today would begin to give interest.

Don't begin idolizing the youth of the 70s just yet. While they did make a prolific movement for peace, their reasons for the struggle were not so pure. The difference between that generation and the one of this war is they had incentive to rebel against the war. The generation of the 70s had reasons to care about the war that were far more feasible than the ideal fight for peace. The generation of the 70s had to face the draft.

This lucky generation is fortunate enough to not have the draft in place.

Instead, it gets to fall back on the knowledge that the only ones going to war are the overtly patriotic and the ones who rely on the financial incentive to join the military.

It would be interesting to see how much this generation's apathy would change if the draft was brought up as a future possibility. Guaranteed there would be an influx in the number of youths protesting. There would probably also be a large amount of draft-eligible boys running away to Canada for fear of being shipped away to the war zone.

The draft being imposed shouldn't be a reason to oppose a war. The reasons behind the war and ongoing travesties should be reason enough to march on the streets in protest.

The War in Iraq is still

an occurring issue today. Countless have died and will still die in the future. That is the ugly truth. Americans need to open their eyes to the truth about war and realize the horrors that are ongoing today.

Whether or not people believe in the reasons for the war or if they support or oppose President Bush, they need to realize that hundreds and thousands of people are paying with their lives, and the majority of the United States doesn't seem to care anymore.

Those who haven't already should take the time to attend one of the many events that are a part of The Cost of War Symposium that is going on this week. There is a speaker tonight in LaRose Digital Theatre at 7:30 and a panel discussion on Thursday at the same time in the same place.

### THE PENDULUM Established 1974

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

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# Opinions

## The interminable hunt

Max Cantor  
Contributing Columnist

We humans are curious animals. We have an innate thirst for discovery, a thirst for truth.

We want to see what we have yet to see, to know what was previously unknown. More than anything, we crave meaning. In this boundless universe we are specks, combinations of matter imbued with the ability to question our own existence — imbued with curiosity. Because of our capacity to search for truth, to attempt to appreciate the world and all of its intricacies, we realize that we are unlike anything else found on this Earth. And yet we are utterly ignorant. Our eyes are open, but we stand in darkness. We know nothing greater than ourselves, but we want to so badly.

Through our evolution, and the evolution of our own curiosity, we have given birth to science and religion. Since their advent, both forces have clashed, each side fearing its demise. Religion failed to explain evolution, what causes death and decay, why airplanes fly. Science failed, too, never explaining why we love, why we kill. The undeniable division between science and religion, between their support bases, is ironic, as it seems both possess the same ultimate goal: explaining why we are here. Still they exist as two separate spheres — science the voice of reason and knowledge, religion the voice of faith and belief. These spheres divide us and torture us with their platitudinous truisms — they claim that they know.

Both concepts have evolved into complex, interwoven systems of explanation, snowballs of hints, anything to bring us closer. Truth begets truth. Proof piles on top

of proof. Through these rules and accepted truth, we seduce ourselves. We buy into it all. We lie to ourselves and to our offspring. We do whatever we can to avoid feeling so completely meaningless. The only thing we can be sure of is our own inadequacy. We know that none of us knows why any one of us is here. We believe in Jesus, that maybe He knew why. We believe in the Big Bang, but can't figure out what led up to it — who or what set it in motion. We feel hopeless. We can't fathom or comprehend it all. It is too complex, too advanced. It's bigger than anything we can reach in our lifetime, or that of our children. What about our descendants millions of years from now? Enlightenment is unrealistic. No epiphany, no sudden realization of God. Start off with a block of marble, and chip away until a sculpture emerges.

Though science is a means of furthering the process of discovery, it has yet to explain why we are here. Not just the cell development that led to our current evolutionary state, but our mother, father, creator, force, what-have-you. Not just manmade forces like experimental science and organized religion, but that which constitutes our smallest matter, down to the atom, that which made our carbon and nitrogen and oxygen. But science goes forward with humility, a commitment to conceding error. Science must be proven true. It's not given the benefit of the doubt. It is ever changing and charged with error.

Too often we ignore the foolishness of our own romanticism. We push our doubts under the rug, and wear our beliefs as armor. But at day's end we are as imperfect as our pursuits,

shell-shocked by the unfairness of it all. We find ourselves alive, landed here to no guide, no mentor. We know not death, we know not God. Our bitter wrestling of the unknown manifests itself in our need to discover, to explore, our endless pursuit of truth—whatever that even means. It drives science. It drives religion. It drives us. It is an interminable hunt yielding no discernible prize. Unending. Destined to disappoint. We are like Sisyphus, made lonelier for the fact that we get nowhere. We can't agree. The unknown consumes us. It eats away at us as it always has. It forces us to hide behind relics and prophets and medicine men in lab coats. Maybe they will know and then they will tell us.

They divert our attention from the bitter disappointment we feel as a result of our inadequacy. Scientists and theologians are just as scared as us, and they distract us with promises of grandeur. We are deluded. Our lives are made easier by technological advancements. Vacuums. Cable television. And these distractions help us bide our time. They help us be patient and sit quietly and not ask questions. We are content for this life, though it is all we know, for we are conditioned to think that there is light at the end of the tunnel. Surely we will reap our rewards in heaven. We blind ourselves willingly; sleeping through life, content to be unaware, all the while avoiding the sneaking suspicion that we are small, small creatures in an awfully big universe. And at night, when the world is quiet, we tuck ourselves in with a smile, desert fairy tales drifting through our minds.

## Rooting for failures

I have heard the lamentations of Chicago Cubs fans, the stoic patience of the Boston Red Sox fans and the utter silence of Kansas City Royals fans. Teams like the Cubs and Red Sox are storied franchises, whose histories are steeped in lore and their legacies are only heightened by the long years they spend waiting for championships. As for teams like the Royals, their perennial mediocrity endears us to them.



Morgan Little  
Columnist

There's something in the American spirit that gives birth to a certain degree of affection for losers. Nobody dislikes the Royals, just like nobody held ill will against the Brewers before they recently turned their franchise around.

Loveable losers are a recurring theme in athletics because of their close ties to the sports fans themselves, whose baseball experiences for the most part ended in

Little League ambiguity. Teams that consistently find themselves at the bottom of their divisions are the underdogs that we all feel need to win to reawaken that fighting spirit within all of us.

So where does this leave fans of teams who aren't good and certainly aren't loveable or innocent enough to be stamped with that underdog status? For reasons unknown, I'm a Baltimore Orioles fan. There once was a time where I could wave this around proudly. But that time ended in 1997 after the Orioles, who were first place in their division from the beginning of the season until the end, lost the American League Championship series to the Cleveland Indians.

Since then, the Orioles have been a franchise so grossly mishandled, so ridiculously incompetent that it defies words. Part of what makes teams like the Brewers, Royals and even the Oakland Athletics so likeable is that they do their very best to make do with small budgets. They're small fish in a big pond dominated by the big-market teams. The Orioles, on the other hand, had one of the largest budgets in baseball during the late- to mid-90s. They were riding high after the opening of Camden Yards stadium in 1992 and Cal Ripken's record-setting 2,130th game in 1995. So what went wrong?

An important element to any sports team is its personality, the mentality with which it operates. The Los Angeles Angels for example, built a team around solid pitching and flawless base running. The New York Yankees recently altered their usual philosophy of doing anything to gain big-name free agents by passing up on pitcher Johan Santana in exchange for allowing their own young pitchers to flourish.

The personality of the Orioles is that of a village idiot who found himself a bag of cash and decided to spend it in the most foolish way possible. Since 1998, one could count on the Orioles to acquire at least one power-hitting free agent during the off-season who either had an ill temper and declining skills or bags full of steroids and Human Growth Hormones.

It's one thing to have a baseball team that can't win games. It's just something you get used to after a while. Just ask any fan of the Pittsburgh Pirates. But to have a team that could be mistaken for the Mitchell Report All-Stars, with Sammy Sosa, Rafael Palmeiro, Miguel Tejada, Jay Gibbons and Brian Roberts just leaves fans feeling ill. Having to watch your team strike out 19 times over the course of one day and three days later lose to the Texas Rangers by a score of 30-3 is just torture.

So why haven't I switched over to another team yet? Why can't I just keep my Cal Ripken posters and Brooks Robinson jersey up on the wall, but let go of a team that perpetually gives me no reason to love them? It seems like everyone in the entire country has come out of the closet to declare themselves a Red Sox fan and a good number of teams that have been terrible for years are slowly rising up in the standings. It'd be so easy to switch over to them.

But to do so would be a cop-out. Being a sports fan isn't about instant gratification, otherwise we'd all be rooting for northeastern teams from New York or Boston. It's about the heartbreak, the knowledge that at the All-Star break you'll be watching other teams in the playoffs. It's about next year, when the stars will align and that pennant will be yours. And who knows, maybe the Orioles will come together, forget about the miserable past eight years and actually have a winning record. And if so, it'll make every victory all that much sweeter.

## Russia's election leaves many people skeptical

Imagine George W. Bush was running for president in 2008. Well no, that would be stupid by even Bush's standards, as presidents are strictly limited to two terms by the Constitution. Imagine instead that Bush handpicked the Republican nominee, someone who had been a very close aide for him throughout his presidency but never actually held public office: I'll call him Steve.

Bush would of course campaign on Steve's behalf; even being kind enough to offer up his services as a cabinet member once Steve was elected (although it is widely believed that Bush would extend the power and responsibilities of whatever position he took). Sure, it is Steve's name on the ballot, but you know deep inside that by voting for him you would really be voting for a third term for Bush. Would you vote for Steve

in a general election?

It is hard to imagine that voters in the United States would put up with such a blatant disregard for the Constitution. But this is exactly what happened in this weekend's Russian election. Dmitry Medvedev, the specially selected protégé of incumbent president Vladimir Putin, won the election convincingly with 69 percent of the vote.

Medvedev is seen by most of the world as a puppet for Putin's third term: a president in name only. Russian presidents, like U.S. presidents, are limited to two terms by the Russian constitution. Putin himself has a mixed reputation around the

world. Supremely popular in Russia, others have viewed him as cold and anti-democratic.

As if this was not enough, the election was not a fair one. In late February, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced that it would not be able to monitor the election due to restrictions placed by the Russian government. Just to make sure their candidate was successful, the Russian government allegedly participated in some good old-fashioned ballot stuffing on behalf of Medvedev. Government employees may have been forced to vote for Medvedev as well. On top of that, media coverage for the candidates was unbalanced, according to the head of Russia's electoral commission. The election seems to have been, by all accounts, completely rigged.

If the reason we invaded Iraq was to remove a dictator from power and bring true democracy to the region, it is hard for us to ignore what is happening in Russia. True, Putin is not quite on the same level as Saddam Hussein was at the time we declared war on Iraq — by definition, he isn't even a dictator. But if the United States is going to set itself up as the bringer of democracy to the world, as I believe we have, it is hard to ignore Sunday's election.

No democracy is as bad as a façade of democracy. A façade like when a government deceives its people into believing they have the power to vote for their leader, when in actuality the whole thing is little more than a complete sham. Unfortunately this happens all the time, from Russia to Cuba to Venezuela. If the United States is going to use democracy as a front for invading Iraq, shouldn't we be investigating these other countries as well?



Kevin Clang  
Columnist



# The HEALTH TRILOGY

fitness • nutrition • sleep

## FITNESS

### A little bit goes a long way

Shelley Russell  
Special Projects Editor

With a jam-packed schedule of classes, meetings, homework, group projects and at least a quick grab-and-go from Octagon, it seems like there aren't enough hours in the day for anything else. But 20 percent of Elon students are leaving out the most crucial piece of the puzzle: exercise. An additional 45 percent of the student body is not exercising enough.

The American College of Sports Medicine recommends a moderately intense cardio workout for 30 minutes a day. Something is wrong when Elon students who are exercising daily seem to stand out rather than blend in. According to a survey conducted by The Pendulum, only about 35 percent of students are up to par with their daily fitness requirements.

Surveys and interviews yielded the same responses; "I don't have time," "I'm too lazy," "I don't have enough energy." The fact of the matter is that exercising, even in small amounts, can boost a person's energy level and immune system and ultimately make them more efficient.

"Going to the gym and working out should be a time slot on students' calendars," exercise science professor Elizabeth Bailey said. "In a lot of ways, being at college is not very healthy for you. One of the ways to help this is to get into a consistent routine."

Bailey referred to college as a "toxic environment," referencing the dangers of falling into a sedentary routine.

It is a common sentiment for many Elon students at the start of a new semester: "I will go to the fitness center every day." But unless a time slot is penciled into a morsel of white space on your daily planner each day, it's not going to happen. Bailey, along with other instructors in her department, has observed that many students are intimidated by Elon's fitness center because they are not sure how to use the equipment. All it takes is a walk to the information desk, where a campus recreation employee can offer some instruction.

Professors Resa Walch and Bryan Hedrick are among some professors who teach first-year students in Wellness, a freshman year core-class requirement. Both professors engage their students in a behavior-change project where students can work toward improving an aspect of their health. More than half of the students focus on physical fitness each semester.

"I find it very interesting when I ask first-year students to compare their fitness level this year, as opposed to last year," Walch said. "The majority of my students always report that their



SHELLEY RUSSELL | Photographer

Freshman Corinne Aoub and senior Susan Honeycutt work their abdominals in a Group-X fitness class.

fitness level has decreased. Being a college student you have to own your fitness now. In high school, fitness is scheduled through gym class or sports teams."

Aside from the benefits of feeling reinvigorated overall, fitness can keep people from getting sick. That refreshed feeling after a workout is actually because the immune system is getting stronger. At Elon, the flu and mono spread across campus at the most inconvenient times — like during exams. Midterms are imminent and as crunch time sets in, exercise should hold the same weight as studying and writing papers.

Realistic? Probably not, but it should be. Exercise has been found to boost test scores.

Robert Sallis MD, of the American College of Sports Medicine, studied the effects of exercise on many different experimental groups. From the study, he found that among grade school children, physical fitness and test performance had a positive correlation. Sallis also reported that exercise can boost a person's mental health, being just as good as other treatments for clinical depression.

"We see more illness around exam time because students aren't getting enough rest, eating enough or getting their exercise," Kitty Parrish, director of health services, said. "A lot of students get mono around exam times because their immune systems are weak and susceptible."

Even with a busy schedule, finding 20 minutes a day for exercise is easier than many people think.

"If you can't get into a program or fitness routine, do small things like walk instead of take the tram, or use the stairs instead of the elevator," Hedrick said.

Small changes in a daily routine to include fitness can improve a person's overall health in the long run. Hedrick said that the biggest challenge in his teaching comes with convincing students to think about the consequences of their decisions for the future.

"The main thing that I want my students to take away from my class is the idea that alcohol, nutrition and exercise are all choices," Hedrick said. "I want them to understand choice and the responsibility of choice."

It may have been easier in high school when fitness was scheduled amongst academic classes, but now more than ever exercise is essential. A seemingly small effort given toward staying physically fit is helping to lock in a healthier future.



SHELLEY RUSSELL | Photographer

Junior Jordan Stafford uses weights with lunges at the Koury Fitness Center.

#### How much exercise is enough?

The American College of Sports Medicine recommends a moderately intense cardio workout for 30 minutes each day or a vigorously intense cardio workout for 20 minutes each day.

#### Worst of the Worst

**Worst Breakfast:**  
Bob Evans caramel  
banana pecan cream  
stacked and stuffed hotcakes  
**1540 calories**



**Worst Sandwich:**  
Quizno's classic Italian  
**1510 calories**



**Worst Dessert:**  
Chili's chocolate chip  
paradise pie with  
vanilla ice cream  
**1600 calories**



**Worst food in America:**  
Outback Steakhouse  
aussie cheese fries  
with ranch dressing  
**2900 calories**



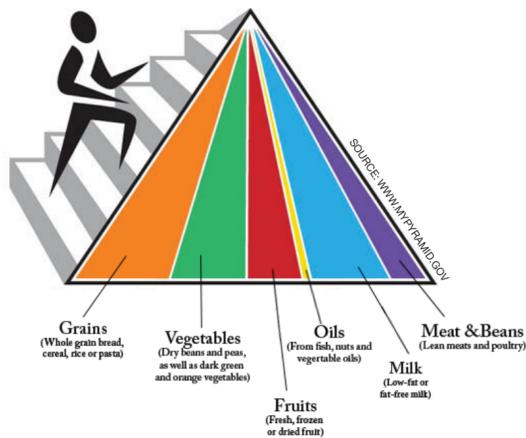
SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.MENSHEALTH.COM](http://www.menshealth.com)

#### Beer in terms of cheeseburgers



SOURCE: E-CHUG SOFTWARE. INFORMATION BASED ON A 10-12 OUNCE DRINK

To find out your personal pyramid plan, visit <http://www.mypyramid.gov>



## NUTRITION

### Eating right in college

Kristin Feeny  
Reporter

Mothers are infamous for telling young children to eat their vegetables and drink their milk. But the guidance of a mother is not always available to children once they grow up and attend college.

Temptations of all-you-can-eat dining halls and scrumptious pastries at Acorn can make it difficult to keep a healthy diet on track.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), proper nutrition consists of four main steps:

- making smart choices from every food group,
- finding a balance between food and physical activity,
- getting the most nutrition out of calories consumed,
- and staying within daily caloric needs.

The USDA no longer mandates a specific amount of calories a person should consume. Instead elements such as age, sex and physical activity level are factored in. While these guidelines are straightforward, many students find it a struggle to live by them.

In a study of 60 Elon students, more than 75 percent of the individuals surveyed responded that they were unable to determine a correct portion size for their meals. Students cited frustration with dining halls and lack of meal portion control.

"It's not that I don't know [my portion sizes]," freshman Kaitlin Brosnan said. "I just haven't had the opportunity to prepare my own food in a while. I try to assume that we're being given the correct portions ... but I guess we're not."

Students battling with nutrition problems in college can find many helpful resources at Elon. Campus Recreation Director Peter Tulchinsky encourages students to explore options Campus Rec offers.

"Once a month we offer a healthy-living food sampler," Tulchinsky said. "We set up tables in Koury Commons and offer healthy food samples and recipes."

Tulchinsky also noted programs such as personal training, Elon outdoors and intramurals.

"We're trying to have a variety of programs and activities you can do by yourself or with your suitemates," Tulchinsky said. "Healthy living is a habit. It's hard for freshmen who've been on a scheduled routine, but if you can find the time it's really worthwhile."

Other on-campus resources include nutrition

classes offered through the Health and Human Performance Department.

"I teach an online summer session course focused on healthy living," Dr. Walter Bixby of the exercise science department said. "The course focuses on diet analysis."

Bixby's class assignments include a trip to a grocery store to analyze food labels, access nutritional information from restaurants and figure out a personal caloric intake.

"The class is mostly focused on basic nutrition and how it relates to your life," Bixby said. "The main thing to realize is that your diet is all about moderation. Calories in should equal calories out."

Bixby said that people have a tough time controlling their food intake, partly because of the societal norm concerning dieting habits.

"We still have this puritanical mindset where you have to clean your plate, but that's really not always the healthy thing to do," he said.

Bixby isn't alone in his thoughts. One of his students, senior Michelle McBride, has even conducted research about Elon women and their dining habits.

"Our study showed us that the number one factor that prohibits students from maintaining a healthy diet is their busy schedules," McBride said. "Students are so busy going from meeting to meeting."

McBride and Bixby commended ARAMARK's efforts to give students the opportunity to choose healthy food options. Dining services now offers nutrition facts online for meals at each dining location on campus.

In addition to eliminating frying oil containing trans fats last year, ARAMARK is also expanding their Health & Wellness program starting in March, which is National Nutrition Month. The new program will include a Health-Finder Nutrition Messaging System to help guide students in their nutrition decisions at dining locations.

While a busy schedule can make eating healthy more difficult, McBride's study showed that over time, maintaining a consistently strong diet comes more naturally.

"As students get older, they gain more control over their schedules and adopt healthier habits," McBride said. "Seniors are much more aware that the habits you practice now are going to stay with you."

Bixby and McBride believe that moderation is the ultimate key to nutritional health.

"It's important to remember that it never killed you to have a piece of a cake," Bixby said. "You just can't eat the whole cake in one sitting."

#### How many calories are too much?

According to the American Dietetic Association, daily caloric intake varies for each person. The total fat intake each day should remain between 20-35 percent of total calories.



Freshmen Caitlin Yuschak and Kim Campbell are led in a pilates stretch by instructor senior Shannon Guerard.

SHELLEY RUSSELL | Photographer

## SLEEP

### The art of a power nap

Power naps got their name for a reason. They are supposed to be little energy boosters; giving people a means of pushing through the rest of a slow-moving or tiring day. So why is it a frequent complaint that people feel more tired after napping?

It could be because what some people call a power nap is actually a three or four hour rest. A power nap should only take 20 minutes. According to Clinical Hypnotherapist Wendi Friesen, even just 10 minutes of shut-eye is enough to give the brain enough relaxation and restorative power to make someone feel clear-headed and rejuvenated.

#### How much sleep is enough?

The Sleep Foundation recommends most adults aim for seven to eight hours of sleep each night. If this is not possible, a short nap throughout the day will provide more energy.

#### Which nap works for you?

• **THE MICRO-NAP:** two to five minutes. This short nap will shed sleepiness.

• **THE MINI-NAP:** five to 20 minutes. This nap will increase overall alertness as well as motor learning and performance.

• **THE ORIGINAL POWER NAP:** 20 minutes. In addition to the benefits of the micro-nap and the mini-nap, the 20-minute power nap will clear your brain and help enhance muscle memory skills. Ultimately, a power nap will benefit long-term memory.

SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.SLEEPPROJECT.COM](http://www.sleepproject.com)

# Features



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Junior Will Taylor relieves stress at the driving range on a sunny afternoon with a few friends.

## FORE! Elon driving range in full SWING

**Krista Montas de Oca**  
Reporter

So, you think you're the next Tiger Woods or Lorena Ochoa? Do you even know how to play golf? Either way, Elon's Driving Range is the place to test out these skills.

South Campus is home to Harden Clubhouse, with foosball tables, pool tables, a big screen TV and the biggest asset: the driving range, open to the entire Elon community.

Open seven days a week during daylight hours, this unique feature of Elon's campus opens up its putting green and driving mats for daily practice as well as a weekly Buddy Night every Thursday. Designed to introduce beginners to the game of golf, Buddy Night features a buy-one-get-one-free special on buckets of balls.

A full set of clubs is available for rent, free of charge, and the new stock of Top Flight golf balls are available.

Being able to hang out in the clubhouse after hitting a bucket of balls just adds to the experience of being on South Campus.

"It's pretty quiet ... pleasant, if you will," said Thomas Barr, team leader of the driving range.

This semester, the driving range began to accept cash in addition to credit/debit cards and Phoenix Cash.

"It's a lot easier because you don't have to charge the \$3 to a credit card," said experienced golfer, junior Kenny Jaques, who has been putting, chipping and driving at Elon's range since freshman year.

For those who think they have the skills, Campus Rec will be hosting a "Drive, Chip, Putt" contest this spring. The competition pits golfer against golfer as they compete for various prizes. For beginners or those looking to improve their aim, strength or swing, Elon varsity golf team coaches Bill Morningstar and Chris Dockrill offer lessons to students.

"We just want people to come out and know that this is available for them," Barr said.

Visit the driving range, any day from 12-6 p.m. For more information visit the Web site at [http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/campus\\_recreation/Driving\\_Range/](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/campus_recreation/Driving_Range/).

**Laura Wainman**  
Reporter

Many students feel like family here at Elon, and numerous faculty and staff members have made this a reality by working with their spouse, intertwining their personal and professional lives.

For Paul and Paula Weller, the university was the start of their relationship. They met in London on a week long, Elon-sponsored trip for faculty and staff and were engaged at the Elon Christmas party in 2005. Paul surprised his bride by presenting her with an engagement ring as her "prize" for winning a raffle that evening.

"If people didn't know who we were before, they definitely did after that party," Paula said.

The Wellers agree that working together has been very beneficial for their marriage.

"Being married to a member of another department has opened my eyes to the concerns, successes and needs of my fellow colleagues outside the business department,"

Paula said. "[It] has made me a better professor in the long run."

Learning about the chemistry department from her husband Paul has allowed Paula to better assist her students who may be looking to minor in another field.

What is the secret behind the Wellers' happy coexistence in the Elon bubble?

"Working in different departments is definitely the way to go," Paula said. "That way, you still have plenty to tell your spouse at home about your day and you don't have any issues with supervising one another."

There are more interdepartmental marriages than most students probably realize.

David and Mary-Alice Bragg have managed to not only work together in the music department, but in the same office as well. The Braggs, who met on a blind date previous to working at Elon, keep their private and professional lives separate by acting as colleagues during work hours. They give the same respect to their personal lives by

leaving work in the office.

Mary-Alice feels that working in the same department with her husband may be more beneficial to her students than to herself. She teaches the freshman music theory classes while David teaches the sophomore music theory classes.

"We need to agree on class curriculum since our classes lead into one another," Mary-Alice said. "It is vital if we want our students to be progressing."

Though there appear to be plenty of benefits from spouses working together, inevitably there are challenges to accompany them.

For Assistant Vice President/Director of University Relations Dan Anderson and his wife, Janna, assistant professor of communications, separating from Elon is not easy.

"Knowing the same people, always wanting to participate in Elon events and having a son who attends the university has made it difficult to have time for non-Elon activities," Dan said. "I guess you could say we are too Elon-centered."

## Love and marriage ELON UNIVERSITY STYLE



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Professor of Accounting Paula Weller and Science Laboratory Manager Paul Weller are one of many married faculty couples at Elon. They met on a school sponsored trip and got engaged at a university Christmas party.

# The Middle Ages: students are traveling but so are parents

Susan Reimer

Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

My friend Betsy called me from in front of her stove, where she has been cooking for her four children for too many years to count.

"What's wrong with this picture?" she asked.

"I have one child headed to Colorado, another child headed to Israel, another one on her way to Mexico and the fourth is planning a trip to Norway."

Her children are just about out of college and almost on their own, and Betsy thought she would be the one doing the traveling at this time in her life.

"I know just what you mean," I said. "Mine is heading to Mexico for spring break. I never took a spring break trip in college and neither did anyone I knew. And those were the days when Daytona Beach was considered the frontier."

I have friends who have gone to visit their well-traveled children. One went to South Africa to see her daughter. Another went to Central America, another to France and another went to Australia.

(My daughter has said she is thinking about moving to Australia with friends after college graduation. It seems that absolutely everyone is going to Australia, the way young people used to set out for New York City.)

But not all of the boomers are writing checks to

cover their children's internship in Central America, nor are they all sleeping on a child's couch in some exotic pied-a-terre.

According to the AARP and travel industry reports, leisure travel among boomers has exploded into a \$150 billion industry, and we are changing the nature of the experience.

When we travel, we like to take the children and the grandchildren, if we have them. We will take them to Disney World, sure, but we will also take them to Las Vegas or skiing. (Or, if we are like my friend Connie, we take them gambling and skiing in Tahoe.)

We don't like bus trips that only allow us to see the world as we drive through it, with a 15-minute stop at a souvenir trap. We don't mind groups, just not big groups. We still like cruises, but to places like Alaska or Egypt, or perhaps on a sailboat in the Caribbean.

And we like adventure. Trips that provide a physical challenge, like hiking, sailing, or hot-air ballooning, or an intellectual challenge, such as traveling through Greece with a college professor who is an expert in Greek history or studying cooking for two weeks in a villa in Provence.

Our college-age children may still want to lie on a beach with a fruity drink, but we don't. We crave experiences, according to travel industry analysts.

We have the money — well, some of us do — to

travel, but we suffer from what is called "time poverty." Many of us are working longer than we expected or have other demanding commitments. But we are acutely aware of the clock and, though we are more vigorous at 60 and 70 than our parents might have been, we want to see some parts of the world before we are too decrepit to handle the walking.

My husband and I have done a modest bit of traveling, and we fit the new model. Our trip to Costa Rica was not to an all-inclusive resort where umbrella drinks were served by the pool. It was an ecological adventure in the most remote part of the country, and it took both guts and stamina.

It was during a trip to Italy for the wedding of a friend's daughter that we met fellow boomers whose lives are now dominated by travel — they spend just a few weeks a year at home. We might never have seen Rome had we not been determined to attend this child's wedding, but we did.

There are other factors that affect our wanderlust.

Just about all of us have friends who did not live long enough to retire and see the world.

That knowledge, and the memory of their unfulfilled travel daydreams, leaves us with a promise to keep -- that we won't put off traveling to, as that travel book title suggests, at least one of "1000 Places to See Before You Die."

## Growing to make CHANGE

Student of Cuban descent decides to grow beard in hopes of making a positive statement

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Wrapped in the Cuban flag, senior Alex Barake vows not to shave his face for 26 days in remembrance of his uncle and in honor of his Cuban family members. KAITLIN BUSCH | Photographer

**Kaitlin Busch**  
Copy Editor

Senior Alex Barake is growing his beard for almost a month. He's not doing it as a fashion statement and he's surely not doing it for attention. He's doing it for Cuba.

Barake is the first generation of his family to be born in America. His mother, Ana Maria Monserrat Barake, grew up in Cuba and her father, Rene Monserrat, worked for Fidel Castro's right hand man, Che Guevara.

After Cuba's communist leader Fidel Castro resigned after 49 years in power, Barake decided to honor his family and roots by growing his beard for 26 days.

"I have decided to allocate one full week as a remembrance of my great uncle who was murdered shortly after the takeover, and for that matter, anyone of Cuban descent who has been impacted in a negative fashion in result of the Revolution," Barake said. "The remaining 19 days are for the 19 relatives on my mother's side of the family, the Cuban side."

Growing a beard isn't a common form of expression, but it too has meaning behind it.

The beard has always been one of the symbols of the Cuban Revolution. It is a sign of the constant fight and struggle, and also of national identity.

In an interview with Edward Murrow shortly after the revolution began in 1959, Castro said, "I'm not thinking to cut my beard, because I'm accustomed to my beard and my beard means many things to my country. When we have fulfilled our promise of good government, then I will cut my beard."

"I'm doing this because ... I want to pay my respects toward all those who have gone before me and who are still present on this earth who have been affected in any way [by] the Cuban

Revolution," Barake said.

His grandfather took dangerous risks to bring his family to the United States. Monserrat worked in the National Bank of Cuba as the division chief of economic affairs. When Fidel gained power, he appointed Che Guevara as the new president of the National Bank of Cuba.

Monserrat and Guevara developed a friendly working relationship, and had daily meetings. Still, the Communist Party took all of Monserrat's diplomatic papers and passport so he wouldn't flee the country.

But Monserrat wanted nothing more than to get his family out of Cuba. He knew the problems that lay ahead.

In 1961, Monserrat secretly put his wife and three children, including Barake's mother, onto a U.S.-bound cargo plane with two suitcases and the equivalent of \$500. The situation was extremely dangerous; if the family had been caught fleeing Cuba, they would have been murdered.

A year later, Guevara sent Monserrat to Spain on a business trip. Instead of returning to Cuba, Monserrat fled to Miami to join his family.

"I've always looked up to my grandfather," Barake said. "He is the main reason why I've been blessed to be born and raised on these lands."

Monserrat has never been back to Cuba, but when he heard the news that Fidel resigned, he decided that the family would have a reunion in Cuba this summer.

Barake said he is excited to spend a week in Cuba with his family so that he can learn more about his roots. He believes that Fidel's removal from power will have little effect on Cuba's people.

"It is simply replacing a dictator with another dictator," Barake said. "But it can only be a step in the right direction. Let's hope it will pave the way for reforms."



PHOTOS SUBMITTED  
 TOP: Pre-med students work during a lab for their BIO 161: Human Anatomy class. BOTTOM: Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Matthew Clark uses human donors to teach his curriculum.

# Muscle tissue, bone marrow & brains OH MY!

Students pursuing medical degrees after Elon use human donors and gain one-of-a-kind experience

Brian Mackey  
 Reporter

The students in BIO 161: Human Anatomy are not unlike average Elon students. They go to class, have group review sessions and study hard. There is one difference between them, human anatomy students use a study guide that is six feet tall and weighs 170 pounds. They study a dead human body.

Since 2000, Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Matthew Clark has taught human anatomy using human donors, making Elon one of only five undergraduate schools in the country to do so. Individuals interested in being used for medical research after death donate their bodies to the program.

The class is geared toward students who want to pursue a medical profession after Elon. Its curriculum models a class structure normally found at a medical

school and rarely seen at the undergraduate level. Human donors provide an avenue for students to better retain information through hands-on study that will put them a step ahead of other first-year medical students.

The use of human donors is not the only tool students have to ease the transition into graduate medical programs. According to Clark, the class also uses the same computer software that doctors and medical schools use to review the body.

"That's the way it's done at the professional level," he said.

For many students, the idea of cutting open a human body for research may seem wrong or disgusting. To combat this fear, the course includes a memorial service at the beginning and end of each semester to honor the donor's body, and to mentally prepare students for the labs.

During the pre-course memorial service, students

listen to a speaker who discusses the importance of using the human body as a tool for study. The service emphasizes the point that the body should no longer be considered a human body, rather a tool of medicine. In the post-course memorial service, students are given the details of the donor's life, including family details, former employment and cause of death.

Along with the professor, students have a large network of tutors and teacher's assistants to help handle the material. These tutors are known as TEATAPS, or The Elon Anatomy Teacher's Assistants Program for Students. The program conducts lectures and labs on weeknights and weekends so that students can get another chance to understand the material.

Paul Friedman is a sophomore exercise and sports science major who works for TEATAPS. He took human anatomy last semester, and now helps other students through the course. Friedman said many in the class find the material challenging.

"Pretty much everybody goes to night and weekend [study] sessions," he said.

TEATAPS has created an atmosphere where students are helping others get through the demanding course load.

"It's a community within a community," Clark said.

By the end of the course, anatomy students at Elon will truly gain a new perspective.

"It's just a completely different experience," Friedman said. "I'll never look at the human body the same way again."

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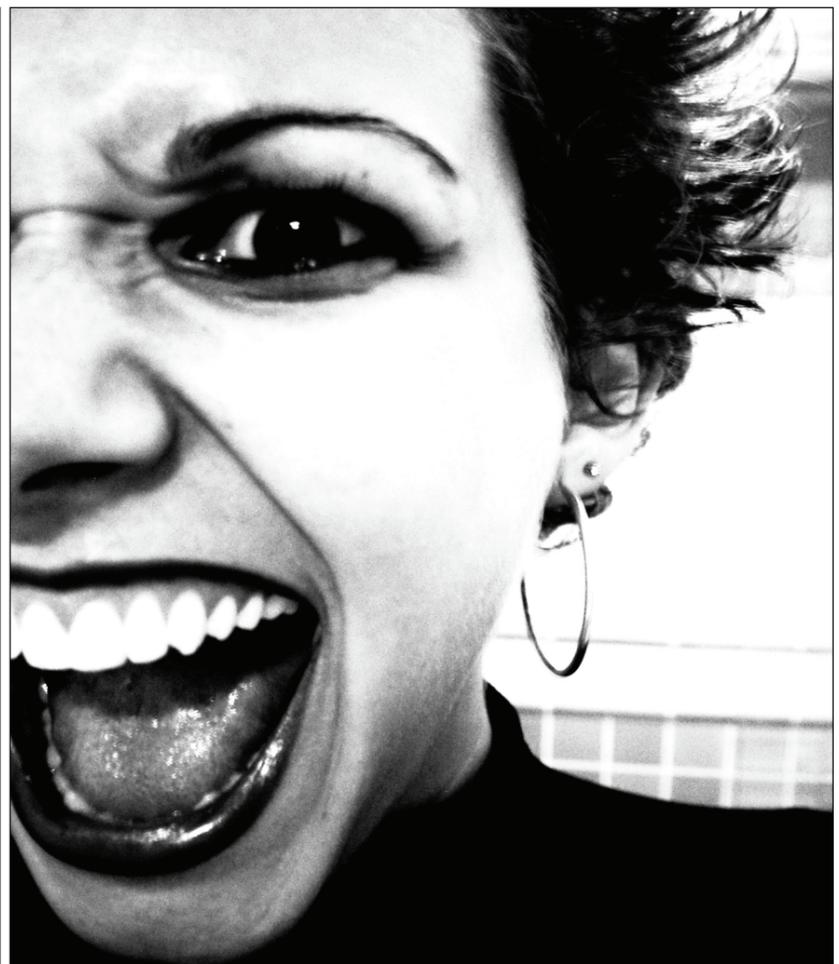
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# Arts & Entertainment

## ST. PETERSBURG BALLET comes to McCrary

Molly McGowan  
Reporter

For the first time in four years, Elon will get to see a full-length classical Russian ballet when the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre performs "Swan Lake" in McCrary Theatre March 6.

The Russian National Ballet performed "Don Quixote" in 2004 and will return in March 2009 to present "Cinderella." But this year the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre will continue Elon's trend of presenting professional Russian dance companies.

The Theatre will be performing a full-length version of "Swan Lake," setting the company apart from other smaller companies that visit. Cherie Bower, assistant professor of dance in the Department of Performing Arts, said it's not too often that Elon gets to see a complete version of the ballet.

"[We get] a full-length evening ballet versus shorter pieces that may be in the repertoire of another company," Bower said.

The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre is also significant, Bower said, because it will showcase a type of ballet that is different from the American ballet to which so many people are accustomed. Russian ballet began developing its own techniques after countless Italian and French artists transferred to Russia, each bringing his or her own strengths. As the Russian dancers stayed and trained for years in Russia, they started developing their own style.

"They're big in their expressiveness," Bower said.

Since every ballet company has the prerogative to perform any of the multiple versions of "Swan Lake," Bower said she doesn't know what to expect from the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre.

"The storyline can vary, depending on the choreographer and director and which version they want to follow," she said.

She speculates that they will perform the 1895 version that Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov choreographed, which was better received than the first 1877 version. With the changes Petipa and Ivanov made, and Riccardo Drigo's musical revisions of Tchaikovsky's score, this became the standard version of "Swan Lake."

"Through the years, this has been the particular version that had not only survived but served as the primary outline for future versions of 'Swan Lake,'" Bower said.

In order to prepare her advanced ballet students for the upcoming event, Bower is having them watch the Universal Ballet of Korea's version of "Swan Lake," to expose them to a different culture's version of the same presentation.

The students will also do individual research on the Ballet's various versions. After they see the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre's presentation, they will compare it to the Universal Ballet of Korea's presentation and identify the variations from both artistic and cultural perspectives.

No matter what version the company performs, George Troxler, dean of cultural and special programs, said that Elon is fortunate to have the opportunity to see the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre.

The Lyceum Committee, which chooses the major performing arts programs to perform at Elon, booked the dance company 18 months ago. And even though Elon is not a huge venue that can afford to pay as much as others, it has certain appeal.

"The agency knows that we have 572 seats and we're willing to take them on a week day," Troxler said. "That's how we can afford to have a big company like this."

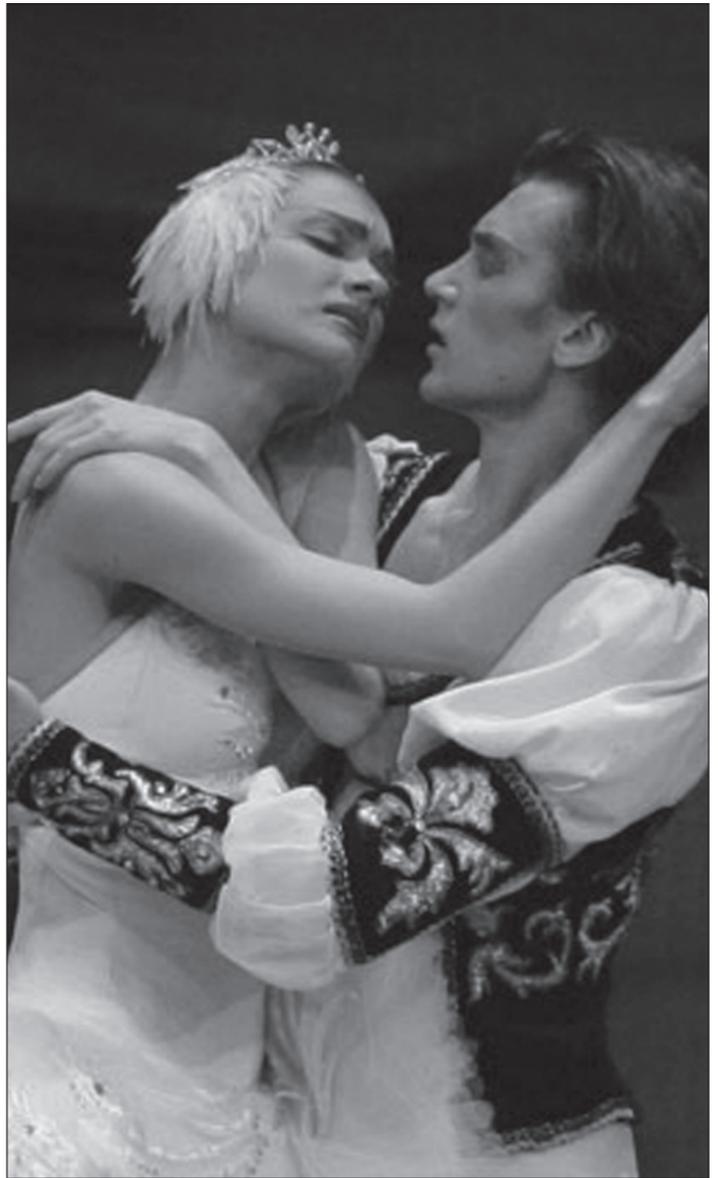


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SPBT.RU

Dancers from Russia's St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre will perform the full length version of "Swan Lake" tomorrow in McCrary Theatre.

### BOOK REVIEW ★★★★★

## Students sink their teeth into popular book series

Amanda Kennison  
Reporter

It all started with a dream. The use of the phrase now is usually flippant, meant to achieve a romantic effect.

This wasn't the case for Stephenie Meyer. As explained on her official Web site, her big break into fame came from an actual dream. Unable to shake the haunting reality of her dream, Meyer decided to write it down. A meadow, an average, everyday sort of girl and an impossibly beautiful boy set the stage for a new cultural phenomenon.

In the course of only six months, Meyer managed to write her first novel and get it accepted for publication. And "Twilight" is anything but the normal boy-meets-girl story.

Seventeen-year-old Bella Swan sacrifices her own happiness under the Phoenix sun in order to allow her scattered mother to travel around the country with her new husband. This unselfish act means moving in with her father in Forks, Wash. Here, clouds provide a constant shroud; rain comes as naturally as breathing.

Bella is completely unassuming of the wonder and terror that awaits her. Life changes forever once Edward Cullen enters it. Bella and Edward find themselves inexplicably drawn together. For Bella, the connection begins with awe and frustration at Edward's beauty and actions. For Edward, an intense fury and desire he knows he must not act

upon connects him to Bella.

As Bella digs into Edward's mysterious behavior she finds out the secret he and his family have kept hidden for generations. Edward's desire for Bella goes beyond teenage hormones — his lust is one of blood, and Bella discovers that Edward and his family are vampires.

Meyer isn't simply another wannabe Ann Rice. At its core "Twilight" is a love story, though an atypical one. It focuses on the difficulties of new relationships and then some. Of course there are advantages to the vampire angle. Having a boyfriend that serves as a personal superhero and still holds onto century-old romantic conventions proves interesting.

The overwhelming success of her first novel earned Meyer a contract for three more installments. "Twilight" was followed by "New Moon" and "Eclipse." With every piece, Bella and Edward's bond is tested by evil forces, questions of mortality and opposing relationship views.

It has been said that Meyer's "Twilight" series is turning into the next Harry Potter. On Aug. 11, 2007, days after its release, "Eclipse" knocked "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" off the top of the Barnes and Noble bestsellers list.

So, what makes this series so popular? "I think it is telling that, even though the series is classified as 'young adult literature,' it has gained such renown among older readers as well," sophomore Jordan Frederick said. "The romance

is timeless, regardless of Edward's impossible immortality; something about the maturity that leads Bella in everything she does, despite her age in the novel, makes the couple easy to read by any age group."

"I really enjoy the story line," junior Kyle Wiggins-Rowan said. "The characters are fun and even though it's shoddily written at times, it's a very fun series that I eagerly await the last book of." The last book, "Breaking Dawn," will finally resolve the series' remaining questions. Countless loyal fans have already begun a countdown to the Aug. 2 release date. Even though this is the last book of the series, it doesn't mean Bella and Edward are going away anytime soon.

Filming for "Twilight" the movie began earlier this month. Kristen Stewart of "Into the Wild" is set to star as Bella and Robert Pattinson, known for his role as Cedric Diggory in the "Harry Potter" films, will play Edward. The film is expected to be released this December, and if all goes well, sequels will follow.

Sophomore Stephanie Allen nicely sums up the real appeal of the "Twilight" series and why it has become so popular:

"There is no clear distinction between good and evil," she said. "Monsters can be loving people, and yet the same creature can be a bloodthirsty fiend. It's also really great because an average girl falls in love with a spectacular guy. It gives us all hope that someday we'll meet our own Edward."



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.WAEBOOKS.COM

# A&E Brief

## "Metropolis Remix: Live" art exhibit debuts March 7

A performance based on the 1927 dystopian film "Metropolis" will take place from 6 to 7 p.m. March 7 in Elon West Gallery. Artists Robb Fladry, Barry Jones and Kell Black will perform their artistic interpretation of Fritz Lang's film with 30 minutes of visuals and music. An exhibit based on this installation will continue in Elon West until April 15.

## Applications for RSA's "Wannabe Lip-Sync" contest due March 7

RSA's annual "Wannabe Lip-Sync" contest will be held at 8 p.m. March 11 in The Zone. Groups should show creativity in their lip-sync performance and can have three to 10 people. Applications are available in Moseley 208 and 213 and are due March 7.

## Jeff Chang to give speech on the history of hip-hop culture March 11

Journalist and author Jeff Chang will give a lecture, "Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Culture" on March 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium. Chang will address how the hip-hop culture has influenced modern art and politics.

## "Doubt" debuts at Triad Stage March 9

The Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Doubt" will premiere in downtown Greensboro March 9 and run through March 30. This religious drama takes place at a Bronx Catholic school where a priest is accused of abusing a male student. Tickets are \$16 and available at the Triad Stage box office and on the theater's Web site, [www.triadstage.org](http://www.triadstage.org).

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★☆☆



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.FIRSTSHOWING.NET

Alexa Milan  
A&E Editor

Director Michel Gondry's latest film uses everyone's favorite movies as inspiration for an off-beat comedy with a lot of charm.

The Be Kind Rewind video store has occupied the same spot on a neighborhood block in Passaic, N.J., for years. But the store, run by the old-fashioned Mr. Fletcher (Danny Glover), is in danger of being closed because of safety code violations and a big corporation's desire to build some new condominiums.

Be Kind Rewind's business is suffering at the hands of the Blockbuster-inspired West Coast Video, which offers a bigger selection and DVDs. Mr. Fletcher decides to go out of town and investigate these corporate chains to find ways to improve his business.

While he's gone, he leaves his assistant Mike (Mos Def) in charge of the store. He asks Mike not to let his friend Jerry (Jack Black) in the store because of his clumsy, trouble-making ways. But Mr. Fletcher has no idea just how much trouble Jerry will cause.

Jerry, who lives in a junkyard around the corner from the store, has a conspiracy theory about the local power company and convinces

Mike to help him sabotage the plant. During their excursion, Jerry is electrocuted, a disaster that leaves him magnetized.

Before Mike can figure out what has happened, Jerry enters the store and his newly developed magnetism erases all of the videotapes. Miss Falewicz (Mia Farrow) says that if she doesn't get a copy of "Ghostbusters" by the end of the day, she will call Mr. Fletcher and tell him Mike and Jerry have wrecked the store.

Not wanting to get in trouble with the boss, Mike and Jerry decide to remake "Ghostbusters" themselves, hoping that Miss Falewicz won't notice since she's never seen the movie.

To their surprise, their "Ghostbusters" remake is a huge success in the city. Soon more people are requesting that Mike and Jerry remake their favorite films, from "Rush Hour 2" to "The Lion King." They enlist the help of Alma (Melonie Diaz), who works at the local dry cleaner's, to give the films a feminine influence.

The store's business is booming, but when Alma and the guys are slapped with a lawsuit for copyright violations, they have to figure out how to save themselves from going to jail and save the store.

"Be Kind Rewind" is pleasantly

quirky, though its oddities don't work as flawlessly as those in Gondry's superb "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind." The plot is incredibly off-beat and may not appeal to everyone, but once people accept the film's surreal nature, it makes for a satisfying piece of entertainment.

The film starts out slow but picks up once Jerry becomes magnetized. The most exciting part of the movie is watching Mike, Jerry and Alma's clever takes on films like "Driving Miss Daisy," "King Kong" and "Boyz n the Hood." While parts of the film seem preposterous, it is so charming that all overly eccentric moments can be ignored.

The film works largely because of Black and Mos Def's comedic skills. This is a comic team that doesn't immediately spring to mind, but the pair fits together perfectly. Diaz is also funny and charming as the spunky Melonie and works well as the more sensible side to the filmmaking trio.

Gondry, whose forte is surrealist fare like "Eternal Sunshine" and "The Science of Sleep," succeeds with "Be Kind Rewind's" directing, though his script falls short in terms of pacing.

Though "Be Kind Rewind" is no work of art like "Eternal Sunshine," it is a fun piece of entertainment that is sure to bring lots of laughs.

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DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor  
Freshman Phil Moroni plays the guitar at the "Real Guitar Hero" competition in front of a crowd of students Thursday evening in McKinnon Hall.

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# The REAL 'Guitar Hero'

East Area and Danieley Center Residence Life sponsor talent search based on popular game

Jacqui Seidel  
Reporter

Max Cramer blew the competition out of the water at Thursday's Real Guitar Hero Competition in McKinnon Hall with his unique finger-style acoustic song. Playing a self-composed original, "October," Cramer was awarded first place and a \$150 gift certificate to Guitar Center.

What began as a take on the video game sensation "Guitar Hero" quickly became a search for genuine guitar playing talent among Elon's students. Many styles of guitar were represented from acoustic to electric, none of which involved video games. Competition grew quickly as all nine participants brought unique skills and performances to the table.

Residence Life staff members from East Area and the Danieley Center sponsored this low-key event to discover musical talent. Lucas Langdon, assistant director of residence life— East Area, came up with the idea for the competition after watching an episode of "South Park," which poked fun at the video game phenomenon.

"My office is in Smith dormitory, so I hear people playing the guitar all the time," Langdon said. "I know there are great guitar players on this campus."

Cramer, who is from outside Philadelphia, is a junior at Elon. His specialty is acoustic-finger style play, which set him apart from the other

competitors. Finger-play style is often considered to be more difficult because guitar picks are not used.

Cramer said he began teaching himself how to play the guitar almost four years ago and has continued this hobby ever since.

"If I am not eating, sleeping or doing school work, chances are I am playing my guitar," Cramer said.

Cramer wrote his song "October" two weeks earlier, and the smooth, flowing song captivated the small audience immediately.

"That song was unlike anything I have ever heard. It was amazing to see how quickly his fingers moved on the guitar," spectator Ryan Guthy said.

Andrew Pressley, Elon's most recognizable guitar player and second place winner, played his own electric guitar version of the national anthem. Pressley is a sophomore from Asheville who plays guitar in Elon's pep band, marching band and jazz ensemble as well as his own band, Obsidia.

Phil Moroni, a freshman from New Jersey, came in third place with a creative performance that involved an instrumental background played from a computer.

The musicians were scored in four categories including sound quality, difficulty of song, timing and rhythm and overall performance. While this event certainly was not a rock concert, spectators and participants alike agree that Cramer truly is Elon's Real Guitar Hero.

# Men's basketball team confident going into SoCon tournament

Justin Hite  
Reporter

Although the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga may have torn the hearts out of Montell Watson and Brian Waters, the two seniors on the men's basketball team, the Mocs may have given the Phoenix a much needed lift heading into the Southern Conference Tournament this weekend.

Some of the members of the Phoenix squad may have taken offense to the way Chattanooga celebrated its Northern division clinching victory on Saturday night, but Elon was playing for something different, having already locked up the seventh seed in the Southern Conference tournament.

"They were playing for the Northern division championship and we were just playing for our seniors," Waters said. "To see them celebrate when Doaks hit that big three ... that was just a dagger in our heart."

The 57-56 loss capped off a roller coaster season that began with a strong conference start, only to see the team lose six straight in January and February and 11 of 13 during the winter.

Although the loss to Chattanooga (18-12 overall, 13-7 Southern Conference) ruined a senior night for Watson and Waters, it may have served as a jumping-off point for a senior season that is not quite finished.

"Hopefully something special can happen with my senior season," Watson said.

That something special may take root starting Friday when the Phoenix (11-18, 9-11) heads to North Charleston for the Southern Conference tournament and a first round matchup with Furman University (6-14, 7-22).

"Every night we go out to play, we play hard," Watson said. "We are pretty focused and we know that we can do something special. Everybody is pretty focused to do his or her part and do something special."

And as the seventh seed in the tournament, the Phoenix will need plenty of that something special it found in the latest contest with Furman. In Greenville, less than two months ago, Furman's Tony Anderson sank a last-second shot to defeat the Phoenix, only to have the result of the shot reversed as officials claimed he did not get the shot off before the buzzer.

The matchup with Furman is the third this season — the Phoenix swept the regular season series — giving Elon plenty of confidence heading into the game with the tenth-seeded Paladins.

"Their big men are playing a lot better," Waters said. "They are going to be pumped up to play us after what happened down there last time."

More pressure will be on junior forward Ola Atoyebi and sophomore forward Adam Constantine, as they will have to contain an improving Paladin frontcourt. Emerging threat T.J. Douglas could also play a role in the first round matchup.

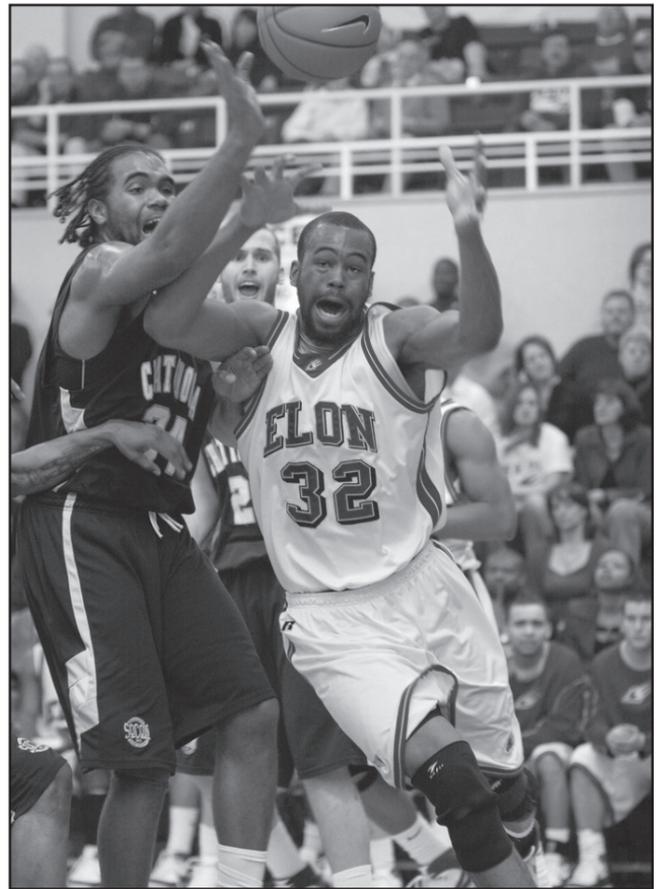
"Going into it we feel pretty strong," Watson said. "These are games that we can win, just eliminating the small mistakes. We are going to focus in and hopefully our mental toughness will step up in the tournament."

Even with two losses to the Phoenix already this year, Furman will still be focused on turning the tides in the third battle.

"We don't want them to just come in and not play hard," Watson said. "I hope they have their best game and they are going to get ours."

Following the Furman game, the Phoenix will have an opportunity to avenge its most recent loss. Chattanooga awaits the winner in the second round.

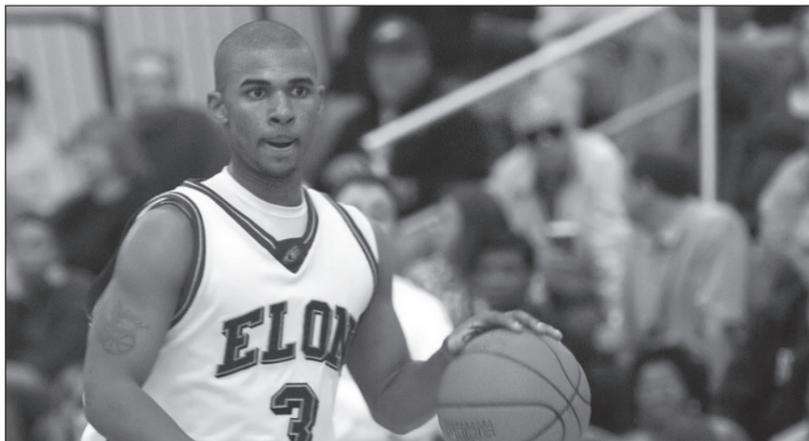
"If anything we should just beat Furman because we are hyped up to play Chattanooga," Waters said.



STEVE PLANTIN | Photographer  
Sophomore Adam Constantine reaches into the paint to grab the ball.



STEVE PLANTIN | Photographer  
Freshman Chris Long takes on Chattanooga player Kevin Bridgewater in this weekend's 57-56 loss to UT at the SoCon tournament.



RIGHT: Senior guard Montell Watson takes a look down court to see what offensive options are available.

STEVE PLANTIN | Photographer

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Men's golf wins team title

Elon's men's golf team claimed the team crown last Tuesday afternoon at the third-annual Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate men's golf tournament in South Carolina.

The Phoenix was trailing first-place Furman University entering Tuesday's final round of play. Elon rallied back from a four-shot deficit over the final 18 holes to claim an 890-891 victory and the tournament championship.

Jimmy Lytle (69-69-72-210) pulled away from runner-up Oliver West (70-76-73-219) of Kennesaw State during the last two rounds. Lytle received plenty of support from his teammates as Jayson Judy (73-69-78-220) earned a share of third place and Justin Newton (77-77-74-228) tied for 25th in the 81-player field.

Both Lytle's 54-hole score and Elon's team score were records for the tournament.

### Women's golf finishes second

The women's golf team placed second out of 15 teams last Tuesday at the Fighting Camel Spring Classic.

Samantha Widmer recorded a two-over-par 74 to claim a share of first place in a three-way tie.

After thunderstorms passed

through the area during Tuesday's second round of the two-round, two-day, 36-hole event, the course was declared unplayable.

Campbell University (301) claimed the team title, with six of its players among the tournament's top 11 players. Elon (315) finished second and Memphis University (316) finished third.

### Bumbrey named to All-Conference first team

Elon's senior guard Tierra Bumbrey was named to the Southern Conference Sports Media Association (SCSMA) All-Conference first team. This is the first time she has received this honor.

Bumbrey ranks fifth in SoCon in scoring assists and three-point field goal percentage. She is also third in steals and ranks second in three-point field goals and minutes played.

Earlier in the season, she set a SoCon record for minutes played with 57 in a four — overtime game against Western Carolina.

Bumbrey and the Phoenix are seeded sixth in the Southern Conference and are preparing for the tournament next weekend.

### Women's basketball wins regular season finale

Elon outlasted Wofford College 59-47 in the Southern Conference regular season women's basketball finale Saturday afternoon at Alumni Gym. Katie Whidden and Amber Wall each scored 10 points.

Tierra Bumbrey scored 10 of her own and tallied seven rebounds, four assists and three steals in her last regular season game as a Phoenix.

The Phoenix (11-19 overall, 6-12 SoCon) was off to a strong start, leading 25-13 with less than six minutes left in the first half. They came out strong in the second half as well, going on a 21-6 run.

The Terriers controlled the score going on their own 21-11 run, but could get no closer to the Phoenix lead.

Elon was out-rebounded 30-43, but committed 13 turnovers compared to Wofford's 28. The Terriers shot 41.2 percent from the field while Elon shot 32.3 percent.

### Lytle named SoCon Athlete of the Week

Senior Jimmy Lytle owned the 81-player field at the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate by nine shots Tuesday

afternoon to earn Southern Conference Men's Golfer of the Week honors for all events through Feb. 26.

Lytle hit two rounds of 69 in the first two rounds of the tournament before concluding with a 72 for round three.

Lytle, with a 54-hole score, set a new record for the third-annual event. He also helped Elon's set a new record for team score (890).

### Women's tennis dominates SoCon opener

Elon opened league play Saturday afternoon with a 7-0 win over University of Chattanooga at Tennessee.

Elon's Jennifer Tucci and Hayley Wahl swept the No. 3 doubles match for the first victory of the competition.

Deanna Bailey and Anna Milian claimed the No. 1 doubles while Paige Kensrue and Whitney Butcher were downed at No. 2.

Wahl, Tucci, Kensrue, Milian, Butcher and Bailey all posted singles victories.

The Phoenix (7-4 overall, 1-0 SoCon) will return to Jimmy Powell Tennis Center Wednesday at 2 p.m. to face non-conference opponent UNC Wilmington. Elon's next SoCon test comes March 8 at 10 a.m. at home.

# Softball team takes games 'one bat at a time'

**Pam Richter**  
Reporter

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, fans packed the bleachers at the Elon softball stadium as the Phoenix hosted the Golden Corral Phoenix Classic. Seton Hall claimed the crown, being the only team to win three games.

The Phoenix struggled on Saturday, losing to both Ohio University and Seton Hall. The team redeemed itself on Sunday coming back strong to beat both teams.

In the first game on Sunday, Elon defeated Seton Hall 12-2. The Phoenix was led by pitcher Pam DelPizzo who pitched five innings, allowing five hits, two runs (one earned) and totaled five strike outs.

The offense also exploded, starting off every inning in the game with a hit. There were six homeruns for the Phoenix in both games on Sunday. Melanie Helterbran, Jaimie Rao, Allison Hartman and Brandi Jones all tallied home runs.

Hartman led the Phoenix from the plate going 2-3 with two RBIs.

In the second game, the Phoenix continued this offensive firepower against Ohio with an 8-1 victory. Defensively, senior pitcher Samantha Schroeder gave up only one run in seven innings of work.

Hartman and Patti Webber led the Phoenix going 1-2 at the plate.

Elon hits the road with the next three tournaments away



STEFANIE MEYERS | Photographer

Ohio University's pitcher Michelle Sauter tags out Elon freshman Allison Hartman in an attempt to steal home. Though Hartman was called out, she later scored as the Phoenix went on to defeat the Bobcats 8-1, improving its season record to 7-6.

from home. The team will not return home until the end of March.

It will be a challenge for the team to be on the road for such an extended period of time.

"We are trying to get them to focus on one at bat at a time," said head coach Patti

Raduenez. "I think we've got their mind focused on that. It's more trouble setting up study hall time for them to do their class work."

Schroeder also agrees that these next few tournaments on the road will be a challenge.

"Obviously you can tell we love being at home. We have

a great turnout," Schroeder said. "I think we're going to take that momentum and take it to Georgia Tech, Florida and Western."

It's apparent the Phoenix has a high powered offense, but its strong pitching is also an important aspect to its success. Freshman pitcher

Pam DelPizzo currently has a 1.02 ERA.

The Phoenix will begin its conference play March 22 at Western Carolina. When it finally returns home, it will be set to battle its second SoCon opponent, Furman University, on March 29.

# Oden gets a vote for standing up for his beliefs

**Michael Wilbon**

Los Angeles Times-The Washington Post News Service

It's not as if Greg Oden declared he was refusing induction into the U.S. Army or staging a sit-in or starting a boycott. But in these days of political and social inactivity among America's richest and most famous athletes, Oden's conversation with and subsequent public endorsement of Sen. Barack Obama for president qualifies as an eye-opener.

Once upon a time it wouldn't have been. In 1972, almost a year before the Supreme Court's historic Roe vs. Wade ruling, Billie Jean King was one of 53 women to sign a petition in the first issue of Ms. magazine revealing, "We Had Abortions."

Five years earlier, in a move that preceded a huge swing in the country's feeling about the war in Vietnam, Muhammad Ali refused induction into the U.S. Army, costing him three prime years of his career. A year after that, in the most defiant political statement in a sporting arena, John Carlos and Tommie Smith stunned America with a black power salute on the medal stand in Mexico City, when they raised their fists, covered in black gloves, while "The Star-Spangled Banner" played.

In the 1960s and '70s, the richest and most famous athletes didn't just protest or take on causes that often were controversial; they led the way. That largely changed as even rank-and-file team sport athletes began making enough money to identify more with the ruling class than the oppressed. When asked why he had decided to not endorse black North Carolinian Harvey Gantt in his race against ultra-conservative Jesse Helms, Michael Jordan said, "Republicans buy sneakers, too."

It seemed to officially usher in a period in which athletes made a conscious choice of commerce over

politics. Neutrality offended fewer people. African American athletes, with Jordan leading the way, appealed commercially for the first time to the mainstream.

For every Charles Barkley, who engaged publicly in political and social debates, there seemed to be dozens who followed Jordan, and more recently Tiger Woods, keeping their feelings on the most controversial subjects of the day private. And of course, unlike Jordan and Tiger, there have been exponentially more who simply ignored politics and culture and removed themselves from the discussion entirely. (Jordan, by the way, contributed to Gantt's second unsuccessful run at Helms and has given even more money to Bill Bradley and Obama.)

Often in this space I've defended Jordan's right and Tiger's right to keep their thoughts private instead of giving in to group pressure and taking a stand simply to satisfy others' agendas. And I will continue to defend their right to act privately.

Even so, I'm thrilled with Oden's decision to talk openly and write in his blog about his conversation with Obama. Had he endorsed Sens. John McCain or Hillary Rodham Clinton, I'd have felt the same way. (In fact, Oden just Thursday introduced first lady Laura Bush at a function in Portland, Ore.) What's important about Oden's involvement is he understands and articulates the importance of people 18 to 25 actually voting, and he apparently pays little to no attention to playing it safe.

Oden already has national endorsements with an appeal that's part Shaquille O'Neal and part David Robinson, and stands to make tens of millions off the court in the coming years. Nobody would have blamed him had, like most 20-year-old athletes, he no-commented if asked about the election or simply walked away from

the conversation. Thankfully, he didn't.

Oden wrote in his blog: "If the person I vote for wins it's gonna be because of my one little vote; at least that's what I'm gonna think. I think everyone should think that way. This will be my first presidential election to participate in as a voter and I hope that you younger voters will get involved. I think our votes can really influence the outcome so go out, register and vote for who you think is the best candidate to be the best leader for this country. ..."

Years ago, the Nation magazine wrote a piece entitled "Where Are the Jocks for Justice," and it mentions, among other things, Redskins lineman Ray Schoenke organizing 400 athletes to support George McGovern's 1972 presidential campaign with largely antiwar themes even though his coach, George Allen, was tight with Richard Nixon. It's not as blatantly risky as linebacker Dave Meggyesy of the then-St. Louis Cardinals being told by coaches and club executives that his antiwar views were hurting his team and his career. And it's hard to imagine anybody suggesting a blackball of Oden, as it has been said was suffered by former Chicago Bulls guard Craig Hodges. During a visit to the White House in 1991 he handed President George H.W. Bush a letter expressing outrage about conditions in urban America.

But it's a rather bold step now because after hearing the distinctive voices of Jim Brown, Arthur Ashe, Bill Russell, Bill Walton, John Thompson and others for years, it's been mostly quiet on the athletic front the last 20. When Steve Nash wore a T-shirt to an all-star game event that read "No War. Shoot for Peace," Coach Flip Saunders told the Minneapolis Star Tribune, "What opinions you have, it's important to keep them to yourselves."

Nash didn't, thankfully, and neither have athletes with generally lower

profiles, including the Wizards' Etan Thomas and another NBA big man, Adonal Foyle. But with Oden, the first pick in the most recent NBA draft, speaking his mind, no matter how innocently, one wonders if it will get others to thinking they don't have to face financial hits for being well informed and engaging in the national discussions of the day.

Oden, in a telephone conversation Thursday night, didn't think what he'd done was any kind of big deal. He said he had gone online and read some of the reaction to his endorsing Obama, and found almost all of it positive. "I can't say I know every single one of his policies by heart," Oden said, "but I've done enough homework to know what I like about him. I really feel more strongly about young people voting, about making an educated decision. I'm not trying to tell people what to do or who to vote for, just to educate themselves and participate. What could be the harm in that?"

I asked Oden if he could see himself, down the road, being involved in politics and he said: "I can't even imagine that now, knowing enough to govern a city or a state. I'm just at the point where I'm watching CNN more than I ever have, listening to the candidates. I'm not the most educated guy in the world on the issues, but I'm getting there."

Oden recounted how nervous he was during what he estimated to be a 90-second phone conversation with Obama, all of it about sports. And he got to be nervous again Thursday morning when introducing Laura Bush. "They gave me a script," he said, "but other people were winging it. ... I was so nervous. My voice was cracking. The governor introduced me and I introduced her. ... I got to meet the first lady. It was very cool."



Sweet Tea & Chicken Biscuits



Sig Ep Raiders



Team Chompy



Sigma Kappa



Team America

# JOIN IN THE GAME

More than half of Elon students participate in intramural sports

**Michelle Longo**  
Sports Editor

Intramural sports are an important part of Elon student life. More than 2,800 students participated in intramural sports last year. Athletes use intramurals as an outlet from their work, to stay or get in shape and to participate in good-quality bonding time with friends.

Elon offers 21 intramural sports that are divided into three separate leagues: women's, men's and co-ed. Greek life members also form their own teams, which fall into the respective categories.

Participants are not allowed to play for two teams in the same division, but may play for a co-ed team and their respective gender.

In some sports, intramural champions are given the opportunity to participate at the state, regional and national level.

Each team has one captain who is responsible for the whole team. They are the ones who submit the forms, attend the meetings and notify the team of scheduled games.

Students who have been

listed on a varsity roster at any National Collegiate Athletic Association school are not allowed to participate in that specific sport for one full academic year. There are also limits on how many club sports members may play on an intramural team.

Elon students, employed faculty and staff or a spouse of a staff member may participate in an intramural sport. Dick Shirley, part time Elon teacher, claimed the 2007 racquetball intramural championship while the co-ed staff team, Fighting Squirrels, grabbed the volleyball championship in their league.

Spring sports include indoor soccer, softball, sand volleyball, outdoor basketball and singles tennis.

The first two sports to be played during the spring are 5-on-5 Basketball and 4-on-4 flag football.

The games began on Feb. 18 and are held in either Alumni Gym or Jordan Gym. Playoffs begin March 13 and the Final Eight begin on March 19.

The Final Four follow shortly afterward to determine who has intramural bragging rights for the year.

## Intramural Sports

- Flag Football
- Team Tennis
- Wallyball
- Cornhole
- Outdoor Soccer
- Racquetball
- Volleyball
- 4-on-4 Basketball
- Arena Football
- Dodgeball
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Monster Golf
- Bowling Tournament
- 5-on-5 Basketball
- 4-on-4 Flag Football
- Table Tennis
- Indoor Soccer
- Softball
- Sand Volleyball
- Outdoor Basketball
- Singles Tennis

## Fall and winter champions

### FLAG FOOTBALL - FALL 2007

Men- Little Giants  
Women - Sigma Sigma Sigma  
Co-Ed - CR and Friends

### TENNIS - FALL 2007

Men - Sig Ep  
Women - Sigma 2  
Co-Ed - Pi Kappa Xi Delta

### WALLEYBALL - FALL 2007

Men - Team America  
Women - Alpha Omicron Pi  
Co-Ed - SS

### CORNHOLE - FALL 2007

Men - Sig Ep Raiders  
Women - Alpha Omicron Pi  
Co-Ed - Sorry Boutcha

### RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT - FALL 2007

Dick Shirley

### 4-ON-4 BASKETBALL - FALL 2007

Men - Dynasty  
Women - Tri Sigma 1  
Co-Ed - Walt Baby Ballas

### VOLLEYBALL - FALL 2007

Men - Sig Ep Raiders  
Co-Ed - Fighting Squirrels  
Women - Sigma Kappa

### OUTDOOR SOCCER - FALL 2007

Men - Lock It Up  
Women - Sigma Sigma Sigma  
Co-Ed - Shake n' Bake

### ARENA FOOTBALL - WINTER 2008

Men - The Noise  
Co-Ed - Campus Rec

### ULTIMATE FRISBEE - WINTER 2008

Men - Team Chompy  
Co-Ed - Sweet Tea and Chicken Biscuits

### DODGEBALL - WINTER 2008

Men - Pi Kappa Phi Gold  
Co-Ed - Campus Rec  
Women - Delta Delta Delta



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Elon University • Tuesday, March 11, 2008 • 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Alumni Gym – Koury Center

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# Sports



Senior shortstop Donny Jobe makes it safely to first after Delaware State's first-baseman boggles the catch. Jobe went on to score three runs for the Phoenix in its defeat of the Hornets.

STEFANIE MEYERS | Photographer

## Phoenix baseball sweeps weekend series to remain undefeated in season

Sam Rinderman  
Reporter

After winning the three-game series against the Delaware State Hornets this weekend at Latham Park, the Phoenix improved its record to 9-0 and first place in the Southern Conference, its best start since moving to NCAA Division I.

The Phoenix won Friday's game 7-1 and turned up the heat to defeat the Hornets on Saturday 16-6. Sunday played out much the same for the Phoenix as it concluded the series winning 21-1.

Elon is now in the elite company of the University of Virginia, Duke University and the University of Kentucky as the only four teams in the nation to be undefeated this season.

Junior Mike Lobacz led the Phoenix from the plate Sunday going 5-6 with four runs scored and two RBIs.

Junior pitcher Cory Harrilchak (2-0) earned his second victory of the week, going six innings, giving up

just one run on three hits and striking out five.

J.D. Reichenbach, Daniel Britt and Thomas Girdwood supported Harrilchak, going the last three innings, allowing one hit and tallying one strike out each.

Last Wednesday, the Phoenix had its biggest win of the season, defeating the No. 24 East Carolina Pirates.

"This was a big win for our club," Kennedy said. "Wins against good teams like East Carolina really help come selection time for the NCAA Tournament."

The last time Elon had a winning streak like this was in 2002 when they boasted a 14-game winning streak early in the season.

The team is very young, and on Saturday the underclassmen contributed significantly as freshman Ken Ferrer picked up the win, along with a great bullpen effort from freshmen Jared Kernodle and Greg Amorosso.

Coach Kennedy has been pleased by the performance of his freshmen this year as

Brian Bodjiak, Jimmy Reyes and Ferrer all have victories this season. Closer Tom Girdwood also has two saves.

Starting shortstop Neal Pritchard has also contributed at a high level. His seven-game hitting streak ended Saturday, but that is the only blemish in his .333 batting average.

"I am a little disappointed in ending my hitting streak, but now I need to sit back a little longer while I'm up at the plate, and get my swing going again," said Pritchard.

The Phoenix offense was propelled on Saturday by sophomore Ryan Adams who went 2-4 with two three-run homeruns and seven RBIs.

"I wasn't pleased with my .200 batting average to start out," Adams said. "But I was happy with today's performance and I need to continue to work more to keep improving."

For the weekend, Elon outscored Delaware State 44-8. The 21 runs scored on Sunday were the most since a 24-run victory against Appalachian State University last season.

## Women's indoor track finishes fifth in Southern Conference

### Four Phoenix track records were broken at the 2008 conference championships

Michelle Longo  
Sports Editor

Dominique Price successfully defended her 60-meter hurdles league title as Elon finished fifth in the 11-team standings this past weekend at the 2008 Southern Conference Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships at Clemson University.

Price sprinted to a season-best time of 8.84 seconds to take home the gold medal and reclaim the crown and all-conference honors, yet again.

Teammate Jennine Strange joined Price on the all-conference team, finishing third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:14.54, improving upon her own record set earlier in the year.

"It really says something when other coaches are coming up to compliment on the performance," said head coach Mark Elliston.

Freshmen Justine Robertson and Krystal Paszkeicz finished within a half-inch of each other in the shot put to claim fifth and sixth place, respectively. Robertson hurled a throw of 12.15 meters, breaking her own school record.

Robertson and Paszkeicz have battled back and forth all season, rewriting the record books a total of six times.

Paszkeicz broke the original record in the first competition of the season, throwing 11.43 meters. In the next competition, Robertson threw for 11.70 meters, breaking the record again. Minutes later, Paszkeicz threw for 11.74 meters to reclaim her title.

That did not last long as Robertson once again stole the record by throwing for 11.89 meters a little more than a month later. The record finally rests at Robertson's 12.15 meters she threw this past weekend at the tournament.

"Battling for the shot put record was something that we both knew would happen from the beginning of the season," Robertson said. "It was just a matter of time before we both started performing at a level where the record was going to be broken continuously."

The 4x400 meter relay team of Sarah Skogen, Melissa Turowski, Strange and Andrea March finished fourth place at the tournament with a time of 3:58.65. They were among the four Elon track stars to set Phoenix milestones.

Freshman Emily Fournier placed seventh in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 10:21.97. The Phoenix relay team of freshmen Catherine Rossi, Turowski,



Freshmen Emily Fournier races ahead of the pack in the 3000-meter run. She finished the event in seventh place.

KATY BURNS | Photographer

Taylor Shaw and Fournier finished sixth with a time of 12:42.75.

During the regular season, March broke the Elon high jump record with a 1.60 meters leap. Veronica Day also established a new milestone in the triple jump with a distance of 11.34 meters.

The final standings at the SoCon tournament saw Western Carolina claim the title with 172 points, followed by Appalachian State University (167), Georgia Southern University (120), University of Chattanooga at Tennessee (78), Elon University (35), Davidson University (32), College of Charleston (23), The Citadel (22) and Furman University (14).

"It was exciting because we could see how there were some powerhouse teams at the top of the

SoCon, but there were other schools gunning for the places left," Elliston said. "We were all really battling with one another and we knew what we had to do to get ahead of the others."

For most of Elon's indoor track team, this was the first time they were participating in an indoor college conference championship.

"I was concerned in the beginning [of the season] because we are a very young team," Elliston said. "But then I could really see the team come together and focus on what they needed to accomplish. They really wanted to do something special."