

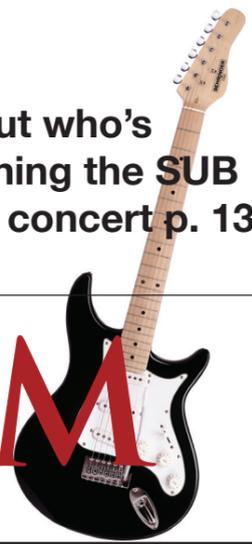


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Football announces 2008 schedule p. 15

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THE PENDULUM

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Service students build house over break



PHOTO SUBMITTED

From left, Justin Sposato, Andrew Crispin and Nate Smith saw wood used for the hardwood flooring of the Habitat for Humanity house the students helped build in Palm Coast, Fla. over Spring Break.

Carolyn VanBrocklin
Reporter

While many students were enjoying a restful Spring Break, a group of nine students from the Elon University Catholic Campus Ministry drove to Palm Coast, Fla., to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity.

The small, one-story house has three bedrooms, one bathroom, a kitchen and open areas for a living room and dining room. It is simple, but one family will call it home.

The group drove south March 23, and spent the next four days finishing the house that had been worked on by several previous groups of students from around the country.

The students laid sod, painted the house and laid flooring.

"Many people in the group hadn't ever worked with Habitat before, so this was a good experience for them," said Trung Huynh-Duc, an administrative assistant for Catholic Campus Ministry who accompanied the students on the trip.

"There were some tough parts," he said. "Everyone was really happy that they all got it done."

When the students first arrived at the worksite, previous groups had built the house, but the lawn was entirely sand, and the house had concrete floors and drywall.

During the first day, students transformed the sandy lawn to grass with a garden in the front yard. During the second day, they painted the house.

By the final two days, the house was nearly ready for the family to move in, complete with wood floors.

"It was so satisfying to see the changes that our group made, even from day one," freshman Katie Dirks said. "We came to the house, and there was a dustbowl of a yard. We left that day, and the house had a lawn."

The students learned many new skills, including carpentry.

Students said the most challenging part of the week was the two days spent laying down wooden floors in all of the rooms and the hallways.

"It was hard to get around corners

and closets and the ends of the room," Huynh-Duc said.

The students had to snap the flooring together using a rubber mallet, and when the inspection crew came in and saw one crack in the floor, they made the students redo it.

"It was hard work and some of it wasn't all that fun," junior Caitlin McDonnell said. "But knowing that we helped build a house for someone who otherwise wouldn't have had one was really satisfying. I felt very accomplished."

Elon students were the final group to work on the house as part of the Collegiate Challenge.

The challenge was created to give students an alternative to the typical Spring Break of beaches and parties.

Students got a chance to do something for others who are in need.

"It's just such a good opportunity for students to do service for the community," Huynh-Duc said.

The trip provided the chance to learn about carpentry, gardening and construction, but it was also a great time to forge bonds of friendship, students said. For Huynh-Duc, it was nice to see the students working together as a team.

"At the end of it, they were good friends," he said.

On Tuesday night of the trip, a current owner of a Habitat for Humanity house met with the students. He made the group hot dogs for dinner to show his appreciation for their cause, even though his house was not the house the group built.

Because of the success of this year's trip, Catholic Campus Ministry is planning to continue doing an alternative spring break trip each year.

Habitat for Humanity, the nonprofit organization for whom Catholic Campus Ministry built the house, was founded in 1978 in San Antonio, Texas.

Habitat for Humanity has assisted more than 30,000 American families in all 50 states. There are more than 1,500 Habitat affiliates throughout the United States.

Recent intruder report marks fifth incident since January

Andie Diemer
News Editor

During the past 90 days, students' inboxes have been littered with reports of indecent exposure, intruders and Peeping Tom encounters occurring around campus.

The most recent incident, involving a white male who exposed himself to a 20-year-old female student last Wednesday on N. Holt Street, marked the fifth incident that has been reported since Jan. 6.

While Vice President of Student Life Smith Jackson said the number of incidents is unusually high, Campus Safety and Police Chief Chuck Gantos said university communities are prime targets for sexual deviants.

Sam Russell, captain of police for the Town of Elon, said all the incidents seem to be isolated and random at this point. There also doesn't seem to be a trigger to the recent surge, he said.

"We are following up on tips we are receiving, we have been pointed in a direction," Russell said. "We have

a couple persons of interest. We are doing everything we can."

In response to the increasing amount of issues emerging, the town and university chiefs of police held an open forum on campus about safety, Jackson said.

Three sexual exposures, one suspicious person and one Peeping Tom account have been reported.

"The town police are working diligently to solve these cases and arrest the persons perpetrating these crimes," Jackson said. "The university is in constant communication with the town and assisting the town in this significant effort."

Students who have been victims were gathered and questioned for subsequent information last week, Jackson said. On the night of the last incident, Gantos, Russell, Town Manager Mike Dula and Jackson met to discuss their next move.

Two officers from the town's department and one from campus security have been assigned to the task; more officers are acting as extra

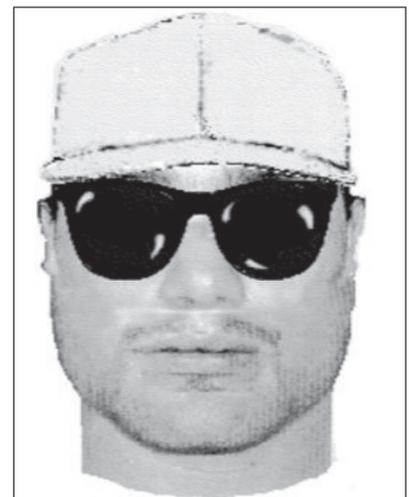
manpower to patrol the streets and follow up on leads, Russell said.

"Rest assured we're doing what we can to catch the guy or guys," Russell said. "We're treating it very seriously."

A composite of the suspect from N. Holt Street was released last Wednesday, but more security measures are being implemented, such as installing more video cameras, starting a Neighborhood Watch program and programs like House Vacation, a service where town police will keep an eye on an apartment or house while its occupants are away.

Even though there is an excess of officers and detectives working on the cases, the most important thing to remember is to practice safety habits and contact authorities immediately if anything is witnessed, Jackson said.

"It is a natural reaction to call a roommate, but you lose valuable seconds," he said. "It's okay to call 911 and get the fastest, most comprehensive response. The faster they can get there the better chance they can find someone or evidence."



COMPOSITE DRAWING FROM TOWN POLICE

A sketch of the intruder was rendered based off the student's descriptions. The mug sketch, pictured above, was sent to all students by Dean of Students Smith Jackson.

2009 Periclean Scholars target Zambia

Amanda Kennison
Reporter

For two years, the Periclean Scholars Class of 2009 has struggled to pick a country and project fitting of the group's mission to support underdeveloped countries.

The group's interests and former troubles led them to partnering with Habitat for Humanity International and their efforts in Zambia.

Initially focused on working with landmine victims in Angola, the Periclean Scholars were forced to redirect their attention. Political boundaries made it difficult to get in to the country.

The group has always been interested in Zambia. Its close proximity to Angola and the fact that many refugees flee to Zambia for protection made the country a natural choice.

Habitat International has been established within Zambia since 1984, making it an ideal partner organization. The organization's connections and hands-on techniques appeal to what the Pericleans have said they hope to accomplish.

"We could have just donated money to landmine victims, but that didn't seem consistent with our mission," adviser Steve Braye said. "We see this as a learning exchange, where we learn as much about our world and ourselves as those we work with can learn from us. Being on the ground is essential. Habitat has a long history on the ground in Zambia. Their mission of changing lives by showing care meshes with ours well."

With help from a grant they received, a group of students will be traveling to Zambia to capture audio and video.

This data will be turned into presentations that will educate people back in the states about the stories and struggles of Zambian people.

Winter Term 2009 marks the



From left, 'The House That Love Built,' 'Share the Earth' and 'The Giving Tree' are three art pieces created by Nicole Moore and donated to the Periclean Scholars Class of 2009. Matted prints and greeting cards are being sold in Moseley to raise money for the Zambia mission.

bulk of their first-hand experience. The group will travel to Zambia and spend the three weeks in cooperation with Habitat International and local Zambians building houses and establishing other community building activities.

"[This project] opens the door for Elon students, staff, alumni and families to understand the needs of Zambian families and to make a difference in those lives," junior Becca Watts said. "I hope to learn more about Zambia, its culture and its people, in a way that will improve their community and build relationships and share with others what we have learned in the process."

The Zambia project isn't one-sided aid. Elon students and the community will also benefit from the knowledge gained in Zambia.

"As Americans, we have no idea what it is like to be forced from

our homes or to be afraid of our government," junior Kelly McCarty said. "We hope that whatever we do with our audio/visual project will allow Elon students and hopefully people beyond the Elon community to understand what that is like."

Furthermore, this project is offering new experiences to the students involved, enabling them to open their minds.

The development of the project has required the scholars to open themselves to conflicting ideas, perfect their decision-making skills and garner a better understanding of how groups function.

Some have said they have come to recognize their roles outside of the college realm.

"This project is important because it allows a group of college students to work toward changing our world," junior Coral Zayas said. "Many times it seems when we are in college we are

kind of stuck between two worlds, but this reality allows us to put our skills to use and find a way that we can help people around the world."

But before that help can turn into hands-on work in Zambia, funds must be gathered. Before going on their trips, the Periclean Scholars must raise more than \$40,000. Efforts have already begun to earn this money.

Artist Nicole Moore has donated three prints to the Periclean Scholars. The group is selling matted prints and greeting cards of these designs. One hundred percent of the profits will go to the Zambia mission.

Students will be selling artwork in Mosley on April 22, 28 and 30, and May 1. They are also available on the group's Web site, <http://org.elon.edu/periclescholars2009/index.php>. Other information about the project and future updates can be found on the site.



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Elon submits name to host Democratic debate



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photo Editor

The two leading Democratic presidential candidates, Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama may be making a stop at Elon University before North Carolina's May 6 primary, if the university wins its bid to host an upcoming Democratic debate.

Ashley Barnas
News Editor

Elon has made initial contact with the North Carolina Democratic Party and offered to host a Democratic presidential debate between Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.).

Dan Anderson, assistant vice president and director of university relations, said that Elon has contacted the Democratic party about providing facilities for the debate.

It is being reported that schools such as N.C. State, Duke and Wake Forest are also attempting to host the event.

The negotiation process involves talks between the party, networks and different colleges to see who can provide an acceptable facility.

"We haven't heard back from them," Anderson said. "We understand there's still a negotiation process with the television network, so they have not yet determined when [the debate] will be held or who will be

televising it."

Anderson said he believes the debate will be held about 10 days before North Carolina's May 6 primary. The party may have to make a venue decision relatively soon so it can begin preparation.

The party is not currently discussing a specific location and has not set a date for when a venue will be selected. But Anderson says Elon has "offered to them that we would like to be considered as a host site for the debate."

Wake Forest put out a news release March 20 expressing its interest in hosting the debate.

The school has not received any more information, but its bid has attracted the attention of local media outlets.

Wake Forest hosted the 2000 presidential debate between President George W. Bush and former Vice President Al Gore. Candidates also debated there in 1988.

"At this point," Anderson said, "we're just waiting to see what the next step is."

Elon junior receives Truman scholarship

The prestigious scholarship recognizes students entering careers in service, government

Ashley Barnas
News Editor

Bre Detwiler has been named the first student in Elon University history to receive the prestigious Truman Scholarship.

According to the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation Web site, "The mission of the Truman Scholarship Foundation is to find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in the public service."

Darris Means, assistant director of student life and leadership development for the Elon Academy, was the driving force behind Detwiler's application for the Truman.

"He's an inspiration to me," Detwiler said. "He's really the main reason I did it."

Beyond the \$30,000 for graduate school, Detwiler said the scholarship has many perks.

In May, Detwiler will attend Truman Scholar Leadership Week in Missouri where she will learn what it means to be a scholar, attend sessions on preparing for graduate school, meet people working in the public sector, sit through rigorous panels and work on policy projects.

The week will culminate in an awards ceremony for the 65 Truman Scholars of 2008.

During the summer after graduation, Detwiler will attend a Summer Institute in Washington, D.C.,

where she can take on an internship with a "federal government agency, non-profit or other public service organization."

Detwiler is able to defer the Truman Scholarship up to four years, though she may only take a year off.

"It will be good to have that year to study for the LSATs," she said. Detwiler wants to study environmental law with a specific focus on land use and conservation.

She likes the setup of the law school at Georgetown University, but she has not written off the possibility of finding a school better suited to study land use.

After undergoing a very rigorous interview process, Detwiler said

the Truman Scholarship was no longer on her radar.

During Spring Break, President Lambert left a voice message on her home phone.

It was too late to call him back that evening, but he called again the next morning to let her know that she had received the scholarship.



Bre Detwiler

SGA

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Campus safety and police office assistant dies at 84

Campus Safety and Police Office Assistant Emogene "Jean" Spangler Courtney, who had worked at Elon University for more than 20 years, died March 20.

Courtney began working for Elon in 1987, when she started as a traffic supervisor in the security department. She transferred to office assistant in 1997.

A graveside service was held March 22 at Pine Hill Cemetery in Burlington.

Courtney's daughter, Susan Beth Courtney, can be reached by mail at 119 Cornwallis Court, Mebane, N.C. 27302.

POWERless week four results

Thirty one out of 40 buildings are showing energy reduction, which is down two from last week. But, the energy reductions for these 31 buildings are greater than any of the previous weeks.

The winner for this week is Academic Village—Cannon at 22 percent.

Loy Center G, H and I topped total building energy reduction at 13.7 percent, followed by Danieley Flat M at 10 percent and Oaks B at 9.8 percent.

Area energy results were Danieley Center at 40 percent, The Oaks at 23 percent and East Area at 22 percent.

POWERless week five results

With the help of Spring Break, every building on campus showed energy reductions for this week. Danieley Center B won with a reduction of 47 percent.

Total building reduction was Loy Center G, H and I again with 17.9 percent, Danieley Flat M at 14.5 percent and Oaks F at 13.5 percent.

Area reduction for energy to date are Loy Courts at 9.7 percent, The Oaks at 8.2 percent and Danieley Center at 7.7 percent.

Donate Spring Break toiletry items

Donate toiletry items brought back from Spring Break to help those in need.

There will be a collection Box in Moseley by Octagon Café until April 7. Full-sized and sample-sized products, such as shampoo, soap and razors, are needed.

Donations will benefit local Burlington residents in need.

Political science professor elected to prestigious position

Dr. Laura Roselle, an Elon political science professor, was elected president of the International Studies Association's International Communication Section for 2008-2009.

The International Studies Association is a scholarly organization representing 80 countries and more than 4,000 members.

Burlington Human Resources Director speaks tonight

Dr. Aaron Noble, who has been Burlington's human resources director for 12 years, will speak at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Career Center, Duke 101.

Noble will focus on careers in human resources.

Art History professor to discuss Spanish villas

Glaire Anderson, an art history professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, will speak tonight on the medieval Islamic villa cultures of Spain. Anderson's presentation will be in Koury Business Center's LaRose Digital Theatre at 6 p.m.

Student works for HPV awareness with campaign

Alyse Knorr
Design Editor

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), genital human papilloma virus, or HPV, is the most common type of sexually transmitted infection.

HPV infects at least 50 percent of all sexually active American adults at some point in their lives, and 20 million Americans are infected with the virus today.

Senior Maggie Santry worked with Elon's sororities to organize an HPV Awareness Week to educate the campus about the virus and its vaccination.

Planning and executing the week's events serves as Santry's common good project for the Isabella Cannon Leadership Program.

"Many times, organizations focus on outside philanthropies," Santry said. "However, sometimes we lose sight of our own difficulties and problems around Elon. So for my common good project for the Isabella Cannon Leadership Program, I wanted to focus on campus rather than off. I wanted to raise awareness about a problem around Elon that many times, women are afraid to talk about."

Santry is a member of the Alpha Xi Delta organization, which provided her with a useful outlet to reach a large audience of women.

"I got the idea through the National Panhellenic Conference, the governing body of all 26 sororities," Santry said. "They help sponsor the 'Tell Someone'

campaign, which is a campaign to raise awareness about HPV and the Gardasil shot."

This week, students can stop by an information table in Moseley to pick up brochures about HPV and Gardasil. They will also receive a flyer with scientific information about the virus through campus mail.

On Friday, all sororities will participate in the Yellow Rose Campaign, which involves passing around yellow roses attached with information about the virus and the vaccine.

Individual sororities have also scheduled their own program times as part of the week, as well.

"I want more people to be aware that this is out there and that it can happen to you," Santry said.

For the 2007-2008 school year so far, the Health Center has conducted 235 pap smears, and 32 of them yielded abnormal results, about 14 percent.



Maggie Santry

According to Ann Amyot, family nurse practitioner for the Health Center, 98 or 99 percent of these abnormal pap smears are due to HPV.

Last fall, according to Amyot, the Health Center referred 20 women for further evaluation after abnormal pap smears.

So far this spring, the Center has referred 12 women.

"I don't want this awareness to stop here," Santry said. "My hope is to have women and men think about HPV more often and to keep themselves safe and healthy. The Health Center has a wonderful staff that provides the Gardasil shot. I recommend that every woman on this campus get one."

The HPV vaccine is available at the Health Center. Students can schedule an appointment to receive the vaccination, or they can make a walk-in visit.

The shot costs \$145, and payment through cash, check or Phoenix Cash are all acceptable. Many health insurance providers cover the cost of the vaccine, as well.

The vaccination consists of a three-shot process, meaning that after the individual has the first shot, she must have a second shot two months later and a third shot six months after that.

Having one or two of the shots at Elon and the rest at a home healthcare provider is possible by bringing home a copy of an immunization record to the home physician.

HPV: The virus, vaccine explained

Alyse Knorr
Design Editor

With the prevalence of HPV increasing every year, one of the first steps toward protection is more knowledge and a better understanding of what HPV is and how it works.

HPV is a virus, not a disease. Viruses consist of a protein shell surrounding a nucleus of DNA or RNA.

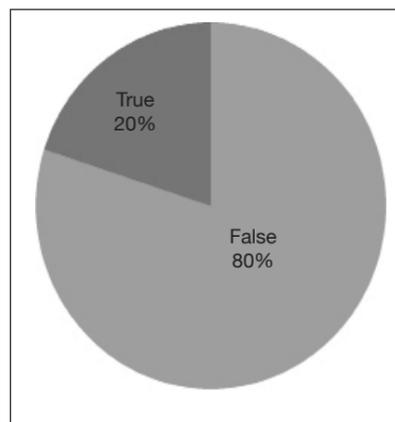
Viruses work by infecting genetic material inside healthy body cells, meaning that they cannot be treated by medicine but must instead be eliminated by the body's natural immune defenses.

Viruses spread by altering the healthy cells of the host in a way that causes the healthy cells to produce more of the virus.

The common cold and the flu are illnesses caused by viruses. Other examples of viral diseases include chickenpox, measles and mumps.

There are many types of viruses, and one broad category of viruses is called papoviruses.

Papoviruses are double-stranded



GRAPHIC BY ANDIE DIEMER

In an informal, unscientific survey conducted by The Pendulum March 21 to 30, 100 Elon students, faculty and staff were asked a true or false question, to answer to the best of their knowledge: Men can contract HPV, but cannot transmit it. The correct answer is False.

DNA viruses that most commonly affect humans. Within the papovirus classification, there are two smaller groups: polyomaviruses and papilloma viruses.

There are over 100 strains of human papilloma viruses and 30-40 of these are sexually transmitted. Some types cause no symptoms and disappear naturally, but others can cause serious health problems.

One common problem is non-cancerous warts. Strains of HPV, commonly infect skin cells, meaning that types of the virus can often cause genital warts or warts on the soles of the feet.

The four most common strains of HPV, Types 6, 11, 16 and 18 cause 90 percent of genital warts. About one percent of sexually active Americans have genital warts at any given time.

Certain strains of HPV can also cause cancer. HPV strains can contain genes that control cell growth, and types of cancer can arise from an uncontrolled proliferation of cell growth.

HPV is responsible for 70 percent of cervical cancers. In 2008, the American Cancer Society estimates that 11,070 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer can result in sterilization and even death.

HPV can also, in rarer cases, cause vulvar, vaginal, penile and anal cancers. Signs and symptoms for these types of cancers often do not present themselves until the cancer is very well advanced.

The types of HPV that are sexually transmitted are spread through any kind of genital contact, not just intercourse.

The virus is "silent," meaning that it often exhibits no signs or symptoms until cancer or genital warts emerge. Both men and women can become infected and pass the virus on without ever becoming aware of it.

The CDC states that about 20 million Americans are infected with HPV today, and at least 50 percent of all sexually active males and females will become infected with a genital HPV strain at some time in their

lives.

By the age of 50, more than 80 percent of American women will have contracted at least one strain of HPV.

The spread of HPV is growing, with 6.2 million more infections each year, according to the CDC.

Condoms can lower the risk of acquiring HPV, but they do not completely protect against all types of the virus, since HPV can affect areas of the body not covered by a condom.

The virus is most common in college-age people, with 74 percent of all new cases occurring in 15-24 year-olds.

Pap smears for women are the most common screening method used to detect HPV, but a less commonly used HPV test is also available.

Condoms do not always prevent the spread of the virus, since contact with genital areas not covered by the condom can cause infection.

The best way for women to protect themselves from the virus is to receive the HPV vaccine, a three-shot series that can keep women immune to the four strains of HPV that cause genital warts and cervical cancer.

Gardasil, the vaccination against HPV, was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2006. The vaccination is given through a series of three shots spread over a 9-month period and offers protection from the virus for four to five years.

Vaccines work by injecting a dead or weakened sample of the disease germ into the body.

The body's immune system then creates antibodies to fight the weak invading virus germs, meaning that if the actual virus ever infects the body in the future, the immune system will be prepared with antibodies to defend against it.

Gardasil is recommended for women between the ages of 13 and 26.

It is almost 100 percent effective in preventing diseases caused by the four most common strains of HPV, including genital warts and vulvar, vaginal, and cervical cancers.



U.S. Senate candidate reaches out to students

Scott Moshier
Commentator

Jim Neal has worked for change throughout his life. He attended UNC-Chapel Hill and was the first member of his family to graduate from college. He was the CEO of RxMarketplace.com, a company aimed at helping pharmacists make prescription drugs more affordable.

Now, Neal is running for U.S. Senate with the belief that the political system can be fixed with the right leaders. In order to do that, he needs the right followers.

"Young people are fed up with their democracy," Neal said. "They want change."

Neal plans to bring his campaign to Elon University at 1:30 p.m. today in Koury Business Center's LaRose Digital Theatre.

"Elon is a phenomenal, progressive university," he said. "It's made tremendous strides since I was young."

Neal said he believes he is the leader who can bring about change in Washington.

"I realize our political system is broken, and to repair it takes people outside the system who are book-smart, street-smart and problem-solvers," he said.

In the past six months, Neal has traveled to more than 70 counties campaigning for votes, but primarily listens to the concerns of North Carolina residents.

"I'm just a candidate," he said. "I'll be no more effective than the people who stand beside me."

The list of the people standing beside him continues to grow. College students have been central to his campaign.

"Our field office was built on young people," he



Jim Neal

said. "We're running a grassroots campaign that is combining old fashioned politics with the latest technology."

Neal has utilized various aspects of the Internet, including his own Web site, www.jimnealforsenate.com, Facebook and MySpace. The reason for Neal's appeal may be his drive for change.

"I present, reach out and listen to young people," Neal said. "They see I'm not 'politics as usual,' and recognize me as the outside, non-status quo candidate."

Neal said he will do three things to start his term in Senate if elected in November. The first is to stand up in opposition to the war.

"We need to quit wasting and sacrificing lives," he said. "The war has been a gross waste of our national wealth."

Neal said he would also favor a government-funded project to wean off fossil fuels.

"Driving the creation of alternative energy sources will be an investment in the environment and will create good jobs that can't be exported, which will build up the social fabric of our nation," he said.

Neal said he hopes to start a program called the Volunteer Youth Core.

"Investing in education is a smart investment in the future of our society," he said. The program will allow any young person to form a covenant with the government in which the government will lend money to pay for their education. In return, the student will be required to give back to the community in some way. After the person has fulfilled his or her part of the deal, the loans will be forgiven.

Neal said he also believes universal health care is essential.

"The health care system is literally breaking the back of our nation. Per capita, we spend twice as much as any other country in the world."

Neal's plan has two main parts.

"The tough part will be driving down the cost," he said. "The second part is getting people out of the emergency room and into lower cost, early intervention programs such as practitioners."

The first major hurdle in his campaign is the Democratic Primary on May 6.

Who: Jim Neal, North Carolina Democratic Senate candidate

What: Visiting Elon to speak with students

When: Today, April 2, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Koury Business Center's LaRose Digital Theatre

His main opponent is Kay Hagan, a state senator from Greensboro.

"She is part of 'the politics as usual', which is exactly what I'm running against to change," Neal said. "It's time to change the cast of characters, and we are not going to do that by sending the same types of people to Washington."

If elected by his fellow Democrats in May, Neal will run against Sen. Elizabeth Dole in the general election in November. Stark differences exist between the two candidates.

"I've studied at some of the best schools, worked on Wall Street, ran businesses, understood markets and stood in unemployment lines," Neal said. "Dole is an ambitious career politician who has spent her entire career inside the Washington bubble. She has not taken the voices of North Carolina with her to Washington. She has just a rubber stamp of President Bush's failed policies."

While being busy with the campaign, Neal is paying close attention to the NCAA tournament and his Alma mater: UNC. He lives in Chapel Hill, coincidentally next to Tyler Hansbrough and other Tar Heel players.

"I feel very good about this team," Neal said. "They are all about winning the national championship."



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

Editorial

Letter to the Editor

Senator Barack Obama is a novice politician with naïve concepts of the world's geopolitical and security issues.

He downplays any possible Cold War threats from Russia and China and says this country overstates its concern with terrorism. He comes across as the last great hope for the salvation of the United States. Obama thinks we should significantly cut the Defense Department budget and not worry so much about terrorism.

Does he have any idea about what is going on in the world?

Russia and China are dramatically expanding their military forces, Venezuela and Cuba are fomenting unrest in Central and South America, North Korea continues to rattle its nuclear sword, Iran and other Middle East countries are bent on promoting Islamic fundamentalist extremism in their region and throughout the world, and al-Qaida is making a comeback in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Can anyone envision Senator Obama effectively negotiating with the leaders of Russia or China or North Korea or Venezuela or Iran on issues of world and national security? Or see him aggressively pursuing the al-Qaida threat?

A portion of the U.S. public is infatuated with him. He is tall, good looking, an articulate speaker, he is part black and part white, and he is a Christian with an extensive Muslim background; but these are not necessarily attributes that qualify him to be president.

This infatuation is analogous to the 16-year-old high school girl who is madly in love with the 17-year-old high school football star, and wants to marry him.

The United States presidency requires a person with proven experience and knowledge of domestic and world affairs, a person with good judgment, someone with analytical skills, a worldly leader. Senator Barack Obama is not this person.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

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

Electronic waste is an issue that should concern all people

During Winter Term 2008, an upper level GST class researched and uncovered the ghastly lifestyle that some people in the world live with.

Imagine the life of a person who wakes up everyday and slaves over a gas burner. They're not living the life of a housewife that many young women fear entering into; they're not lucky enough to slave over cooking breakfast for a loving husband. They are poor and destitute people living in Guiyu, China, and their cooking over a hot burner doesn't yield food. They spend their entire day melting down wires and computer motherboards to extract the metal components like copper and gold. Their lives will be spent melting down electronic parts shipped from developed countries like the United States. Often times the process is done in their own homes.

According to an Associated Press reporter who spent a few hours in Guiyu: "A visitor soon develops a throbbing headache and metallic taste in the mouth. The groundwater has long been too polluted for human consumption. The amount of lead in the river sediment

is double European safety levels. Piles of ash and plastic waste sit beside rice paddies and dikes. Mercury, fluorine, barium, chromium and cobalt that leach from the waste or are used in processing are blamed for skin and respiratory problems. Long-term health effects can include kidney and nervous system damage, weakening of the immune system and cancer."

It is obvious that the conditions that so many of these people live through is something that no one should have to endure.

These people most likely work for next to nothing and cope with the medical conditions that go hand-in-hand with their unhealthy line of work. Thousands of people will live their lives in the constant state of consumption of toxic water and noxious air.

While it only makes up two percent of landfill waste, electronic waste accounts for 70 percent of the overall toxic waste in the United States. Countries such as the United States have strict laws on processing and recycling electronic waste. Often big businesses will ship out parts to be recycled in countries with more lenient environmental and safety regulations, such as China, India and Kenya, where the

process is much cheaper to complete.

The United States and other nations too often turn a blind eye to the inhumane and unhealthy conditions that others live with. Many may think that these issues are not their problem; that they cannot do anything to prevent or deter the sending-off of electronic waste to foreign countries where the recycling process will be done in a hazardous manner.

People must realize that their actions can directly affect this practice. If people would take the initiative to ensure that their recycling would be done in an adequate manner, then change can be slowly made.

An issue brought up by the GST class was Elon University's computer recycling program. According to Chris Fulkerson, Elon's assistant vice president for technology, the school's computers, such as the ones that teachers use or the ones in computer labs, have an average lifespan of about four to five years. More actively used computers such as the ones in Belk Library may have a shorter lifespan of about three years.

As many can suspect, that equates to Elon going through a good amount of computers on a semi-regular

basis. The GST class wanted to ensure that Elon was aware of the consequences of irresponsible electronic recycling.

Many should follow this model, according to Fulkerson, Elon attempts to minimize its impact on landfills as much as possible.

Elon practices a computer recycling process that tries to maximize the use of its computers. When it is time for a computer to be retired from use on Elon's campus, Elon resells them to its employees for a fraction of the price. This allows the computers to be reused by those who may not be able to purchase a top of the line computer for high prices.

Computers that are not resold or are too overused to be resold are sold to computer refurbishers who breakdown the pieces and parts into their individual components.

President Leo Lambert assured that none of Elon's computers are shipped overseas to be recycled. The recycling process is done within all safety and environmental regulations.

This way, all of the computer components are recycled in a safe manner and no human individuals are put in harms way.

Study shows shocking statistics on student drinking

The weekend is fast approaching after a week off for Spring Break. For many Elon students, that means that it will soon be time to engage in one of the acts most commonly associated with college: drinking. This statement is even truer for Elon students, who, according to data collected by the Presidential Task Force on Alcohol, drink twice as much per week and drink more than three times in a week, two times more than students nationally.

Many students will read this statement and most likely react with some new sense of accomplishment. Perhaps they will party this weekend with a little more swagger in their walk as they venture to the keg for another beer. They deserve to react in such a way. Since when wasn't a dangerous obsession with extreme intoxication something to brag about and boast?

This mentality is exactly the problem that Elon's Presidential Task Force on Alcohol is attempting to cure. It is undeniable that numerous students at Elon constantly practice reckless drinking with little regard for its consequences. Last year alone

six students were hospitalized with blood alcohol levels exceeding 0.30, a student studying abroad suffered grave injuries after falling down a flight of stairs while extremely intoxicated and one student is permanently paralyzed from the chest down as the result of a drunken brawl at an off-campus party. And those are solely the events that were documented. Who knows how many other incidents occurred and went unreported?

Elon is a small school. For a university that has only 5,000 undergraduate students, the fact that these incidents occur with such high contingency is startling. According to the data collected, 45 percent of Elon students drink three or more times per week. What is most shocking about this data is not Elon's student's drinking patterns, but their responses to other questions concerning drinking and drinking patterns.

In an overwhelming majority, 70 percent of students report that it is not okay to let drinking interfere with academics and other responsibilities. But the study found that roughly 50

percent of students reported missing class because of drinking and it was found that GPA is negatively correlated with drinking as well.

Likewise, 70 percent of students agree that having more than five drinks in one sitting is irresponsible and dangerous. But according to the data, 67 percent of students reported drinking more than five drinks in one sitting at least once in the previous two weeks, compared to the national 47 percent. Why is it that while a majority of students disapprove of drinking, but they continue to hypocritically go against what they believe?

Elon students need wake up from their alcohol-induced comas, drink a pot of coffee to cure their hangover and realize that they are walking a very thin line. Many may claim that they do not have a problem; they may claim that other students are the ones with the problems. The issue is that everybody is saying that and not facing the fact that their behavior is dangerous. It's time for everybody to stop lying to themselves as the administration has finally had it with the school's reputation of being a safe haven for denying alcoholics.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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Opinions

When entertainment crosses the line

Strange things happened on television during the writer's strike. When the major television networks were left without their most popular shows, executives did everything they could in order to salvage whatever precious advertising dollars were available. Reality and game shows that do not require writers resurged as we saw the premiers of stupid series like NBC's "My Dad Versus

Yours," Fox's "The Moment of Truth" and the return of "American Gladiators." They are a sad attempt at the lowest form of entertainment, but these shows are mostly harmless. Flipping through the channels the other day, though, I stumbled across



Kevin Clang
Columnist

a show so heinous I was moderately offended by the title alone.

The show is called "Celebrity Rehab with Doctor Drew" and it premiered on VH-1 in early January. Once billed completely as an adult music station with the popular "Behind the Music" series, since 2003 VH-1 has devolved into the "washed up famous person and pop culture network" with its numerous "I Love The..." and "Surreal

Life" spinoffs. "Celebrity Rehab" follows the adventures of seven quasi-celebrities (the definition of which becomes more and more loose every day) as they go through treatment for both alcohol and drug addiction. The participants include former wrestler Chyna, Baldwin brother Daniel and Grease actor Jeff Conaway. Generally, I am not a television watcher, especially not of shows like this, but I was curious so I decided to stay on the station. I needed to see if the show would be as repulsive and fundamentally wrong as I imagined it would be.

It was. In the episode I watched, participants talk with host Doctor Drew Pinsky in private sessions (well, "private" unless you include the millions of viewers) about what led them to their addiction, subjects that included child abuse, theft and drunk driving. By far the saddest celebrity to watch was the wheelchair bound Conaway, who because of withdrawal began to barely speak. He was taken to a hospital midway through the episode. The sober Baldwin, who said he participated in the show not to break addiction but to raise awareness, ended up leaving the facility at the end of the episode because he believed the behavior of his fellow celebrities was not conducive to his sobriety. This is, I think, the first time a person has left rehab in order to remain sober.

From everything I have read on the subject, rehab is only successful when the addict is fully committed to the program. I've never been to rehab, but I can imagine that one thing that would not help with getting over a serious addiction is having a camera in your face 24 hours a day. Entering rehab is a serious life step and not something that should be undertaken for attention. Unfortunately this seems to be the main reason why most of the celebrities joined the show. Rehabilitation is certainly not entertainment. Making an entire television season out of the participant's addictions is disgusting and immoral.

Television has long fed off of people's problems. This is evident in everything from "Jerry Springer" to "Big Brother," but this particular show is something else entirely. I am not sure which is more evil: the developer who came up with the idea for the show or the VH-1 network head that said "Yeah, people will watch this" and put the show on the air. The sad thing is, people do watch it, and the series will probably get renewed for a second season. Reviews of the series called it a "freak show," which it is not. The participants are not freaks; they are real people with real problems. The very idea of this type of television show is atrocious.

Elon Television Services is in need of big improvement

There's never been a strong desire for me to write to The Pendulum, but recent events have caused me to take some initiative and I hope this will bring about some change.

As a student of communications I have recently discovered how poorly Elon Television Services is run.

My first problem with them is the incompetence of the staff there.

I may be a little harsh, but it does not seem that difficult to operate a computer and scan a few items in order to check things in. It seems that nine times out of 10 I am charged a fine for something that I have already turned in on time.

When I go to dispute my wrongful fining, it takes them about five to 10 minutes to find the item I have already turned in.

It is ridiculously inconvenient to wake up before 9 a.m. to return overnight checked out items, let alone return five hours later when I am sent an e-mail notifying me of my fines.

I am sure I am not the only one who thinks \$10 for the first hour an item is overdue is absurd. This brings me to my second problem with Television Services.

The fines, while they are oppressive for the first hour, are easily turned over. If I go into ETV and complain enough about paying a fine, they will not make me pay it. They even have a sign in their office that says something of that nature as well.

However, the hefty fine teaches responsibility. Complaining to a police officer about a speeding fine will not get it thrown away, so why should complaining about a fine from ETV be any different?

The only reason I can think of is that they know they are inept and as an acknowledgment of their ineptitude, they waive the fines.

So assuming that ETV knows that they are ham-fisted, why have they not made changes yet? ETV has been this way for a while, and clearly it isn't an efficient body.

I do not know if there is a training course that all employees have to complete before working but if there is not, one should be implemented.

These employees are paid to do a job that seems simple in theory, but still has massive shortcomings.

Unfortunately for me, and other students that have to deal with ETV on a regular basis, there is no way to bypass all this hopelessness and we are stuck having to deal with their bungling ways.

Submitted Anonymously

Intolerance of faith solves no problems



Morgan Little
Columnist

"Religious beliefs are personal, and should remain that way," has been a rallying cry heard echoing through the halls of U.S. courtrooms as the lyrical content of the Pledge of Alliance waits for judgment.

Those who fight for a secular republic are in essence correct about the integral separation of church and state as well as the sometimes-poisonous effects of the perversion of religion.

But, there is a line that was unfortunately crossed in the March 19 issue of The Pendulum. Apparently there is something inherently wrong about espousing religious beliefs, but declaring, "faith is a failure to exercise rational thought" is perfectly fine.

If someone is to stand at the podium and hold the Bible to their chest and declare their love of God and condemn those who turn a blind eye to his divinity, what makes them

different from someone who takes the podium afterward and immediately declares the religious man to be a fool and blares the trumpet of presumed enlightenment?

The distinction between faith and blind faith must be made, and it must be made certain that the article in question is vehemently against faith itself.

Faith has become the politically correct term with which to refer to religion, and referring to religion as such makes it so much easier to toss aside the core beliefs of millions as the weak ponderings of incompetents. But the two are not synonyms, for religion is just one aspect of faith.

Religion is not a bad thing. Yes there have been countless atrocities perpetrated in the names of gods and deities, but have those atrocities ceased with the advent of that glorious rational thought that was supposed to bring us into some brilliant era of enlightenment? Joseph Stalin killed millions with no reverence to "magical beings with wings."

Slavery was justified by interpretations of the Bible, but when that fell out of vogue, did the rationale that non-whites belonged

to subservient breeds vanish? The justification merely changed its source. Social Darwinism and the eugenics movement of the early 1900s were the new reasons for the presumed superiority of the white race.

These beliefs, founded not in religion but in science, paved the way for many of the ideologies of racist fascism.

It's very simple to point the finger at religion, to take the stance that faith in gods has corrupted us all and turned us into salt-tossing, intolerant Bible thumpers.

Tossing the blame upon ideals is a very simple thing; they can't defend themselves. They rely upon others to hold the line, and often such battles boil down to a contest between who can shout the loudest.

Such vague ascertains such as it is faith that keeps people impoverished, when in reality it's just an eventuality of a capitalist society, that people with religious faith just sit back and allow injustices because of some eternal reward for their silence, are unaccredited and insulting. Religion can be twisted, it can be contorted to lead the young to blow themselves up for a god or wipe out entire cultures. But so can political beliefs. So can family ties.

The world is, more often than not, a terrible place. One only needs to watch the news to know that. But it is faith that gives us the will to watch the massacres, the brutality, the sheer inhumanity that permeates our kind and fight to make a difference for the better. Without faith, what reason is there to dream and to hope?

A man without faith is not a man whose genius and perception knows no bounds, but rather, he is nailed to the floor by sheer hopelessness and apathy. What great achievements have nihilists given to the world?

Don't tie faith to the follies that mankind have committed in the name of religion.

Believe in something, it doesn't matter if it's to be found in a pew or in a laboratory.

Allow yourself to have faith in something, because even if the past deems you wrong, even if it turns out that Zeus never heard your prayers or the theory of relativity is proven wrong, you will have held something close to your heart.

Faith is not a failure to exercise rational thought. To be without faith is a failure to exercise one's humanity.

Back by popular demand...

ELON POSTSECRET

Heather Macdonald
Reporter

Frank Warren, founder of PostSecret, has often been called the most trusted stranger. Receiving nearly 200 secrets each day from unknown individuals around the world, it is an accurate assessment.

PostSecret began in 2004 when Warren passed out 3,000 self-addressed blank postcards asking people to share something true that they had never shared before.

"I was thrilled every time I'd get one," Warren said at a speech during a stop in Durham, N.C., on his PostSecret tour in December. "And what was surprising was, in addition to the fact that people were mailing them to me, the cards had creative artwork on them—pictures, drawings, diagrams and illustrations to further express these secrets that perhaps people didn't want to verbalize or put into words about themselves."

The postcards were for an art exhibition, but five weeks later when the exhibition was over, Warren continued to receive postcards.

"I thought the project was over, yet the project wasn't finished with me," Warren said.

People from all over the world heard about his project and soon postcards other than the ones he initially passed out started to arrive. Warren, wanting to continue to share these secrets, began a blog starting what has now become PostSecret.

"I think if you visit the PostSecret Web site a few times or go through the books, you eventually hit a secret," Warren said. "You come face to face with a postcard that really speaks to you. It resonates with your soul, with who you are."

Each Sunday, Warren adds 20 new secrets to his blog. He tries to choose different postcards that each convey a human emotion. He has also published four books featuring the postcards.

"I think we all have secrets," Warren said. "And I think every day we face a choice to bury them down deep inside of us and forget them or to find them and bring them out into the light and grow from them; share them with others. Free your secrets and become who you are."

Elon Study Abroad and US Study/Travel Programs 2008

Semester Programs 08-09

1. Argentina, Buenos Aires: IIRA, UICA, FIASCO, and IUNA
2. Australia, P.I. *I was so homesick while I was abroad.*
3. Austria, Wiener Neustadt: UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
4. Chile, Santiago: Universidad de Santiago, Universidad de Chile, and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Now, I want to cry thinking that I will never again have that opportunity.

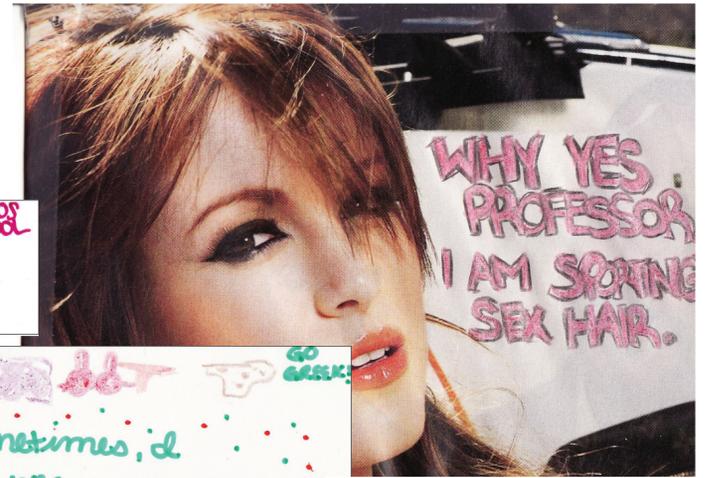
I wish I appreciated it more back then.

9. Ecuador, Quito: University of Sucre
10. England, Brighton: University of Sussex
11. France, Lyon: ESDES
12. France, Paris: Sorbonne Institute
13. Germany, Cologne: University of Cologne
14. Ghana, Accra: University of Ghana
15. Ghana, Kumasi: University of Ghana
16. Ireland, Dublin: University of Dublin
17. Italy, Pisa: University of Pisa
18. Japan, Kyoto: Kyoto University
19. Kenya, Nairobi: Kenyatta University
20. Mexico, Mexico City: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

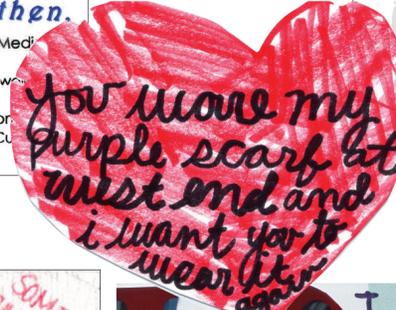
Winter Term 2009 Programs

1. Australia: Aboriginal Studies
2. Belgium: Post-Colonial Culture and Society
3. Belize: Field Biology
4. Business in the Pacific Rim: Australia & India
5. Cathedral: An Introduction to Structures of Power
6. China: The Flying Dragon
7. Costa Rica: Language, Culture and Ecotourism
8. Cuba: The Revolution and the Future of Europe
9. Ghana: West African History and Culture
10. Greece: Classics in Context: Ancient Greece
11. Greece: Classics in Context: Ancient Greece
12. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
13. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
14. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
15. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
16. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
17. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
18. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
19. Guatemala: The Impact of Media
20. Guatemala: The Impact of Media

Don't waste ONE SINGLE SECOND of it. These are the best days of your life.



I KEEP MY DOMINOS COUPONS IN MY SCHOOL MAILBOX SO IT IS NEVER EMPTY.....



Sometimes, I don't wear underwear to my sorority rituals!

my goal by the end of the year is to sleep with one girl from every sorority

I constantly think of this guy I like but I can't get up the nerve to talk to him and tell him that I like him a lot.

Walgreens Rx: 7245681 Jane Doe TAKE MEDICATION 0.075MG TAKE 3 EVERY DAY. ALIVE KEEPS

LOVE
I love you, but I can't bring myself to tell you.

ZTA EEE AXJZ OTT QM AAD

HAVE PLANNED MY ENTIRE WEDDING. I PICKED MY RING, DRESS, AND CAKE. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS... I'M SINGLE, with NO prospects. WHERE IS MY PRINCE CHARMING?

I'm going to throw away my college degree and own a bar, mom and dad.

TRUE LIFE: MY BRO IS GAY
but I will never tell you bc I know u will stop being my friend.

You'll have too much on your hands to even remember that I exist.

I've never felt FREER than when I was driving in a big CIRCLE with my best friend

Dear Suitemates, WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING I HAD SEX IN OUR SUITE SHOWER (I thought so share!)

Elon boys suck...
but that's not a secret

Pregnancy really grosses me out sometimes

don't have a party @ your house and have strange people come named... they will STEAL your ipod!!

MY HOMOPHOBIC BOYFRIEND DOESNT KNOW THAT... I THINK LESBIANS ARE HOTTT

Let your dark side out to play. Use the space below to create your own PostSecret. Clip out your submission and send to The Pendulum at Campus Box 6810.

Features

Land mines, SEX TRAFFICKING and service learning

Jacqui Seidel
Reporter

Victoria Davis has always been fascinated by Asian culture, though the Ohio native had little connections with the region. Her father was a former U.S. Air Force captain and had many

stories about his time spent in the region during the Vietnam War.

His stories only fueled Davis' fascination with the mysterious Asian region. This fascination quickly turned to a desire to change and educate when Davis arrived at Elon. She was able to take

classes about Asia, and even had opportunities to study abroad in the region. But this was not enough. Davis wanted to do something to make an impact on a culture so very much in need.

Davis will finally get the chance to make a difference as she leads a service trip to Cambodia from May 22 to June 4. Accompanied by two faculty members and seven other students, Davis said she hopes to fulfill a lifetime dream and create a lasting relationship with Southeast Asia for future studies and service learning.

As the driving force behind this trip, Davis said she is excited to see things actually happen. Two years ago, she presented the idea to the assistant director of service learning, Kathleen Edwards, and created a team consisting of Sarah Babcock and B.J. Williams, both juniors at Elon. Together, these students have been planning Elon's first excursion to Southeast Asia, with hopes of making it a lasting program.

"Elon has excellent

programs to all parts of the world," Davis said. "However, there is little representation for Southeast Asia on campus, either in study abroad opportunities or service trips."

Edwards will be one of the faculty advisers traveling to Cambodia this spring. Edwards, who has been to Cambodia in the past, said she is most excited to just be back in this beautiful country that earned its place in her heart.

"I don't want people to think of Cambodia only in terms of what it does not have or what it needs, because really it is about what it is giving us and how we partner with these assets that really matters," Edwards said.

Cambodia has been immersed in conflict since the 1970s and the Vietnam War. When the Khmer Rouge military regime took over, it planted millions of land mines across the country, most of which have yet to be disabled. Cambodia currently has the highest number of landmines and amputees in the entire world. But great efforts are being made to

put an end to these horrible statistics.

Those involved said they hope to spread awareness in the Elon community of the Cambodian culture.

"This is a different way of looking at service," Edwards said. "A lot of times we look at service as being the act of service within the country, but what we need to look at is the awareness aspects of civic engagement. We need to focus on building relationships and trust for future trips."

In an effort to spread awareness, the group invited Cambodian refugee Dr. Sopha Ear to speak about his experiences to Elon students on April 1.

"We are trying to make this trip bigger," Babcock said. "Bigger in the sense that not a lot of people know where Cambodia is, much less what is going on there. We are just trying to make people aware."

Trip participants will be holding fundraisers at Moe's Restaurant, April 14 from 5-8 p.m. Meal plans and Phoenix Cash can also be donated April 7-11 in Moseley.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Trip participants will visit the notorious Choeung Ek killing fields outside the capital city of Phnom Penh. Approximately 21 percent of Cambodia's population lost their lives during the Cambodian Genocide of 1975-1979.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Trip adviser Kathleen Edwards said she is excited to return to Cambodia. On a previous trip, she spent time in the tiny village of Ta Koh.

Cambodia FAST FACTS

- 20 percent of the country contains landmines that are left from the 1970s
- The trafficked population is estimated to increase every year and Cambodia alone generates US \$511 million each year through illegal sex trade
- Approximately 1.7 million people, or 21 percent of the country's population, lost their lives during the Cambodian genocide of 1975-1979

Elon Outdoors features new trips

Jessica Turner
Reporter

Cave: to many, this word brings to mind darkness and fear. Cave is not usually a word associated with warm, inviting people and fun outdoor adventures, yet a small room in Koury Athletic Center is affectionately called "The Cave," and opens a new world of adventure to Elon students. The Cave is the headquarters of Elon Outdoors.

This campus program began in 1992, with a white water rafting trip. Members of Elon Outdoors organize events that promote environmental awareness and personal exploration and teach others to minimize their environmental impact.

Elon Outdoors regularly organizes sailing, indoor rock climbing and backpacking trips as well as seasonal activities, like skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing excursions.

Adventurous students can also rent outdoor equipment including tents, sleeping bags, backpacks, bicycles and volleyball nets for a day or a weekend, and staff members are available to offer information about outdoor activities in the area around Elon.

Junior Kelly Harrell became involved with Elon Outdoors during her freshman year. She always loved being outdoors, and she has used her experience as a camp counselor since she became a staff member of the Elon Outdoors program. Now, she is helping to plan an April backpacking trip to Mount Rogers, Virginia's tallest mountain.

"[Working here] is like getting paid for hobbies I like to do," Harrell said.

In addition to being an opportunity for Elon

students to make new friends, Harrell said that Elon Outdoors teaches students valuable lessons that can be applied to life even after graduation.

Elon University requires that a staff adviser travel with students on trips outside of Alamance County. Abby Dennis, assistant director of Campus Recreation, has accompanied trip participants on many excursions. She learned to snowboard on a winter trip, and has gone rock climbing in Greensboro several times.

"The good thing is that they are all different," Dennis said. "We have so much fun on all the trips."

One of her favorite memories is the white water rafting trip that the group organized in West Virginia during Fall Break.

"People come from all around America to white water raft in West Virginia," said Dennis. "This is big whitewater and it's sweet."

Elon Outdoors encourages student participants to leave no trace. The motto coincides with Elon's recent sustainability initiative, and students are taught to reduce their environmental impact while on excursions.

This spring, Elon Outdoors is offering a backpacking trip to the North Carolina mountains, a daytrip to Wrightsville Beach, N.C., and a whitewater rafting trip to the Charlotte area.

Trips are open to all students, regardless of outdoor experience.

"It's a good way to meet people and get involved in campus," Harrell said.

More information is available in The Cave, located next to Belk Pool in the Koury Athletic Center. Hours are 2 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Elon Outdoors recently led a hiking trip to western North Carolina's Cataloochee mountains. "I'm lucky enough to get paid to do this stuff," said senior Chance Beasley, team leader of Elon Outdoors, joined here by Assistant Director of Campus Recreation, Abby Dennis, and trip leader senior Kit Skurek.

One crew's unusual Spring Break



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The numerous murals were the Sea Spray Inn's signature, featuring neon manatees and a few stuffed sea animals nailed to its walls.

Caroline Matthews
Design Editor

His fingers turn white as he clinches the arms of a weathered plastic beach chair, anxious for what will happen next. In a sea of green, junior Phil Grubaugh keeps his eye on the prize: a second chair sitting at the opposite end of the pool. His team members chant his name, but Grubaugh can only hear the uneasiness in his opponent's breath.

A bystander hits play. Grubaugh hastily rises and sprints around the pool deck. A chair is discarded. There's no time to dance along with the bodhran and bagpipe, notice the belated St. Patrick's Day decorations or smile along with the crowd outfitted in green. It's game time as Grubaugh goes in for the kill. Like a lion on its prey, Grubaugh instinctively pushes his opponent into the pool as the music stops, eases himself into the last chair standing and crowns himself Irish Musical Chairs King.

Grubaugh's experience is unlike that of most college students. The typical Spring Break involves zero responsibility and an indulgent diet of beach and booze. Although relaxing is a necessary component in a

healthy college lifestyle, spring breakers return from their vacations with only a trendy pre-summer glow and no real sense of accomplishment.

A group of 24 Elon University students spent their 10-day respite enthralled in a vigorous competition, aiming to claim a monumental title that would sum up all their college endeavors into one achievement.

The tournament, cleverly named the Clearwater Cup, involved a series of individual and team competitions. Winning the cup, not just a plastic neon-orange sand pail but a title of pride, relied on a mix of skill, wit and determination.

Split into groups of six, the teams donned the names of the cardinal points: North, South, East and West. Pitting the crew against one another, the competition was created to mimic MTV's Real World vs. Road Rules Challenge.

"Better than any reality show on MTV, a lot less classy than the Olympics, the Clearwater Cup had the possibility to be an amazing addition to our already fun-filled week," senior Lauren France said.

During their time in Clearwater Beach, each team was responsible for hosting

one of the four themed parties and inventing a coinciding game. Redneck Bingo, which corresponded with South's Trailer Park theme, and Irish Jig Musical Chairs, a component of East's St. Patrick's Day, were some of the Cup contests.

Teams were also able to obtain randomly given points throughout the week. Junior Tim Graham earned 30 points for team North with his NASCAR-like driving skills. Sans speedometer, Graham topped speeds of 95 miles per hour and coasted along the shoulders of Georgia—bypassing the 100 miles of traffic that set the other cars back by 3 hours.

"My car left Elon two hours after everyone and we still were the first to arrive," said junior Chris Milano, a passenger of Graham's Chevrolet Impala. "I don't like it when Tim drives from our house to Moseley, let alone 10 hours."

Teams also created clever chants, like "May the West Team Win" and "The South Will Rise Again" to promote a competitive atmosphere.

"Things got pretty heated," junior Cory Morrison said. "There was no actual animosity, but some teams were bitter as their scores lowered during the week."

Most competitions were held at the Sea Spray Inn, a six-room establishment that reeked of the 1950s and whose mural-covered walls featured a neon manatee and amateur-painted palm trees.

"The place wasn't very clean but it was perfect for us," junior Libby Long said. "The manager absolutely loved us and even joined in on a farewell photo."

Inn Manager Lydia Telesheva, a Russian ex-journalist who was featured on The People's Court for her fraudulent Beanie Babies™ sales, enjoys turning off her vacancy sign every March for spring breakers. The group was "good, not the worst," according to Telesheva.

"Spring break is a fun time for me," she said. "I get a whole new set of children many times every year."

The clan did manage to leave their beloved home for a few competitive outings under the Florida sun, including a Yankees vs. Phillies game, hot dog eating contest at a family member's bay house and X-treme miniature golf.

During an afternoon of baseball at Bright House Field, a hefty 50 points were awarded to team West for having a member broadcasted on the stadium's giant video

display during the seventh inning stretch.

"I got a little too competitive and pushed a kid so I could get into the camera's view," sophomore Hunter Gros said. "It was all in good fun though."

France, the creator of The Cup, crafted the idea while taking a Music History midterm. The combination of stress and excitement was too much for France, as she had to take a break from her exam to refocus her thoughts.

"That's when it hit me," France said. "I had to put aside my duties as a student and come up with something that would make our Spring Break one that no one had ever heard of or experienced before."

The Clearwater Cup, which is currently still up for grabs, was created in an effort to provide a memorable Spring Break experience to a random collection of Elon students.

"In the beginning stages of planning, no one believed me that we could find a group that big to fill the Sea Spray," Morrison said. "But there ended up being a waiting list to get on the trip."

France is keeping the totaled scores a secret until the reveal party on April 10.

"If the suspense doesn't kill us all, the withdrawals from one another sure will," she said.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Clearwater Cup participants pose with Telesheva for a final group photo. The Inn served as the headquarters for the tournament, which consisted of individual and group competitions.

Students choose their own major

Christina Edwards
Reporter

Unlike most Elon students, freshman Kristin Feeny can't plan her schedule according to the requirements outlined in the university's course catalog. No such outline exists: Feeny is the only student with her major.

The Massachusetts native is creating her own degree plan for a B.S. degree in Environmental Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Studies.

Elon offers students who have goals and interests outside of existing majors the opportunity to create their own course of study. In order to become an independent major, a student must have at least a 3.0 GPA and have completed no more than 66 semester hours at the time of approval of the major.

The program requires students to draw course requirements from at least three different departments, and to work with a team of three advisors from at least two different departments, with one

faculty member serving as committee chair. The advisers work with the student to construct a curriculum, which is then sent to the curriculum committee for approval.

"I don't consider the process to be that hard," Feeny said. "I looked at the curriculums of others school and adapted their requirements to fit the courses Elon offers, which I recommend doing for anyone interested in an independent major."

Majors created by students in recent years include international women's health initiatives and arts administration.

"This is for students who want to pursue things that are not covered by the programs already offered at Elon," said Janet Warman, director of general studies. "[This is recommended for] students who are highly motivated, have a concrete objective for a career or graduate school and whose interests don't fall neatly into one category."

There are only three current students with approved independent

majors at Elon. Because a student must pull together courses from different departments into one course of study, it can be difficult to create an entirely new major.

"Last year, I tried to create my own fashion design and merchandising major at Elon," sophomore Sara Bynon said. "Unfortunately, because it wasn't concentrated enough and involved too many departments, [the university] wouldn't let me do it."

Bynon was also concerned that a degree from a school without an established department in fashion merchandising would not be appealing to employers within the fashion industry.

"After two years of life at Elon, I decided to transfer," Bynon said. "I'm sad to leave Elon, but I'm excited to be able to study the thing that I love."

"It's kind of daunting to be the only one in your major," Feeny said. "[The appeal is] the idea that you can do anything you want to, you can major in whatever you want."

Elon by the Numbers

From the 07-08
Registrar's Report

Total Undergraduate Enrollment
4,939

Number of Undergraduate Majors
50

Number of Students Creating their own major
3

Number of Students

- Arts & Sciences: 2,105
- Business: 1,077
- Communications: 859
- Education: 616
- Other/Undecided: 656
- Independent Majors: 3

Arts & Entertainment

THE BEST local bands you've never HEARD

Ryan Sweeney
Reporter

Elon is only 40 minutes away from one of the biggest music scenes in the country: Central North Carolina, where the talent of UNC alumni James Taylor and Ben Folds emerged.

Today the music scene in Durham and Chapel Hill is healthy with constant development of new bands.

Duke-based Luego is a four-piece folk-rock band that features the cello and occasionally the viola. When the band played live in the WSOE studio, its sound was acoustic. Since then, it released a new EP and is moving to a more electric sound.

Also from Duke comes folk rock group Bombadil. Named after J.R.R. Tolkien's Tom Bombadil, the band plays a mixed style of folk that can't be described. When performing live, all members except the drummer switch instruments. On stage they have the usual guitar, bass and keyboards, along with an accordion and various wind and percussion instruments. Bombadil will release its first album and have a release show on April 25 at the Cat's Cradle in Carrboro.

Early Morning Swim is best described as Johnny Cash meets Iron & Wine. The resulting sound is beautiful, dark folk. Like Luego, the band is moving to a more electric sound. It does not have any official releases, but it is currently working on writing and recording.

The members of The Future Kings of Nowhere call themselves "acousticore." It's a blend of acoustic folk and punk rock. Live they are upbeat and fun and play a fast-paced show. They released a self-titled album on 307 Knox records, a label home to another anti-folk local band, The Midtown Dickens.

Also tapping into the punk

scene is Red Collar. Red Collar lives in an old-school punk world, reflecting bands like The Clash and The Sex Pistols. The band is gaining popularity and is working to help other bands on the scene, such as Hammer No More the Fingers.

Hammer No More the Fingers is an interesting indie-rock band that is starting to gain some national acclaim. The band was featured on Stereogum, a music blog similar to Pitchfork, as a new band to watch for. The song O.R.G.Y. reflects a sound not unlike The Fratellis.

Another band gaining national popularity is Roman Candle. Roman Candle could best be compared to early Wilco. Paste Magazine gave its album, "The Wee Hours Revue," 4.5 out of 5 stars. The album was produced by Chris Stamey, a legend in the North Carolina music scene known for producing Whiskeytown, one of the original alternative-country bands featuring Ryan Adams and Caitlin Cary. Roman Candle is currently working on its next album and the band says it wants play at Elon in the future.

The Old Ceremony can best be described as a "noir-pop" band. The lyrics are dark and the music is rich. The band blends an element of folk, but the members keep it to a more mainstream pop-rock sound. Like Roman Candle, if this band made music in the 60s or 70s, it would be very popular. Paste Magazine listed its album "Our One Mistake" as one of the top 100 albums of 2006.

Finally, Bull City is a band from Durham that blends blues and southern rock. There are solos aplenty and the band is very tight. It has a seven song album, Guns & Butter, which captures its sound well, but the band really shines live. Its sound is close to that of Wilco's "A.M." album with the high energy rock blended with a southern mentality.



BRITTANY SMITH | Photographer

The Future Kings of Nowhere, Shayne O'Neill, Dan Streib and Mike Hacker, interview with WSOE.



RYAN SWEENEY | Photographer

LEFT: Bull City plays to a full crowd at the Local 506 Music Bar in Chapel Hill.

BELOW: Early Morning Swim completes an interview with WSOE.



BRITTANY SMITH | Photographer

TECHNICOLOR IS IN

New fashion trends expected to spring onto campus shortly

Debbie Silverstein
Reporter

As the seasons change, so do the fashions, and many Elon students will be updating their wardrobes this spring to include new trends.

Spring fashion for 2008 will feature many new fads, the biggest being bright and cheerful colors.

Harriet Mays Powell of New York Magazine has called this spring "the Technicolor season" because of the bright and bold flavors this season's designs will offer. Powell describes this new trend as "so bright, so intense and so dense with shocking hues and wild patterns."

This "Technicolor season" will fit right in on Elon's campus this spring with its vibrant flowers and blue sky. At a fashion-conscious school like Elon, many of these trends will be displayed by the student body's spring attire.

"I really enjoy looking at new fashions," sophomore Allison Constable said. "I'm particularly looking

forward to this spring because bright colors are fun and really make an outfit pop. I think the overall attitude here at Elon is so bright and cheerful, and these bold colors will emphasize that even more."

In December, The Pantone Color Institute named blue iris as the color of the year for 2008. Many other colors will also be in style, particularly yellow, lilac, pink and red.

InStyle.com names many other fashion trends for the spring, including floral prints, sheer fabrics, shirtdresses, blazers and "globally inspired clothes," which feature tribal patterns and designs from other cultures and countries.

Sophomore Erin Talgo said she also loves keeping up with new trends.

"My mom is really into fashion and she always updates me on the new styles," Talgo said. "Fashion is just so fun, especially on a college campus. Spring is my favorite season here because everyone is always outside. The campus and the weather are beautiful, and this bright color trend will just make campus

even more gorgeous."

As far as the design of clothes, loose, flirty and flowing dresses and skirts are included in the new trends, as well as bell-bottoms and pants with higher waists.

Sophomore Kate Sachs said she likes the idea of these new fashions. She said she can't wait to see everyone on campus sporting the new styles.

"I think it's cool how clothes will have influence from past decades but still be new and trendy," Sachs said. "Elon is so fashionable; I know I'll see plenty of these clothes around."

Junior Darianne Dobbie said she doesn't follow fashion too much. After hearing about these new trends, though, she said she is not into the throwback to the earlier decades.

"Personally, I'm not trying to look like I'm from the 60s or 70s," Dobbie said. "High waisted pants and bell-bottoms are definitely not for me. Otherwise, I'm all for the bright colors and bold prints."



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.CACHE.COM

SISTER HAZEL comes to Elon MAY 9

SUB reveals musical picks for annual spring concert

Morgan Morris
Reporter

Even if it took a long, long time, Elon's student organizers said they finally figured out how badly they wanted Sister Hazel to perform here on campus.

After a long and uncertain time of decision making, the Student Union Board has officially announced that Sister Hazel, with opening act Matt Nathanson, is to perform Friday, May 9 at the annual spring concert.

Even though Sister Hazel's and Matt Nathanson's Elon performances are the product of a recent decision after other failed attempts with other groups, junior Bill Koehn, SUB music committee coordinator, has expressed his positive feeling that Elon students will enjoy this concert since both performers pride themselves on having great live shows.

Koehn said that he and the music committee will be preparing for this concert

just as they have in past years — reserving Alumni Gym, making arrangements to accommodate the artists performing, hiring security and recruiting volunteers.

Excited to confirm the rumors of Sister Hazel's upcoming performance, Koehn believes adding Matt Nathanson to the event will only make the concert better.

The day of the show, the doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Gym. Until then, tickets will be sold starting April 1 for \$15 for students both online at www.elon.edu/sub and in Moseley on the first four days of every school week.

Phoenix Cash will only be accepted Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week leading up to the show. For the public and for students buying on the day of the show, tickets will cost \$25. Those who purchased online tickets will be able to access them at will call on the day of the show.

Many know Sister Hazel as the group that wrote "All for You," one of the most popular songs of the 1990s, and Matt Nathanson had a song in the movie "American Wedding."

An up-and-coming singer-songwriter, Matt Nathanson has been around since the early 90s and already put out four independent and two big studio production albums with his most recent being "Some Mad Hope," released in 2007.

With a style that can be compared to both Howie Day and Jason Mraz, Nathanson's live shows are said to be a combination of introspective music and a comedic stand up show.

Along with his song in the third "American Pie" movie, some of his songs have also been in well-known television shows like "Dawson's Creek," "Smallville" and "Road Rules."

Based in Gainesville, Fla., Sister Hazel has also had its fair share of fame. Formed in 1993, this group has produced

multiple albums that have resulted in one top 50 single, "All for You," and another minor radio hit, "Change Your Mind" later on.

Despite its mainstream success decreasing throughout the years, Sister Hazel has cultivated a large grassroots following with its newer albums and has been on tour for quite some time. The fans, described as "Hazelnuts," have kept this band alive and kicking over the years.

Stressing this sense of community felt between the fans and the group on Sister Hazel's official Web site, guitarist Ryan Newell said, "We've created a community of like-minded people who enjoy the music as much as we do."

Sister Hazel emphasizes that the good relationship it has with its fans is crucial to its success.

In fact, this feature of Sister Hazel is what Koehn says made this band an attractive option for this year's spring show.

With a style that is said to blend alternative rock, folk and southern rock, this band can be compared to The Black Crowes and Blues Traveler.

"We love to do so many different things," said lead singer Ken Block in another comment on their official Web site. "Between writing songs we believe in, the live shows, building a community, expanding our events and the charity, there's this whole lifestyle that is what Sister Hazel is about."

Koehn and the music committee believe this show will be well worth attending.

"A band that is known for their loyal fans and live shows, [Sister Hazel is] interactive with the audience and leaves you with a great satisfying feeling after the show," Koehn said.

Now that Elon students and SUB have "finally figured out" the artists coming to Elon this spring, the only information left to discover can be found in their music.

Grand Night celebrates 16th anniversary

Amanda Kennison
Reporter

Some things get better with age: a fine wine, skilled craftsmen and a number of other things. The same can be said of Elon's Grand Night performance. Elon students and the wider community have the chance to experience another "hour of show stopping numbers" by performing arts students on April 4 and 5 in Yeager Recital Hall.

The brainchild of Cathy McNeela, coordinator of music theater, Grand Night will celebrate its 16th anniversary this weekend. Stemming from a desire for more opportunities for her students, the annual production has evolved into an audience favorite.

"I started it as an opportunity for the students to have another outlet to showcase their skills," McNeela said. "This is another chance for them to learn to fly."

Unlike other productions, Grand Night is almost entirely run by the students. In December, students auditioned pieces for the show. McNeela then selected the numbers, picking a wide variety of acts. This year's show includes everything from big tap dance numbers to tender ballads. Once the program is decided, students become responsible for bringing the acts to life.

A student leader is put in charge of each piece. These could be musical directors or choreographers who are responsible for making sure their individual groups stay on top of practicing and perfecting routines. Of course faculty members remain available to assist the groups whenever extra help is needed. The process behind putting Grand Night together proves long and involved.

"We had auditions what seems

like forever ago," sophomore music theater major Chris Staskel said. "The respective groups for each piece have been rehearsing on and off since, but it will take the four final days before the actual performances to really get this thing together."

These last days of rehearsal finalize the program. All of the loose ends, the glitches in choreography and other issues will be sorted and transformed into the fun-filled performance that has a history of completely packing Yeager Recital Hall.

Grand Night has fulfilled McNeela's original plans. It represents an inclusive production that depends on the participation of every music theatre major. Each individual student plays an active role in Grand Night. Each receives the chance to showcase the skills and potential they possess.

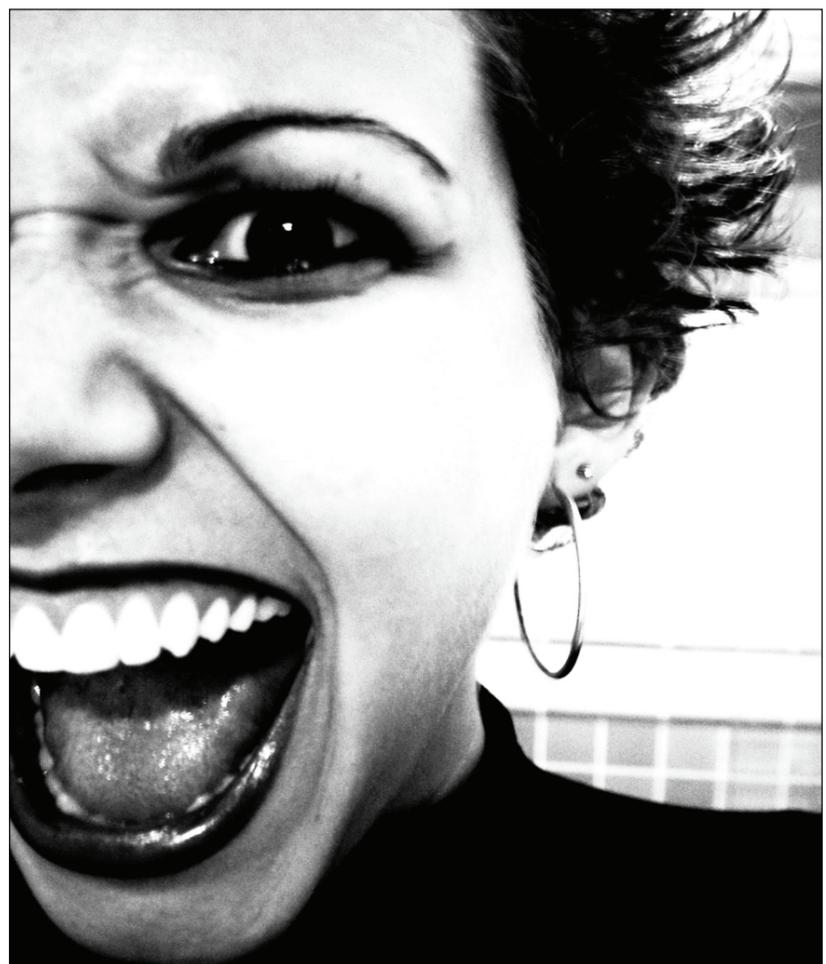
All of the hard work put into the production is evident. It shines through every number, every student and the show in its entirety. Grand Night has become an Elon custom that gets more exciting with every year.

"It's a tradition, but one that's revamped and reenergized year after year," Staskel said.

This particular production is a staple in the performing arts catalogue. Known for pulling in full houses, Grand Night showcases remarkable talent at an unbeatable price.

"Live theater is so exciting," McNeela said. "A lot of people don't realize that our program is one of the best in the country. You get to see here at Elon, for free, the future stars of Broadway."

Come out and experience some of the magic live theater has to offer. Grand Night XVI will be performed four times this weekend. Programs are scheduled for 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Friday April 4 and Saturday April 5 in Yeager Recital Hall.



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Kennedy continues successful season to become Elon's winningest head coach

Michelle Longo
Sports Editor

The yellowed picture with crinkled edges shows a grinning two-year-old boy in a white diaper clutching a leather baseball mitt in his right hand.

This picture captures the essence of head baseball coach Mike Kennedy's passion for America's national pastime.

Since he was young, Kennedy knew baseball would play an integral part in his life.

"I was pretty good at a young age, and when you are good at something, you want to continue doing it," he said.

Kennedy was originally recruited by Wake Forest University to play football out of high school, but then Elon head baseball coach Rick Jones convinced Kennedy to play for him.

"I got a chance to see him play on back-to-back nights as a senior in high school and liked him," Jones said. "When we were in my office talking, I got the feeling he was in a comfort zone and [Elon] was a better niche for him."

At Elon, Kennedy was a two-time honorable mention All-American catcher. He also earned all-conference, all-district and all-area honors. Kennedy appeared in 115 games, batting .311 with 26 doubles, 13 home runs and 78 RBIs for his career.

After four years of college baseball, Kennedy was given the opportunity to play at the next level. In the 1990 amateur draft, he signed with the Oakland Athletics as a ninth-round selection, making stops

in Scottsdale, Ariz., Medford, Ore. and Modesto, Calif.

"You take the path laid out there for you," Kennedy said. "When the A's released me, I had the chance to sign with another team. I decided it was time to move on rather than bounce around the minor leagues for eight or nine years."

Once Kennedy moved on, his past did not take long to catch up with his future. He was immediately offered the job as Elon's pitching coach where he spent four seasons, from 1993-1996.

"It was nice to come back to a place I grew up in," he said. "Elon made me into a young man."

Kennedy accepted the head coaching position for the 1997 season, a position he has held for 12 years.

His squads have posted at least 30 victories in each of their eight NCAA Division I campaigns.

In 2006, Kennedy led his team to its first-ever Southern Conference regular season title. The team earned its second NCAA Division I Tournament berth in five seasons, ranked as the number two seed. It also set a new Elon record with 45 victories. The Phoenix was nationally-ranked for the first time that year, appearing at No. 25. Kennedy was honored as the SoCon Coach of the Year

for his run.

"It was a reward to watch the guys succeed as they did," Kennedy said.

The 2002 season marked the third official year of Division I baseball. Elon finished 34-23 and received an at-large bid. It was the university's first-ever bid to an NCAA Division I Tournament in any sport.

Elon posted victories against schools nationally ranked at No. 1, No. 10 and No. 20.

"I never had a feeling like that as a coach," Kennedy said.

The team fell just one out shy of recording a three-game sweep against defending national champion Miami University.

Kennedy earned the top spot on the list of Elon's all-time winningest coaches during the 2003 season, with 197 victories. He has currently amassed 377 wins at the helm of the program.

"[Being the winningest coach] hasn't hit me," Kennedy said. "I just want to win and I think about the current club and players. I guess when I am long gone I will look back on it then."

Kennedy is an aggressive players coach. He said some may misinterpret his competitive nature for craziness, but it is nothing more than the desire to win each time his team steps onto the diamond.

"It was evident from day one that [Kennedy] was going to become a great leader," Jones said. "It is such a tremendous quality and is why he is considered one of the premier young coaches today."



Mike
Kennedy

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Men's golf

The Phoenix finished 14 out of 24 teams at the 39th Annual Furman Intercollegiate men's golf tournament Sunday.

Chattanooga claimed the team title of the three-day, three-round, 54-hole tournament.

Steve Dressell golfed a one-under-par 71 in final-round action, the lowest Elon round of the event. Jimmy Lytle led the Phoenix and tied for 54 in the 132-player field.

Softball

The Phoenix split a double-header with Furman University in the first home conference series of the 2008 campaign.

In the first game, Elon emerged victorious 4-2, before falling 10-5 in the second game.

Carol Lilley pitched both games, going 1-1 that day. She picked up the game-winning victory, allowing no earned runs and just three hits while striking out one.

Men's Tennis

No. 75 Radford University pushed past Elon 4-2 for the win Friday afternoon in Radford, Va. Due to weather conditions, the doubles bouts were cancelled. Chase Helpingstine earned the singles victory at No. 6, as well as Alberto Rojas at No. 4. The men take on SoCon foe Davidson College at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center on Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Elon's four-game winning streak was snapped last Wednesday in a 5-2 non-conference loss to Georgia State University.

The Phoenix claimed the doubles point, but it was not enough as GSU earned all but one singles point.

Anna Milian posted the lone singles victory at No. 2. The women also battle Davidson College at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Women's Track and Field

The women's track and field team posted six first-place finishes and nine top-three finishes at the Liberty University Invitational in Virginia this past weekend.

Justine Robertson earned the top spot in both the shot-put and discus throw with 11.78 meters and 39.49 meters, respectively. Her throw of 38.21 meters in the hammer throw was good enough for second place and set a new school record.

Sophomore Jennine Strange finished first with a time of 2:20.43 in the 800-meter run. It is the second consecutive meet in which Strange earned the first place slot.

Andrea March also claimed the top spot in the 400-meter hurdles while Veronica Day finished first in the long jump.

Elon returns to the track April 4-5, when they travel to Durham, N.C. for the Duke Invitational.

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Football announces 2008 season

Michelle Longo
Sports Editor

The 2008 Elon football schedule brings an array of goodies to the table, including one extra game and the first season in which all opponents compete under the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

The 12-game schedule features nine opponents who earned winning records last season, four of whom were their respective conference champions and three teams that won at least one FCS playoff game.

Elon, which finished last season one victory away from an automatic bid to the FCS playoffs and with a national ranking of No. 23, opens its season at Rhodes Stadium against the University of Richmond on Aug. 30.

The Spiders won their conference last season before falling in the playoffs to eventual national champion Appalachian State University. Richmond finished its 2007 campaign at No. 5 in the final FCS poll.

"[The game] gives us a chance to measure ourselves against one of the best programs in the league in 2007," Pete Lembo said. "The University of Richmond is an institution we have grown to become competitive with in many ways. To have the opportunity to compete with them in a highly visible athletic contest is exciting."

Elon hits the road the next weekend to face off against Stony Brook, who suffered a 38-23 defeat at the hands of the Phoenix last season.

The Phoenix returns home for the next game of the season to face Presbyterian College, who begins its inaugural season in the Big South Conference.

"They have made the move to Division I, similar to Elon 10 years ago," Lembo said. "Now, the game becomes a game of equals and presents a greater challenge."

Elon's eight-game Southern Conference schedule begins just a week later with the Phoenix visiting Georgia Southern University. It will then return home again the following week to face Samford University for Family Weekend.

Samford, originally playing in the Ohio Valley Conference,



FILE PHOTO

Elon football dominates the field in a victory against the Liberty Flames in 2007. The team plays Liberty again in 2008 for the last game of the season.

will make the move to the SoCon in the fall, bringing the conference to 12 teams in total.

"[Family Weeknd] is a great opportunity for us to be at our best in front of folks who don't get a chance to see us every week," Lembo said. "Samford is coming into the Southern Conference ready to compete. They made a serious commitment to their program and are ready to mix."

The Phoenix will then face Furman University and The Citadel.

Last season, the Phoenix just missed its opportunity to share a piece of the SoCon crown losing its final two league games against both opponents.

They continue their SoCon games, battling Chattanooga, Wofford, Western Carolina and national champion Appalachian State University.

Elon concludes the regular season with a visit to Liberty University.

The Liberty Flames rebounded from a 42-14 defeat at Elon last season to go on to win six of their last seven

contests and claim the Big South championship.

"Our goal is to be playing meaningful football games in November with the playoffs and championship coming up," Lembo said. "If that is so, the Liberty game becomes even more important."

Every season, the NCAA allows FCS programs to play 11 football games during the regular season.

Because there is an extra weekend around Labor Day, FCS teams are allowed an open date to play an extra game.

The last time Elon played a 12-game schedule was during the 2002 season. The next opportunity for a 12-game schedule will not present itself again until the 2013.

"Our guys work 365 days to play 11 games," said Lembo. "So getting 12 is a bonus."

"But as a coach, I need to be cognizant of the season being extended and the long haul of the physical and mental preparation."

Elon named division's fifth most improved team

Last week, Somis Sports released its 2007 listing of the most improved collegiate football teams, and Elon was on it.

Elon University is ranked No. 5 out of 15 for most improved in Division I-AA.

Somis Sports also released a listing of the 50 most improved teams in all of college football. The Phoenix clocked in at No. 21.

"Part of our focus this season will be maturing as a team," head coach Pete Lembo said. "We have some battles to come but we are improving across the board."

Last season, the Phoenix finished ranked No. 23 in the country in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches' Poll. Elon placed second in the country in passing offense, 10 in scoring offense, 16 in passing efficiency and 19 in total offense.

Freshman quarterback Scott Riddle led the explosive Phoenix offense last season. He finished his rookie campaign with a 68.1 completion percentage, connecting on 346 of 508 passes for 3,817 yards and 31 touchdowns.

Junior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins set an Elon and SoCon single-season milestone with 117 catches last season. He also set a new Elon single-season mark with 1,474 receiving yards and 18 TD catches for the year and holds a SoCon single-season record with seven games of receiving for 100 or more yards. Hudgins was dubbed to the First Team All-FCS.

"It is satisfying to see how far we have come in just two years," Lembo said. "It is nice to take the program to the next level."

McMoore comes to sixth and final year with Elon

Pam Richter
Reporter

Few NCAA athletes stay at their respective universities for six years. Luckily for the Elon women's basketball team, Kitara McMoore is one of these.

The upcoming basketball season will be McMoore's sixth year on campus as she missed the entire 2006-2007 season with a knee injury.

She also sat out her first years on campus because of the same knee injury and transfer rules.

McMoore originally signed a letter of intent with St. Francis College in New York.

"I made that decision irrationally," McMoore said. "In April of 2003, I called Coach Lashley up and said that I made a big mistake and I wanted to come to Elon."

For both Elon and McMoore, that decision has panned out nicely. Two years ago, she led the entire Southern Conference in scoring and rebounding, averaging 14 points per game and 9.1



Kitara
McMoore

rebounds per game.

This past season, McMoore was not healthy until the end of the season, still recovering from knee surgery the season before.

"Towards the end of the 2007 season when everyone was healthy, especially me, I think we made a really great run," McMoore said.

The Phoenix finished the season winning five of its last seven games.

In the SoCon tournament, the team made it to the semi-final game, upsetting the third-seeded Davidson in the process.

McMoore describes this as her most cherished moment at Elon. Before this victory, Elon had never beaten Davidson.

"I knew from the beginning that we had the game," McMoore said. "It showed from the start."

This past season was a season full of ups and downs.

The team won its first two conference games before dropping 12 straight games.

"In the first part of the season it really showed what we could do because we were losing by one point, two points and three points," McMoore said. "We were there and we just couldn't finish. I think by the end of the season we started finishing."

McMoore and the rest of the Phoenix hope to carry this late season momentum into the start of the 2008-2009 campaign.

But there are some major changes in store for the team.

Head coach Brenda Paul's contract was not renewed, so she will not be returning. Paul was at Elon for 14 years. McMoore played within her system for five of those years.

"Change is a new beginning," McMoore said. "We all expect the new coach to come in to show us how to finish strong like we did this season. Coach Paul did a really great job this year when we weren't healthy and we still got there, but couldn't pull out the necessary wins."

The 2008-2009 season will ultimately be McMoore's last season at Elon.

Academically, she is double majoring in exercise/sports science and physical education and health. In addition, she is a double minor in coaching and leisure and sports management.

It is evident that she has a lot of interests and passions.

McMoore someday wants to be doing physical therapy and also strength and conditioning. She knows that she definitely wants to coach basketball someday.

"I still don't know what I want to do or where I want to go, but hopefully [I will be] successful," McMoore said.

Sports

Cheerleaders' game day preparations are just as serious as other athletes'

Justin Hite
Reporter

Senior Danielle Ransdell rolls over in her bed. Still half asleep, she glances at her alarm clock. Glowing back at her are the rigid, red numbers. It glares 7:56. Her alarm will go off in 19 minutes, but she decides to get up earlier than scheduled. It's time for another busy day.

Her class schedule will take up a minority of her day, but sprinkle in class work and meals and Ransdell doesn't find time for herself until around 4 p.m. But that's when her day really starts.

"You have to love what you do," she said. "A lot of people at Elon don't consider us a sport, because the NCAA doesn't."

As a member of the varsity cheerleading squad, Ransdell has found herself in a unique category. One that doesn't classify her as a NCAA athlete, but one that demands nearly as much from her.

When she's finally run out of time for meals and completed all her schoolwork, she hits the gym. Today it's mostly cardiovascular work and tomorrow she'll lift weights for a short time. But now all she can picture is that treadmill and the elliptical machine.

"In order to do the things that are expected of us, we have to be in really good shape," Ransdell said. "Working out is really essential in cheerleading. Cardio is the most important thing for the girls and then of course we do some weight lifting."

At the gym she sees the rest of her team, only the guys are focused on the weights. Teammate senior John O'Brien has been at the gym for nearly an hour and a half and is finally finishing up his routine.

All this activity would never be completed without significant planning. For Ransdell, most of that planning takes place a day in advance.

"I always have to plan out the night before or really early in the day when I am going to do homework so that I can make sure that I am able to get it all done," Ransdell said.

Game day is still just two days away.

The alarm blares loudly throughout the entire room. The snooze button has already been mashed three times, but this time O'Brien has to get out of bed. 8:25 a.m. and class starts soon enough. His day will be much like Ransdell's was the day before. After three hours of class, lunch and schoolwork, it's time for another three or four hours of weights and practice.

While it may have been a few months since either of these two had to work through that strenuous daily schedule, it is still a full time commitment and, like any other sport, there is no true off-season.

"It's two seasons long but we have practice all year," O'Brien said. "Even when we're not in season we are still doing open gym, so it's just like we have practice."

During football and basketball season, the effort that the cheerleading team gives is obvious. It can be seen on the sidelines of McKinnon Field or at the baseline of Alumni Gym. But once spring hits, it's a completely different style of performance. Instead of back handsprings and lifts, the team instead perfects its art by making appearances at schools around the county and holding camps for future cheerleaders.

"It's really a year-round thing and you can't get out of shape for it," O'Brien said. "When we go home for winter breaks or spring breaks we still have to stay in shape."

The game is one day away.

Today it's the third alarm. And that's still early for Ransdell. Usually it takes all four, but today is different. She slowly rises out of bed, still sore from yesterday's work out. But she has one thing on her mind.



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Allison Levent, Hilary Fogle and Julie Mikrut encourage the crowd to cheer the men's basketball team to victory.

It's finally game day.

The same routine must be followed. Class, meals, homework. But, there's a light at the end of this tunnel. Two hours before game time, Ransdell and O'Brien show up at Alumni Gym. Some of the basketball players are still making their way in as the team runs through pre-game drills.

As the last few stragglers

from the cheerleading team make their way across the hardwood, they can finally go through their routines. Working almost in unison with the basketball team as game time draws near, the cheerleaders break down every stunt, every lift and every pyramid.

Quick passes and jump shots mark the first half and while O'Brien can pay them

some notice he has more important things to worry about. He can't drop the girl he is supporting above his head.

The horn blares, waking Ransdell from a quick day dream. Timeout, media timeout. Those words have conditioned themselves into her brain. Again, it's time to perform.



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Cheerleaders get the crowd pumped at the basketball game against Georgia Southern.



DAVID WELLS | Assistant Photo Editor

Stephanie Hicks shows her enthusiasm to the fans at the men's basketball game.