



*Ohhhmmmm...
Yoga and Wellness*

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MORE IN MULTIMEDIA:

DanceWorks

Student-choreographed event showcases alternative dance styles

PAGE 16 AND ONLINE

Study abroad series:

Junior Shea Northcut talks about her experience abroad in London

ONLINE ONLY

The Acorn Inn

Local B&B run by Elon alumni

PAGE 18 AND ONLINE



DR. DANIELEY HONORED FOR FOUNDERS DAY

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THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2010 | VOLUME 36, EDITION 6

www.elon.edu/pendulum



Chemistry majors Sara Dennin, a senior, and junior Tony Rizzuto work on their research in a lab on the third floor of McMichael Science Building. The new strategic plan is budgeting for an addition to be made to McMichael to allow for more room for both students and professors' research.

Lab space in McMichael insufficient

Samantha King
News Editor

Tony Rizzuto is a junior Elon College Fellow chemistry major trying to turn an abundant natural gas into something useful, like a fuel, for his honors project. If Rizzuto succeeds, he will be publishing his original results in an academic journal, a task his lab partner, Matt Horowitz, is already working on.

Each spends hours in the lab trading off working space. They share a mentor, and more importantly, they must share half a countertop for their projects.

Usually there are usually multiple students working in a lab space in McMichael Science Building.

"We have to stagger it," said Robert Vick, associate professor of biology.

Vick is studying muscular structure with a student. They need a treadmill, which the student is supplying herself. Currently the biology department has four spaces strictly for lab work, including the greenhouse, leaving many students and staff to share space and rearrange time slots for projects.

"I think it is important to understand that no one, Harvard, Duke, not even God, has unlimited resources," Vick said.

In the coming years, though, lab space will no longer be an issue. The Elon Commitment strategic plan calls for an extension to the east side of McMichael.

But Vick said he won't believe it until ground is broken, and many professors and students are apprehensive about the new accommodations.

The university has no definite plans for the construction of a science

extension. The extension is just one of the options being discussed. Others include a separate building.

"If you look at previous plans, there are buildings that never materialized. It may or may not happen, and we are looking at a few different places," said Dan Anderson, the director of University Relations.

According to the master plan, the extension is just a potential idea at this time.

Shon Gilliam is the physics lab manager and organizes all of the lab equipment for the department. He said he is concerned about equipment. There are as many as four courses taught using four different types of lab materials in a single classroom.

"It gets messy," Gilliam said. "Every year space is an issue. Every year we get more students and have less space."

Gilliam said he is concerned about equipment in the building and how it would be set up, which hasn't yet been discussed.

Vick, along with others in the field,

said he is concerned about the logistics of the building. He said he believes departments should not be split.

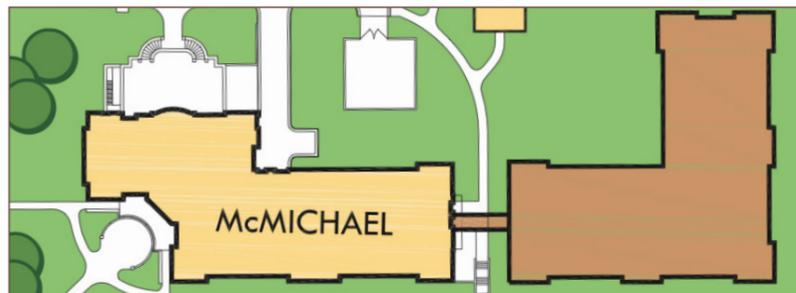
"When you separate departments, there is no interaction," Vick said. "No sharing of ideas in passing."

The environmental studies department was moved to Powell and now has little interaction with the other science disciplines.

Senior chemistry major Sara Dennin agrees. "If their offices are in McMichael and labs are in the other building, it would be much harder for us to find them."

Dennin said what the department really needs are new classrooms and more computers with specialized programs. In McMichael's computer programs, only six students can be on at the same time.

Although Dennin, Horowitz and Rizzuto will not be here when the extension is built, they said they are excited for the department to have enough space to accommodate students, faculty and research.



The possibility of an extension on the McMichael Science Building brings the chance that students and professors will have more space to do research.

Earthquake hits Chile, kills hundreds

Lindsay Fendt
Reporter

SANTIAGO, CHILE — Chileans were shaken awake in their beds after a colossal 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of Chile early Saturday morning, killing at least 708 people as of Monday, according to the New York Times. There are currently two Elon students studying abroad in Chile.

The quake hit at 3:34 a.m. (1:34 a.m. EST) about 60 miles off the country's coast. Most of the serious damage and injuries occurred in Concepción, Chile's second largest city, but damage can be seen throughout the country, including Santiago, Chile's capital.

"I had been in bed for about five minutes when everything started shaking," said Renee Zale, an Elon University junior spending the semester in Santiago.

Zale, a Massachusetts native, had never experienced an earthquake before.

"On the east coast (of the United States) they don't really stress earthquake preparedness, so it took me a second to realize what was going on, then one of my host sisters yelled my name and we all went and stood in a doorframe downstairs," she said.

See CHILE | PAGE 2

Tentative April deadline set for completion of Elon underpass

Jack Rodenfels
Senior Reporter

There is a light at the end of the tunnel for Elon University's current underpass construction project.

The completion of the pedestrian underpass beneath the railroad tracks parallel to Lebanon Avenue and Trollinger Avenue is set to be completed in April.

A five-man crew from Crowder Construction has been working on the project since August.

"Barring more bad weather, we look to have the underpass completed and fully functional by the end of April," said Tony Nash, foreman of the project from Crowder Construction.

According to Nash, the progress of the pedestrian underpass was halted for almost two months because of inclement weather, forcing construction workers to slow their process and move back the anticipated completion date.

Before the completion of the pedestrian tunnel, East Lebanon Avenue and East Trollinger Avenue between Lindner Hall and North Antioch Avenue will re-open. Crowder Construction estimates Lebanon Avenue will open in mid-April, eliminating traffic congestion throughout campus and adding parking previously filled by construction equipment.

See TUNNEL | PAGE 6



Elon students return to normalcy after quake

CHILE from PAGE 1

Zale's host family's home sustained no damages, but their neighborhood, like many in Santiago, has yet to regain power. While Santiago suffered minimal amounts of structural damage, the power outages have severely restricted travel and communication within the city. Many traffic lights are not functioning, making it dangerous to drive.

Although Santiago was spared the brunt of the earthquake, there were still cases of severe damage throughout the city.

Rafael Rocco and Patricia Montecina were jolted out of bed not only by the immense shaking from the earthquake, but also from the sound of the collapse of their apartment complex's two story parking garage.

The garage, located in Las Condes, a suburban neighborhood within the city, contained about 56 cars at the time of its collapse. All were completely destroyed.

"The shaking from this earthquake was like nothing I have ever experienced," Rocco said. "There have been earthquakes here before, but nothing like this during this time period. These buildings have survived many earthquakes, but this one was just too much."

The center of Santiago, home to many historical buildings, was the most damaged by the earthquake. Older government buildings and churches suffered serious structural damage, and one of the oldest churches in Santiago lost its bell tower.

Despite these examples, because of the frequency of smaller earthquakes in Chile, all new buildings are subject to strict height and safety restrictions, meaning most people suffered little property damage in Santiago, unlike Concepción where virtually every building in the city was somehow damaged.

Angélica Zelaya, a retired secretary living in Las Condes, explained that for many, the power outages were both the most terrifying and the most dangerous aspect of the quake.

"I was very scared and was trying to get to a safe place," Zelaya said. "But what made the situation so much worse was the lack of light. No one could see anything, no one could get outside, no one could leave where they were."

Like many other Santiaguinos, Zelaya's apartment regained power within several hours.

"We have water here, and food and electricity," she said. "We are so fortunate here in Santiago, we can only hope and pray for those in other parts of the country."

Reporter's note: The interviews were conducted in Spanish and then translated for this story. Fendt is a junior at Elon studying in Chile this semester.



Workers began repairing sidewalks and walls several hours after the earthquake struck. While there was little severe damage in Santiago, many older houses lost garden walls and paths.



Santiaguinos stand outside as a precaution after Saturday's earthquake. Aftershocks rocked the country for hours.



The ceiling of a parking garage in a Santiago neighborhood collapsed during the earthquake. The 56 cars that were inside the garage were all damaged beyond repair, and the surrounding buildings suffered structural damage.



Supermarkets in Santiago were heavily guarded following the chaotic rushes of people trying to get food and water. In Concepción, Chile, where most of the damage occurred, many of the supermarkets were looted.



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Poll finds lack of faith in Congress

Caitlin O'Donnell
Assistant News Editor

It has been said that politics and religion are topics to be generally avoided in conversation, but the Elon University Poll chose to address these often controversial topics through a state-wide poll of 508 North Carolina residents conducted on Feb. 22-25.

Based on the study, three out of every four North Carolina residents said they do not approve of the job Congress is doing, while one-half approve of the way President Barack Obama is handling his job.

Hunter Bacot, director of the poll, said people tend to view the institution of Congress much differently than they do individual politicians.

"Congress bears the burden of the gridlock and seemingly not getting anything done, and with that comes a negative evaluation," Bacot said. "However the unfairness in this is that Congress was designed as a slow-moving institution that seeks to compromise across political perspectives."

According to Bacot, the poll revealed it is simply not a good time to be a politician, regardless of party.

"People are embittered and see Congress as not getting anything done," he said. "People are just generally anti-incumbent."

Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) received a 40 percent approval rating, with 24 percent of respondents saying they believe Burr deserves re-election, which could greatly affect the May primaries.

"At state level, there are going to be competitive races in every state and incumbents usually fare pretty well," Bacot said. "But this year being what

it is, that may not be a guarantee and we may see some incumbents lose."

Seventy-five percent of respondents also reported they believe religion to be losing influence in the United States.

Bacot said some of the controversy surrounding religion in North Carolina has changed as the state itself has changed.

As Bacot explains, though, some of that has changed as the state itself has changed.

"People of faith look around their pews and see the same people, demographically," he said. "Young people tend not to attend services and the reality of the situation reflects that."

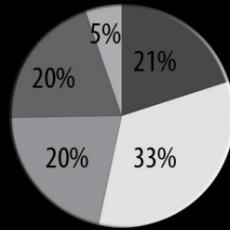
The poll found there is not a pronounced difference in opinion regarding a statement within the North Carolina Constitution requiring elected officials to believe in God, with only 49 percent of respondents saying the requirement does not belong.

"Any constitution will have some discrepancies in it," Bacot said. "People do recognize that there should be a separation of church and state.

THE ELON POLL

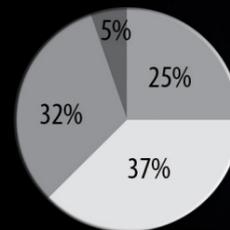
February 2010 results

Opinion of President Obama:



Strongly favorable: 20 percent
Favorable: 33 percent
Unfavorable: 21 percent
Strongly unfavorable: 20 percent
Don't know: 5 percent

Confidence in Congress:



No confidence at all: 25 percent
Not much confidence: 37 percent
Some confidence: 32 percent
A lot of confidence: 5 percent



Photo courtesy of MCT Campus
SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Religion is an accepted fact of society, but in a democracy, you must respect the rights of everyone."

In an effort to ensure that all North Carolina residents have a voice in the policy process and are adequately engaged, the Elon University Poll surveys all adults, not just voters.

"This was really Dr. Lambert's initiative," Bacot said. "The university requires students to be engaged in their community so this is our way of doing the same thing."

According to the Elon University Poll Web site, the information gathered from these polls is then shared with

external sources including the media and public officials to facilitate a better understanding of general opinions of citizens. It has been recognized as "the poll of record in North Carolina."

"Our first and foremost goal was to create visibility among North Carolinians," Bacot said. "And I think we have established that."

Check online for full results of the February 2010 Elon University Poll.



SGA announces winners, encourages participation



ELECTION RESULTS

Caitlin O'Donnell
Assistant News Editor

The newest elected members of the Student Government Association have been working on how to fulfill their platforms since they were elected on Wednesday.

The elections also yielded the rejecting of a n SGA-proposed outdoor pool.

In a vote of 968 to 884, students voted against funding the construction and maintenance of the pool, which would have increased the student activity fee by \$20.

"I was very encouraged that we had such great turnout," said Jana Lynn Patterson, assistant vice president for Student Life. "We beat our old record, around 2100 participants, to over 2200 voters this year."

Although some students originally expressed interest in building an outdoor pool facility when SGA asked for suggestions, the votes showed that the majority of students did not agree.

"SGA was certainly disappointed," Patterson said. "But I am proud of them for the process of having students not only knowledgeable of the idea but also involved in it, showing disagreement."

In many cases, the work SGA does for Elon's campus goes unnoticed, Patterson said, and the issues it focuses on are either long-term changes or impact only a small number of students.

New executive president Taylor Martin said he hopes to change that.

"One of the main goals of SGA as a whole is to increase communication between SGA and the student body," he said. "It is our goal to make sure that the student body is more involved with our decisions and is well informed of everything that is discussed."

Besides increased student engagement, Patterson said SGA will also strive to create a sense of accountability, both within the organization and other student groups. This includes a system of checks and balances as a branch of SGA, as well as increased communication with other organizations.

"Each year, SGA has the capacity to allot around half a million dollars to campus groups," Patterson said. "We want to understand how we can best help them accomplish their mission with these funds."

As newly elected representatives take leadership within the program, they bring with

them even more ideas for improvement.

Neima Abdulahi, vice president of the class of 2013, said she plans to focus on putting President Leo Lambert's 10-year Strategic Plan into action.

"Let's create more enrichment programs, better our recruitment program and redefine what the Elon experience really is," she said.

Sam Warren, president of the class of 2012, emphasized the importance of accurately representing the students.

"Most senators thought that their constituents were in favor of the pool idea," Warren said. "The election results have proven otherwise, so I want to more accurately represent my class."

Becca Tynes, president of the class of 2013, said she is looking forward to organizing more class events and Senior Class President Michael Nowak will focus on helping the senior class transition to their lives after Elon.

Though all SGA officials represent unique goals and plans for the individual classes, Patterson said the leaders tend to make the transition smooth and decide which ideas are best and most feasible.

"Usually, people will have the same overall goals but just articulate them differently," she said.

Martin said the hype and general interest in SGA must persist if goals are to be accomplished. He has suggested the use of online social networking sites for communication as well as a SGA table in Moseley where senators can directly converse with students.

"SGA makes decisions every week that effect the day-to-day lives of many students, but unfortunately, many students are not aware of these decisions," Martin said.

Though the administration seeks to allow SGA to be entirely student-run without intrusion, Patterson said she would love to see more students run for office.

Martin had previous experience with SGA as sophomore class president, which he said he believes will guide him in his new position.

As a new group of leaders begins its transition into the organization, Patterson encourages the student body to ask questions and participate in the process.

"Often, students think that SGA isn't doing anything for the student body," Patterson said. "But they are always looking into student issues on campus."

Executive Presidential Results:

Taylor Martin: 1183
Evan Davis: 1079

Executive Vice President Results:

Joel Slocum: 1206
Rachel Long: 1031

Executive Treasurer Results:

Matthew Campbell: 1984

Executive Secretary Results:

Katheryn Link: 1978

Business Results:

Kate Sloan: 1620
Jessica Turek: 1220

Social Science Results:

Cedric Pulliam: 1813

Class of 2011 Presidential Results:

Michael Nowak: 281
Justin Peterson: 223

Class of 2011 Senator Results:

Charles Costa: 448
Hillary Srsic: 332

Class of 2012 Presidential Results:

Samuel Warren: 542

Class of 2012 Vice President Results:

Nicholas Livengood: 535

Class of 2012 Secretary Results:

Joseph Garner: 536

Class of 2012 Senator Results:

Alexander Davis: 528

Class of 2013 Presidential Results:

Rebecca Tynes: 324
Darren Flowers: 255
Jeffrey Michels: 129
Andrew Palmieri: 73

Class of 2013 Vice President Results:

Neima Abdulahi: 289
Madeline Laliberte: 214
Evan Bonney: 174
Joseph Ziembra: 95

Class of 2013 Treasurer Results:

Elizabeth Burns: 373
Blair Zachary: 367

Class of 2013 Secretary Results:

Austin Williamson: 711

Class of 2013 Senator Results:

Benjamin Waldon: 715

Domestic study program brings student to Elon

Amanda Bender
Senior Reporter

A junior, Michle Carney, from Arcadia University in Pennsylvania came to Elon University for her study abroad semester through the New American Colleges and Universities program.

The program provides students from the 20 colleges and universities in the NACU to study domestically for a semester at another school.

"I think any time (students) can make friends from different communities, states and countries, that it is helpful," said Mary Wise, the assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Carney, an American Studies major, is the first student to come to Elon with the program. She said she wanted the experience of studying in a new place, but studying abroad out of the country would set her behind a semester. She said studying at Elon would still allow her to graduate on time.

"I wanted to study away, and I wanted to study somewhere new, so I decided to come south," Carney said.

Studying at Elon provided her with many new experiences, she said. Some of the key differences she mentioned from Arcadia were College Coffee, Greek Life, the weather and athletics.

"You guys are a division one school, and we are division three," Carney said. "It was cool going to the game on Saturday because the whole student body went."

Carney may not be studying in another country, but she said coming to the South was a new experience. She also said she has learned several things that will help later in life.

"I was put in a situation where I knew no one, so I had to learn quickly how to find my way around campus and make new friends," Carney said. "I think that will help me in the business world"

Each college in the program has a coordinator for the students. Wise helped Carney with the transition to Elon. Wise said that Carney is Elon's first involvement with the program. No other student has come to Elon and no Elon student has gone anywhere else.

"It has been hard to communicate this concept to people on campus, I think," Wise said. "So it helps to have a real person who is here doing it."

Elon is also working on making a service-learning semester for other students who want to study here, Wise said. The semester would provide these "study away" students with the opportunity to take service-learning designated courses as well as work closely with the Kernodle Center for Service Learning.

She said students will remain enrolled at Elon for that semester if they participate in the program and would be registered in special classes instead of having to find ways to make credits transfer. A

student studying at another university would pay Elon tuition like a traditional semester and room and board to the host college or university, as well as a \$250 administration fee.

"(Carney) was kind of on her own," Wise said. "Which is a really good experience because it is going to happen to (students) in a couple of years or whenever it is (students) graduate, and you go out and have to start life in a new world."



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor

Michele Carney is studying at Elon this semester. She is a junior American Studies major at Arcadia University.

“

I was put in a situation where I knew no one, so I had to learn quickly how to find my way around campus and make new friends. I think that will help me in the business world.

- Michele Carney
Junior

”

SEN. KAY HAGAN



State: North Carolina
Party: Democrat
First Elected: Nov. 4, 2008
Birth Date: March 26, 1953
Birthplace: Shelby, N.C.
Home City: Greensboro, N.C.

Image courtesy of MCT Campus

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Sen. Kay Hagan to deliver commencement address

Eva Hill
Senior Reporter

United States Sen. Kay Hagan is scheduled to deliver the commencement address for the Elon School of Law's class of 2010. Hagan, a native of Greensboro, graduated from the Wake Forest University School of Law in 1978 and currently holds a seat in the U.S. Senate.

This will be the law school's second commencement. In 2009, Director of Harvard University's Center for Public Leadership and Chair of the Elon Law Advisory Board David Gergen addressed the graduating class with the inaugural commencement.

"The law school invited Senator Hagan to be commencement speaker for a variety of reasons," Craft said. "She is one of North Carolina's two United States senators, she is from Greensboro, she is a lawyer and she has an important perspective on leadership in the law, having served 10 years in the North Carolina state Senate, serving as co-chair of the state Budget Committee."

Hagan was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2008 after running on a Democratic platform aimed at cutting taxes for the middle class, promoting higher education and expanding access to health care.

Hagan served five terms in the North Carolina Senate before defeating incumbent Elizabeth Dole in the 2008 U.S. Senate race. Hagan is a member of various committees including the Small Business and Entrepreneurship committee and the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee.

Phillip Craft, director of communications at the Elon School of Law, said the law school is honored to have Hagan speak before the graduating class.

The Senator was unable to be reached for comment due to scheduling and availability issues.

According to her Web site, Hagan said "a quality education is central to individual economic opportunity and sustained American prosperity."

Hagan's speech is scheduled for 3 p.m., May 23 at the Carolina Theatre in Greensboro, where 100 students are expected to receive law degrees.

Five professors to retire at semester's end

Alexa Johnson
Senior Reporter

After a collective 172 years of service, five Elon University professors will be teaching their final classes at Elon in May.

English Senior Faculty Fellows Anne Cassebaum and Lamar Bland, Physics Senior Faculty Fellow Frank Harris, French Senior Faculty Fellow Jane Romer and Religious Studies Professor Jim Pace will all retire after this semester.

When Pace began teaching religion 37 years ago, he said Elon was a different place. There were no fountains, no Belk Library and no Koury Business Center. All of the faculty members knew each



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Professor Jim Pace has been teaching religion for 37 years. He plans to retire in May.

other and the custodians by name.

"Some people ask how I could stay in the same place for so long," Pace said. "But it's like Elon is a new place every four or five years."

Jane Romer was the only French teacher, and one of just four language teachers, when she began her career at Elon. Now, 24 years later, Romer is one of four French professors in a university that offers nine languages.

"I'm really happy with my career," said Romer, who has served as moderator for the French Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi and created a course in French detective fiction. "I feel really fortunate that I get to do what I love and get paid for it."

Her retirement will consist of traveling to the Patagonia region with her husband and other exotic locations, she said.

After changing offices four times to four different buildings, Pace said he knew he was ready to take the next step in his career.

"I felt it was time," Pace said. "I would like to know what it's like to be retired. I don't want to drop dead in the classroom."

But Romer has one more goal before she leaves Elon — to get rid of 24 years of collected books.

"My next big challenge is what to do with my books," she said.

One thing that the professors agreed was that it's the students they will miss the most.

"We always had very bright

students," said

Cassebaum, an English professor of 25 years. She also co-founded Students for Peace and Justice and advised the Liberal Arts Forum for 15 years. "Now we have students who are more focused on their studies. They come in with a great work ethic, and a number of them are interested in social change."

Students who have taken classes and spent time with these seasoned professors are sad to see years of experience and advice leave.

"As exciting as it is to bring in new staff with fresh opinions, there is always something lost when teachers who have been here this long retire," junior Cody Greene said. "Someone like Professor Bland, who has taught here for more than 40 years, is as much of a part of Elon as any group or society."

Sophomore Brittany Garrett has taken two classes with Romer and admires her passion for teaching.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Professor Jane Romer taught at Elon for 24 years and expects to retire at the end of the semester. Romer is one of four French professors at Elon.

"Between dinners and outdoor debates, Madame Romer puts a lot of time into her students," Garrett said.

Just because these professors are leaving Elon — traveling, writing and doing all the things they have put off during their years of service — doesn't mean they are dropping their expectations of what their pupils can accomplish, according to Cassebaum.

"My hope is that (Elon) students think about doing good in the world," Cassebaum said. "They will focus less on charity and relief and more on social and policy change, so we actually solve problems."

Credit card reforms cause changes for customers, application age limit raised

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

The Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act, which changes the earliest age consumers can apply for credit cards from 18 to 21, is beginning to affect college students across the country since it went into effect on Feb. 22.

A provision of CARD requires that students under 21 have a cosigner, according to the Federal Reserve Web site. Shaw said the law will not cause current credit card holders to acquire a cosigner. It will only apply to new credit card customers.

"Another option for parents is to sign students as an 'authorized user' on their own credit card," Shaw said.

Wonhi Synn, a professor of finance, said he believes the law is targeting college students. He said credit card companies have always targeted college campuses.

About 84 percent of students have credit cards, with an average balance of \$3,173 at the end of 2008, according to Synn. This figure is up from the credit card balance of \$1,879 a decade earlier. Synn references a 2009 survey by student loan issuer Sallie Mae.

He said the bill may help to curb issues with debt among college students.

"I think the overall effect will be more positive than negative," Synn said. "By being a cosigner I think parents will be helping students more with how to manage the debt, guidance and supervision than otherwise."

He said college has been a big market for credit card companies. The companies often give out free offers or promotions on campuses.

"(The credit card companies) encourage them to have credit cards without much education or training or helping students manage the credit card and debt," Synn said. "We hear some horror stories and eventually parents have to step in."

The new regulations are intended to help customers better manage their credit card accounts, according to Corporate Communications Manager of Wachovia/Wells

Fargo Christine Shaw.

Other provisions in the act are to protect consumers. One change is a grace period, giving credit card holders at least 21 days to make payments on time, according to the Federal Reserve Web site. The law is also requiring payments to be made on the same day every month.

The CARD act also changes the number of days credit card companies can give notice to customers before they change interest rates.

"Now the credit card companies have to give 45 days notice ... before it was 15 days," Synn said.

The best part of these changes, according to Career Adviser René Jackson, is credit card companies being required to include in statements how long it will take for customers to pay back what they owe. She said people don't realize how long it takes to pay back.

Shaw outlined other changes Wells Fargo credit card users will notice because of the credit card reforms.

"There are several billing statement changes that will help customers better understand their financial obligations and risks," Shaw said. "Our efforts include minimum payment warnings that show customers how long it will take to pay off their balance, contact information for credit counseling and debt management providers, totals for fees and interest, assessed by billing cycle and year to date, rates and fees more prominent in disclosures and simplified language."

Synn said the new measures being taken by companies are worrying consumers.

"A lot of people are concerned by credit card companies' ability to raise rates and create new fees," Synn said. "The industry estimated they were going to lose billions of dollars, so obviously credit card companies will try to (get back money). There will be new traps for credit card holders."

According to Synn, the default rate for credit cards has gone up in the past year because of the state of the worldwide economy. Synn said economic crisis would affect college students both directly and indirectly.

"Students who support themselves in full or in part

by working would face similar situations of job cuts or reduced hours," Synn said. "In any of these cases, they would rely more on their credit card to finance their education or pay expenses."

At Elon this semester, one transition strategy course is Real-World Financial Literacy, taught by Assistant Director of Academic Advising Jason Springer. Elon offers these courses to ease the move students make to careers.

"Certainly (managing budget) is a big part of more than one of those courses," Jackson said.

CAPS ON CREDIT

Starting Feb. 22, 2010, a new federal law went into effect preventing individuals under 21 from obtaining credit cards.

UNDER THE NEW ACT:

- No interest rate increases for the first year
- Increased rates apply only to new charges
- Restrictions on over-the-limit transactions
- Caps on high-fee cards

- Creditors must obtain customer's consent before charging fees for transactions exceeding credit limits

-Underage customers are protected

-Creditors are prohibited from issuing credit cards to customers under 21, unless the customer can make payments or has the signature of a parent or cosigner.



SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Expanded housing option offers new living arrangements

Rachel Southmayd
Senior Reporter

Elon University's expanded housing option has opened doors to other forms of living on- and off-campus, and this year is the first time that it has been offered during the normal housing selection cycle.

According to the university's common data sets, 58 percent of all students in the 2009-2010 academic year are living on campus.

Traditional dormitories at Elon, including the Danieley flats G-N, are capable of holding 2010 students. The other 2,995 undergraduate students rely on alternate housing options, like the Oaks, Danieley apartments, off-campus apartments and "expanded housing."

"Expanded housing is something we've been doing for the past couple of years, usually for the summer," said Tal Fish, Housing Operations Manager.

This year, the process has been moved back to March as part of normal housing selection. The Crest, located on East Haggard Avenue, is being used for expanded housing for the fourth year in



Old Trollinger is an off-campus living option owned by B.C. Parker Real Estate. These apartments don't fall under the distinction of expanded housing.

a row. Fish said it was selected for several reasons.

"It's close by, right by Danieley. And the BioBus stops there," Fish said.

Fish also said The Crest offers a set-up that other locations like the Oaks and Danieley Center do not — four private bedrooms and bathrooms in each unit. The Crest is even considered on-campus housing.

"All residential policies are the same. We'll have one or two residential life student staffers out there," Fish said.

Like other on-campus housing, the four bedroom units will have basic bedroom furnishings. Living room furnishings have to be provided by the residents.

Elon will lease The Crest units to students, but Elon is leasing them from B.C. Parker Real Estate, which manages

seven other apartment and townhome complexes within a few miles of Elon.

"We have a little over 600 students living on our properties," said Christy Donaldson of B.C. Parker.

Donaldson also said that students like living off campus for the freedom, space and ability to choose their own roommates.

Junior Sara Baker lives in B.C. Parker property. She said she likes the independence that comes with living off campus and when asked if she'd like her apartment to fall under "expanded housing," she said yes.

"I would find this to be a positive thing," Baker said. "It would make keeping track of all my college expenses a little easier."

Sophomore Sarah Foulke said she would recommend living in The Crest to everyone and encourages Elon to use more expanded housing.

"I actually like having my off-campus housing being controlled by Elon because we pay the same rate as if we were living on campus in a dorm," she said.

Foulke said she preferred living in The Crest to living on campus.



Partners Place is an option for off-campus housing at Elon and is B.C. Parker-owned housing.

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"We Put You First"

'UNCG in 3' aims for early graduation, lower tuition

Alexa Milan
Senior Reporter

As the economy continues to struggle, the cost of higher education is becoming increasingly more difficult to manage. But one North Carolina university is launching a program to ease financial strain.

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro recently announced this fall the school will launch UNCG in 3, a program that will allow students to graduate in three years and save up to \$8,000 in tuition, fees and room and board.

"The goal is to make university attendance more affordable," said Robert Brown, UNCG's dean for continual learning.

Brown said the development of UNCG in 3 has been a 10-12 month process. The program is designed for incoming freshmen with 12 or more college credits obtained through AP classes or early college programs. Last fall, the university had 600 incoming freshmen with college credit and 275 with 12 credits or more.

UNCG in 3 currently includes 17 degree programs. Students who participate in the program will take classes year-round in order to complete their degree at an accelerated pace.

"It's for highly talented, highly motivated students," Brown said.

UNCG students have had the option to graduate early if it was feasible in their major, but Brown said UNCG in 3 will make it easier for students to graduate in three years and offer more academic support.

"The advantage is you'd be given priority enrollment," Brown said. "These students will be given the same registration priority as honors students and register 24 hours ahead of their cohorts."

Mark Albertson, Elon University's registrar and assistant to the provost, said he doubts Elon will ever launch a similar program because it is so easy for students to graduate early already.

Albertson said more students are entering Elon with AP credit, most freshmen are taking 16-18 credit hours a semester and more students are attending summer school, pushing them ahead of schedule in terms of credits earned.

"I smile a little bit when I read about this stuff because you don't have to design anything," Albertson said. "If a student wants to graduate in three or three-and-a-half years, they can do it anywhere they want."

At Elon, one or two students a year graduate in three years and about 50 finish in December or January of their senior year. Albertson said he thinks the numbers are low because most Elon

students don't want to graduate early.

"We're seeing lots of students entering their senior year with an abundance of credits, so they're backing off the accelerator that senior year," Albertson said.

In his experience, Albertson said most seniors take fewer classes to focus on applying to graduate school and searching for jobs. He said he sees an advantage in the financial savings graduating early would offer but a disadvantage in losing a year of the maturing process.

"I think the best of both worlds would be to finish in December or January," Albertson said. "Then you've beat the rush of all those college graduates that are all hitting the market at one time in May, and you've saved a semester of tuition."

While the suffering economy has led more universities to discuss the development of programs like UNCG in 3, Albertson said he feels most students don't want to miss out on their senior year, even if they could feasibly graduate early.

"You're starting to see a lot of talk about this stuff, but I've not talked to any of my counterparts elsewhere where they're seeing a lot of this happening," Albertson said. "I think it's because most of these students do want to have a four-year experience."

UNCG in 3

- Students graduate in three years
- Students save up to \$8,000 in tuition, fees and room and board
- The program targets incoming freshmen with 12+ college credits
- UNCG has 600 incoming freshman with college credits
- 275 have 12+ college credits
- UNCG in 3 includes 17 degree programs
- The program will provide academic support for students graduating in three years

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Online university offers free higher education

Melissa Kansky
Multimedia Editor

An online university has begun to offer higher education for free, prompting discussion about education in the digital age. But the education may lack some components Elon University students and faculty crave.

University of the People, a non-accredited online university, was announced last January as the world's first free online university dedicated to globalizing and democratizing higher education. The university was founded by Shai Reshef, an Israeli entrepreneur who has worked on many education-related Web sites.

The only costs include an application processing fee, ranging from \$10-50, and an assessment processing fee at the end of each semester, ranging from \$10-100. While minimal costs appeal to individuals seeking higher education, the lack of face-to-face interaction repels those who favor engaged learning.

"I believe in the value of physically bringing people together," said Peter Felten, director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at Elon.

Elon students also believe in the significance of human interaction.

"I feel I learn a lot from my peers and group work," sophomore Lauren

Hansen said. "I learn a lot and become more open-minded when dealing with other people."

Other students echoed this sentiment.

"So much of our world is moving online and losing face-to-face contact," sophomore Adam Portoghese said.

Portoghese said he believes the college experience should offer more than solely courses.

Professor Paula Patch explained the importance of communicating through body language. She said by seeing the confusion on students' faces she knows when she needs to explain a point in more detail. The dialogue between a professor and students is important, too, she said, rather than the composing of an e-mail.

While the online institution lacks physical interaction, University of the People erases the distance barrier.

"You don't have to be in close proximity to bricks and mortar," Patch said.

According to the institution's mission statement, University of the People strives to provide universal access to higher education.

Freshman Rachel Stanley describes the goal as a "step in the right direction."

The application process is much the same as any traditional university.

Prospective students must graduate high school and write an essay of a similar topic to Elon's essay question. In order to attend University of the People, one must also speak English.

"I think the fact that it's free and online helps a lot of people have access to higher education," Stanley said. "But so many people don't speak English or have Internet access."

Felten said the ability of some to have access would be limited.

"The hook that anyone can sign up for these courses is a compelling story," Felten said. "I still don't see how someone who is desperately poor will gain an Internet connection reliable enough to be a student at this university."

University of the People offers a business administration and computer science program, as well as general studies courses.

Although information in regards to business administration and computer science can be found online, students and professors may just skim the surface of these topics. Felten compares the curriculum to Wikipedia, implying the program can be effective for only general knowledge.

"Because the information is widely available, it makes it seem like we know a lot when what we know is largely superficial," he said. "If we are satisfied

with skimming across the surface of knowing things then it works fine."

The lack of paid professors arouses some doubt in respect to the program's standard.

A university dependent on volunteer and retired professors causes Felten to question the sustainability of the school. Patch said she believes students must have faith in the program in order to benefit.

The absence of accreditation also forces the institution to trust that students will complete their work.

Students who attend University of the People will have to be disciplined to be successful, Felten said.

"Graduates may end up to be talented people because they are able to get through a process like that," he said. "But it doesn't necessarily mean they are learning that much in the four years."

He said he believes employers should care about quality and not where the knowledge came from.

A lack of a degree causes Hansen to doubt the practicality of the university.

"I think it's good for people who just want to learn, but it's not an option for people who need a job," she said.

Patch said she supports learning for learning's sake, but asked, "How can you judge quality without an accreditation?"

Tunnel set to open by end of semester

TUNNEL from PAGE 1

According to President Leo Lambert, president of the university, a void needed to be filled by constructing the pedestrian underpass on South Campus. Other schools in the Triad, such as UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke University, and N.C. State University all have similar pedestrian underpasses at their respective campuses, and Elon University needed to follow suit.

"Hundreds of students cross [the train tracks] each day," said Lambert. "After some years of planning and contract negotiations, we're excited to see the finished project."

The underpass will be constructed with the same type of fencing that is currently along the tracks on West Trollering Avenue. The fencing will run from the corner of South Williamson Avenue and East Lebanon Avenue down the tracks to Oak Avenue in the next month, so that students use the underpass as a means of safety rather than trying to cross over the tracks.

"There is a big concern for students not only looking left and right while climbing over the tracks but also falling on the steep gravel or on the tracks themselves,"

said Scott Saylor, president of the North Carolina Railroad Company.

Student safety is the number one priority for this tunnel, Saylor said. The tunnel is designed to not have any corners, and with six 24-hour surveillance cameras and maximum lighting, visibility and safety shouldn't be a problem.

Structurally, the underpass will be finished with four openings—two north of the railroad tracks and two south of the railroad tracks. An inclined ramp is built adjacent to each side of the railroad tracks so that service and maintenance vehicles can access the underpass, when necessary. A set of stairs is built opposite of each ramp.

Financially, the project cost 2.2 million dollars, with one million dollars of the total funding coming from the North Carolina Railroad Company and the additional 1.2 million coming from the University.

"Through this project, we are making a permanent improvement to the area surrounding the railroad tracks," said Lambert. "It's a model project that will service Elon University students for years to come."

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Low-income students struggle to stay in school

Jack Dodson
News Editor

When former Elon University student Noah McKay realized he wasn't going to have enough money to come back to Elon for his sophomore year, he fought hard to try to find a way to make ends meet.

"At the end of the second semester, I realized that the Presidential Scholarship and the FAFSA wouldn't be enough, so I applied to be an R.A.," McKay said.

He got the position, but it still wasn't enough. Needing only \$1,500 to be able to stay, he then applied to be a college fellow. This is typically reserved for freshmen except when spots open up. McKay was not able to gain a spot.

He was faced with a decision that many students are struggling with across the country — what to do when money is too tight to afford a college education. McKay had to return to his home state and now attends the University of Nevada at Reno, where he said the price is not necessarily easier to manage.

McKay said he has been trying to make ends meet at his current college, but hasn't been able to receive much more help there.

"I've been trying to get jobs, but no one's hiring," he said. "My school's on a hiring freeze."

As economic times are getting tighter and people are cutting back budgets, college prices are increasing and schools are being criticized for their financial aid opportunities, according to a report published in January by The Education Trust, an advocacy group that supports equal education opportunities for all students.

"As college costs skyrocket and a degree becomes more essential to compete in the job market," the report said. "The total amount of institutional grant aid spent on students whose parents earn at least \$115,000 per year grew from \$282.5 million in 2003 to \$361.4 million in 2007, an increase of 28 percent."

At Elon, Director of Financial Planning Patrick Murphy said the financial aid

office tries to give aid where it's needed but doesn't have a lot of money to work with.

"In comparison to other schools, we have a low tuition, a low financial aid model," Murphy said.

This year, he said, the school has seen a 12 or 13 percent increase in the number of students applying for financial aid.

For McKay, the money he got from Elon wasn't enough.

"You feel helpless, I guess," he said. "Just lost, that's probably more accurate. There's not anyone like (a parent) in college to just walk you through that. You're just expected to know."

Murphy said that he likes to keep money aside to deal with these situations, but he can't help in all cases.

"Typically what we see is in the middle of the year," he said. "There's been a sudden loss of income (in a family). I've always held a reserve to help people like that."

He said he sees these kinds of appeals two or three times a month.

"That's just the nature of life and we can't do anything to prevent that," Murphy said. "It's unfortunate and I hate it, but you do what you can. Sometimes things are beyond your control."

For the 2009-2010 academic year, 2,368 students applied for need-based aid at Elon, according to the year's common data set. Of those students, 1,656 were determined to have some need for aid. Five of those who were determined to need aid were not granted any, but the rest were.

"It's harder to spread (the funds) around," Murphy said. "Like I said, we don't have a lot of money."

McKay doesn't have the option of coming back to Elon, either, if he was able to come up with the \$1,500.

"Unfortunately, the grants and scholarships Elon offers are a one-time offer," he said.

The Elon Commitment, the school's newly adopted 10-year strategic plan, sets a goal of adding diversity to the students at Elon, including financial diversity.

Using YouTube to get into college

Lindsay Kimble
Copy Editor

The college application process has bridged the gap to the new century through use of the video site YouTube. This year, Tufts University invited applicants to submit short videos about themselves as a supplement to their application, a component that has not yet been explored by Elon University.

According to an article on Boston.com, more than 1,000 high school seniors submitted one-minute video essays along with their applications. Tufts is the first selective college in the country to experiment with this type of application.

Tufts' dean of admissions, Lee Coffin, told Boston.com the clips showcase creativity and personality, something typically hard to convey on paper. The university has been aiming to base admissions on the applicant's intelligence not solely on SAT scores and grades.

"Technology has absolutely changed the way we market the university to prospective students and how we communicate with our applicants," said Cindy Barr, Elon University assistant dean of admissions. "I think technology has helped students most with their initial research, but there is certainly no substitute to visiting and spending time on a college campus to really know if a college is the right fit for you."

Barr has seen evidence of students using new media to accentuate their applications in recent years.

"I have read admissions applications where students have posted links to a Web site they have created for the business they started or for a service organization they founded," Barr said. "Occasionally, students will post links to a YouTube video of short films, vocal performances, dance performances, etc. Unfortunately, there is not always time during the reading process to go to

every site. That said, when there is time, it's interesting to see what the students have accomplished. It's also important to note that these Web sites and YouTube videos are not assessed as part of the formal admissions decision."

Coordinator of video projects J. McMerty, also the coordinator of Elon in Los Angeles, said he has seen usage of computers and video portfolios increase in recent years. McMerty disagrees with the idea that a video component creates a more personal application process.

"I don't see this being very helpful unless the videos are a part of an admissions packet to a film, video, journalism or other video-related field," McMerty said. "I am not sure that making a video or presenting an essay by video would help a student gain acceptance. It would show that the student has some creative approaches to the application process."

As for Elon implementing a video application for perspective students, McMerty sees some potential.

"I think it could make a small difference if a student was on the fence of being accepted or not, but I am really not sure because I am very removed from our admissions process," he said.

When asked if they wished to have a similar opportunity when applying to schools, some Elon students felt that the video component is unnecessary.

"If they want to get to know students on a more personal level, they should add an interview component," Maxwell said. "The digital divide is going to just create a big disparity. Videos would be pre-rehearsed and artificial."

Sophomore Ellie Jesse echoes Maxwell's opinion that a video component could hinder the admission process.

"No, a video doesn't showcase your writing capabilities," she said. "Someone could be a strong public speaker but be not that gifted in actual academics and vice versa."

Study shows Americans lack support for higher education institutions

Elon has seen no lack of trust in how money is spent

Gabriela Szewcow
Design Chief

A study in USA Today showed that American confidence in the institutions of higher education in the United States is dwindling. But Gerald Whittington, senior vice president of business, finance and technology at Elon University, said he has not seen this response from Elon students or parents.

"The general sense I receive from parents and students is that Elon provides a value education, and that the cost is not out of line with the educational programs that are provided," Whittington said.

According to the study, 60 percent of Americans believe colleges care more about meeting their bottom line than they do about educating their students. Americans are not confident that colleges are spending their money sensibly and correctly.

Experts believe these concerns have nothing to do with the recession. Likewise, parents of high school students believe financial aid will be available to students that need it.

Patrick Murphy, Elon's director of financial planning, said he believes Elon is spending its money wisely.

"We spend our money in a way that gets us the best student body and the most diversity," Murphy said. He said this is made possible through financial aid."

In comparison to other universities, Elon does not have much money in terms of financial aid. Last year, the institutional budget was \$19,260,000 out of the \$80 million endowment.

He said scholarship spending is divided into need-based, merit-based and athletics. The incoming class of 2014, which is expected to have 1,350 students, will receive 112 Fellows Scholarships and 400 Presidential Scholarships. The remaining money will be used for needs-based scholarships and athletics scholarships.

"Elon is need blind," said Greg Zaiser, Dean of Admissions. "This means we do not consider finances in making admissions decisions. This information is not available until after we have released admission offers."

Zaiser commented on factors that play into accepting students to Elon. "A number of criteria are considered," he said, "including the essay, extracurricular activities, leadership experiences, potential, recommendations, etc."

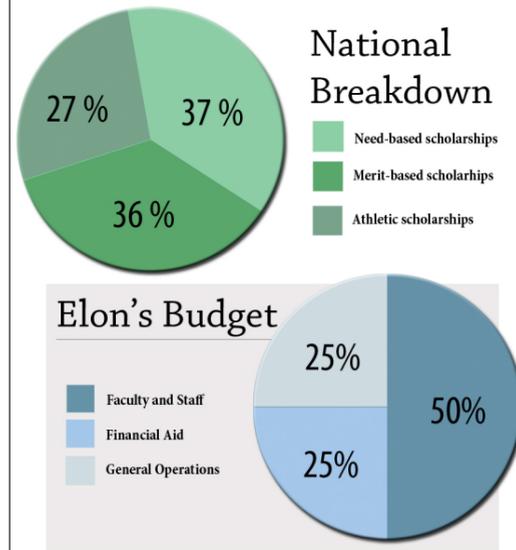
Zaiser said legacy also plays a role in admissions, albeit a small one.

"Whether a student is a legacy is one of many factors in the admissions decision process," Zaiser said. "A student who does not meet the standard of eligibility is not going to be admitted simply because they have a special connection to the university. The driving force behind any admissions decision is and should be academic."

There were 32 legacy students accepted into the class of 2013. Ninety-nine legacy students applied to Elon.

Following the Money

The two pie charts are breakdowns of the amount of money used for scholarships nationally and at Elon.



SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Zaiser said he believes this growing number of legacy students makes sense because children of alumni are now of college age.

"Overwhelmingly, students and alumni have great experiences at Elon and consequently, their sons and daughters are applying more often," Zaiser said.

Like most colleges and universities, most of Elon's money is spent on faculty and staff salaries, according to Whittington. He said half of Elon's money goes toward faculty and staff.

"Elon's top priority for spending money is all of the people who deliver the education program to our students, because we believe this is the best place to spend our money," Whittington said.

The study from USA Today said that 60 percent of those polled agree that colleges could enroll more students without lowering the quality of education or raising prices. Zaiser said he believes that generally speaking, every American should be concerned with the increasing prices of higher education in the United States, but also that it is extremely important to receive an education, especially at this time.

"In an unstable economy, it's the one thing an individual cannot lose — and this positions them for opportunities down the line," Zaiser said.

In accordance to the growing concern about price of higher education, The Princeton Review recently released its 100 "Best Value Colleges" list for 2010. Elon University is not on it, but it was on the list for 2009, though.

Both Zaiser and Whittington said they believe Elon is still worthy of receiving the distinction.

"Elon has been one of the best schools for years," Whittington said. "Some years you make the list, some years you don't. But I still believe we are one of the best universities in the nation for a great value, and I think we always will be."

Zaiser said he agrees. "One of Elon's great advantages is the high quality, given its relatively competitive cost," he said. "Elon's total costs are frequently cited as \$10,000 less than the national average for colleges and universities in the U.S. There is tremendous value in an Elon education."

NEWS BRIEFS

RecycleMania update

During the first two weeks of RecycleMania, Elon recycled a total of 27,260 pounds of material. The 10-week competition taking part on university campuses across the nation encourages waste reduction and awareness of recycling.

Belk to host game night

Belk Library and Elon's ACM student chapter will host a GameFest game night featuring video and board games in the library from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on March 5.

Games will include Halo, Rock Band, Wii Sports, Twister, Monopoly and more. Food will be provided.

Anderson to speak as part of business series

Kerri B. Anderson will share highlights of her career as the Love School of Business' Legends of Business' Speaker 4 at 4:30 p.m. March 4 in LaRose Digital Theater.

Anderson is a 1979 Elon alumna and a member of the Board of Trustees. During her presentation, she will speak on her experiences as president and CEO of Wendy's. She will also be meeting with business students and faculty during her visit.

The program is sponsored by a gift from R. Cruise Lewis and will be followed by a reception.

Shubin to give Voices of Discovery presentation

At 7:30 p.m. in McCrary Theater on March 8, Neil Shubin will speak on the ancient connection between fish and early land-dwelling creatures as part of the Voices of Discovery Science Speaker Series.

Shubin is the co-discoverer of a 375 million year old fossil fish known as Tiktaalik.

Career Fair

Elon Career Services will host its annual Career Fair from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on March 9 in the Alumni Gym.

Students will have the chance to connect with various employers, including government agencies and non-profit organizations. There are opportunities for both full-time employment and internships.

The first 150 students will receive a free tote bag. There will also be a \$100 gift card giveaway.

Information session on global investment firm

Tim Buckley, Senior associate of Bernstein Global Wealth Management will conduct an information session for all interested in the firm at 4 p.m. March 5 in room 204 in the Koury Business Center. Bernstein Global Wealth Management is a global investment firm.

In 2008, the firm managed more than 69 million in assets, according to its Web site. The firm will be offering job opportunities and accepting resumes. The session is open to graduating seniors.

Shootings prompt colleges to evaluate safety procedures

Anna Johnson
Managing Editor

More than 280 school shooting deaths have occurred in the United States since 1999, according to the National School Safety and Security Services. In light of recent shootings on educational campuses, Elon University officials said they are prepared in case a similar incident occurred on campus.

Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life, said the university evaluated the response and security measures on campus after the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007.

"After Virginia Tech we went to a unified system (of communicating to students)," Jackson said.

Jackson said the university added two sirens to broadcast emergency messages, one off Koury Center and one off East Gym. Phones were also placed in every residence hall and if an emergency call were sent out, all of the phones in the residence halls and in academic classrooms would ring. He said in the computer labs and in the library, the computer screens would also flash the broadcast of the emergency message.

"All of that can happen really quickly," Jackson said. "And it would be hard pressed to not get one of those messages."

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said e-mail and text alerts would also be sent out to the student body. He said if an active shooter were present on campus, both the campus police and Town of Elon Police Department are fully trained for the incident.

In July 2008, a daylong training exercise for law enforcement officers was held on campus teaching how to respond to a campus crisis.

Dan Anderson, assistant vice president and director of University Relations, said the exercises took place in Smith and Carolina Residence Halls and involved more than 80 law enforcement officers.

Gantos said the exercise was realistic and students were painted with fake injuries to resemble gunshot wounds.

"The training involved different types of law enforcement," Gantos said. "SWAT teams, fire departments, emergency personal. From a law enforcement perspective, there are established protocols so we work as a unit regardless of which department is present."

In the University of Alabama at Huntsville shooting, a professor was charged with killing three colleagues on Feb. 12. The



Local law enforcement officers train during an exercise that simulates an armed gunman on campus. PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

professor, Amy Bishop, had previously shot and killed her brother in 1986, though it was later ruled an accident, and was also questioned about her involvement with a mail bombing against a professor at Harvard University.

Anderson said when any staff or faculty member is applying for a job, a background check is done. The check is done through Axiom Protective Services, but the company only checks the previous seven years. He said he wasn't sure why the check didn't go further back.

Axiom did not return press phone calls. Anderson said if a potential employee comes back with a mark on their record, the employee is given an opportunity to explain the circumstances to the university. If a felony came back, he said, more than likely the applicant would not be hired. If the charge were a misdemeanor it would be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Anderson said there were no background checks for student workers because it was assumed they were in good standing with the university.

Melinda Wood, associate dean of admissions and director of applications, said there are no background checks for prospective students.

In the application for Elon, there is a section where students are asked if they have ever been suspended or if they have

missed 30 consecutive days of school or if they have ever been charged with a criminal offense.

Wood said less than 1 percent answer any of those questions with a yes.

"Usually the offense is breaking the honor code, maybe bringing a cell phone to class," Wood said. "Regardless of which question they answer yes to, every case is investigated."

Wood said even though theoretically a student could lie on their application, a counselor note and recommendation will usually mention these indiscretions.

Jackson said if a student or professor feels someone might pose a threat, there are certain offices and groups they can be reported to. But he said this could lead to difficult situations.

"Just because someone is acting differently doesn't mean they are causing a problem," Jackson said. "And you want people questioning things, but you have to decide if the student is being expressive or disruptive. And sometimes that is a fine line and sometimes that is a clear line."

On Elon's Web site, under the tools tab there is a section for emergencies where students can get more information about different procedures ranging from an active gunman to adverse weather. Under this tab, students can sign up for text alerts from the university.

Crosswalk construction to begin during spring break, town eliminates parking

Eliot Sasaki
Senior Reporter

In a few weeks, the 20-year-old North Williamson Avenue and West College Avenue crosswalk next to The Pendulum office will undergo a makeover.

Elon University officials met recently with the Town of Elon and the North Carolina Department of Transportation to upgrade the Williamson Avenue crosswalk, with construction tentatively set for spring break, March 19-29.

Ongoing talks among the three sides came after heightened degrees of safety concerns following multiple accidents involving a pedestrian or bicyclist in the last year.

"(The new crosswalk) is essentially the same layout as it was, just marked differently so it's easier to see," said Mike Dula, the Town of Elon manager.

The crosswalk isn't so much stripped of its qualities as it



The crosswalk on North Williamson Avenue and West College Avenue will receive reflective paint and a 4-foot street sign warning drivers to slow down for pedestrians. BRYCE LITTLE | Staff photographer

is tweaked, he said. Among the new changes are light and dark hatched lines on the crosswalk, which are easy to distinguish, Dula said.

Improvements will start with the hatched lines and crosswalk then extend toward the pads located on either side of the street, adjacent parking spaces and the sidewalk.

According to Dan Anderson, director of

University Relations, the crosswalk will receive new reflective paint and a 4-foot street sign directing vehicles to slow down for pedestrians. Also, enlarged street pads will make pedestrian sighting better.

During the weekend, an engineer from the Town of Elon surveyed the crosswalk in terms of physical construction. One area he

looked at was parking.

"People from Elon came to take out about six parking spaces and make the crosswalk bolder and more pronounced," Dula said.

If the parking situation changes, he said, the structure of the sidewalk will, too.

"The plan is to build out the sidewalk to the center of the street a little bit so people driving vehicles can see the pedestrians on the crosswalks," Anderson said.

Half of the solution for improving safety is physically remodeling the crosswalk and street. The other half is lighting, part of an effort to illuminate dimly lit sections of campus.

"We changed the elements and light fixtures to try to make the light better there," Dula said.

Both town and university officials said they hope that by amending the Williamson Avenue crosswalk, pedestrian safety will be drastically improved. They said the goal is to see a decrease in accidents.



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Editorial

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

Chasing down the culprit

In the wake of multiple inappropriate occurrences on campus, students are urged to remain confident in Elon's security measures

The browser blinks and the page reloads. A new message is outlined in bold, and the sender is Smith Jackson. Most of his notifications warn us of icy roads and treacherous weather conditions, none of which we can control.

But with February came a slew of warning e-mails from the vice president and dean of students, that spread feelings of apprehension and distrust among the student body. Such a rapid-fire chain of events within the general vicinity of Elon's campus was unexpected and disconcerting to all who reside in the area.

At 6:15 p.m. on Feb. 15, a female student called 911 to report seeing a white male masturbating as he drove by her in a champagne colored car. Police didn't find the car or suspect when they responded.

Later that night at 11:30 p.m., two female students reported an intruder, found in the bedroom of one girl, after she emerged from taking a shower. The

door to her residence was unlocked and the intruder left the same way he came in.

The following evening, another security notice was sent out, detailing a scenario akin to those in Lifetime movies. It was 7:45 p.m., and a female student was running when she noticed a male in a beige vehicle following her. He proceeded to stop the car and follow her to the railroad tracks. She stayed on the phone with a friend until she reached her residence.

These situations take place on college campuses throughout the country and we should all be grateful for the notifications Elon provides to its students. Not every resident on-or-off campus in a university setting can count on e-mail or text alerts from a supervising member of faculty or staff concerning safety. Unfortunately, larger schools have yet to implement a mass communication system in case of an emergency.

Virginia Tech and University of Virginia coordinate alerts and notifications, which are broadcast to newspapers around the state, broadening the reach of nets cast to track down offenders. Smaller campuses have the luxury of spreading news quickly, notifying authorities in the surrounding towns and starting beginning made on reports.

Elon students have access to a number of outlets for information as well, including the Campus Safety and Police Web site and its phone line. Campus Security urges students to call 911 in case of an emergency, avoid navigating campus alone during dark hours and report any suspicious activity.

When frightening situations occur, it is natural to assume the worst and accept paranoia as a reaction to the unexpected. But Elon students should rest assured that the administration has the best interest of its students at heart and seeks the most beneficial solution for the student body.

School-issued laptops begin to raise privacy, First Amendment questions

There have always been conflicts between the rights of schools and students' First Amendment rights.

Beginning with the court case *Tinker v. Des Moines*, the Supreme Court decided that students don't lose their First Amendment rights simply by walking through their schoolhouse doors.

Since that decision in 1969 though, many other court cases have occurred that seek to limit students' freedoms. *New Jersey v. T.L.O.* set the precedent that students have less privacy in schools. The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls set the precedent that random drug testing of students involved in extracurricular activities does not violate the Fourth Amendment.

People have regularly questioned what role the school has to limit the rights of students while in school or during a school-related activity. It has rarely been questioned what role the school has to limit the rights of students while in their own homes — until now.

The Lower Merion school district in Pennsylvania is an area affluent enough to be able to issue all of its high school students laptops. In all, it provided laptops to about 2,300 students.

Blake Robbins, a high school sophomore, was issued a laptop by his school. He claims an assistant vice principal from the school took advantage of the camera embedded in the device to monitor his activity at home. The lawsuit claims assistant vice principal called in Robbins in to discuss "improper behavior" at home, citing pictures obtained from the school-issued laptop. Robbins said officials mistook candy for pills and thought he was selling drugs.

The school's officials admitted to using the webcams to find 42 alleged missing laptops. They did this without the knowledge of the students or their families.

There have been other cases of schools trying to stretch their authority, without educational purposes, beyond the schoolhouse doors and into the homes of students. Last week, a high school student in Chicago was suspended for creating a Facebook fan page for students titled "anyone who has had a bad experience with or plain dislikes" a particular faculty member, according to the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

On school grounds it makes sense the administration should be able to limit the rights of the students while at school, but once the student exits the school building, parenting should be left to the guardians of students. Some claims have been made that justify the school's action by saying the school has the right to act "in loco parentis," or in place of the parents. Public school teachers are employees of the government and by entering the personal abodes of students, they are violating the Fourth Amendment, not serving the greater good by providing extra parental care.

A district spokesman for Lower Merion school district said only two employees in the technology department have access to activate the webcams, and they had limitations. They could only access webcams to locate missing laptops and the remote activations could only capture images, not record sound. The potential for abuse, even with these limitations, is endless. Many teenagers keep their laptops in their rooms. The fine line between a professional and unprofessional relationship with a student and school officials gets blurred if school officials can see into students' rooms and have authority over what students do in their own homes. Many students have admitted to now covering up their webcams with tape to prevent this from happening.

If students are expected to surrender their rights as they enter the school, teachers should surrender their control as students exit the school.

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



MORGAN LITTLE | Cartoonist

THE PENDULUM

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Opinions

Chatroulette: Thrilling, or terrifying?

New social networking site capitalizes on curiosity, but remains unpredictable



David Gwynn
Columnist

A math major from Calgary, Canada sat down at his computer and fired up Chatroulette. He waited for the randomly generated user to appear. His eyes became wide when none other than Ashton Kutcher appeared on his screen. But he stayed calm, introduced himself and chatted with Ashton for a couple minutes, trading stories and making small talk, something he won't forget anytime soon.

The new "thing" in Web-based chatting is a Web site called Chatroulette, which allows users to be randomly connected via webcam to someone else — anywhere. It was created by Andrey Ternivoski, a 17-year-old from Moscow who began coding the Web site when he was 11 years old. Think of using Skype, except with someone you have never met and will probably never see again. With more than

30,000 users at any one time, there are endless opportunities to meet random, interesting people.

I have to say it is quite a rush. I found myself getting nervous as the site loaded my first random viewer. When he popped up I smiled and introduced myself, only to be dropped immediately. In Chatroulette you can switch to another connection instantaneously and that's exactly what my chat partner had done. I was crestfallen. Although I had never met this person before, I felt like I didn't interest him at all and he left me hanging.

With my pride intact, I did the shuffle again and wound up with a girl who seemed pretty interesting and we got to talking. It was small talk and awkward at parts, but still interesting because I knew I would probably never see this person again.

I've found that the users of Chatroulette are ruthless, and those naïve enough to enter the fray looking for a good conversation, a new friend or even love will soon be disturbed, disappointed and probably hurt. Sometimes as soon as you see the person's face they have already switched away from you without a further word, and sometimes you see stuff that makes you sick.

The downside of Chatroulette — humans will make something that was interesting and fresh, dirty and pornographic. For every five or so people I stumbled upon there was a male gratifying himself right in front of the screen. It was shocking and gross and I couldn't click away fast enough. It is impossible to filter this, and there is always the chance you will see incredibly obscene things.

What made me keep going back, though, was the rush I got when I found incredible coincidences with those I was randomly connected to. Some friends and I were "rouletting" and we stumbled upon a guy from Delaware who, after a couple minutes of chat, we figured out was friends with a couple people who went to Elon. He also knew some people in my roommate's photography class.

Chatroulette is roulette in every sense of the word. You are the ball rolling around the Internet, unsure of whether you will land on an art major from Paris, a crocodile wrangler from Florida or a 30-year-old man in his basement. Even so, the rush and intrigue of seeing a quick snapshot of someone else's life is addicting, and who knows, you could be the one to land on Ashton Kutcher.

Time to put the Tiger in its cage



Lauren Ramsdell
Guest Columnist

Tiger Woods' name is in a headline and suddenly, we're paying attention. Unintentionally, because of our curiosity, we have begun to feed the machine.

What machine? The Tiger Woods media coverage wood chipper: good intentions enter the machine like trees and come out as rotting excuses, more lies and overall junk.

Maybe I'm being harsh. In general, I feel public apologies for private infidelities are not only unnecessary, but also oftentimes more harmful. Who benefitted from Tiger Woods' much publicized and flat apology? No one. Not his wronged wife, not his mistresses who are calling for an apology of their own and definitely not the American people. What Tiger Woods does in his

personal time is no care of mine, or of most people's. So why does he need to apologize to all of us?

It's only because of ratings. As a rising journalist, I understand the importance of readership and viewership. But Jason Whitlock of the Kansas City Star admitted as early as Dec. 5 of last year that the media has sunk to a new low trying to catch the Tiger.

"The high road no longer pays our bills," Whitlock wrote. "So, like TMZ, the National Enquirer and all the rest, we will pick through the personal lives of celebrity athletes, and when we turn up dirt, we will shout they owe us a televised, remorseful, ratings-driving explanation."

The explanation we got was horribly anti-climactic. Tiger babbled, apologized, babbled some more and was done. It didn't seem at all like his heart was in it, and in the words of Rihanna, "Don't tell me you're sorry 'cause you're not ... I know you're only sorry you got caught."

Take a bow, Tiger. You're not fooling anyone.

Not only did Tiger waste valuable airspace, but after the apology bubble burst, pundits spent hours analyzing and deconstructing his poorly written speech. The United States is fighting two wars. Iran is getting more belligerent every day. The Olympics were more important than the words that should have been reserved for Woods' wife and family.

Possibly the only good to come out of the media whirlwind is PETA's punchy billboard campaign. "Too much sex can be a bad thing ... for little tigers too. Help keep your cats (and dogs) out of trouble. Always spay or neuter!"

So what am I doing — feeding this flame? I'm trying to build it up and then dump a gallon of water on it. Stop with the coverage. Tiger's car accident was not newsworthy, and what it uncovered was only newsworthy for gossip magazines and tabloids.

It's time for respectable and reputable newspapers and television stations to leave private matters out of the public sphere and the American people to stop demanding apologies for things that don't concern them.

Free market principles must return to the U.S.



Ryan Maass
Columnist

On February 25th, President Obama hosted a bipartisan health care summit in an attempt to reach a compromise on health care reform. Despite Obama's apparent desire to avoid "political theater," the summit failed to

change the country's mood on reform. Whether liberal democrats and Obama would admit it or not, Americans remain highly opposed to the government takeover of one of the most sophisticated health care systems in the world.

But the summit did give frustrated Republicans a chance to counter their Democratic rivals' talking points. While our health care system is far from being in any sort of crisis as ambitious liberal Democrats would have the constituency believe, certain reforms are necessary to lower the rising costs of health insurance.

One of biggest Republican ideas to implement this is to repeal federal laws preventing citizens from being able to purchase insurance across state lines. This free market solution will drive costs down as businesses are pressured to compete for more customers.

Nevertheless, many Democrats are holding to their pro-government proposal to mandate the purchase of health insurance, and some still even advocate for the creation of a new government run "public option," which will fund itself through cuts on Medicaid.

Before the summit, many were skeptical about the "bipartisan" nature of the meeting. Their concerns would

become reality. While the summit was branded by the president as an attempt to bring Democrats and Republicans together to compromise on reform, Obama has shown that he cares very little for what Republicans have to say.

In total, President Obama spoke just as much as all of the Republicans in the meeting ... combined. In addition, the Democrats managed to garner twice the amount of total speaking time as the Republicans were given. It's clear that this was indeed political theater. Problems remain unsolved, and the majority of the American people opposed to health care reform remain displeased with the elected officials who refuse to listen to them.

So, what does the future hold for health care? Due to the ineffectual nature of our bureaucratic government, any legislation passed will likely do more harm than good if the process continues as it has over the past year.

Democrats seem obsessed with the idea of simply pushing the \$950 billion price tag through, without considering the inevitable consequences. Some Republicans have been wise enough to propose starting from scratch. Senator John McCain (R., Ariz.) stressed this idea before entering the summit.

"I hope we can convince the president that we should go back to the beginning, and go step by step," McCain said.

The only hope of any promising reform to the health care system begins by starting over. The problem is the president and his allies in Congress have been way too forceful of their revolutionary agenda. Americans don't need additional taxes merely to be rewarded a more broken system built on the bureaucratic traditions of big government.

Americans don't need mandates to buy health insurance. This country desperately needs a return to free market principles. Thus far, it doesn't appear that President Obama and other Democrats have been able to grasp this concept.

Wake up in the morning feeling like a blogger ...

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a true **Elon** experience ...

GHANA TO ELON

Rebecca Smith
Features Editor

With more than 70 percent of students at Elon University studying abroad before they graduate, experiencing education abroad is a familiar concept. Students share their stories about their travels and what they learned while exploring new cultures. One aspect of study abroad that is often overlooked is students who are studying abroad at Elon.

For some students, Elon is not only a new culture, but a place where they learn about the American lifestyle. Walking into Colonnades Dining Hall is an opportunity to try a different cuisine, and the classrooms are a place where they gain a new perspective while learning history.

Princess Morounke Roberts and Naa Lamiley-O Adamafo share their stories about leaving their home country of Ghana to come spend a year studying abroad at Elon.

Princess Morounke Roberts

Age: 21

University: University of Ghana

Major: Psychology and English

Naa Lamiley-O Adamafo

Age: 24

University: University of Ghana

Major: Business Administration



Roberts with two friends, Chelsea Gund and Courtney Wyn, while they visited Ghana for a Winter Term trip.

What is your favorite memory from your year at Elon?

Adamafo: “One outstanding memory is when the International Pavilion went to Carowinds theme park. Being on the rollercoasters was the scariest experience, but it was also amazing.”

Roberts: “The first time I saw snow. I was staying up at Club Belk studying for a test and I had just mentioned to someone that it would be amazing if it would snow. I had never seen snow before. And then we looked out and saw snow. My friends drove down to the library and took pictures to capture my amazement. Also, the Elon luminaries ceremony on Dec. 4 was unforgettable. It brought out the beauty of Elon’s campus in a way that I have never seen. I wish I could come back.”

Were there any stereotypes you had about Americans? Did these stereotypes turn out to be true?

Adamafo: “I thought American college students did not like learning and that their classes were very easy. I also thought that Americans were generally snobbish. I was in for a surprise. I was amazed by the level of seriousness I saw in students in my various classes and

how friendly people were to me and others. I appreciate Americans so much more now.”

“People thought that I moved around on elephants and lived in huts.”

-Roberts

Roberts: “I was told that all Americans

were polite, but cold, and that I should not expect people to be genuine in their friendliness. That was false. I made the best friends I’ll

ever have while I was at Elon. It was in that year that I learned what it meant to be a loyal, thoughtful and kind friend. I also came to America thinking that Americans were really patriotic, and that ‘America’ was the main interest of Americans. This was true. I had never seen people in love with their country that much. I think Nigerians need a lesson in that regard.”

What stereotypes about life in Ghana did you encounter from American students?

Adamafo: “It seemed that many people I came across thought that Ghanaians were poor and didn’t ride in fancy cars, didn’t wear jeans as everyday-wear and didn’t play with LEGOs. I found that interesting, but I was glad they quickly changed their thinking when I told them the truth — we do have all these things.

Although there are poor people in Africa, but hey, every country has poor people, right?”

Roberts: “People thought that I moved around on elephants and lived in huts. It was really amusing. Many people were surprised that I could speak English, there were cars in Ghana, I knew who Beyoncé was and that I knew how to rap the theme song for ‘Fresh Prince of BelAir.’

What did you miss from back home during your year in North Carolina?

Adamafo: “What I missed most was food crop from Africa. I couldn’t get most ingredients I needed to prepare some meals from home, and it made my first week kind of miserable.”

Roberts: “While I was in America I missed the music and slang. I



Adamafo made lifelong friends while at Elon.

ELON

Meet Princess Morounke Roberts and Naa Lamiley-O. Adamafo

would try to tell a joke but people at Elon wouldn't know the slang I was using."

What were you involved in while you were at Elon?

Adamafo: "I thought it would be a good opportunity to experience American culture and to be independent in an entirely new environment. I was a business major while at Elon. I was an active member of the Intercultural Relations Club."

What reaction did your friends and family from Ghana have when you returned?

Adamafo: "People were excited about the program and they were definitely curious about how I got to go for a year and what my year in Elon was like. My friends here had hundreds of questions for me when I got back."

"I appreciate Americans so much more now."

-Adamafo

Roberts: "The majority of my friends and my family have been in or are in school in America or Europe. So while they are happy to hear that it was a great experience, they are not particularly curious about what the United States is like. They are interested in what my view of America is and how this affects my view of Ghana."

What was it like when you returned from the United States? What did you miss from North Carolina?

Adamafo: "When I got back home, I was miserable for a week. I missed the food, Elon and my friends at Elon."

Roberts: "Life was a little strange when I got back. Adjusting to life here again was tricky – the weather, the food, the attitudes of people, etc. Plus, my friends had moved on in the past year, so I had to make some new ones and accept that old friends had drifted apart from me. I miss my friends at Elon too, so I have to deal with that as well."



While Adamafo was at Elon she rode rollercoasters at Carowinds in Charlotte, N.C. with other students who lived in the International Pavillion.

How did the study abroad experience change you?

Adamafo: "The Elon experience has definitely made me see things in a different light. I appreciate people for who they are and I have learned to never judge things or people especially when I have not interacted with them before."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PERICLEAN SCHOLARS

Roberts: "Oh yes, I definitely want to come back. Not only do I miss my friends, Cook-Out and IHOP dearly, but I also want to study clinical psychology in the states and be equipped to return to Ghana to advance the state of mental health care."

"My perspective has been so expanded, I cannot imagine not having had this opportunity. I am a lot more open minded and thus, more tolerant of differences in cultures and mindsets."

"It's helped me see that even though I don't agree with a person's point of view, I can understand where they are coming from and therefore respect their view. All in all, a new world's been opened. I am really grateful!"

"Life was a little strange when I got back. Adjusting to life here again was tricky — the weather, the food, the attitudes of people, etc."

-Roberts



Adamafo went to Jamestown with other Elon students. This trip to the museum helped people to understand the story of America's beginning at Jamestown settlement.



Liv Dubendorf
Reporter

the spirituality of fads: yoga and wellness

Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life and Campus Recreation.

Sophomore Erik Higbee, a student and yoga instructor, led the program. He has been practicing yoga since childhood, when he learned from his mother. His favorite aspect of yoga is the feeling of rejuvenation after completing a session.

Higbee focused the session on pranayama, breathing control and asana, postures and positioning, to bring self-awareness and focus inward in meditation.

These two aspects unite the mind and body, opening the self and allowing the chi, or life force, to flow freely.

Throughout the program, the focus was to complete various circuits, by connecting movement with breathing and energy flow.

"Focusing on breath allows you to focus on the present, calming the mind," Higbee said.

About half the session was devoted to the chakras, energy points throughout the body. Opening the chakras allow energy to freely flow through the body.

Describing them as "orbs of light, each having a specific color," Higbee led the group, describing the role of each chakra and emphasizing the importance of energy flow between all.

The base chakra, located at the bottom of the spine, is associated with survival instinct and security. Its color is red.

The sacral chakra, orange, located



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor

Students warm up during Friday's yoga session in Holt Chapel. The yoga session was intended to concentrate on the spiritual, rather than just the physical, side of yoga.

The spiritual side of yoga is frequently ignored by mainstream amateur yogis, who value the discipline for its intense physical benefits.

Last Friday "Basic Spirituality through Yoga," drew 10 members of the Elon University community to learn about other benefits of practicing yoga, besides a workout.

Michelle Wrightman, a sophomore religious studies major and the Truitt Center Intern for Spiritual Growth and Experiences, decided to introduce Elon University to the spiritual benefits of yoga.

"There's a big yoga fad right now, but everyone's into the physical aspect. It's a bikini fad," Wrightman said. "It struck me as ironic because in classic Hinduism, yoga is the way to enlightenment. I wanted to open people's eyes to the very strong spiritual aspect of yoga."

The program was sponsored by the

between the base of the spine and the navel, is responsible for a being's role in society, especially the gender roles.

Associated with fear and anxiety, the yellow chakra is located around the navel. Physically it controls digestion and mentally it controls all matters of growth.

The heart chakra is located at the base of the sternum. Associated with the color green, it is responsible for complex emotions and general well-being.

The throat chakra, responsible for communication, is associated with the color blue.

The brow chakra, or third eye, is associated with the color purple. It governs intuition and visual consciousness.

The final chakra is pure consciousness, the crown chakra. It is associated with the color violet. It is responsible for inner wisdom and,

with control, can lead to the release from karma and to enlightenment.

"Our fast paced lifestyle makes us focused on go, go, go," Higbee said. "The pathways get clogged, blocking the chakras."

When the chakras are blocked, people feel unfulfilled, Higbee said. Focusing on one chakra at a time and blocking out distractions help one reconnect with the self and get closer to enlightenment.

"Achieving enlightenment, getting out of the birth and death cycle, is the ultimate goal to yoga," Higbee said.

For many, this was their first experience using yoga for its meditative purpose, and for a few it was their first try at yoga entirely.

This class was the first event to combine spirituality with yoga on campus, Wrightman said. "If people respond well, we're going to plan another one."

Contradictions coalesce into *confabulations*

Khaled Mattawa's Libyan-Arabic-American poetry

Lauren Ramsdell
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Born in Libya, raised in Louisiana. Majored in political science and economics, mastered in English and creative writing; Khaled Mattawa's life is one of opposites. His poetry, which he read to a small audience

in Yeager Recital Hall on Feb. 24, deals with such contradictions. The narrator of any given poem could be a woman behind a veil, an American man, a child, a nurse or a tree. The setting could be a bustling city or an abject refugee camp.

Mattawa's poetry is strong enough to read on its own, but hearing it

spoken by its original creator makes the words come to life. The audience sat in captivity at the sound of the words, the cadence falling in natural rhythm, like breathing.

Mattawa also translates poetry from the original Arabic into English, and it was clear when he read older works where the inspiration for his

poetry's tempo came from. Several times he had to restart the beginning of a poem by an ancient author in order to get the feel just right.

The mood was perfect, as were the choices of words, the delivery and inflection. Mattawa is not only a masterful poet, but an excellent speaker.



LAUREN RAMSDELL | Photographer
Khaled Mattawa's poetry reflects his multifaceted heritage. He captivated Elon students last Wednesday in Yeager Recital Hall.

What inspires you in your writing?

"In a way – I am interested in the world. I like to talk about the big picture. I like giving testimony. Maybe my testimony will help someone."

Describe the process of translating poetry.

"You can't get inside the author's head. The author can't get back in the author's head after completing a poem. You just have to go off of the words."

How did you begin writing poetry? Your background is in political science.

"Luck. I got interested in writing later in life. I was interested in writing articles and short stories, so I took a writing workshop class. I never looked back from there."

From "Ecclesiastes":

"Everyone is a Gypsy now. Everyone is searching for his drive."

From "Tocqueville":

"They'll shoot at it first out of fear, and then from the pleasure of shooting at it. That's what happened to us."

More about the big picture.

"Talking about the big picture made me enter being more of an American citizen."

Written works:

"Tocqueville" – 2010
"Amorisco" – 2008
"Zodiac of Echoes" – 2003
"Ismaia Eclipse" – 1995

Local and touring bands rock out at Elon's Lighthouse

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

The band played as the crowd nodded their heads and tapped their feet to the beat. Some stood near the bar while others crept closer to the stage, wanting the full front-row experience.

Almost every weekend, Elon's student radio station, WSOE, brings in bands for shows at Lighthouse Tavern. The doors open at 9 p.m. and music usually begins around 10 p.m.

On Feb. 19, two local bands came to play at Lighthouse: Ryan Gustafson and The Proclivities and Michael Casey.

The Ryan Gustafson band is from Durham and The Proclivities are from Raleigh.

Freshman Cat Valero is the music promotions director at WSOE and is in charge of choosing bands for these shows.

"First thing I look for is what's in the interest of the people I work with," Valero said. "Because I feel like there's a mixture of North Carolinians and people from the New York tri-state area that might know certain ins and would have more experience with the local scene here, like upperclassmen."

The next place Valero looks is her repertoire and on Myspace. Valero looks for bands in North Carolina and on tour who wouldn't request much money, "because we don't have a whole lot of money," she said.

Fliers have been the main source of publication for WSOE Live shows. There is a Facebook group every time there is a show. Valero also puts information on the digital screens in the Moseley Center.

"And of course promoting it in the studio ... I'm excited so I always mention it on my show," Valero said.

There are three upcoming shows for the spring semester. March 5 will feature "a really awesome local rock, twangy band" called Shine River, Valero said.

A local band, Black and Blue, and the Elon all-male a cappella group Rip_Chord will also be performing.

"The cool thing about Black and Blue is they are one of the two bands that was at my first WSOE show of the spring semester on Feb. 12 and they rocked the house," Valero said. "(WSOE) staff really enjoyed them. And Chris Kilgore, the president of Rip_Chord, is the lead guitarist."

Bands for April 16 are still being determined. Valero wants to partner with an organization on campus collecting donations or raising awareness for a cause.

"My goal for the April 16 show is to get a like-minded organization and work with them to get bands, to get different kinds of people into Lighthouse," she said.



The band Proclivities, lead singer Matt Douglas, right, singer Chris Boerner, left, and drummer Matt McLaughan, back, perform at Lighthouse on Friday night with WSOE Live.



Performer, Ryan Gustafson, performs with the band Max Indian at Lighthouse on Friday.

April 23 will be the final show for the semester. Valero is bringing in Elonzo, an American folk rock band from South Carolina, and Sidrak and Bokkus, an indie rock band from Vermont. Sidrak and Bokkus is currently making a Northeast tour.

Valero said she hopes to increase the attendance at the shows.

Last week was rough. The turnout was not as high as past shows, she said.

"I was disappointed because I did put a significant amount of fliers up than I did before," Valero said. "But the music overall was phenomenal. I



Magician participant, Julie Schnaeble, takes part in the magician performance.

was very impressed by the musicians and the talent and skill."

She said the people there enjoyed themselves.

"Especially with the magician, that helped a lot," she said. "Put a little humor in the night."

Friends and faculty have also mentioned certain bands they would like to see at Elon. Anyone can suggest a band through Valero's Facebook or e-mail.

"I am very eager to having any input from anybody, across the board in genres," she said.

DRM policies ruffle PC gamers' feathers

Jon Moore
Reviewer

Game developer Ubisoft recently announced the future release of the PC version of its hit "Assassin's Creed 2." Unfortunately, it appears this otherwise fantastic game will be marred by a digital rights management scheme so restrictive that many gamers have taken to protests and boycotts of the developer, unless the plan is changed.

DRM is the term used to describe the means used by game developers and publishers to prevent the cracking and piracy of games. Past versions have ranged from disk checks, where programs require the correct disk in the drive before they can be executed, to online activation, where games must be uniquely registered online, before they can be played.

While the latter may already be offensive to the few gamers whose gaming PCs are not connected to the Internet, the new Ubisoft plan further builds on this restrictive idea, requiring that "Assassin's Creed 2" be both registered online and constantly connected to Ubisoft's Internet servers to play.

Keep in mind "Assassin's Creed 2" is a strictly single-player game that is fully capable of running straight from the disc were it not for this plan. Players whose Internet is down or whose connection is intermittent will find themselves abruptly paused during gameplay and will be booted completely if the Internet fails to reconnect, without any chance to save their progress.

Of course, Ubisoft is completely within its rights to defend its intellectual property, but its approach is both misguided and out of step with other major developers, who have long ago realized that restrictive DRM is counterproductive.

There is a fundamental hierarchy to game piracy. On the higher end of the spectrum are game crackers and those who download torrents off Web sites, like the infamous Pirate Bay. On the lower end are "disc-sharers," those who buy a game and share their installs with friends or roommates. DRM, as seen here from Ubisoft, can only stop the latter type.

Crackers are able to circumvent every DRM scheme invented to date. The DRM-heavy "Spore," released by Electronic Arts in 2008, was cracked and made available for free, without DRM, weeks before the game's official release. Given time, torrent sites will be carrying versions of "Assassin's Creed 2" that operate without any sort of online activation, leaving the burden to fall strictly upon those who have paid for the game to bear the hassle of the restrictive plan.

But for these people such a defensive measure is unnecessary. Disc sharers can be stopped easily by disc checks, as the process by which one must circumvent them is too esoteric for the average gamer.

Ubisoft should be looking to publishers like the reformed EA, whose "Project Ten Dollar" both increases new game sales and limits piracy by offering \$10 worth of additional content for every game purchased new.

Without oppressive DRM, EA is encouraging the purchase of its games by offering free, optional content incentives. This discourages some pirates and does not punish nonpirate players who are otherwise forced to endure restrictions of no fault of their own, while those who incurred these punishments continue to play without hassle and without charge. Ubisoft should take note of EA and other companies that have adapted before its restrictions become too restrictive for its PC gaming constituents.

CD REVIEW



Benjy Davis Project: chill music that flows *Southern twang mixes with electric guitar strings*

Madelyn Smith
Reporter

Benjy Davis Project is back with its fourth album, "Lost Souls Like Us," which features a more polished sound, and more of the down-home rhythms the band is known for.

Davis, the lead vocalist, hails from Louisiana and explains his music comes from his daily experiences and Southern surroundings. This country music influence is seen on the light-hearted album opener "Mississippi" and "Give It A Week's Time."

If the name Benjy Davis Project rings a bell, it may be because of the success of a few of its singles on college campuses in the early 2000s such as "Louisiana Saturday Night" and "Cajun Crawfish Boil."

But the raw and rowdy sound of "Louisiana Saturday Night" and others, is not so noticeable on "Lost Souls Like Us." The album does have a few standout songs such as "Slow Wind," a waltz-like tune that features a good combination of vocals and backup instruments, and "Bite My Tongue." This is a fun song with a honky tonk influence and a brief, but welcomed appearance by a

kazoo.

But it proves a bit difficult to pinpoint the exact sound the band was trying to accomplish here. Granted, much of its relaxed alternative/country sound is still there, but there are also some rock bits mixed in.

Despite the somewhat scattered genres of music that appear on "Lost Souls Like Us," there is no denying the musical talent behind Benjy Davis Project's fourth album. The band brought in several artists including Mark "Sparky" Metejka of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Jason Gambill of Lady Antebellum and Ethan Pilzer of Big & Rich. Each artist brought their own sound into the mix.

There is also a unique sampling of instruments, among them a mandolin, slide guitar, Hammond B-3 organ, electric guitar and several types of percussion instruments.

Benjy Davis Project's latest album is certainly a testament to its growth as a band. Davis explains that while there are many elements of the band's more mature and polished songs, there is still some sense of his "Screw it all, let's just hang out" mentality. That is how "Lost Souls Like Us" will speak to listeners — especially college students.

DanceWorks' concert: A fresh approach to dance

Grace Sweeney
Reporter



The Black Box Theatre was packed last weekend for the DanceWorks concert. An extra showing was added on Friday because of overwhelming interest in the 7:30 p.m. performance. The student-choreographed show had many different styles of dance, ranging from modern to tap.

Unlike concerts choreographed by faculty, DanceWorks showed a variety of genres as well as music.

"Student choreography exposes the audience to different genres," Rachel Perlman, president of DanceWorks said. "You also

wouldn't hear songs from 'Glee' at a faculty-produced show," Rachel Perlman, president of DanceWorks, said. "My favorite piece of the show was the tap trio because it was quirky and playful, and the audience did not have to work hard at understanding. They could sit back and enjoy."

Perlman, a senior dance major, had lofty goals for DanceWorks this year, and it wasn't just about the concert itself.

"I had so many ideas to make DanceWorks grow," she said. "I really wanted to give non-majors and dance minors opportunities to take more classes. We did more fundraising this year to get

more master classes."

In addition to the concert, DanceWorks also held its first "So You Think You Can Dance? Elon Edition" competition in January.

The dances ranged from lighter pieces about relationships to a reflective modern solo by the winner of the "So You Think You Can Dance?" competition, Alyse Keim. Dancer Emily Mooney enjoyed performing in DanceWorks for the second time.

"I enjoy (DanceWorks) because the choreography is diverse," she said.

It was not just the dancers who enjoyed the variety of dance in the concert. Senior Christy Minor enjoys

DanceWorks' carefree attitude, she said.

"I always have liked the DanceWorks concerts better," she said. "It is interesting to see what the students come up with themselves."

Though there were some serious pieces, most were upbeat. The students worked on the pieces since the fall semester, and their hard work showed.

"Everyone was involved with the process," Perlman said.

Both the dancers and the audience were pleased with the performance and showed the importance of students choreographing and working together to create great performances.



Dancers perform in the Black Box Theatre on Sunday as part of the DanceWorks show. DanceWorks is student choreographed and includes a variety of dance and music genres.

BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

"We're all immigrants": 'America Amerique' presents both the past and present realities of immigration

Mary Yost
Copy Editor

Immigration has been an important issue in the United States for many years and in Alamance County, it is an issue that is becoming increasingly controversial. Because of the divisive sentiments immigration creates among people, it can be more challenging for people to learn about the realities of immigration.

'America Amerique' speaks to an issue that is before our eyes right now," said David Wright, the managing director of the Paramount Theater in downtown Burlington.

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, the Paramount Theater is presenting the national tour of 'America Amerique,' a documentary play about American immigrants from 1845 through today.

From Irish potato fields to Midwestern farms, and from New York tenements to the Mexican border, the realistic scenes of 'America Amerique' are based on immigrants' voices and reflect their eyewitness accounts of dramatic events in the course of America's immigration history.

"It discusses why people come and what these immigrants give up to get to the United States," Wright said.

Through music and modern anecdotes, the play portrays major historical events such as the Irish potato famine in 1845, immigrants' arrival at Ellis Island in 1892 and the Los Angeles "Zoot Suit Riots" against Mexican and other Latino immigrants in 1943.

"It's important to remember the old cliché, 'We're all immigrants,'" Wright said. "What we are today is because people have immigrated here. People have forgotten that."

Thomas Adams, director of 'America Amerique' developed the research and historical framework for the play. He typically writes socially relevant plays, many of which focus on civil rights.

The JENA Company of New York is presenting the national tour for 'America Amerique' in 20 cities nationwide from January to March 2010. The Paramount Theater has had a long relationship with the JENA Company and has hosted several of Adam's plays.

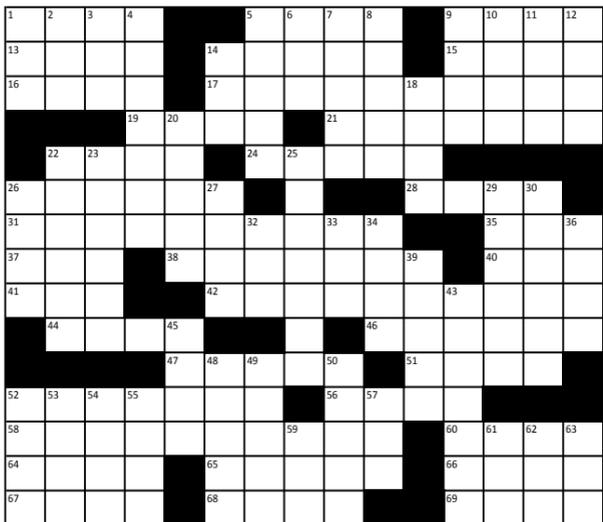
Tickets are on sale at the Paramount Theater's box office at 128 E. Front St., Burlington. They cost \$8 for students and \$10 for the general public. The box office is open weekdays from 12 to 3 p.m., or tickets can be ordered over the phone. For more information and to see a clip from the play, visit: www.jenacompany.com.

The Technicolor Phase

by Steve Ferguson, Class of 2011

ACROSS

- 1 Celebrity
- 5 Expenditure
- 9 Williams and Koppel
- 13 Atmosphere
- 14 _____ Tuck
- 15 Himalayas locale
- 16 Beasts of burden
- 17 "Way Away" band
- 19 Escalator feature
- 21 Law
- 22 Depression expression?
- 24 Refuse
- 26 Honored with one's presence
- 28 Black and Red, e.g.
- 31 Susan G. Komen emblem
- 35 GOP rival, briefly
- 37 Put together
- 38 Activates
- 40 Miner's find
- 41 Chronic tissue disease (abbr.)
- 42 Late '60s CBS sitcom (2 wds.)
- 44 Bana or Clapton
- 46 Site of the 2004 Summer Olympics
- 47 Gives permission
- 51 Time long past (with 'of')
- 52 Crew members?
- 56 NASA prefix
- 58 U.S. Navy flight squadron (2 wds.)
- 60 Leg bone
- 64 Sign
- 65 Correct answers?
- 66 French coin
- 67 Where the sun rises
- 68 Hooks a shot
- 69 Savory concoction



DOWN

- 1 _____ Paulo
- 2 Popular prom wear, briefly
- 3 We _____ Scientists
- 4 Plunder
- 5 Snuck
- 6 Petroleum, e.g.
- 7 Chip dip
- 8 Lopes
- 9 Sensitivity
- 10 Isaac's firstborn
- 11 Type of bike?
- 12 "Soldier of Love" group
- 14 Electronics outlet (abbr.)
- 18 Baby's cries
- 20 Not nearby
- 22 Used to steer a horse
- 23 Lunar rover, e.g.
- 25 Elastic
- 26 Academic criteria (abbr.)
- 27 Triangle noise
- 29 One who loves
- 30 Placid
- 32 Lawyer's association
- 33 Bullfight cheer
- 34 "99 Red Balloons" singer
- 36 Teenager's room, often
- 39 Mythical mischief-maker
- 43 Selects
- 45 Idle state
- 48 Olympic distance-running powerhouse
- 49 Emotion needing management?
- 50 Telemarketer's specialty
- 52 Reed instrument
- 53 _____ mater
- 54 Feels remorse
- 55 Email folder
- 57 Winding road
- 59 Keyboard key
- 61 Primitive house
- 62 Synonym for 49-Down
- 63 Presently



This one's for the boys: Spring fashion tips for men

While most men don't obsess about the newest fashion trends, having a few basic tricks to a wardrobe can make all the difference. Attempt to look beyond simply matching the belt and shoes and let the clothing express personality.

Be Colorful.



Alexandra Johnston
Fashion Columnist

It seems simple enough, but adding color into a wardrobe can really liven up everyday outfits. Color is more interesting than neutrals because it catches the eye and puts people in a better mood.

Red is one of the top colors for men this spring. It is most important to try to wear bright colors close to the face because it will prevent looking washed out and will have the best effect on the outfit. Other splashes of color are welcome as well. If choosing to wear multiple colors make sure that the shades and hues coordinate.

Be Bold. Avoid looking like every other guy walking around campus by adding pieces that express interests or personal taste. A great way to achieve this is with watches, ties or shoes. They don't have to be expensive and can come from thrift or vintage stores.

For spring, many designers have been displaying an array of colored boat shoes. While the traditional brown is fine, adding a fun color can make an outfit more interesting.

Watches are available in a variety of styles and sizes and it can be a great way to make a necessity stylish. Color is also a trend for spring watches. Designers have debuted many lines of watches with colored or patterned faceplates. When choosing these pieces make sure to avoid any watch that is absolutely ridiculous. Keep it classy and avoid flashy ties or talking watches.

Be Neat. Just because men's clothing is easier to throw on in the morning doesn't excuse you from looking sloppy. Avoid wearing clothing with holes, stains or excessive wrinkles. This applies to shoes as well. Even if sporting tennis shoes, make sure they are in the best condition. Ratty shoes can bring down a whole outfit.

Another way to improve neatness is through fit. It is important to buy clothing that fits well. Clothing that is too big or too tight can look sloppy and give off a feeling of indifference as well as distort the actual proportions of the body.

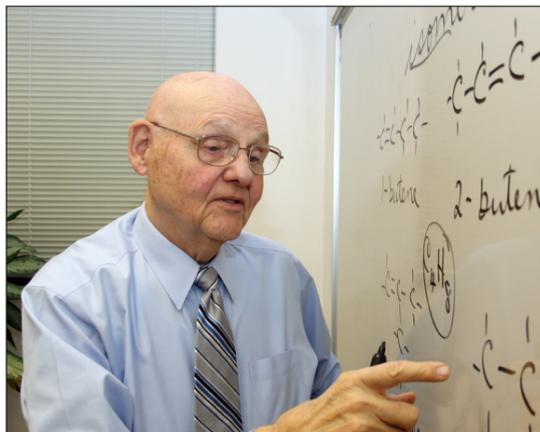
Be Dressy. Every man should have a great casual blazer in his closet. It is a staple that can be used for warmth as well as a dressy alternative. Great blazers can be linen, corduroy or wool and can include details like double-breasted buttons, elbow patches or unconventional collars. Rather than sporting jeans and a sweatshirt every day, why not try sporting a blazer over a fun T-shirt with some nice denim. Taking a little extra time to wear something a step above normal will really draw attention in the right way.

The most important advice to keep in mind when getting dressed is to always be confident in what is worn. Just walking tall can be a great boost of style.

From student to professor:

Danieley reflects on 69 years at Elon

Founders Day recognizes Danieley's contributions over the years



After 65 years on faculty, Dr. Danieley still enjoys walking into the classroom, teaching chemistry and investing in Elon's future.

Rebecca Smith
Features Editor

When professor Dr. James Earl Danieley was a student, he did not read the assigned readings before going to class each day.

In the fall of 1941, Danieley started his freshman year at Elon College. As the oldest child and with his father sick, Danieley had to operate the family farm. He would wake up at 6 a.m., feed the animals, milk two cows and drive his family's 1928 Model A Ford four miles down the road to Elon College for classes beginning at 8 a.m. After class he would return home at 12:20 p.m., eat lunch, work in the fields, milk two cows and then try to squeeze in a little time for studying.

"I had no time to read my assignments for literature, history and bible class," Danieley said. "I have always regretted that."

The past 65 years Danieley has been just as busy — helping Elon. The school is recognizing him for all of these contributions March 11 on Founders Day.

Danieley's second grade teacher inspired him to become a teacher. Danieley said he knew little about any field of work, and one of his grandparents even suggested that being a postal worker would be a great job. He ultimately took his teacher's advice and decided to follow his heart down the path of education. The challenge was finding which subject he wanted to teach.

"I thought I would be a history teacher," Danieley said. "After one semester when I could not complete the reading and work, that dream was over. Spring of freshman year I had algebra and it was amazing, but sophomore year I had a horrible math teacher. Junior year I took freshman chemistry and it was the most wonderful experience."

Danieley graduated from Elon College in May 1946 with a grade-A teaching certificate in chemistry, math and French. He began studying at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to obtain his certificate to become a principal.

"I only had one telephone call during my three months at Chapel Hill," Danieley said. "It was President (Leon) Smith calling from Elon. He was asking me to come by and offered me a job teaching chemistry. It is fair to ask if I was qualified. Was I? No, I was not. There were a lot of GIs coming in and they felt I could teach them."

He rented a room in the house of the Brannock family and, at age 22, Danieley began teaching, just three months after he graduated. His students' average age at the time was 26 or 27, because men were coming home from World War II.

Danieley knew he needed to do graduate work in chemistry to continue teaching. He attended summer school from 1947 until 1949. In 1950, he moved to Chapel Hill full time for two years to complete his graduate studies. While in Chapel Hill, he spent 11 months as a pastor at a local church. The church recently celebrated its 100th anniversary and he was the oldest living former pastor.

In 1953 Danieley returned to Elon and became Dean of the College.

"It was the least-satisfying work I have ever done," Danieley said. "I didn't like it. I asked the president if I could leave for a year and, I went to Johns Hopkins University to do postdoctoral research."

In February 1957, Danieley's phone rang. He thought someone had died because people rarely received phone calls at the time. On the phone was George Couclough calling to tell Danieley that he had been selected as the new president of Elon. Danieley did not apply or even know he was nominated before the phone call.

"I hesitated telling my wife," Danieley said. "When I told her she said 'poor Earl.' She had been President Smith's secretary and knew the pressures and the problems I would have to deal with."

On July 1, 1957 Danieley became the sixth president of Elon. He was only 32 years old. He said he had many ideas for the school. He wanted to raise the admission standards, increase faculty quality and increase faculty salaries. For 16 years and one month he served as president of Elon.

"One day, my wife came home, and I said if we keep doing like we've been doing there will be a big funeral," Danieley said. "I told her, I'm not interested in being the central character. So at 48, I retired."

At 85, this is Danieley's 64th year on faculty. When people ask him when he is going to quit, he said he replies, "When I get old enough."

"I wake up in the morning enthusiastic to go to school," Danieley said. "When I give an examination and the students do well, I am excited because we did well. After a good class I tell my wife that it just doesn't get better than this."

Over the years Danieley's students have become his friends. He has the textbook from his first chemistry class he took. He used this book to teach his first class and inside the book there are the signatures of all 100 students he taught during that first year. Danieley can list off facts about almost every single student.

Danieley has missed only one basketball game at Elon. He sits in the audience to cheer on his students. Six of his former students are on the basketball team: sophomore guards Terrance Birdette and Josh Bonney, sophomore forward Daniel Watts, junior guard Chris Long, and senior forwards Adam Constantine and TJ Douglas.

"I go to the games to see my boys," Danieley said. "When one of them makes a basket I jump up and down. My favorite thing about this institution is the friendly spirit. I want to be with friendly, loving people, whether it's in class or at basketball games."

Danieley has witnessed a lot of changes during his time at Elon, but he said his love for Elon has never faded. His advice for students is to love all the opportunities the University offers.

"Elon students are faced with one of the most wonderful opportunities for a first class education," Danieley said. "Take advantage of it — go to class, attend cultural events, cheer the athletes on at sporting events, work in leadership programs, participate in service work and read your assignments."

Founders Day events honoring Dr. Danieley

On March 11, Danieley will be recognized on Founders Day, an annual celebration of Elon's charter by the North Carolina legislature in 1889. Each year, one person who has impacted Elon and helped it grow is honored. There are many events planned to celebrate this year's Founders Day:

March 9, 9:40-10:20 a.m.: A short program and then a tree planting in honor of Danieley.

March 11, 9:50-10:20 a.m.: Life trustee James Powell will share Danieley's contributions at College Chapel.

March 12, 7:00 p.m.: A fireside chat with the president emeritus. There will be a student panel present to ask questions.

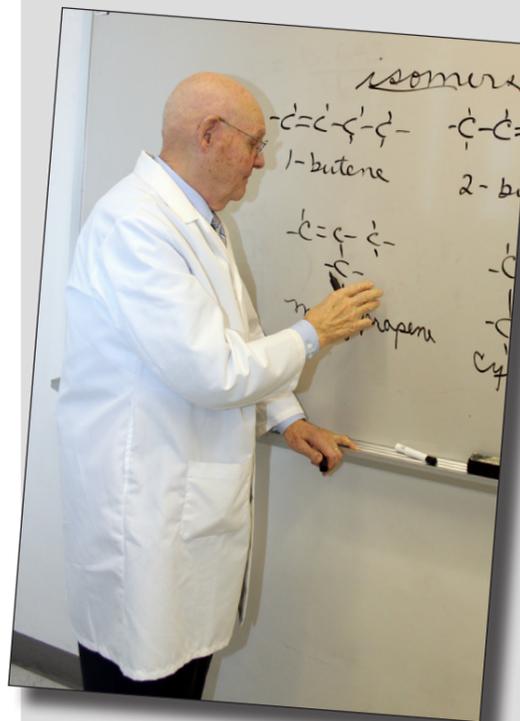
Danieley is the first living person to be recognized on Founders Day. The College Chapel and fireside chat are components unique to this year's celebration. There are trees to honor people recognized at past Founders Day celebrations, and each year a tree will be planted next to the Lindner Hall patio in the "founders grove."



Dr. James Earl Danieley as a senior at Elon University in 1946.



Photo in 1996 of Dr. James Earl Danieley, right, and former Elon president, Fred Young, left.



As a student Danieley was able to finish the chemistry curriculum in two years and now shares this knowledge.



Photo of Danieley, far left, teaching students in a chemistry class in the 1950s-1960s.



Danieley and his wife Verona Danieley in the 1960s.

The Acorn Inn of Elon provides more than just a place to stay

Sarah Carideo
Reporter



It seems like many of Elon University's alumni cannot bear to leave their alma mater. Instead, several stay in the area and contribute something new to the community. In November 2001, Mike and Melissa Brown did just that when they opened their bed and breakfast, The Acorn Inn of Elon.

Mike Brown had been jogging when he noticed the vacant lot available where a house had burned down. He was struck with the idea of doing something with the space. After looking further into the options, he found it was large enough for a bed and breakfast. After applying and receiving a special-use permit, the Browns began breaking ground eight months later.

The Browns said they intended to try this project as an experiment for retirement.

"It only took two weeks to figure out there was no way. It's just took much work," Brown said.

Even though it came with a lot of work, Brown said it "would probably be a pretty safe risk" because they knew that the university has a high population of people from the Northeast, so there was a need for a place where visitors could stay.

The next important step for The Acorn Inn was deciding what facilities would be offered and at what cost.

The Acorn Inn has 12 suites, which includes a sitting room with a hallway to the bedroom. The Web site states the suites are luxurious. Brown said this is because "all suites have a king bed with a high residential quality mattress, a fireplace and a whirlpool tub." The suites also come with a refrigerator, microwave, two televisions with HBO, high-speed Internet and a bathrobe.

Brown said The Acorn Inn's facilities could be described as "polished" and a "level above" what is offered from the large hotels and motels in the area.

He added that local ownership is what makes The Acorn Inn most unique in comparison to other places.

"There's a level of service not achieved with a larger place," Brown said. "There's a comfort in corresponding by phone and e-mail and meeting them at breakfast. There's a relationship that's built that's not as likely at a larger place."

Another important aspect of The Acorn Inn is the rates in comparison to those offered at nearby



The Acorn Inn of Elon is located on Haggard Ave. and is owned by two Elon alumnus. Owners, Mike and Melissa Brown opened the Inn in November 2001. The bed and breakfast is frequently visited by parents, guest speakers and job candidates of Elon.

lodgings.

"We looked at the competition and essentially we tried to give as much as we possibly could for \$100," Brown said. "We took the attitude of a consumer because we stay in hotels ourselves. It's a pretty standard rate that delivers a more-than-average product."

Brown said a majority of the people who stay at The Acorn Inn is related to Elon University, whether they be parents, guest speakers or job candidates. This has been a challenge because most of the business happens during only eight months of the year.

As a result, they try to offer special events for customers by having a romantic getaway package and accommodating larger gatherings like family events, parties and conferences.

Most notably The Acorn Inn has developed an event that is open to the public called Front Porch Music, which features food, wine and live music. These events happen during the summer months when school is out and business is quieter.

"It gives us the opportunity to showcase what we're capable of," Brown said. "It's a change to shout out to the community, 'We're over here and we're pretty cool.'"

In the future, Brown said he hopes to continue to use the great space they have for events and to offer catering packages for parties.

Brown said he wants to dispel the rumor that it is difficult to obtain a reservation at The Acorn Inn and encourages people to keep trying. But, he admits it is slightly harder during the peak times of the year.

March is National Nutrition Month!

Stop by our Moseley table on
Wednesday, March 10
from 10am-3pm

- Speak with our on-site registered dietician, Kate Ruley
- Try some healthy snacking samples
- Learn how Dining Services supports your healthy and balanced dining initiatives
- Pick up some information and brochures on healthy eating on-campus and at home



For all menus, questions and dietary assistance, please contact us at www.elon.edu/dining.



The Fat Frogg Bar and Grill brings Elon community together

Julia Sayers
Reporter

The Fat Frogg, the newest addition to Elon's bar scene, has much more to offer than just being a bar. It's a place where students, faculty and the community can come together to listen to live music, enjoy good food and even play arcade games.

The Fat Frogg, which opened in the beginning of the school year, is co-owned by Jeff Mackenzie and Peter Ustach, both Elon alumnus. Ustach said they wanted to give the students what they want, but also make it a place where families feel welcome.

"We wanted to create not just a bar scene, but an atmosphere welcoming to everyone," Ustach said.

There is a special event held almost every night, which helps to draw in a good mix of people. These activities include Trivia Night Tuesdays, Dollar Taco Wednesdays (beginning next Wednesday), live acoustic music during dinner on Thursdays, bands on Fridays and Saturdays and poker tournaments on Sunday nights, which also include 50 cent wings. There is a cover charge only on nights with live music.

"It's been a great mix of community and students," Ustach said. "Thursdays over dinner are always the most crowded."

Ustach said they are also working on putting in washer pits, which is a game similar to horseshoes, and they are coming out with a new menu soon. All of the food The Fat Frogg serves is freshly made and never frozen. The

bread used even comes from a local bakery. The new menu will include paninis and wraps, along with favorites from the original menu.

The owners wanted to make their restaurant easily accessible to students, so they offer a shuttle on Thursday nights. This shuttle only goes to the apartment complexes in Elon, not the dorms. The shuttle is a free service that students can call to pick them up from their residences and bring them to The Fat Frogg.

Since both owners are Elon alumnus, they know what it is like to be an Elon student and they felt Elon needed something new. Ustach said Elon was the right school for him, but he was always looking for something else to do on the weekends while he attended school.

"I enjoyed my time at Elon," Ustach said. "I just wished there were more options."

Jeff Mackenzie, who graduated in 1977, had the idea for The Fat Frogg last year and gave the opportunity to Ustach, a business entrepreneurship major who graduated in 2009. Ustach said the two owners did everything themselves, including painting the floor, building the stage, putting in the gas lines, doing the stone work and more.

"The experience was so beneficial," Ustach said.

Ustach and Mackenzie are always looking for ways to advance The Fat Frogg.

"We're all ears," Ustach said. "We want to know what the students want."



Fat Frogg is co-owned by Elon alumnus Jeff Mackenzie and Peter Ustach. It was opened as a place where students, faculty and the community could come to enjoy live music and good food. MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer

16 successful years of safety to be celebrated this month

SafeRides hosts its Sweet 16 event

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

Creation and mission

SafeRides was created by Patrick O'Malley and Eddie Stuart in March 1993. The death of freshman football player Chad Macy in 1992 served as a catalyst for creating the program.

"It was the last straw" to prove to the community that the organization was needed, said junior Nicole Parker, a SafeRides captain and Sweet 16 event coordinator.

The SafeRides Sweet 16 pamphlet describes the organization as "an important organization on campus and in the surrounding community that offers free, anonymous rides to students on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights with the mission to decrease the risks that come with driving while intoxicated and walking alone at night."

Volunteers become members. If a student volunteers twice a month, goes to a service event and a SafeRides social event, they can become members. "That way they get one free VIP ride and then we have this nice, secure base of volunteers during the year," Parker said.



May 2008

Alumnus Andrew Bennett donates \$50,000 to SafeRides. This goes to fund the new van, which bumped the number of students SafeRides could transfer from six at a time to 12 at a time, Parker said.

Fall 2008

The dispatching system is changed from paper to a computer system. "We test drove it in the spring of 2009 and then it was implemented totally in fall of 2009," Parker said.

Fall 2009

Kimberly Duggins is the outgoing student director. Earle Pope is the incoming director and will begin Fall 2010.

Winter Term 2010

Elon donates two more vans to SafeRides. "Now we can move 24 people at a time," Parker said.

Fall 2010

Sweet 16 events

March 8-13

Monday: Reveal of Wreckage
The wreckage of a drunk driving accident will be revealed in the Moseley parking lot at noon and left all week. This DUI presentation is in conjunction with Elon Town Fire and Police and campus safety.

Tuesday: Marcus Engel, Speaker
Engel is a motivational and inspirational speaker. He will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Alumni Gym. He will talk "about moving past obstacles in life," Parker said.

His speech will describe how drunk driving was an obstacle in his life because, when he was 18, a drunk driver hit and blinded him.

The speech is open to all the student body and faculty.

Wednesday: Remember the Night, Luminary and Memorial Service
A luminary memorial and tribute service will

be held for Macy on the Moseley Green from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Parker said alumnus, Macy's parents and his roommates who began the program have been invited. This event is open to all.

Thursday: Outdoor Party
A party celebrating SafeRides will be held on the Octagon Terrace and West Lawn from 4 to 6 p.m. There will be free food, entertainment and "a presentation to show how many people we've moved in 16 years," Parker said.

Saturday: Movie on the Lawn
SafeRides is cosponsoring the SUB Movie on the Lawn. The movie will be "Boondock Saints."

This week and next SafeRides will be selling Sweet 16 T-shirts and giving away promotional items such as cups, magnets and pens with the Sweet 16 design, Parker said. A table in Moseley will be set up with the items.

The future

Parker said she wants to see a bigger dispatch room with trained dispatchers and a bigger fleet of cars and vans.

"Maybe even more support from the student body," she said. "We have a lot of support right now but we also get (students saying), 'Oh SafeRides was slow tonight.' We want to make sure there's no bad talk about the program at all."

She also wants to see an online program that shows the waitlist, how many people have been moved during the night and the schedule of upcoming rides.

"That's something we've talked about a lot and that's totally feasible," she said.

Energy, enthusiasm mark Constantine's 4-year career

Justin Veldhuis
Reporter

As the last shot dropped in Saturday night's men's basketball game, senior forward Adam's Constantine's career in Alumni Gym came to an end.

Constantine has been a key player for the men's basketball team this season, leading the team in rebounds and blocks for the season.

"It's been so much more than I expected," Constantine said. "The first recruiting letter I threw in the trash. I didn't know what an Elon was."

During his four years as a player on the team, Constantine has brought a tremendous work ethic and energy level to the program. Constantine said hard work has always helped him overcome challenges, and the biggest compliment comes when opposing coaches notice his work ethic.

"Something all coaches have said to me is 'I love the way you work,'" Constantine said. "To have people notice — that means a lot to me."

Opposing coaches aren't the only ones who have noticed. Head coach Matt Matheny said there is no off switch for Constantine, and he always continues to work.

"He's a warrior," Matheny said. "He plays with a great deal of passion and a surprisingly high energy level all the time. To maintain his level of energy is very difficult."

Constantine's high energy level has also been a valuable asset to the team. This energy was on display Saturday night, as well as countless other times throughout his career, as Constantine called upon the crowd at crucial moments in the game to get on its feet and make some noise.

"He brings enthusiasm and most of the

energy to the team," senior forward T.J. Douglas said. "He's a pick-me-up guy. He doesn't change on or off the court."

Constantine said his mental maturity has changed since coming into Elon because he has been through tough times. He said he learned how to listen, be part of a team and now to be a leader.

As a senior, Constantine has taken on more of a leadership role this season.

"In many ways he's put the team on his back in times of adversity," Matheny said. "He's an emotional leader and has done a masterful job of keeping team morale upbeat."

During his career Constantine said he has experienced both the highs and lows of college basketball.

He said the best experience of his career was the team's run in the 2008 Southern Conference tournament, in which Elon made it to the championship game and then lost to Davidson College.

"There's no greater feeling than winning when you're supposed to be losing," Constantine said. "It's a feeling that still gives me chills, and I'll remember that for the rest of my life."

After Saturday night's heartbreaking double-overtime loss, Davidson remains the only team in the SoCon the senior class has never beaten. Constantine said before the game that a win against Davidson on senior night would be huge, especially for team morale heading into the SoCon tournament.

Revenge may come soon enough, as Elon will meet Davidson in the opening round of the SoCon tournament on Friday.

"If I were another team, I wouldn't want to play Elon," Constantine said. "Our best basketball is to come in March, and I'm going to enjoy every last second that I have."



Senior forward Adam Constantine takes a foul shot during Saturday's game against Davidson College. Constantine is known for his high energy levels on and off the court.

COREY GROOM | Staff Photographer



ONE ON ONE

Willy Pagliaro and Brian Dudiak
Sports Commentators

MLB off-season acquisitions

With the beginning of Spring Training under way, the baseball world is filled with talk of off-season acquisitions in the MLB. What team, in your mind, made the best move in signing a free agent to start the spring?

Willy:

For me, the best free agent acquisition of the MLB off-season was the Boston Red Sox signing John Lackey to a five-year, \$82.5 million deal. Boston now has four potential No. 1 starters in its rotation: Josh Beckett, Jon Lester, Daisuke Matsuzaka and Lackey. With a future all star in Clay Buchholz at the end of the rotation, there is no doubt in my mind that the Red Sox has the best rotation in all of the majors. Now that the Red Sox has added Lackey, there is no team in the league that will want to face this Red Sox rotation come playoff time.

Brian:

Enough about John Lackey already. The best free agent acquisition this off-season was easily the St. Louis Cardinals signing Matt Holliday. Holliday has already established himself as one of the biggest offensive threats in baseball, and now he joins a lineup that includes the best player of the century, Albert Pujols.

Some say signing Holliday through the age of 37 is crazy, but I think it is brilliant. Albert Pujols will never leave St. Louis, which means the Cardinals have the next seven years to build a World Series champion around the best three-four lineup punch in baseball.

Willy:

I do agree that Pujols and Holliday could be the best three-four punch in baseball, but if I had to sign one free agent, there is no doubt that it would be a top pitcher over a top hitter.

Holliday is going to go into several slumps during the season, but you know Lackey is going to give you a chance to win every fifth day he is out there. He is an experienced pitcher with a World Series ring, and he averages 219 innings during the season. He is going to pitch a lot of innings in each start, which gives your bullpen a needed rest. If the Red Sox make the playoffs, the addition of Lackey will be why the Red Sox will make the World Series.

Brian:

With Josh Beckett leaving at the end of the season, Daisuke becoming an injury risk and Clay Buchholz struggling in the majors the last two years, I can't get excited about the future of the Boston Red Sox rotation. John Lackey is a decent pitcher when healthy. He has started each of the last two seasons on the disabled list with arm injuries, and his earned run averages at the end of both of those seasons sat just under 4.00. To give this guy a five-year, \$82 million dollar contract is absurd. He and Jon Lester will be the only two left in the rotation in two years, and by then Red Sox fans will have already started giving him the Bill Buckner treatment.

ELON ATHLETICS THIS WEEK

MARCH 3 - MARCH 9

Thursday 3/4

Women's Basketball @ Wofford (SoCon tournament) - 1 p.m.

Friday 3/5

Women's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Softball @ Middle Tennessee State - 1:15 p.m.
Men's Basketball @ Davidson (SoCon tournament) - 2 p.m.
Baseball vs. Bucknell - 2 p.m.

Saturday 3/6

Men's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Softball @ Minnesota - 10 a.m.
Baseball vs. Princeton - 11 a.m.
Men's Tennis vs. Georgia Southern - noon
Baseball vs. Princeton - 3 p.m.
Softball @ Georgia - 4:45 p.m.

Sunday 3/7

Men's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Women's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Women's Golf (James Madison Invitational) - All Day
Softball @ Belmont - 11:15 a.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Chattanooga - 1 p.m.
Baseball vs. Radford - 4 p.m.

Monday 3/8

Men's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Women's Basketball (SoCon tournament) - TBA
Men's Golf (Cleveland Golf Palmetto Intercollegiate) - All Day
Women's Golf (James Madison Invitational) - All Day

Tuesday 3/9

Men's Golf (Cleveland Golf Palmetto Intercollegiate) - All Day
Women's Golf (James Madison Invitational) - All Day

ATHLETIC RESULTS

FEB. 24 - MARCH 1

Men's basketball	Baseball	Softball
Feb. 25 Elon 88	Feb. 26 Elon 2	Feb. 27 IUPUI 6
Georgia Southern 98	Rice 7	Elon 7
Feb. 27 Davidson 99	Feb. 27 Elon 12	Feb. 27 IUPUI 2
Elon 96	Texas A&M Corpus Christi 16	Elon 5
Women's basketball	Feb. 28 Elon 3	Feb. 28 IUPUI 0
Feb. 27 UNC Greensboro 77	Nebraska 5	Elon 9
Elon 71		

Men's tennis seizes first win of spring season

Meaghan Carey
Reporter

The Elon University men's tennis team captured its first victory of the season against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte on Saturday afternoon at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center. This win comes just one match before the team begins Southern Conference play against Georgia Southern University at noon on Saturday at home.

The No. 2 doubles for Elon, juniors Philip Nemeč and Cody Stauffer-MacDowell, secured the team's first doubles win for the spring season with a score of 8-0. Shortly after, Elon's No. 1 doubles team, juniors Alberto Rojas and Chase Helpingstine, defeated Charlotte 8-4 to clinch the doubles point for the Phoenix.

In single match play, Rojas, Helpingstine, Nemeč and Stauffer-MacDowell won their matches. Carlos Arboleda also finished the day with a singles win, his first of the season.

"Today everybody did well," head coach Michael Leonard said. "The team competed from beginning to end and they all played well individually."

Although the earlier match on Saturday against Lees-McRae was canceled because of the early morning cold climate, Elon

maintained enthusiasm throughout match-play on Saturday, Leonard said.

"Chase competes hard," Leonard said. "He's been playing for two to three weeks solid. It was also a big win for Carlos and Philip. They really stepped it up."

This week, Elon begins taking on teams from the SoCon, beginning with Georgia Southern. For the last two months of the spring season, the Phoenix will play each of the 10 other SoCon teams, along with two out-of-conference teams.

Helpingstine said the team is going to have to work to match the high expectations for Elon going into SoCon play.

"Everybody is trying to play the best," Rojas said. "We all want to get awards at the end of the season."

Like every spring season, Leonard said the team hopes to perform well against conference teams, and be a strong competitor in the SoCon, as well as advance to the NCAA Tournament.

"We want to win conference," Leonard said. "We still think we have a shot of winning."

With the much-needed win against UNC Charlotte, the team faces Georgia Southern next week, as well as University of Tennessee Chattanooga, Davidson College, Appalachian State University and East Carolina University in the upcoming month on its home court.



HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer
No. 1 doubles partners juniors Chase Helpingstine and Alberto Rojas congratulate each other after a win on Saturday. They defeated University of North Carolina Charlotte 8-4 in their second win of the season.

Indoor track finishes with a successful season

Top 3 moments of the season:

1 Elon performs well at SoCon championship:
With five top-5 finishes and three top-3 finishes in the Southern Conference championship meet, Elon secured a program-best fifth-place finish. The team earned 70 points, the most Elon has earned in the meet. Seniors Jennine Strange and Caitlin Beeler finished in the No. 2 spot in the 800-meter and 5,000-meter runs, respectively. Beeler set a new school record with a 17:55:02 time.

2 Veronica Day jumps through records:
In five meets throughout the season, junior Veronica Day broke the school record for the triple jump. The final record was set at the SoCon championship with a jump measuring 39 feet and one inch, which landed her a fifth-place finish. Day also broke the school record in the long jump at the Liberty Quad meet on Feb. 12 with an 18-foot-11-and-three-fourths-inch jump.

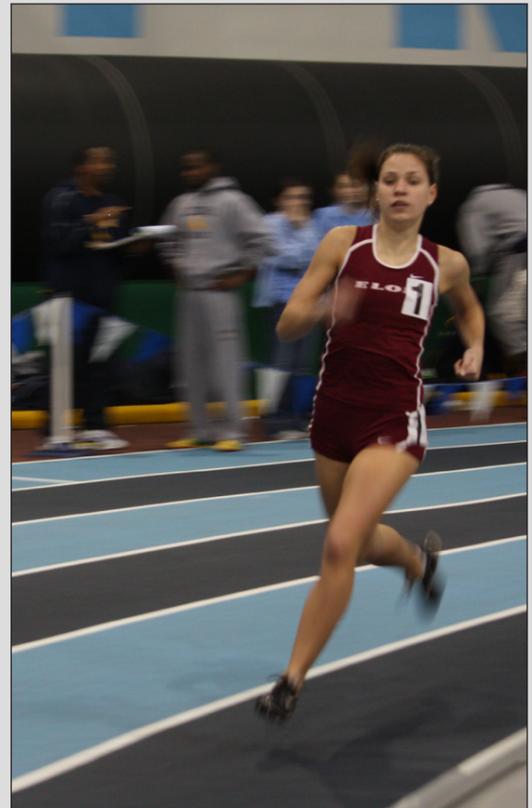
3 Phoenix tops Liberty Quad meet:
In the Liberty Quad on Feb. 12 in Lynchburg, Va., the Elon indoor track team finished with top-quality performances from its athletes. The team recorded 20 top-5 finishes and 11 top-3 finishes. It also earned four event titles in the triple jump, the long jump, the 5,000-meter run and the 800-meter run.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Elon head coach Mark Elliston talks with junior jumpers Veronica Day and Lauren Hawkesworth during a meet. Day set the school record for both the triple and long jumps this season.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Elon track assistant head coach Christine Engel talks with distance runners freshmen Sullivan Parks, Chrissy Pacewicz and sophomore Allyson Costa before their races.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Senior mid-distance runner Jennine Strange competes in the 800 meter race at the UNC Classic. At the Southern Conference Indoor Championships, Strange placed second in the 800-meter race with a time of 2:16.24, which earned her All-Conference honors.

Indoor track season-in-review:

Liberty Open:

Five top-5 finishes
Three top-3 finishes

12/3/09



UNC Classic:

Three top-5 finishes
One top-3 finish

1/24/10

Vince Brown

Invitational:
Eight top-5 finishes
Four top-3 finishes
Two event titles

2/6/10

Virginia Tech Challenge:

One top-5 finish

2/20/10

2/12/10

Liberty Quad:

Twenty top-5 finishes
Eleven top-3 finishes
Four event titles

1/29/10-1/30/10

Liberty Open:

Twelve top-5 finishes
Six top-3 finishes
Two event titles

2/25/10-2/26/10

Southern Conference Championship:

Five top-5 finishes
Three top-3 finishes

"We really turned it on. The girls are really improving. We had so many personal bests. We're looking forward to the outdoor season. This was a great way to finish the indoor. We're going to continue working hard, and hopefully we can really turn it up as we go outdoors."

- Mark Elliston
INDOOR TRACK HEAD COACH

Phoenix focusing on today, not tomorrow

Samantha Parker
Reporter

After winning two out of three games against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis to secure an 8-1 record on the season, the Elon University softball team is still taking the game each day at a time, head coach Patti Raduenz said.

The team is preparing to travel to Athens, Ga. this weekend to take on Middle Tennessee State University, University of Minnesota, University of Georgia and Belmont University at the Red and Black Showcase.

"The key thing for us is not to look too far into the future," Raduenz said. "We have to play for today. We use what we've done yesterday as learning lessons."

On Saturday's doubleheader, the Phoenix finished with one win and one loss against the Jaguars.

In the first matchup, junior infielder Ashlee Crewe contributed to the win with a two-run homer in the second inning followed by a solo homerun in the bottom of the sixth to finish off IUPUI with a score of 7-6.

Closing out Saturday afternoon, Elon fell short 5-2, with junior pitcher Pam DelPizzo suffering the loss after pitching 6.1 innings.

"We experimented with a different offense and different defense," sophomore catcher Kaitlyn Piazzola said.

In Sunday's action, the Phoenix

came out strong in the first inning, scoring four out of its nine total runs of the afternoon.

With freshman right fielder Tomeka Watson's RBI double in the fourth followed by sophomore pitcher Erin O'Shea's two-run homer and sophomore shortstop Danielle Lafferty's walk off two-run homerun in the fifth, the Phoenix shutout IUPUI 9-0.

"We really came out to play," Piazzola said. "We were a little low with our energy in the beginning, but because we did a much better job today in hitting, we picked up."

Raduenz said every at bat, every pitch and every play on defense is important. Through practice and experience, she said she is hoping the team will shift its focus from the end results of the game to what is happening every inning.

"Every opportunity we get to score runs, we're going to utilize that to push across the plate," Raduenz said.

The Phoenix will take on Middle Tennessee State at 1:15 p.m. on Friday. The team will then face both Minnesota and Georgia on Saturday and finish off the showcase with Belmont on Sunday.

"We have a vision of what we want to accomplish and where we want to be, but right now, we're looking at what we need to do today in order to be successful," Raduenz said. "We're focusing on not getting caught up in thinking about the end of the game."



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Sophomore pitcher Erin O'Shea runs to home plate after her two-run homerun against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. O'Shea had two hits and four RBIs.



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Junior outfielder Emerald Graham slides for a triple in Sunday's game. Graham completed the game with two runs on two hits and finished out the weekend with three runs.

Baseball returns home after disappointing road trip



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photo Editor
Junior infielder Neal Pritchard sprints toward first base in Elon's last home game against North Carolina A&T. Last weekend, Pritchard had five hits and three RBIs in the three games Elon played in the tournament at Rice University.

Conor O'Neill
Assistant Sports Editor

A weekend that started with promise for the Phoenix baseball team quickly turned to disappointment.

After winning its first four games of the season, the team lost all three of its games last weekend at the Rice Invitational in Houston.

Elon will take its 4-3 record into this weekend, when the team plays four games in three days.

"It's great that we get to be at home this weekend," junior infielder Neal Pritchard said. "It's where we're more comfortable and we play our game better."

The Phoenix started the tournament with a Friday afternoon matchup against Rice University, which holds the No. 20 ranking in the country in USA Today's poll.

Against the Owls, the team surrendered four first inning runs en route to a 7-2 loss.

Saturday's action was not better for the Phoenix, as the team dropped its game against Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, 16-12. The weekend concluded with a 5-3 loss against the University of Nebraska on Sunday.

"We didn't play that poorly (last weekend), but we didn't play well either," head coach Mike Kennedy said.

One positive for the Phoenix was the fact that in its last two games of the tournament, the team was in position to win at the end of the games, Kennedy said.

"I think we battled well and put ourselves in position at the end of games," Kennedy said. "Our kids showed a lot of character."

Despite the losses last weekend, Pritchard said he feels like the team improved on the road trip because of the experience gained by the team.

"It was a different atmosphere to go on the road and play (Rice), a team that's probably going to host a regional (in the NCAA Tournament)," Pritchard said. "I feel like it was a wake-up call for us that helps us realize we have a long way to go."

Moving forward, the team does not play a game this week until 2 p.m. on Friday, when the team hosts Bucknell University.

The team will play a doubleheader at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday against Princeton University.

The Phoenix wraps up the weekend

with a 4 p.m. Sunday matchup against Radford University.

With a full week of practice to recover from last weekend's road trip, the Phoenix will be relieved to take the field at Latham Park this weekend.

Upon being asked what the team must do to improve between its games, Kennedy said the team has to continue its hard work in practice.

"We need to get on the field and practice," Kennedy said. "With last weekend's games, our players know that we aren't where we need to be."

Kennedy pointed out the Phoenix will work to improve its defense, as the team committed four errors in its loss to Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

"Our infield play wasn't great," Kennedy said.

He also said that pitching will be an area of focus in practice this week.

After allowing just seven runs in its first four games, the pitching staff surrendered 28 runs in its three weekend contests.

Part of the staff's struggles during the weekend were attributable to a raised level of competition, Kennedy said.

"There's no doubt those games are good preparation for us," he said. "It was very good competition for us to play."

With experience against stronger teams, the Phoenix will attempt to regain some of its momentum this weekend, starting 2 p.m. on Friday.

Upcoming Schedule

March 5: Elon vs. Bucknell – 2 p.m.
March 6: Elon vs. Princeton – 11 a.m.
March 6: Elon vs. Princeton – 3 p.m.
March 7: Elon vs. Radford – 4 p.m.
March 10: Elon vs. Old Dominion – 4 p.m.
March 12: Elon @ Furman – 7 p.m.
March 13: Elon @ Furman – 5 p.m.
March 14: Elon @ Furman – 1 p.m.
March 16: Elon vs. UNC Wilmington – 6 p.m.
March 19: Elon vs. The Citadel – 6 p.m.
March 20: Elon vs. The Citadel – 2 p.m.
March 21: Elon vs. The Citadel – 1:30 p.m.

After losing overtime thriller, Phoenix looks for rematch

Conor O'Neill
Assistant Sports Editor

Losing on senior night is hard enough on players. But when their team goes from leading by three points with five seconds left to losing by three when time expires, it can be downright demoralizing.

The Elon University men's basketball team's 99-96 loss against Davidson College on Saturday is not the last time the two teams will meet this season.

The Phoenix has a rematch against the Wildcats in the first round of the Southern Conference tournament 2 p.m. Friday in Charlotte.

"I can guarantee that everybody in the locker room wants another shot against them right now," sophomore guard Drew Spradlin said.

In Saturday's game, Davidson junior guard Brendan McKillop drained a deep three-point shot to tie the game with 1.9 seconds left. Then the Wildcats' senior forward Steve Rossiter stole the in-bounds pass and heaved a prayer that was answered as time expired.

The 99-96 double-overtime loss drops the Phoenix to 8-22 overall, 5-13 in SoCon action.

"It was unfortunate that a great college basketball game had to end on a play like that," head coach Matt Matheny said. "But it happened, and (Rossiter) made a great play."

The team fed off the energy of its 1,934 fans, the highest home attendance of the season.

"You have no idea how much of a difference it makes to have an electric crowd like tonight's," Spradlin said. "I'm very appreciative of the environment."

Spradlin led all scorers in the game with 25 points and also pulled down eight rebounds.

Matheny, a former assistant coach at Davidson, said he agreed with Spradlin about the atmosphere.

"To me, that was the most electric I've ever seen this gym," Matheny said.

Elon's team enters the tournament as the sixth seed in the North Division with Davidson holding the third seed in the South Division.

If the team gets its revenge and defeats the Wildcats, it will play Western Carolina University in the second round, which holds the second seed in the North Division.

During the regular season, the Phoenix lost to the Catamounts on the road, 83-81. Three weeks later, when the Catamounts came to Alumni Gym, the Phoenix captured an 81-76 victory.

One area the players plan to improve on in the tournament is closing out games when it holds the lead, junior guard Chris Long said.

After the last five losses for the team, the Phoenix



Senior forward T.J. Douglas shoots over Davidson's Bryan Barr in Saturday's game. The Phoenix went into double overtime with the Wildcats and lost 99-96. Douglas added nine points and two defensive rebounds in the game.

MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer

has fallen by an average of five points per game.

"We just have to learn how to finish games, because we're there," Long said.

By "there," Long refers to the team's preseason goal that the Phoenix would peak in time for the SoCon tournament.

"What we said all along is that we want to be at our best in March," Matheny said. "I don't think there's anybody who has consistently come to our games and seen us play that would disagree with the fact that we're playing our best basketball now."

The players will use the days leading up to Friday's game to recover from a grueling February schedule, Matheny said. Having played 10 games in 24 days, the Phoenix has time to catch its breath for a possible tournament surge.

"Our guys can get their legs back this week," Matheny said.

With the chance to recover from a heartbreaking

loss and in a rematch with the Wildcats, the table is set for a potentially promising SoCon tournament run this weekend.

FOLLOW ELON IN THE SOCON TOURNAMENT ONLINE

If you can't make it to Charlotte to see the men's and women's basketball teams in the Southern Conference tournament, get live updates online.

Follow The Pendulum on Twitter @ pendulumsports and check for live blogging at www.pendulumsports.wordpress.com.

Also, check for halftime and post-game recaps on The Pendulum Web site.



'Nothing to lose': Women's basketball begins SoCon championship pursuit Thursday

Pam Richter
Editor-in-Chief

As Elon women's basketball coach Karen Barefoot spoke about the leaders in the Southern Conference after the team's loss on Saturday against University of North Carolina Greensboro, she mentioned Samford University and University of Tennessee Chattanooga.

Freshman forward Kelsey Evans and freshman guard Ali Ford looked at one another and both responded without hesitation, "We beat them both."

Evans and Ford were referring to victories against the No. 1 overall seed in the SoCon tournament, Chattanooga, and the No. 2 overall seed Samford.

The Phoenix defeated Chattanooga on Dec. 17 at home 74-66 and defeated the Bulldogs Feb. 1 in a 60-59 game on the road.

"I feel like everyone else is up on the pedestal," Evans said. "We're not on the pedestal. We're just going in to try to kick the pedestal out from under them."

The Phoenix will travel to Charlotte for its first round of the SoCon tournament. As the No. 10 seed, it will face the No. 7 seed, Wofford College, in the opening game at 1 p.m. on Thursday.

Elon will come into the game after losing its final regular season game 77-71 to UNCG on Saturday. The team finished with 11-18 overall and 6-14 in the SoCon.

The Phoenix took control of the game early, scoring first in the game and headed into halftime with a 39-31 lead.

"The first half we were doing well," Ford said. "We knew that if we came out (of halftime) hard or came out soft, that

would determine the rest of the game."

Ford led the Phoenix in scoring with 24 points, while Evans recorded a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Despite this, the team was out-rebounded 45-39 in the game by the Spartans.

"I do think sometimes we got to be more mentally tough and have leadership out there," Barefoot said. "That's what we struggle with sometimes is having that vocal leader out there and saying, 'Let's suck it up and let's box out.'"

Against its first-round opponent this season, Wofford, the Phoenix has lost twice — at home on Jan. 18, 61-60 and on the road to on Feb. 26, 69-64.

Wofford, like the Phoenix, has a 6-14 SoCon record. The Terriers will enter Thursday's game coming off a 75-71 victory against Western Carolina on Saturday.

Despite the two regular season losses against Wofford, Ford said it doesn't matter who Elon plays in the conference.

"We know we can play with whomever," she said. "There's not one team in this conference that we say, 'We don't want to play them.'"

In last season's SoCon tournament, the Phoenix won its opening game against Georgia Southern University 57-54 and became the first No. 11 seed to win a first-round game in the tournament. The team would eventually fall to Western Carolina University in the second round.

"We're going to play every possession and got to make sure we execute and defend for 40 minutes," Barefoot said. "With this group right now it is important to be confident. There's no pressure on this team."



Senior forward Urysla Cotton takes a jump shot over University of North Carolina Greensboro defenders. Cotton totaled eight points and two blocks against the Spartans.

COREY GROOM | Staff Photographer

Sports



The Elon women's club rugby team prepares to defend its try line against Duke's club rugby team on Saturday afternoon. It was the first of two games played that day. The other was against East Carolina University.

RUN, RUCK, TACKLE AND SCORE:

ELON WOMEN'S RUGBY SHOWS ENDURANCE IN DOUBLEHEADER

Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

When junior women's club rugby president and backs assistant captain Brittany Siciliano walked into the organization fair after transferring to Elon University her sophomore year, the group of women standing together with their stomachs painted was the first thing that caught her attention.

These women made up the women's club rugby team. Today, the team is represented by 27 athletes that Siciliano described as more of a family than a team.

"Our motto is 'Purpose. Pride. Passion,'" Siciliano said. "It sounds corny, but it really fits our team."

Last Saturday, the team took on Duke University at noon, followed directly by a match against East Carolina University. The women beat Duke 60-10, but after 100 minutes of rugby and three injuries, the team had to forfeit against East Carolina.

"It was really tough," freshman Diane Simeon said. "We were exhausted. Rugby takes a lot out of us."

Friday, the team goes back into action against Wake Forest around 7 p.m. at home.



Junior scrum captain Laura Winkler (left) and freshman scrum player Diane Simeon (right) attempt to score against a Duke defender. Winkler is the team's 8-man, and Simeon plays a position in the second row.

PHOTOS BY MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer



Junior Torrie Thomas tackles a Duke player. Thomas has played for five seasons, is the rugby team's flyhalf and scored one try during the game.